

# A 'complex' series of events

The Translational Precision Medicine Complex will be the first major research facility built on campus since MU opened the Bond Life Sciences Center in 2004.

2014

## February

R. Bowen Loftin hired as MU chancellor to raise the university's status in the Association of American Universities. To do that, Loftin said MU needed to increase medical research.

## January

President Barack Obama announces a Precision Medicine Initiative in his annual State of the Union address, solidifying MU's decision to choose precision medicine as the focus of its next research facility, Loftin said.

2015

## August

MU announces Elizabeth Loba will become the next College of Engineering dean. Loba began participating in TPMC planning immediately after signing on the dotted line, she said.

## November

Loftin resigns as chancellor because of student protests. TPMC planning put on hold. Later this month, Interim Chancellor Hank Foley appoints Mark McIntosh interim vice chancellor for research and graduate studies. McIntosh plays central role in developing plans for the TPMC.

2017

## June

McIntosh's position becomes permanent. He also assumes role of UM System vice president for research and economic development.

## November

Curators approve preliminary plans for the TPMC and declare it the system's No. 1 capital project priority.

2018

## January

U.S. FDA approves radioactive drug to treat digestive tract cancer. The MU Research Reactor is the sole U.S. supplier of radioisotope Lu-177, which is used in the drug Lutathera. With no tools to translate the drug, MU sold the radioisotope to a company that would produce the drug.

## February

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright presents plans to double research funding (\$200 million to \$400 million in annual expenditures) within five years.

## June

UM System faculty present research at the Precision Medicine Summit at MU. Faculty said the TPMC is one way the system would increase treatment it provides for cancer, cardiovascular disease and Alzheimer's.

## August

Cartwright names Loba as vice chancellor for strategic partnerships to oversee further TPMC planning.

## September

MU Faculty Council Chair Clark Peters and Intercampus Faculty Council Chair Camila Manrique request transparency from administration on TPMC planning. System and MU respond by sending weekly updates to Faculty Council and other campus leaders. UM System President Mun Choi announces system will inject \$50 million into the TPMC project. Curators unanimously approve Kansas City-based company Burns & McDonnell as the TPMC architect and engineer.

## October

Cartwright, Loba and McIntosh present TPMC plans to, address questions from MU's Faculty Council. Council members shared concerns about hiring diverse faculty, raising necessary funds and more.

2019

## April

Groundbreaking scheduled for the TPMC.

2021

## October

The TPMC will open to the public at 8:45 a.m. on Oct. 19.

Sources: INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY KYLE LAHUCIK, PREVIOUS MISSOURIAN REPORTING

ALEXIS ALLISON/Missourian