

**MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Board of Governors**  
**Minutes**

**January 16, 2015 – 1:00 pm**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The January 16, 2015 meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Jim Fleischaker, Chair. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Lynn Ewing, Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Bill Gipson, Keith Hankins, and Mitch McCumber. Dr. Alan Marble and Jared Bruggeman were in non-attendance (due to attending the annual National NCAA Convention on behalf of the University). Others in attendance were Dr. Pat Lipira, Dr. John Tiede (Interim VP for Development/Executive Director Foundation), Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Michael Garoutte, Robert Frossard, Jake Messer, Jon Dermott, Justin Maskus (on behalf of Jared Bruggeman), Linda Eis, and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Fleischaker welcomed everyone and asked if there were any announcements. None were noted.

**MINUTES**

Chair Fleischaker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 21, 2014 Board meeting; none were noted.

*A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Bill Gipson to approve minutes of the November 21, 2014 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)*

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):**

Due to the Board not meeting in December, Financial Statements for November and December were included in the Board packets. The December 31, 2014 statements, which contained the most up to date information, were reviewed.

Financial Statements ending on December 31, 2014 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 Graph:** The Cash Graph as of December 31, 2014 shows cash at \$10.2 million reflecting a decrease of \$1.4 million compared to the prior year. Linda noted of the \$10.2 million, \$6.5 million is Board designated cash and investments.

**Statement of Net Position:** As of December 31, 2014, Total Assets are \$133 million and Total Liabilities are \$46 million making Total Net Position as of December 31, 2014 at \$87 million. Also, reflected on this statement is the \$1 million CDARS investment that matured in December and moved from Board Designated investments to Board Designated cash.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses, 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:** In looking at the "difference column", Total Operating Revenues increased by \$328,000. Total Operating Expenses increased by \$1.9 million which includes additional institutional scholarships of \$201,000 due to stacking changes as well as increased donor and foundation scholarships. Total Non-operating Revenues increased \$448,000. Linda noted

**Treasurer (continued):**

October was the first month in FY15 MSSU received the first additional \$103,000 drawdown of performance funding dollars. Additional performance funding dollars (\$103,000 per month) are anticipated for drawdown through June 2015.

**Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues:** As of December 31, 2014, the current year reflects a decrease of \$1.6 million. The prior year shows a decrease of \$392,000 resulting in a comparative decrease between the two years of \$1.2 million.

*A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Keith Hankins to approve the December 31, 2014 financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for December 31, 2014 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.*

- ✓ **Baseball Stadium** –Turf installation has begun and work on both dugouts is almost complete. Block work on the concession/suite building continues. Construction is anticipated to be complete in February and a dedication is being planned in April.
- ✓ **Field House** –The steel erection is almost complete and the north floor slab for the second floor (top floor) has been poured allowing for backfill to take place around the first floor walls. Masonry work is taking place on the exterior and interior walls on the first floor. Stud walls are going up on the first floor as well as the metal studs on the exterior of the building. Rob noted a delay in steel delivery has pushed completion of this project out until late summer.
- ✓ **FEMA shelter** – The pre-cast panels were delivered and installed during the holiday break. The floor slab is scheduled to be poured next week. Installation of fixtures and interior painting will begin soon.
- ✓ **Residence Hall** – All six buildings have been framed and roofed with fixtures and casework complete on the inside of two of the buildings. Internal stairs have been installed and the external walkways and columns are complete; concrete decking is also being poured. Two out of the three transformers needed for these new buildings are in place which will enable the buildings to have heat.
- ✓ **Budget** – The FY 2016 budget process has begun. A meeting of the Board's Budget Audit Committee is anticipated prior to the February Board meeting. The Board will be provided detail regarding this meeting when it becomes available.

**Director of Athletics (Mr. Justin Maskus for Mr. Jared Bruggeman):**

*Note: Due to Jared being at the annual NCAA Convention and unable to attend the Board meeting, his report was given by Justin Maskus. 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.*

- ✓ **Record High GPA:** The overall GPA for athletes for Fall 2014 was 3.06! Overall GPA's for the men's teams were 2.75 and the women were 3.36. The highest GPA for the men was Men's Cross Country/Track with a 3.06 and the highest for women was Women's Basketball with a 3.53. Justin noted this is the third time in the last six years that over 320 student athletes in various majors have achieved GPAs averaging above 3.0!
- ✓ **Graduation** – During the recent December commencement 23 current or former student-athletes graduated. Among these graduates, two graduated Summa Cum Laude, and one graduated Magna Cum Laude. Justin noted Jake Benton completed his coursework with a perfect 4.00 GPA and is currently in Kenya interning at a hospital and also training for the 2016 Olympic Trials. Johnny Berry, who was killed in a car accident, was awarded the degree he had earned posthumously.
- ✓ **Make-A-Wish campaign** - is well underway and to-date over \$1500 has been raised which is almost triple last year. This campaign is driven by MSSU's student athletes and their collective sports teams.

**Director of Athletics (continued):**

- ✓ **3rd Annual MOSO Trivia Night** – held December 12<sup>th</sup> was the highest attended and most successful MOSO Trivia Night to-date. Twenty-four teams competed this year with approximately 150 people in attendance, raising approximately \$7,500. Dr. Mike LaFerla's team "The Average Joe's" took home the crown this year.

**Interim Vice President for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation (Dr. John Tiede):**

Mr. Fleischaker welcomed Dr. Tiede to the Board meeting and noted Dr. Tiede has a long history of service to MSSU in different capacities including past director of the Foundation and a past Vice President for Business Affairs. Mr. Fleischaker thanked Dr. Tiede for his willingness to serve as interim during the process to find a permanent replacement for JoAnn Graffam who left MSSU to pursue other interests.

Dr. Tiede reported the following:

- ✓ **Gifts** – (1) Two significant six figure gifts for capital projects were received during the month of December. (2) Four, five figure gifts were also received in December for the new Baseball Stadium.
- ✓ **Goals** – (1) Better coordination of solicitations is needed. Dr. Tiede noted this has become an issue due to lack of education on campus in knowing the difference between donations and solicitations. (2) Establish specific and measurable goals for staff that will show progress. (3) Re-establish and increase awareness of planned giving opportunities. (4) Complete fundraising for the Fieldhouse and the Baseball Stadium. Dr. Tiede noted the Baseball Stadium will be dedicated on April 18<sup>th</sup> and naming opportunities are still available. (5) Begin fundraising for the matching funds that will be needed for the Reynolds Hall renovation.

**Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Pat Lipira):**

*Note: Highlights of Dr. Lipira'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.*

- ✓ **Commencement** – 304 students earned undergraduate degrees and 18 completed cooperative master's programs and were honored during MSSU's 63<sup>rd</sup> commencement held on December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ **Faculty** returned to campus on January 9<sup>th</sup> and took part in federally mandated Title IX training given by Hayley Hanson from the Husch Blackwell Law Firm. Ms. Hanson addressed many questions and explained reporting responsibilities for allegations of harassment, discrimination, and/or sexual assault.
- ✓ Honoring the legacy of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, will be begin with a breakfast on January 19<sup>th</sup> followed by different activities and speakers throughout the week.
- ✓ Plans are underway regarding who from MSSU will attend the **2015 Higher Learning Commission (HLC)** annual conference. Dr. Lipira noted this working conference will help prepare MSSU for HLC's 2018 site visit.
- ✓ Dr. Lipira brought the Board's attention to the Fall 2014 edition of *Focus on the Faculty*. Dr. Lipira noted it is easy to fill each edition with impressive accomplishments of current and retired MSSU faculty members.
- ✓ **New Faculty:** Natalie Grecu – Assistant Professor, Communication and Lucinda Shearman – Instructor, Dental Hygiene.
- ✓ **Faculty Resignations:** Dr. Blake Nielson – Assistant Professor, Management.
- ✓ **New Faculty Appointments:** Dr. Wendy McGrane – Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Vice Provost.

### **Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Mr. Darren Fullerton):**

*Note: Highlights of Darren'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.*

- ✓ Over 500 faculty and staff members have completed the federally mandated **Title IX Training**. Title IX training for students will be conducted electronically and will begin in a few weeks.
- ✓ **January 21<sup>st</sup>**, by 5:00 PM, is the deadline for payment of tuition and fees.
- ✓ **KSN - Living Well**, has added a monthly career segment utilizing MSSU's Career Services office.
- ✓ **Project Stay** just completed MSSU's proposal for continued grant funding for an additional five years.
- ✓ **First Year Experience (FYE) and International Studies** hosted O. Z. Livaneli, the author of "Bliss", the common read for all FYE students, yesterday and today. Mr. Livaneli spoke, signed books and took part in a question and answer session. Darren noted this event was very well received by students and very well attended.
- ✓ **Career Services, MSSU's Alumni Association, and the Young Professionals Network** will collect items for a Professional Clothing Giveaway March 9 – 13. The giveaway, designed to assist students with professional dress items for job interviews, will take place on March 31.
- ✓ **Admissions** – Daren brought the Board's attention to the Admissions section of his report detailing travel activity and student visits to campus. Travel activities include high school visits, high school fairs, community college visits, and community college fairs for a total of 737 for the months September, October, November and December. During these same months, the number of prospective students who visited campus totaled 2,132. Prospective students visiting campus were made up of individual tours, group tours, Saturday tours, and Discovery Days.

### **Faculty Liaison (Dr. Michael Garoutte - Faculty Senate, President):**

*Highlights of Dr. Garoutte's report are as follows.*

- ✓ **Governor Nixon's** visit to campus on December 5<sup>th</sup> provided an opportunity for Dr. Garoutte and Dr. Crystal Lemmons to show the Governor first-hand renovations that are needed in Reynolds Hall. Dr. Garoutte noted time was not available to show the PowerPoint presentation he and Dr. Lemmons had prepared, but the tour of Reynolds was very enlightening for the Governor and his staff.
- ✓ **The Faculty Handbook Revision Oversight Adhoc Committee** continues to meet on a weekly basis in anticipation of bringing the revised Faculty Handbook before the Board for approval in May.
- ✓ A taskforce to work on a campus **Tobacco Free Policy** has been organized and will meet soon.
- ✓ The search for the next **Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost** is going well. Dr. Garoutte noted he is serving as the Vice Chair of this search committee that is chaired by Dr. Marble. Phone interviews with eight candidates will take place during the next two weeks in order to shorten the list to four. These final four will be brought to campus for onsite interviews. Dr. Garoutte noted only one of the semi-final candidates has indicated they have taken a different position.

### **Staff Liaison (Mr. Robert Frossard – Staff Senate, President):**

*Highlights from Robert's report are as follows.*

- ✓ Staff Senate's **Angel Tree** project was a great success! Robert thanked faculty and staff for their support which enabled 67 children of current MSSU students to have a nicer Christmas this year.
- ✓ A large number of staff are planning to participate in various **service projects** in conjunction with the weeklong campus celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Student Representative (Mr. Jake Messer, Student Senate President):**

*Highlights from Jake's report are as follows.*

- ✓ In recapping from the fall semester, all **vacancies** on Student Senate are filled. Freshman Senators are more engaged and the Senate is ready to begin the spring semester.
- ✓ Changing **pay periods** from monthly to bi-weekly for student workers has received a lot of positive feedback.
- ✓ Two Student Senators will serve on the taskforce to research a **Tobacco Free Policy** for the campus. Jake expressed appreciation for this opportunity.
- ✓ Preparation for **St. Baldrick's**, scheduled for March 25, will be underway soon.
- ✓ **Improving the environment** in the residence hall area of campus will be one focus of Student Senate this semester. Jake noted improvements such as adding new benches around the area of the oval have been made in previous semesters.

**Board Committees:****Academic Affairs Committee (Lynn Ewing, Chair):**

No report.

**Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):**

No report.

**Executive Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):**

No report.

**Personnel Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):**

No report.

**President (Dr. Alan D. Marble):**

*Note: Due to Dr. Marble being at the annual NCAA Convention and unable to attend the Board meeting, his report was given by Dr. Pat Lipira. 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. Lipira apologized on behalf of Dr. Marble for not being able to attend today's Board meeting and shared the following:*

- ✓ **Faculty** were welcomed back to campus during their spring semester kick-off held on January 9<sup>th</sup>. During this meeting, they were also introduced to Hayley Hanson, of the Husch Blackwell law firm, who conducted Title IX Training.
- ✓ December 5<sup>th</sup> MSSU hosted **area legislators** in the morning and **Governor Nixon** in the afternoon. The meeting with area legislators focused on financial constraints the University operates under due to reduced state funding that has occurred over the years and also the statutory cap on tuition that locks the MSSU's tuition rate to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Linking tuition to the CPI makes low tuition institutions like Missouri Southern fall farther behind each year due to the compounding effect of the limited rate. This combination has resulted in Missouri Southern now receiving the lowest total revenue per student of any public university in the State of Missouri. MSSU administrators asked assistance from legislators to help find solutions to this growing problem.
- ✓ During **Governor Nixon's** visit, support was announced for a \$5.2 million renovation project designed to improve lab and classroom facilities in Reynolds Hall. Area legislators including Senator Ron Richard have also noted support of this project.

**President (continued):**

- ✓ In addition to the update on the search given by Dr. Garoutte for the next Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. Marble's report noted in his view this **search committee** is one of the best committees ever assembled. "The members are totally impartial, fully engaged, and extraordinarily thorough."
- ✓ Dr. Marble's report noted well wishes to JoAnn Graffam who resigned the position of **Vice President for Development/Executive Director** of the Foundation in order to pursue other professional opportunities. Due to the Missouri Southern Foundation paying half of the salary for this position, Dr. Marble's report noted, work is taking place very closely with the Missouri Southern Foundation to fill this position.
- ✓ MSSU hosted the **Freshman Legislator's Tour** consisting of approximately 50 newly elected lawmakers from around the state for lunch on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Highlights of the brief visit for this group included meeting students, viewing pieces of MSSU's African Art collection, and enjoying music from the Steel Drum Ensemble. Dr. Glenn Coltharp, Crowder's VPAA, gave a brief overview of Crowder and Dr. Marble gave a brief PowerPoint presentation highlighting MSSU's International mission, MSSU's outstanding faculty, campus construction projects, outstanding student outcome measures, and graduate successes.
- ✓ Dr. Lipira is chairing a task force that will develop a draft proposal for a **Tobacco Free Campus Policy**. This group will be made up of faculty, staff, and students. When the draft is developed it will be presented to President's Council for review and comment and then presented to the Board for input, modification, and/or action.
- ✓ Work continues on **CQI/Program Prioritization** with work currently taking place with individual Departments regarding specific items that were inadequately addressed in the voluntary change stage of this process. The end of the spring semester is the target date to finish CQI/Program Prioritization.
- ✓ President's Council met with the **Faculty Comprehensive Compensation Committee** before the holiday break to discuss the committee's work regarding creating a system to make faculty salaries at MSSU more competitive. Both the PC and members of this committee agree salary increases are needed for both faculty and staff and understand current financial challenges faced by the University. Plans are to continue work to develop a fair and affordable program of salary increases in conjunction with the Financial Stability Committee and the Great Game of Education initiative.
- ✓ **Great Game** updates include moving forward with the formation of the Design Team, Critical Number Task Force, and development of training materials for the campus. As this initiative advances, it is already clear increased "transparency and openness" is having a positive impact. SRC's generous offer of no cost training for faculty and staff members at MSSU is producing energy and encouragement for training attendees. Dr. Marble's report noted outstanding faculty and staff at Missouri Southern are determined for Missouri Southern to not only survive, but thrive in the future! Dr. Marble also noted Scott Cragin and Jeff Gibson are doing a great job leading this initiative.
- ✓ In conclusion, Dr. Marble encouraged everyone to keep an eye on the **Campus Calendar** of events and noted the spring semester is packed with concerts, plays, recitals, athletic events, and a variety of other campus activities showcasing the incredible talent of students and the remarkable guidance MSSU students receive from faculty, staff, and coaches.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS****Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Pat Lipira):**

Dr. Lipira noted the majority of the Reports and Curricular Proposals being brought before the Board for approval are largely due to clean-up taking place in the catalog. Some courses no longer need to be offered due to the lack of demand and changes are being made to ensure course offerings match course listings in the catalog.

*A motion was made by Lynn Ewing and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve the January 16, 2015 Reports and Curricular Proposals as presented. Motion passed. A copy of the Summary of the Reports and Curricular Proposals for January 16, 2015 are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.*

**Distance Education Update (Dr. Pat Lipira & Mr. Scott Snell)**

*Highlights of Mr. Snell's presentation are as follows. A hard copy of his PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.*

Dr. Lipira, introduced Mr. Scott Snell, Director of Distance Education, who gave a PowerPoint presentation that provided updates on Distance Education and key elements of the program. Topics included:

- Department of Distance Learning—Offices, Personnel, Activities & Special Projects
- Online News from Academic Departments
- Online Programs/Data at MSSU
- Noteworthy National Stories in Online Learning

Mr. Snell also shared information about the various aspects and value of Blackboard for students and professors and provided information about enrollment and growth potential in Distance Education on campus as well as internationally.

**OTHER**

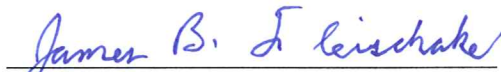
Mr. Fleischaker asked the Board to consider scheduling a possible retreat in April and asked for faculty and others interested to submit topics to members of the Board and to Dr. Marble. Mr. Fleischaker suggested the Great Game of Education and additional information on Distance Education as possible topics.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Fleischaker noted an Executive Session of the Board was not needed and asked for a motion to adjourn.

*A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lynn Ewing and seconded by Keith Hankins. Motion passed.*

  
Secretary

  
Chair