

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Board of Governors
Minutes

January 25, 2017 – 1:00 pm
Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The January 25, 2017, meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Mitch McCumber, Chair. Governors in attendance were Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Michael Franks, Bill Gipson, Carlos Haley (appointed December 2, 2016), Alison Hershewe, Mitch McCumber and Anita Oplotnik. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Dr. Brad Hodson, Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Brad Creamer, Chris Owens, Amanda Gardner, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, and Sharon Odem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber called the meeting to order at 1 o'clock, welcomed everyone and asked Keith Hankins to come to the front of the Board room. Keith, whose term expired in August of 2016, was recently replaced when Governor Jay Nixon appointed Carlos Haley to the Board.

Chair McCumber noted Keith will be greatly missed and thanked Keith for his support and service to Missouri Southern during his Board term from 2013-2016 and as Vice Chair in 2016. Keith voiced appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Board and noted he has seen many positive changes and growth in many areas. Keith noted he has been most impressed with the people at Missouri Southern, the faculty, staff and administrators, who have ownership, passion, and integrity and who are working together to make Missouri Southern a great success.

MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 18, 2016, Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Mike Franks to approve minutes of the November 18, 2016, Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):

Linda noted financial statements for both November and December were included in the Board packet, but December, the most current statements, would be reviewed.

Financial Statements for the period ending December, 2016 were presented as follows:

- Cash Graph
- Statement of Net Position
- Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position
- Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
- Cash Flow Statement

Cash: Linda noted, as requested by the Board, a transition to one Cash Graph has been made that shows both actual and projected dollars. For the budget current year, FY2017, the cash balance as of December 31, 2016, shows \$10.1 million; an increase over the prior year of \$3.7 million. Appropriation withholdings are reflected in the projected numbers.

Statement of Net Position: As of December 31, 2016, Total Assets are \$145 million, Total Liabilities are \$76 million and Total Net Assets are \$69 million. Linda noted restricted cash now includes the insurance account due to the campus being partially self-insured for its health care coverage.

Treasurer (continued):

Statement of Revenues and Changes in Net Position: This statement is presented quarterly and provides information on actual versus budget.

Comparative Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position: Looking at the difference column:

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased by \$1.9 million over the prior year.
- **Total Operating Expenses** increased by \$600,000, but Linda noted scholarships, institutional and Access Missouri, have also had significant increases which reflects operations are doing very well.
- **Non-Operating Revenue** increased by \$1.6 due primarily to state appropriations for the satellite dental program which has now been restricted.
- **Income Before Other Revenues** comparing the current year and prior year: an increase of \$1.7 million is shown this year compared to a \$1.2 million decrease the prior year which makes a difference between the two years of an increase of \$2.9 million.
- **Other Revenues** - reimbursements from the state for the Reynolds Hall remodel continue to go smoothly and are being received in a timely manner. As of the latest reimbursement, received on Tuesday, \$4.9 million has been received.

A motion was made by Anita Oplotnik and seconded by Mike Franks to approve the December 31, 2016, financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for December 31, 2016, is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Vice President for Business Affairs (Mr. Rob Yust):

Note: Highlights of Rob's report are as follows.

Rob noted, in case anyone was unaware, due to state budget restrictions recently announced, MSSU has currently lost approximately \$1.7 million from its core budget and approximately \$800,000 for the satellite dental program this budget year. Rob also noted the remodel taking place for the Child Development Center is too far along and the university will have to provide funds to finish this project. Due to MSSU's strong enrollment increase, the university is in a better financial position than some universities in the state.

- **Reynolds Hall Remodel** – The 3rd floor renovation (a significant milestone) is complete and a tour will be available immediately following today's Board meeting. The remodel of the 1st floor is underway. Demo in the 1st floor Biology area took place during Christmas break, but faculty and students still have access to the remaining Math areas of the first floor not being remodeled due to budget restrictions.
- Work on the design phase of **Nixon Hall** is in progress. This project is scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2018 in time for classes in the fall of 2018 and will primarily house Math classrooms and offices.
- The **Joplin Regional Center/Child Development Center** project is still on target to be finished by the middle of March and the CDC will then be moved during the week of spring break, March 20th to 25th.
- The **Taylor Hall** remodel and addition has been suspended pending state funding.
- The **Trail project** with the City of Joplin is still slowly moving forward. Easements for property owners of Northpark Mall and Spring River Christian Village are being prepared by the City consultant. The City will need permission from MODot before they can talk with the property owners.

Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):

Highlights of Jared's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- **Updates:**
 - ✓ MSSU recently hosted the **MSSU Open** for indoor track at the Leggett and Platt Fieldhouse. This event for men and women brought over 2,000 student-athletes and 30 teams to campus and to Joplin.
 - ✓ **Mike Racy**, who visited campus at the end of November, officially took over the position of NCAA Commissioner at the close of the NCAA meetings held in Nashville last week. Dr. Bob Boerigter, former NCAA Commissioner who retired, was honored for his 40 plus years in athletics.

Director of Athletics (continued):

- ✓ Missouri Southern Athletics, one of only 22 in the nation, was named a finalist for the **2017 NCAA Division II Award of Excellence** due to work of student athletes organizing and hosting a prom for clients of Easy Living, Inc. Student athletes planned the entire event including ensuring participants had formal attire, prom décor, services from local beauticians as well as great refreshments, a DJ and photo booth. Many student athletes attended and danced with the Easy Living clients providing them a true prom experience.
- ✓ The new athletics **mobile application**, sponsored and paid for by Arvest bank for three years at a cost of \$10,000 per year, is being very well received. Approximately 770 downloads have already taken place and in a download competition between MSSU and Pitt State, MSSU won receiving a cash prize of \$500.
- ✓ The annual **Lionbacker Campaign** is almost complete. Jared thanked Elisa Bryant in the Foundation for her work with the Lionbackers whose membership has increased to 253.

Governor Franks, in order to assist the Board with Strategic Planning, asked Jared in the near future to provide information on budgets from other MIAA schools on their top three sports.

Executive Vice President (Dr. Brad Hodson):

Highlights of Dr. Hodson's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- Numbers for **spring 2017 enrollment** are positive. As of January 24th, 5,668 students were enrolled compared to 5,267 this same time in 2016 representing an additional 401 students; a 7.6% increase. Enrolled credit hours are 67,639, an increase of 5,285 or 8.5% over last year's census credit hours of 62,354. Transfer applications have also increased by 9% and transfer admissions have increased 14%. Dr. Hodson did note, this afternoon is the deadline for students to pay their full tuition and fees or work out a payment plan and some drops are anticipated. Approximately 500 students are on the drop list, but staff in Admissions and Student Affairs are working diligently with students to decrease this number which traditionally ends up being a net loss of approximately 175 students. If the enrollment numbers stay steady, MSSU could be looking at a 4% increase this spring on Census Day, February 10th.
- A \$1 million gift for the establishment of the **Debra and David Humphreys Excellence Award** was announced on January 10th. This outstanding much appreciated gift will establish the Humphreys Scholars program and benefit high achieving students in seven areas: biological/physical sciences, mathematics, education, accounting, finance, engineering technology and computer science.
- A gift of over \$750,000 was announced on December 13th by "**Joplin Tomorrow**" to provide scholarships through the Foundation to "*Yours to Lose*" students. Dr. Hodson noted Foundation Board Chair Mike Pence did a great job in facilitating these scholarship dollars coming to MSSU.
- **Teacher Bags** featuring MSSU items will be given to 761 alumni who teach in five feeder school districts in Joplin, Neosho, Carthage, Webb City, and Carl Junction, as a way to show appreciation. University Relations and Marketing and Alumni Relations are working on this joint project.
- The latest edition of **Crossroads** magazine was mailed before Christmas to nearly 45,000 Missouri Southern alums and friends. Dr. Hodson congratulated University Relations and Marketing on their quality work to create this top-notch publication.
- The annual **Legislative Preview Brunch** was held on November 30th with seven area legislators in attendance: Senator Ron Richard and Representatives Davis, White, Reiboldt, Lant, Kelley and Fitzpatrick. Newly-elected Representative Cody Smith was unable to attend due to participation in the Freshman Legislative tour. Five key strategic priorities for MSSU were presented by the administration spurring discussions regarding possible budget challenges and legislative strategies.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Paula Carson):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Carson's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in handouts distributed to the Board that are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- Work is well underway for the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit by the **Higher Learning Commission (HLC)** scheduled in February of 2019. Periodic updates regarding progress in preparing for this accreditation will be given to the Board throughout this process.
- Information was shared regarding the **"testing process"** that can be used for minimally qualified faculty when they do not meet preferred HLC qualifications. This process includes several different factors including consideration of experience, skill set, non-degree credentials, and professional impact.
- A list of **current accreditations** and **accreditations being pursued** were furnished to the Board in order to share information regarding the wide range of accreditations and current work taking place for the future.
- Due to **Criminal Justice** being one of the programs at MSSU that does not have an external accrediting body (because none exists), it is scheduled to go through a rigorous internal program review process in 2017. Outside consultants will be hired as part of this internal program review to ensure quality. Internal program reviews for the departments of Physical Science and Chemistry have been deferred until 2018 due to the remodel in Reynolds Hall.
- MSSU has earned the honor of competing in the **2017 National Trumpet Competition (NTC)** in the large ensemble category which will be held in Denver Colorado in March. Only sixteen schools nationwide were selected to compete at this year's NTC which is the largest instrumental competition in the world. This tremendous honor showcases student talent as well as faculty talent through the leadership of Mr. Freddie Green who serves as MSSU's professor of trumpet and Dr. Keith Talley, department chair.
- **"Yours to Lose"** interviews for the first candidates, from across the country, for this unique program will take place on January 27th and February 3rd during campus visits. Campus and community tours will also be included for prospective students and their parents.
- **Faculty searches** include two upcoming Dean Searches due to one full retirement and one phased retirement.
- The Plaster School of Business will host the **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** district competition in February which will bring over 400 high-school students to campus.
- Several months ago a representative from Disney contacted Dr. Richard Miller, Dean of Arts and Sciences, regarding Missouri Southern becoming a "participating" university in the **Disney College Program**. Students attending a "participating" university are given a preference when applying for internships at Disney. The program is in need of students in science areas and a high interest was expressed in students at Missouri Southern. After months of going through the approval process, notification has recently been received, Missouri Southern has been awarded "participating" university status which will open new doors of opportunity for students.

Vice President for Student Affairs (Mr. Darren Fullerton):

Note: Highlights of Darren's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Darren provided the following updates:

- Important dates for the **University Fees schedule** were noted as follows: January 25th by 5:00 p.m. - 100% of student account balances are due; January 27th - last day for 100% refund for withdrawal from full term courses; February 8th - last day for 50% refund for full term courses. Darren noted all of these dates will impact enrollment and staff in student support areas are working diligently to assist students to stay enrolled and succeed.

Vice President for Student Affairs (continued):

- **Julie Wengert** has been appointed Dean of Student Success and Support/Title IX Coordinator. Julie has worked at Missouri Southern for 15 years and began her new duties on December 1. Julie's new duties will include working with Enroll-a-thon and continuing its development as a GGOE mini game to increase retention and she will also assist Dr. Ron Mitchell and Mr. Evan Jewsbury with Title IX. Darren noted both Dr. Mitchell and Evan will continue as primary investigators for Title IX.
- MSSU is the only higher education institution in the state and one of only 51 in the nation to be selected by the U.S. Department of Education to participate in a **Loan Counseling Experiment**.
- Due to **FAFSA filing dates** being moved back to October 1 from January 1, financial aid packages for 1,501 students have already been packaged and 5,454 applications have been received.
- The **University Police Department (UPD)** contract with the Joplin Police Department (JPD) has been expanded to include full-time dispatching for UPD. Beginning January 1, the campus community will call 911 for emergencies and 417-623-3131 for non-emergencies; 417-626-222 will continue to be called for service calls such as locked keys, dead batteries, etc. Due to MSSU not having a full time dispatcher, this new system will be more efficient and save budget dollars.
- The **annual Security and Fire Safety report** is now available through the UPD website. This report contains statistics and information about campus security and personal safety for a variety of topics.
- **"Dress to Impress"** a joint effort between the Joplin Chamber's Young Professionals Network and Career Services is scheduled again this spring. Last year this professional clothing give away provided complete outfits including accessories for over 200 students.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. Brad Creamer, Faculty Senate President):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Creamer's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Dr. Creamer noted his report is short due to lack of activity in December and faculty being on holiday break after commencement and not returning to campus until mid-January.

Dr. Creamer did note two items under "Old Business": (1) the course content in the University Experience 100 course is being reduced and credit hours are also being reduced from three to one. (2) Faculty Senate has acknowledged receipt of the final version of the newly proposed summer pay calculator which will be presented later in the Board meeting by Dr. Kerry Johnson.

Committee Charges from the Faculty Senate Executive committee included Charges to the Faculty Handbook committee pertaining to non-tenure track positions and a 15 hour teaching load; the Writing committee pertaining to determining course requirements in writing curriculum courses and determining maximum class size in these courses; and the Academic Policies committee exploring with the Registrar and Financial Aid offices whether or not deadlines can be extended for final grad submission by the faculty.

The next meeting of Faculty Senate will be on February 6th.

Staff Liaison (Mr. Chris Owens, Staff Senate President):

Chris did not have any items to report due to Staff Senate's last meeting being in December when it voted not to meet in January.

Student Representative (Ms. Amanda Gardner, Student Senate President):

Student Senate's first meeting for the spring semester took place last Wednesday. Vacancies will be filled within the next few weeks and the PR chair, due to scheduling conflicts, has already been replaced by Kendric Carlock. Amanda noted Student Senate is looking forward to a great spring semester!

Board Committees:

Academic Affairs Committee (Tracy Flanigan, Chair):

Tracy Flanigan reported the Academic Affairs committee met at 10:00 before today's Board meeting and discussed the Universal Transfer Opportunity Program (UTOP). Through this new program, MSSU will award its existing Bachelor of Applied Science degree to any associate degree holder from any regionally accredited institution following the completion of a clearly designed, relevant, career-oriented and flexible 60 student credit hour degree program which will save students time and money.

No formal action by this committee was brought forward for Board approval.

Budget Audit Committee (Bill Gipson, Chair):

Bill Gipson reported the Budget Audit committee met at 11:00 before today's Board meeting and noted the following. (1) A lively informational discussion took place regarding the recent state appropriation restrictions with no formal action taken. (2) Rob Yust presented a report on financing that referenced the approval given by the Board in October giving the administration authorization to seek financing up to \$15.5M as needed for construction projects. Due to the new state appropriation restrictions and all new construction projects being placed on hold at this time, the committee approved reducing the financing amount to \$5M to cover out-of-pocket costs needed to complete the Child Development Center renovation, equipment needs as part of the current Reynolds Hall remodel, additional funding for construction of Nixon Hall as well as some miscellaneous educational facility capital improvements. (3) Discussed and approved a Cash Policy that has two targets: a fiscal year-end Cash target of 15% of revenue and a month-end target of \$5M.

On behalf of the Budget Audit committee, Bill Gipson brought forward two motions as follows:

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to authorize the Administration to amend the request to secure financing over a 10 year period to provide funding for construction projects up to \$5 million. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to implement the approved Cash Policy effective February 1, 2017. Motion passed. (A copy of the Cash Policy is attached to the minutes in the permanent Board book.)

Executive Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

Personnel Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

President (Dr. Alan Marble):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Marble's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- Dr. Marble suggested due to the process needing to begin to develop the next Strategic Plan for the university, a half day **Board Retreat** should be scheduled in the near future, perhaps March. A preferred starting point for this process will be consideration of the university's Mission, Vision and Values statements.
- As noted in November, Speaker of the House, Todd Richardson, charged the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) to conduct a "**mission review**" study of all public colleges and universities in the state. Due to this involved process, a consulting group, NCHEMS (National Center for Higher Education Management Systems) was hired to do the research, formulate recommendations, and write the report. Dr. Marble noted a positive common thread in the report is a "preference" for collaboration.
- Dr. Marble included the entire **mission review** report in the Board packet and brought the following key items to the Board's attention: (1) the "academic program approval" process needs to be streamlined. (2) all Ph.D. programs and first professional degrees, will only be offered by members of the University of

President (continued):

Missouri System and (3) all other universities should only offer “non-research” doctoral degrees “only when doing so would not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program”. (4) Community colleges should focus on associate degree and certificate level programs, but can be “authorized to offer bachelor degrees.

- Work is taking place to find ways to cope with the **8% reduction in state appropriations** at MSSU for this budget year recently announced by Governor Greitens. Future cuts are possible later this spring, but Dr. Marble noted optimism state revenues will increase and the university will make it through the end of the current budget year without further withholdings. Dr. Marble noted all universities in the state have been hit with budget cuts and significant tuition increases are predicted statewide.
- The **Great Game of Education (GGOE)** continues to evolve and serve the campus well. New training modules are being developed, a portal for employee suggestions is being created and work of GGOE is directly helping to offset some of the state budget cuts by revenue enhancements and cost controls that have already taken place. For the future, a new mini game focusing on health and wellness is being considered. Dr. Marble noted due to the work of GGOE, the university is in better financial shape than some in the state. Interest in GGOE has been expressed by Cox College and also the University of Missouri. Dr. Scott Cragin will share information about GGOE during a higher education conference this summer in Australia.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**Elect new Board Vice Chair (Mr. Mitch McCumber):**

Mr. McCumber noted due to former Board member Keith Hankins, who served as Vice Chair being replaced on the Board due to his term expiring, the position of Vice Chair is now vacant.

Mr. McCumber opened up the floor for nominations for Vice Chair and Tracy Flanigan nominated Bill Gipson. Mr. McCumber asked if there were any other nominations. No additional nominations were brought forward and Mr. McCumber closed the nominations. Bill Gipson was then elected Board Vice Chair by acclamation.

Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Paula Carson):

Dr. Carson, noted as a point of information, one faculty member, Dr. Michael Garoutte has been awarded sabbatical leave next year. During his sabbatical, Dr. Garoutte will continue work on pre-based learning in Chemistry which he has been working on for many years. Dr. Garoutte, who will be the main author, will work with multiple institutions to develop five experiments that have the potential to be used across the nation to increase student learning. Dr. Marble noted he supports Dr. Garoutte's sabbatical leave which will provide good value at a low cost for the university while enhancing Dr. Garoutte's career as well as student learning.

One proposal in the form of a memo pertaining to changes in the University Experience 100 (UE100) course was brought forward for consideration. Key changes to UE100 noted include a credit-hour reduction from three hours to one hour and it no longer being a General Education requirement.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Mike Franks to approve the proposed UE100 changes as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the curricular memo is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Summer School Formula Calculator (Dr. Paula Carson):

Dr. Carson introduced Dr. Kerry Johnson, Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the Math Department who gave a PowerPoint presentation which contained a brief history about summer school compensation, why changes were needed, and the process that has taken place to develop a new formula calculator.

Issues noted with the former compensation calculator included (1) low enrollment classes creating revenue loss; (2) overhead costs not being factored in as an expense; and (3) inaccurate cost of benefits.

Summer School Formula Calculator (continued):

With a focus goal to create a new summer pay calculator incorporating all university expenses, including overhead and benefits, that would benefit both the university and faculty, work began in the fall of 2015 when Faculty Senate created an Ad Hoc committee for this purpose. This task soon grew from the Ad Hoc committee to involve the Faculty Welfare committee for wide Senate input.

Under the new calculator, once a break-even point has been reached (and is required to avoid revenue loss), faculty have the ability to increase their compensation for each course they teach during the summer by growing their class enrollment. Also under the new calculator, their salary is not capped and additional net revenue generated above the break-even point is split 50/50 with the University. If a class has low enrollment, faculty will still has the option to teach the course, but at a lower salary which will ensure the University will never loose revenue on a class.

Dr. Carson thanked Dr. Johnson for leading the work on this involved project and Dr. Johnson expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share this information with the Board.

Missouri Governor's Student Leadership Forum (Mr. Darren Fullerton):

Darren noted he works with a wide spectrum of outstanding students who represent Missouri Southern at the local, state and even national level through various organizations. Two of these students, Amanda Gardner and Ashley Burns were recently selected to represent Missouri Southern during the Missouri Governor's Leadership Forum which was begun in 1990 by Governor John Ashcroft.

Amanda and Ashley each spoke to the Board about their experiences at this year's Forum. This non-religious forum, held in Jefferson City during a three day period in January during the holiday break, enabled approximately 100 student leaders from across the state to gather and learn about servant leadership modeled after the life of Jesus Christ. The forum challenges student leaders to deep thinking about how they can change the world and how they can broaden their own dreams. Students heard many dynamic speakers including Governor Jay Nixon and a retired minister from Joplin, Randy Garriss who spoke during the Governor's Prayer Breakfast about building bridges vs burning bridges and the importance of building new relationships and keeping life balanced. The group enjoyed a reception at the Governor's Mansion which included a Q & A session with Governor Nixon, an educational tour of the Capitol including a narrative presentation about the Thomas Hart Benton mural, a visit to the state prison in Fulton and Missouri's Vo-tech Center where prisoners make license plates and furniture.

Other Items:

None

Future Meeting Dates:

Chair McCumber noted, as previously discussed and agreed upon, a combined May/June meeting of the Board is planned. After reviewing calendars, the date of June 14th has been selected to hold this meeting.

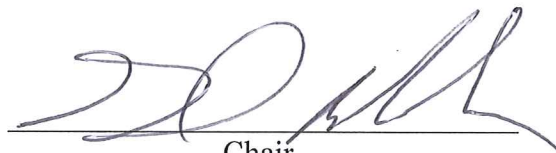
Adjournment:

Chair McCumber noted a closed executive session of the Board was not needed and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Carlos Haley and seconded by Jim Fleischaker for the Board meeting to adjourn. Motion passed.



Secretary



Chair