It was brought to the Faculty Affairs Committee’s attention that outside the University of Missouri System, there is some confusion about the title “Curators’ Professor.” There is anecdotal evidence from those who hold the title that it causes confusion about what the title means, for example when applying for grants or writing reference letters. At other universities (e.g., Penn State) there are equivalent titles that use the word “Distinguished” to designate excellence.

Resolution:

The Faculty Affairs Committee recommends that the name of the “Curators’ Professor” title be changed to “Curators’ Distinguished Professor,” and that this change have retroactive effect for faculty already holding the title of Curators’ Professor.