President announces Oct. 15 resignation, interim search begins

BY CAITLIN DEAN

"We've kind of come to the conclusion that we need to agree to disagree."

University President Barbara Dixon cited disagreements about Truman's future as the catalyst for her decision to step down. Dixon's eventual resignation because of departments and the circulation of a staff council.

Dixon said she did not come to Truman with any specific goals for what she wanted to do but that she had many projects that have been completed or have plans for completion. Those goals, purposes and accomplishments include Truman's comprehensive capital campaign, the living-learning environment at the Missouri complex, the student center, all academic programs, the construction of academic center building projects, revitalization of the Dixon Library, the renovation of dormitories and the circulation of a staff council.

We're still working on implementing these goals, President Dixon said. "That mission is bigger than any one of us." Dixon said she never says never, but that's not in her immediate plans to seek another presidency. She still thinks the same way she did when she came here in that this will be her last full-time job in higher education. "I never say never, but that's not in my immediate plans to seek another presidency," Dixon said. "I still think the same way I did when I came here in that this will be my last full-time job in higher education." Dixon said she understood the disagreements her resignation will cause, especially because she has been so involved during her tenure. The decision to leave was a difficult one, she said, but any such decision would be, such as when she felt her position as president and vice president for academic affairs at the State University of Michigan after leaving Truman. She plans to move back to her home in Michigan after leaving Truman. "I really liked what I was doing here," Dixon said. "But I had another opportunity, and that didn't make me feel very good about my position overall."

The Dixon File

Fall 2005: Corporate Campaign

The campaign, which has benefited from project funding, remains incomplete at this time. Dixon said it is a five-year plan and all the pieces are in place.

April 2005: West Campus West

West Campus Status now the new north end of the fall 2005.

Summer 2006: Dorm Renovations

Missouri Hall's $14.8 million renovation began a residence hall renovation project scheduled for completion in 2013. This is the second floor.

Fall 2007: Stadium Lights

The stadium lights have been turned on twice this season.

Spring 2007: Academic Reorganization

The Ad-Hoc Committee on Academic Reorganization and Dixon's eventual resignation because of departments and the circulation of a staff council.