

# INTERFACE

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## President Gary Forsee visits PPRC on his tour of the UM-System campuses



UM-System President Gary Forsee, with PPRC Director Mark Tranel and other PPRC staff members.

UM System President Gary Forsee met with the [Public Policy Research Center](#) in the first stop of his February 17 visit to the UM-St. Louis campus. Chancellor Thomas George and Provost Glen Cope accompanied President Forsee on his visit to the PPRC. While at PPRC, President Forsee spent time talking with Dr. Mark Tranel, PPRC Director, as well as Steven Gardner, Director of PPRC's [Public Finance Initiative](#); Dr. Todd Swanstrom, the E Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Community Collaboration and Public Policy Administration; Dr. Brady Baybeck, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Public Policy Administration program; and Dr. William Rogers, Assistant Professor of Economics and PPRC Faculty Fellow.

Dr. Tranel gave the President an overview of the history and structure of PPRC, as well as its function and role in engaging the urban area through applied research. Dr. Swanstrom illustrated his role as a Des Lee Endowed Professor working with PPRC to engage in community-based research. Mr. Gardner explained that his research, education and outreach on public finance issues broadens PPRC's research focus and gives it a statewide impact, and he also presented his model for commercializing some of the research data. Professor Baybeck described PPRC's teaching function and specifically the PPA faculty appointment held by of several PPRC staff members. Will Rogers presented the research project he's undertaken as a PPRC faculty fellow, and the ways in which PPRC's research expertise supports and enhances his data productivity.

PPRC also presented President Forsee with copies of each of the three books in the [St. Louis Metromorphosis Book Series](#). Incorporating much of PPRC's own research, the book series features volumes that document, analyze and interpret economic, social, political and historical aspects of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.

Each of these elements of PPRC's work offered an opportunity to describe PPRC's particular function as a vital research center on this metropolitan campus. The impact of PPRC's work rises from its capacity to conduct research, teaching and service in Missouri's largest urban area.

Following his visit with PPRC, President Forsee was a guest on KWMU's [St. Louis on the Air](#). During the radio interview President Forsee reiterated his commitment to research and collaborative programs and emphasized that the ability to transform research into a product will be vital to the future of the four-campus University system. [»Listen](#) to the interview.



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