## SAVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AT MU! Stop "Compete Missouri"

## MU is experiencing a fiscal crisis because the <u>Missouri legislature</u> has <u>underfunded higher education</u>.

Consider the following fiscal profile provided by the Missouri Department of Higher Education (Quick Facts Supplement: Affordability).

National Context for Changes in State Appropriations to Higher Education: FY02—FY07 Nation: +15.1% FY02—FY07 Missouri: -9.9%

As of 2005 **Missouri ranks 50<sup>th</sup> among states** in the percentage of increased funding for higher education (Grapevine, Illinois State University).

According to *U.S. News and World Report* rankings for national research universities MU's ranking has declined from 73 in 2004 to 91 in 2008.

"Compete Missouri" is a proposal to raise the salaries of some faculty members and administrators through cuts to faculty positions and departmental budgets across the campus.

- These proposed cuts will come out of funds for FTE (tenured) faculty positions, lecturer positions, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and staff positions.
- These cuts mean that there will be fewer full-time tenured faculty and lecturer positions, resulting in fewer courses and larger classes available to students while they are paying more for tuition.
- Cuts in assistantships will hurt the university's research output and student's financial support for higher education, adversely affecting them in the job market.

It is a "Deplete Missouri" proposal scheduled to be implemented next year unless faculty, students, and administrators at MU-Columbia take steps to stop it.

COME TO A GENERAL FACULTY MEETING IN CORNELL HALL BUSH AUDITORIUM ON THURSDAY, MAY 8, FROM 3:30 TO 5:00 TO LEARN MORE. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Questions? Contact the MU-chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP); aaup.missouri.edu.