

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

October 20, 2017

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The October 20th, 2017, meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order at 1 o'clock by Mitch McCumber, Chair. Governors in attendance were Jim Fleischaker, Alison Hershewe, Carlos Haley, Mitch McCumber, Anita Oplotnik, Mike Franks, and Bill Gipson. Tracy Flanigan was absent. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Dr. Brad Hodson, Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Sharon Gloyer (representing Jon Dermott), Nick Nicoletti, Sharon Fraser, Joe Blank, Linda Eis, and Laura Boyd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber welcomed everyone.

MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the September 15, 2017, Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Alison Hershewe to approve minutes of the September 15, 2017 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book).

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis)

Cash Graph:

Linda noted in reviewing the statements for the period ending September 30, 2017, the Cash Graph reflects cash at \$14.8M; a decrease over the prior year of \$296k.

Statement of Net Position:

Total Assets of \$172M, Total Liabilities of \$94M, making Total Net Assets \$78M. Restricted cash in the current year includes \$1M insurance and \$2.5M in remaining MoHEFA funding.

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

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased over the prior year by \$544k.
- **Total Operating Expenses** increased by \$439k. Linda noted this increase is partially due to increases in scholarships of over \$300k which include additional Pell money and increased institutional scholarships.
- **Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)** decreased (\$802k) noting a decrease in regular state appropriations of \$552K.
- **Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues** reflects the current year at \$9.03M, with the prior year at \$9.73M reflecting a decrease of \$700k.

Treasurer (continued):

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve the September 30, 2017 financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for September 30, 2017 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:

- Work continues on the design of **Nixon Hall**. The architect finished the construction drawings and the contractor has put them out to bid. Missouri Southern should hear back from the subs by the middle of November with construction anticipated to begin in December. Nixon Hall will mainly house Math classrooms and offices. This project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2018 with classes beginning the spring of 2019.
- Work continues on the **Trail Project** with the city of Joplin. The process of acquiring the final right of way from the Northpark Mall owners is still in progress. This project should go out for bid soon with construction anticipated to begin within 60 days and completion anticipated during the spring of 2018.

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**NCAA Compliance**

- **NCAA/EADA (Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act) reporting** was completed and posted by the October 15th deadline with the help of Linda Eis, Liz Ebert, Tonya Nickle and Karesa Burr. Jared noted this report is complicated, detailed, challenging, and their help is very much appreciated.
- **MOSO Madness** is scheduled for October 24th inside the Leggett and Platt Athletic Center. Basketball teams will scrimmage and sign autographs, and free hot dogs will be available.
- October is national breast cancer awareness month. MSSU will be working to raise awareness and funds for local organizations including **Hope 4 You**. Events include Volleyball, Football and Soccer games. Mercy will have a mobile mammography unit on site for fans. All cancer survivors will be admitted to these events free.
- **ISSG (Institutional Self Study Guide) Updates:**
 - ✓ Committees are being formed and review of the last ISSG has been completed.
 - ✓ Gender Equity and Diversity Committee notes indicate need for a Women's Sport addition. Discussions continue regarding the best fit for an additional Women's sport at MSSU, the region and conference affiliations.
- MSSU's **Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC)** will hold their annual canned food drive again this fall. Missouri Southern student athletes collected nearly 5,000 cans last year and are hoping to collect more this fall. Last year's drive helped sustain Souls Harbor for over a month during November and December.
- The **Lionbackers & Annual Campaign** officially began June 1st with a steady influx of membership applications being received. Lionbacker membership is currently at 273 with an increase expected when Basketball season begins.

Director of Athletics (continued):

- **The State High School Association of Missouri** will be on campus November 13th touring our facilities for consideration of holding competitions in state championships including Volleyball, Cross Country, and Track and Field. MSSU is one of three finalists and is hopeful for an opportunity to host this historical event for the first time in Joplin.
- A **fish fry** followed by a fireworks display is scheduled at a booster's home this evening October 20th as a fundraiser for men's basketball; tickets are \$100 a person.
- The **Rod Smith book signing and brunch** will be held on October 21st and the cost is \$50 a person. A generous donor has purchased 20 tickets to be given to kids involved with the Boys and Girls club.
- This year's **Puerto Rico trip** scheduled in November for basketball has been postponed due to the devastating hurricane. MSSU plans to go next year to support in their rebuilding efforts and is currently in the process of filing a waiver required for this change. In place of this year's Puerto Rico tournament, MSSU anticipates playing teams in a tournament in South Dakota next month.

Executive Vice President (Dr. Brad Hodson):

Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Admissions:

- **The official enrollment count** that took place on September 15th, shows a final headcount of 6,174 which is a decrease of 57 students. This fall, 1,012 freshmen enrolled, making it the third largest freshman class in MSSU history. Higher GPA's of incoming freshman students, indicates MSSU is attracting more academically qualified students.
- **Academically**, there was notable growth in three of the four programs the university placed a marketing emphasis on during the last fiscal year: Biology/Environmental Health, Education, and Health Sciences. The fourth program marketed was Business, which was stable in enrollment.
- **Admission Funnel** – Last year, MSSU experienced increased applications, increased admitted students, but a slightly lower yield rate. These changes are attributed to the university's expanded Lion Pride recruitment area.
- Dr. Hodson noted a current comparison based nationally on a Public 4 year University vs. MSSU:

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| ✓ Conversion of Inquiries to Applications | 24 % vs 32% |
| ✓ Percent of Applications Completed | 82 % vs 71% (as MSSU recruits more out of state students, they are less likely to turn in their transcripts, have ACT scores, pay the application fee, and to complete all requirements to have an application considered). |
| ✓ Conversion of Applications to Admits | 85% vs 95% |
| ✓ Yield Rate of Admitted to Enrolled | 26% vs 39% |

Dr. Hodson also noted a Twenty Year Demographic Trend beginning with fall of 1997 to present day.

University Relations and Marketing:

- **MSSU will celebrate 50 years on the Mission Hills campus with a re-dedication ceremony on October 27th.** The event is 50 years to the day after Governor Warren

Executive Vice President (continued):

Hearnes dedicated the campus in 1967. The highlight of the festivities will be the presence of several of the children of the university's forefathers who guided the fundraising and construction of the new campus in 1967. The public is invited to attend the ceremony on the lawn in front of Hearnes Hall.

- Dr. Hodson shared the **Annual Freshman Enrollment Report** which will go out to all Faculty and Staff regarding cultural shifts over time. This hand out is given every year to faculty and staff to help in understanding and appreciate where MSSU students are coming from. The report includes information on the Top 9 Feeder Schools, Top Producing Counties, and Cultural References.

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.

Neosho Junior High School Partnership

- MSSU is pleased to be a **partner institution with the Neosho Junior High School** which began the beginning of the semester. MSSU has proudly presented programs to Neosho Junior high students on Emergency Medicine, Respiratory Therapy, radiology, and Engineering Technology. Future presentations will include Graphic Design and other technology-based programs. MSSU faculty and staff are excited to have been invited to be a part of this important and innovative educational initiative.

Perkins Grant Program Awards

- Through the Perkins program Missouri Southern has been awarded a total of \$130,000 this academic year to obtain critically needed equipment. Purchases include items such as a SimMan, Phantom Skins, Range Lead Removal and various other training items, all of which will be used by health sciences students.

Lioncub Academy and Dental Hygiene

- More than 90 children between the ages of one and five learned about the importance of creating healthy smiles during a program on October 20th at the Missouri Southern State University's Lion Club Academy. Students from the **Dental Hygiene Department** visited classrooms to teach children about proper techniques for using their toothbrush and the long-term benefits of taking care of their teeth.

Alpha Chi (Missouri IOTA) Induction

- On Sunday, October 22nd, 93 students will be inducted into **Alpha Chi** a coeducational academic honor society created in 1922. The purpose of this program is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and to honor those who achieve such distinction. While MSSU sponsors several disciplinary-specific honor organizations, Alpha Chi is a national all-university academic society.

Higher Education Core Curriculum Transfer ACT: Key Provisions

- Dr. Carson shared information regarding a **course re-design by MDHE**. Core curriculum, (basic competencies to be met) which include communicating, higher-order thinking, managing information, valuing, the knowledge areas of social and behavioral sciences, humanities and fine arts, mathematics, and life and physical sciences are included. Detail regarding the MDHE course re-design are included in Dr. Carson's

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (continued):

written report. The Higher Education Core Curriculum Transfer Act should be finalized by January 2018 with anticipated implementation by August 2018.

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.

Hurricanes Harvey & Irma Disaster Related Outreach

- Missouri Southern State University has identified at least forty-seven students whose primary residence is in the **Hurricane Harvey and Irma** affected areas. Nine students impacted by the hurricanes requested complete withdrawals and their tuition refunded. Two students requested partial withdrawal from courses.

University Major/Minor Fair

- The Advising and Registrar's offices coordinated a Major and Minors fair for all MSSU students October 4th. This event is specifically designed to attract undecided students. Every MSSU academic department showcased their offerings to undergraduate students. This event also provided career counseling and academic advising assistance to the students.

Mid-Term Report

- Mid-Term grades were submitted and with the help and knowledge of faculty and staff, advisors are reaching out to students that might need assistance and/or tutoring. More than 300 Lion alerts have been sent; an outreach by faculty and staff to the university's advising/counseling department. MSSU is very appreciative of the faculty who help with students that are struggling and in need of tutoring, financial or personal issues.

Dr. Al Cade Beacon of Hope Service Award

- Nominations are currently being accepted and are due by November 1st for the Dr. Al Cade Beacon of Hope Service Award in memory of Dr. Cade a long time MSSU professor, Dean of Teacher Education and Emeritus faculty member. This award is designed to honor MSSU students who have contributed an extraordinary level of dedication and demonstrated superior leadership through exceptional service by volunteering on or off campus.

Faculty Senate President (Dr. Nick Nicoletti)

Note: Highlights of Dr. Nicoletti'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.

The Faculty Senate met on Monday, October 2nd at 3:00pm and attempted to solicit a liaison for the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates (MAFS) from the Senate body. Dr. Nicoletti noted that as of now, the position is still vacant and if not filled by spring he would represent MSSU.

A discussion took place regarding the wellness initiative and the new healthcare plans. Faculty Senate will invite Evan Jewsbury to the November 6th meeting for further dialogue.

Communication from Graduate Council regarding Thesis vs. Non-thesis graduate program requirements was also discussed. Dr. Nicoletti commented the requirements were vague and did not fully accommodate graduate programs already on campus. Comments and suggestions were

Faculty Senate President (continued):

compiled and sent to the Graduate Council for revision. The next senate meeting is scheduled for November 4th.

Staff Senate President (Sharon Fraser)

Staff Senate members are encouraging all University faculty and staff members to donate and support the Angel Tree program. The Angel Tree Ad Hoc Committee is currently taking applications from Pell eligible students with dependent children (high school age or younger). Recipients of the Angel Tree project will receive assistance by employees “adopting” a child and buying gifts for them for Christmas.

Sharon also noted the Legislative Oversight Committee is in the process of updating and streamlining the Staff Senate Bylaws. The committee expects to have the bylaws ready to be presented to the Staff Senate for approval by the November meeting.

Student Senate President (Joe Blank)

Joe noted he would like to bring a resolution forward, already passed by the Senate, regarding an additional signal light with a turn arrow be installed on Duquesne Road at Victory Lane across from the football stadium. The Student Senate feels this additional signal light with the turn arrow indicator would be beneficial for pedestrians as well as vehicle traffic. This change would increase safety for students and help with the flow of traffic turning onto campus. The Capital Improvements Committee would like to present this recommendation to the University and to pursue it locally.

Mitch McCumber polled the board and entertained a vote of confidence.

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to support Student Senate's resolution to a signal light with an arrow at Duquesne Road and Victory Lane as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Committees:**Budget Audit Committee (Bill Gipson, Chair)**

Bill Gipson reported the Budget Audit Committee met at 10:00am before today's board meeting for the purpose of two different items. **1) Great Game of Education-Monetary Awards, and 2) Rolling Fees into Tuition.**

- 1) Mr. Gipson shared last month the administration reported the critical number had increased \$800,000 and the GGOE Culture Committee recommended to distribute approximately 50% of this improvement. This distribution would consist of each full-time employee, employed as of June 30th, 2017, receiving \$750 and each part-time employee, also employed as of June 30th, 2017, receiving \$375. These disbursements would be made in mid-November of this year.

As a result of discussion and approval of the GGOE monetary distribution by the Budget Audit Committee, the Chair of the Budget Audit Committee, Bill Gipson brought forward the following motion for approval:

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve the distribution of monetary awards as recommended by the Great Game of Education Culture Committee as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Audit Committee (continued):

- 2) Mr. Gipson noted over the last couple of months, the administration has looked into simplifying tuition and required fees into a single rate.

Dr. Hodson explained the Marketing campaign “Tuition Made Simple” would simplify cost information for students and parents with less frustration and enable better understanding.

Dr. Hodson noted there would not be added expenses such as required technology fees, activity fees, parking fees, records fees, and recreation center fees. Some specific courses will continue to have costs associated with supplies and special materials. To illustrate the “Tuition Made Simple” campaign, Dr. Hodson shared a power point which contained Print outs, Billboards and postcards that will be used.

Mr. Gipson also noted that the committee discussed this proposed change by the administration at length and approved it. On behalf of the Budget Audit Committee, Mr. Gipson brought forward the following motions for approval:

- 1) Authorizing administration to combine undergraduate instate Lion Pride tuition rate required annual fees into one rate of \$202.24 per credit hour for FY2018.
This rate will be subject to be allowed the CPI rate increase for FY2019.
The new rate will include instate, Lion Pride tuition, activity fee, health center fee, parking fee, recreation center fee, and technology fee. There will be no additional charge for required fees. All other fees will still apply. There is no impact to the students at this time.
- 2) Authorize the administration to reflect undergraduate out of state tuition rate at \$404.48 per credit hour for FY2018. This rate will be subject to the FY2019 increase. There is no impact to the students at this time.

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Mike Franks to approve the “Rolling the required fees into the credit hour rate” as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

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.

- Missouri Southern, in an effort to enhance the **Strategic Planning** process, held eight separate faculty and staff Stakeholder Engagement meetings in September covering six topics: 1) Mission; 2) Vision (for 5-10 years in the future); 3) Values; 4) SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis; 5) Environmental Scan; and, 6) Aspirational Thinking (10 years and beyond). Over 100 individuals, with over 1,500 comments and suggestions recorded, attended these meetings. MSSU opened the sessions to online participation via Survey Monkey with over 200 more respondents offering nearly 1,000 comments and suggestions. The intent for preliminary input regarding the Mission Statement available for the Board of Governors was October, but the task of analyzing such a large amount of input proved to be more time consuming than predicted. Information should be available for the November Board meeting.
- The **University Council** met in September for the first time this academic year. University Council serves the dual purpose of functioning as the Central Huddle for the Great Game of Education and as the campus wide policy approval and modification council. During the September meeting, an inspiring report from members of the Great Game Culture Committee took place with a focus on determining MSSU’s “noble cause” which will be revealed in the

President (continued):

Strategic Planning work. The business of completing the **Policy Library** was also discussed, contemplated and eventually over a dozen new policies were adopted. The policy library is now 98% complete. The Policy Library will be a very useful tool pertaining to handbooks, guides, and other documents needed for a particular policy. This new Library will avoid the inadvertent misinterpretation or misquotation of policies going forward.

- **Dr. Mun Choi, University of Missouri president**, recently visited campus along with former Higher Education Commissioner, David Russell, and University Extension representative, Jay Chism. Discussions included challenges and opportunities facing higher education and potential ways the University of Missouri and Missouri Southern might be able to work together in the future took place.
- The **Lantern Society annual dinner** was successful with faithful supporters of Missouri Southern in attendance. Dr. Marble expressed gratitude for the fantastic support MSSU receives from alumni, corporate partners, and the community in general. The relationship between the Society and the university is greatly valued.
- Missouri Southern sponsored the **downtown Joplin “Third Thursday” event** on September 21st with participation of several departments. Dr. Marble thanked each department as well as Cassie Mathes and her URM team for organizing this event and Bob Harrington and the Physical Plant team for their work and effort. This huge team effort helped create an atmosphere of celebration for thousands of community members.
- The Commissioner of Higher Education recently requested a presentation on MSSU’s Great Game of Education initiative at the **State Chief Business Officers** meeting in Jefferson City. This meeting consisted of all 2 year and 4-year higher education institution’s Business Officers (approximately 50 people). MSSU was one of only two schools asked to make presentations on innovative approaches to higher education budgeting approaches. The presentation generated many questions. Several schools requested teams from their institution visit MSSU regarding implementing GGOE on their campuses. The commissioner also asked MSSU to send the power point to all participants for further review and consideration. A member of CACUBO (Central Association of College and University Business Officers), present at the meeting, asked if MSSU would be willing to present the GGOE initiative at the annual CACUBO meeting next spring in Chicago. Additional training with GGOE is anticipated soon.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**Consideration of FY17 Audited Financial Statements (Ms. Linda Eis):**

Linda introduced Kim Hamm, BKD partner who thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss the FY17 audit in detail during the Budget Audit committee meeting before today’s Board meeting. Kim thanked Linda Eis as well as MSSU’s finance and student teams for the quality of work they produce and for meeting BKD timelines in producing financial information and records promptly during the audit process. Kim noted an “Unmodified” or “Clean” (best) opinion audit has been issued by BKD for the FY17 audit. For the fourth year in a row, there were no findings in both the Finance and Financial Aid audits reflecting outstanding work done

Consideration of FY17 Audited Financial Statements (continued):

by all. The Board as well as Linda thanked the BKD team of Kim Hamm and Ryan Sivill for the excellent work their team did on the audit.

On behalf of the Board's Budget Audit committee a motion to accept the BKD audit for FY2017 as presented was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker. Motion passed. (The complete audit is included with the minutes in the permanent record book).

Technology Project with Neosho Middle School

(Dr. Carson included this information earlier in her report).

Other Items

None

Future Meeting Dates:

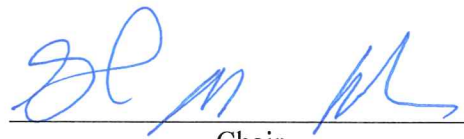
The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for November 17, 2017 at 1 o'clock.

Adjournment:

Chair McCumber noted the Board did not need to go into a closed Executive Session and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to adjourn. Motion passed.


Secretary


Chair