

MISSOURI SOUTHERN  
STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF  
**GOVERNORS**

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NOV. 12, 2021 | REPORT



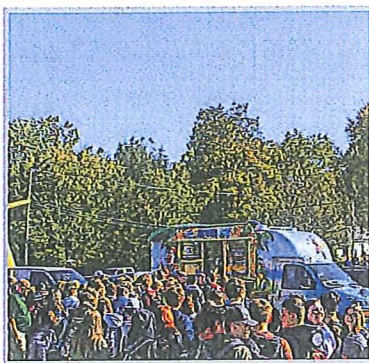


# DR. DEAN VAN GALEN

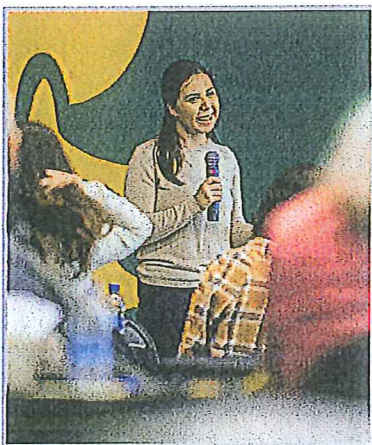
## PRESIDENT

### GREEN AND GOLD TOUR STOPS IN MONETT AND NEVADA

At the September Board of Governors meeting, I shared with the Board a plan to conduct a "Green and Gold Tour" in which we take Missouri Southern on the road to communities in our region. I'm pleased to report that the first two tour stops in Monett and Nevada have gone well. Events have included morning community coffees, planting of "Home of a Missouri Southern Lion" yard signs, a luncheon with local alumni, an afterschool free Kona Ice event at the high school and MSSU sponsorship and presence at a local football game. The events have been well received in these communities, and also garnered significant media coverage. The next stop on the Green and Gold Tour is Seneca, scheduled for Jan. 6.



### INAUGURAL MOSO CONNECT | FOOD FOR THOUGHT



The President's Office is hosting a new series of events for all faculty and staff—branded MOSO Connect. The goals of MOSO Connect are to strengthen campus community, and to enable our employees to learn more about some great aspects of Missouri Southern.

Each MOSO Connect event includes a complimentary luncheon and a brief program. The first event, attended by over 60 faculty, staff and administrators, focused on international education. Speakers included Chad Stebbins, Institute of International Studies Director; Aaron Carmichael, Intensive English Program Director; Stacey Clay, Coordinator of International Admissions and Student Services; a

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student from Joplin who studied abroad in Austria, Thailand and Morocco; a student from St. Joseph who studied abroad in France; and international students from South Africa, Mexico and South Korea.

The next MOSO Connect event is scheduled for Dec. 3 and will focus on music. Dr. David Sharlow, the Missouri Southern Chamber Singers and Concert Chorale will showcase several songs from their upcoming A Seasonal Choral Flourish, pairing classical standards with both sacred and pop-oriented carols.

## MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

We continue to appreciate the support of our local legislative delegation, including for the additional core funding and the one-time funds for Taylor Performing Arts Center (TPAC) that Missouri Southern received in the 2021 state budget. In the next month, campus leadership will be meeting with our delegation to discuss the upcoming legislative session, including specific requests for support of the university.

## MISSOURI SOUTHERN ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

Missouri Southern continues to value its engagement with Joplin, the region and the State of Missouri. Recently, we asked members of the President's Cabinet and others to identify community organizations and activities in which MSSU faculty, staff and administrators are engaged. This engagement takes many forms, from serving as leaders or members of community boards, to bringing specialized expertise to local or statewide organizations. Listed below are examples of these organizations and activities:

- AARC National Sputum Bowl Planning Committee
- Accreditation Commission NACEP (National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships)
- American Association for State and Local History
- Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors
- Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials
- Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks
- Boy Scouts of America - Troop 17, Ozark Trails Council
- Camp Quality Ozarks
- Carl Junction High School Athletic Booster Club Board
- Carthage Rotary Club
- Carthage Tech Center Project Lead the Way
- Chapter AP of PEO
- Children's Haven
- City of Joplin Building Board of Appeals
- City of Joplin Parks and Storm Water Campaign Committee
- College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA)
- Community Foundation of the Ozarks
- Connect2Culture Board
- Daybreak Rotary
- Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development
- Downtown Joplin Alliance Board
- Franklin Technical School Advisory Board for Healthcare Programs
- Freeman Health System Institutional Review Board

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- Friends of the Joplin Public Library Committee
- Great Plains Federal Credit Union Board
- Heartland Opera Theatre
- Higher Education Recruitment Consortium
- Hope 4 You Breast Cancer Foundation Board
- International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors
- Jasper County Courthouse collections
- Jasper County Emergency Services Board
- Joining Community Forces 4 State Region
- Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce - Executive Leadership Committee
- Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce - Golden Apple
- Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce - Leadership Joplin Steering Committee
- Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals Network
- Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation
- Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity
- Joplin Celebrations Commission
- Joplin Convention & Visitors Bureau Board
- Joplin Elks Lodge Elkland Advisory Committee
- Joplin High School TV Production Advisory Board
- Joplin Historic Preservation Commission
- Joplin Historical Society Board
- Joplin History & Mineral Museum Board
- Joplin HOPE Disaster Recovery Center
- Joplin NALA Read
- Joplin Professional Social Work Committee
- Joplin Regional Community Foundation
- Joplin Rotary Club
- Joplin School Board
- Joplin Sports Authority Board
- Kansas Association of Colleges and Employers
- Knights of Columbus
- Lafayette House Board
- MDHEWD's College and Career Readiness Advisory Committee
- Mercy Hospital of Joplin Board
- Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA)
- Miracle League of Joplin Board
- Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP)
- Missouri College Learning Center Association (MoCLCA)
- Missouri Commission of Higher Education
- Missouri CUPA-HR Chapter
- Missouri Junior Academy of Sciences
- Missouri School Board Association, District 7
- Missouri Society for Respiratory Care
- Missouri Society of Health and Physical Educators (MOSHAPE)
- MO Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (MCADSV)
- MOCAP (MO Center for Advanced Power)
- MOKAN Partnership
- NASFAA- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
- National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA)
- National Council on Public History
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- One Joplin
- P.E.O. Sisterhood
- Shakespeare Society
- Sherwood/Rader Farm Civil War Park in Jasper County
- Smart Cities Committee
- Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Ozark Chapter 139
- Southwest Center for Educational Excellence Board
- State Historical Society of Missouri
- State of Missouri Drug Recognition Expert/SFST Technical Advisory Panel
- Tristate Family YMCA Youth Development Advisory Board
- Tri-State Human Resources Chapter
- Webb City High School Speech and Debate Advisory Committee
- Webb City/Carl Junction Rotary Club

# DR. BRAD HODSON

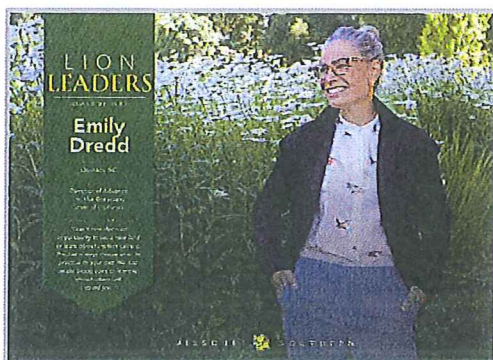
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP DINNER



Over 250 Foundation scholarship donors and recipients joined together for a dinner and program in Young Gymnasium on Thursday, October 14th. Scholarship representatives are paired with their scholarship recipient to get to know each other. The goal of this event is to start lasting relationships between scholarship supporters and the students in whom they invest.

## LION LEADERS



The offices of Alumni & Constituent Relations and University Relations & Marketing have worked with academic deans and department chairs to identify "Lion Leaders." In an effort to convey to current and prospective students what can be achieved with a degree from Missouri Southern, large photos of the selected graduates along with their inspiring message have been placed in high-visibility campus buildings. Participating graduates were sent prints of their posters and a thank you letter.

## LEE ELLIFF POUND TRANSITION



After 25 years as director of Alumni and Constituent Relations, the university has announced Lee Elliff Pound's transition to a new role. In the final two years of her phased retirement from MSSU (2022 and 2023), Lee will serve as a development officer raising funds for the upcoming campaign. This is a perfect move for Lee as she has spent decades promoting Missouri Southern and facilitating engagement and philanthropy through alumni outreach activities. We appreciate Lee's willingness to move into this new role and look forward to her leveraging the hundreds of relationships she's built to continue to advance her alma mater.

## STUDENT RECRUITMENT EVENTS FOR FY 2022

The following events have taken place or are planned to attract prospective students and their parents to campus:

### Transfer Discovery Days

- November 15th
- April 14th

### Crowder Enrollment Cookout

- April 20th

### NEO Enrollment Cookout

- April 27th

### MOACAC Regional Fair

- September 29th

### Criminal Justice Discovery Day

- October 15th

### High School Arts Day

- October 22nd

### Fine Arts Discovery Day

- November 12th

### Business Discovery Day

- March 2nd

### Education Discovery Day

- April 8th

### STEM Discovery Day

- March 4th

### Lion Pride Visit Days

- September 17th
- October 2nd
- November 5th
- March 18th
- April 23rd
- June 11th
- July 9th

### Green and Gold Tours

- Monett, October 8th
- Nevada, October 22nd
- Seneca, January 6th

### Counselor Appreciation Event

- September 1st

Other events are planned, but only those with confirmed dates have been listed above.

## ADVERTISING EXAMPLES

The following are two examples of student recruitment advertising currently being run by Missouri Southern.





# MS. LORINDA HACKETT

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

## ACACIA CENTER RIBBON-CUTTING HELD OCT. 21, 2021



The ACACIA Center for Applied Behavior Analysis, located in the Gene Taylor Education building, hosted its official ribbon-cutting on Oct. 21 under the direction of Drs. Holly Hackett and Ayla Schmick. The center will provide behavioral, educational and social services to families of children with autism spectrum disorder. Applied Behavior Analysis uses the principles of learning to improve social and academic behaviors of children and adults and is one of the most well-established treatment approaches for individuals with autism. The center was funded with gifts from

Freeman Health System and Ozark Center and grants through MoExcels and the Missouri Department of Social Services. Former Senator Gary Nodlerspoke to the MoExcels funding avenue and the community need for this type of educational service.

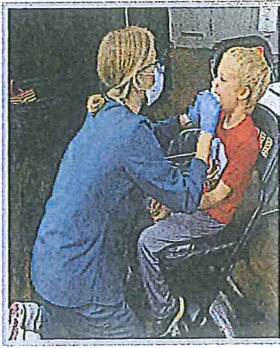
## MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY MASS BAND DAY



The Music Department's Lion Pride Marching Band hosted this event on Oct. 30 culminating in the football game's halftime performance. This year the show was Halloween-themed and included music from All American Nightmare and Thriller. Over 300 high-school band students attended from Frontenac, Diamond, Seneca and Webb City. From the four schools, three of the band teachers were alumni. Six instrumental faculty assisted with sectionals and 14 student leaders assisted with sectional rehearsals and logistics. Dr. Brandon Robinson, visiting assistant professor of band, and Michael Olgesby, assistant band director, led the event.



## DENTAL HYGIENE TELEDENTISTRY ACTIVITIES CONTINUE



The Dental Hygiene Department at Missouri Southern is the sole recipient of a grant opportunity provided by the Department of Health and Senior Services designed to improve oral hygiene for seniors in nursing home care. Currently our students provide services to approximately 50 residents at the Communities of Wildwood in Joplin. The grant also provides the opportunity to provide a preventative service program and an application of fluoride

varnish for elementary schools in Jasper, Avilla and Sarcoxie. More than 250 children have been screened with an additional 300 students scheduled in early December. Other related departmental activities in October, National Dental Hygiene month, included participation in the Lion Cub Academy Trunk or Treat, giving out more than 100 toothbrushes and coloring books and the "Chang-ing Smiles Campaign," which raised \$875 in spare change across campus. Dr. Van Galen's office was top fund raiser.

## DR. JULIE WENGERT

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

## MIDWESTERN ESPORTS ARENA



The new Midwestern Esports Arena is a multi-station gaming center with gaming PC and console options including the new PS5, Xbox Series X, Nintendo Switch, earlier generation PlayStation and Xbox consoles, as well as optional "hook-up" ports for gamers to bring their own equipment. It is strategically located on the first floor of Billingsly Student Center inside the Beimdiek Recreation Center. Steven Benfield, director of Recreational Services, envisions using the space for things such as Esport tournaments, hosting computer coding classes/workshops, and providing student internship opportunities at both MSSU and Midwestern Interactive, a local software and design company that sponsored the project.

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There are 34 students registered for the Esports club. The club has two tracks: recreational play and competitive play. Seth Sockwell is the advisor for the recreational track, which focuses more on console gaming and leisurely play. Nick Reynolds is the advisor for the competitive track. This group has set up a MOSO Esports Discord for club/member communication and they are currently researching tournament platforms and planning for internal/local tournaments.

## HEERF III/AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN - STUDENT PORTION

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. In August 2021, MSSU was approved for \$7,636,833 in financial grants to students, which may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. The fall portion of the HEERF III grants were distributed to students on Oct. 24. A total of \$4,012,400 was disbursed to 4,344 eligible students for the fall semester. Out of the total disbursed, \$143,000 was applied directly to student account balances at MSSU. There will be another distribution of these funds for the Spring 2022 semester.

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Several departments within Student Affairs continue to offer a variety of co-curricular experiences designed to promote student engagement.

## STUDENT SUCCESS

**Financial Aid** hosted the annual FAFSA Fiesta event to help current students complete the federal financial aid application. **Project Stay** presented two workshops in October including "How to Get Started Investing" and "American Sign Language Basics." In addition to coordinating the annual Major/Minor Fair, **ACTS/FYE** offered a variety of activities during the Connect 2 U Mental Health Awareness Week. **Global Leaders** hosted three guest speakers for the campus community including: alumna Whitney Mastelle, Diversity Equity & Inclusion; Vice Admiral Jeffrey Trussler, Global Leadership; and Shawn Askinozie, Global Leadership. **Career Services** offered many career preparatory events including Rapid Résumé Reviews, Networking 101, Suit Up with JCPenney, Internship Expo and two virtual professional development workshops focused on résumés and interview essentials. A.L.I.C.E. and Green Dot training was provided by the **UPD** and Green Dot programs as part of the UE 100 curriculum.

## JAPAN SEMESTER



**Fresh Ideas** sponsored a Taste of Japan event featuring four action stations in the Mayes Dining Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 14. In addition to the regularly-scheduled Grocery Bingo, trivia, and movies, **Student Activities/Campus Activity Board** has hosted three Japan-themed activities for students this fall including a virtual beginning origami class, make-and-take bonsai tree kits, and make-and-take miniature Zen gardens.

## HOMECOMING



Homecoming Week was filled with activities including a "Lions Through the Decades"-themed spirit week, door decoration contest, office decoration contest, photo booth, trivia, bingo, and T-shirt giveaways. The **Student Activities/Campus Activity Board** also hosted the annual Homecoming picnic on the Oval, which included the King and Queen coronation ceremony. Many **Registered Student Organizations** created original floats for the parade, which was held in downtown Joplin this year.

## HALLOWEEN

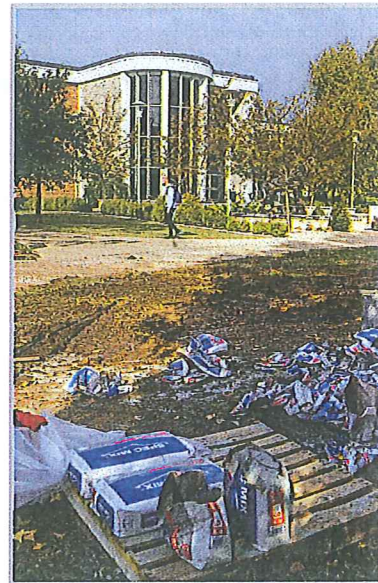
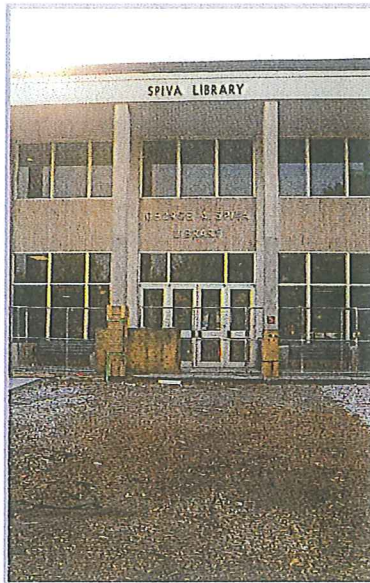
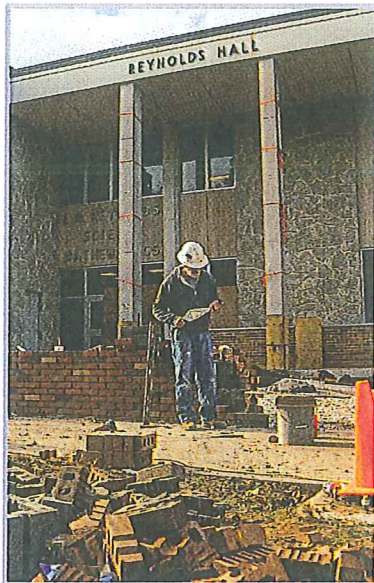
**Residence Life & Campus Recreation** offered an express trick-or-treating community engagement experience in the Billingsly Student Center during their annual Safe Halloween event. The **Residence Hall Association** engaged on-campus residents in making fall goodie bags, throwing a haunted Halloween party, and coordinating a s'mores movie night. A pumpkin-carving and painting event was coordinated by **ACTS/FYE**. Classic Halloween movies were shown in Phelps Theater during the month of October.



# ROB YUST

VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS

## CONSTRUCTION



### **Pedestrian safety in the main parking lot – Raised walking medians**

- Curb and guttering are nearly complete around the medians and the stamped concrete crosswalks are in the process of being poured and sealed. The parking lot (with exception of landscaping) should be complete the week of November 15.

### **Street replacement/crosswalks – International Avenue from Newman Rd. to University Parkway**

- Work is scheduled to begin next week and extend into the first week of December.

### **Tunnel safety improvements – Interior enhancements and new lighting**

- The tunnel is closed through the end of the semester. Work on each end of the tunnel has started as well as the interior upgrades.

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## **Oval infrastructure – New sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, and entrances to Hearnese, Spiva Library, Reynold’s Hall and Webster Hall**

- New pavers have been installed in front of Webster and landscaping has begun.
- Revamping the entrance to Hearnese Hall from the east is complete; landscaping has started and should be complete next week.
- The entrance to Hearnese Hall from the west (off of the Oval) has not started yet, pending fountain (donor-funded) design.
- The fountain (donor-funded) in front of Spiva Library is being designed and the concrete work in front of the facility off of the Oval is on hold pending that design.
- New pavers and a seat wall have been installed in front of Reynolds Hall. Seat wall cap will be installed mid-December.
- The replacement of an old water line will be complete in December due to delays in material.
- Installation of new light poles on the Oval will occur in December.
- Sidewalk replacement and tree removal on the Oval continues and should be complete by the end of December.

The project should be complete around the first of February, depending on the weather and fountain designs.

## **Taylor Performing Arts Center (TPAC)**

- The contractor bids came in with R.E. Smith being awarded the contract. We will be replacing the seats and carpet as well as remediating the interior wall problem which caused the closure of the facility for the past two years. MSSU will be receiving \$2.5M in state capital appropriations, which should be sufficient to fund the needed improvements. TPAC should be reopened approximately one year from now.



# ROB MALLORY

## DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

### NCAA GOVERNANCE UPDATE

On July 30, the NCAA Board of Governors announced the decision to convene a special constitutional convention in November and the formation of a 28-person Constitution Committee. The committee is chaired by Dr. Robert M. Gates, an independent member of the Board of Governors, former U.S. Secretary of Defense, and former president at Texas A&M University. The committee consists of two independent Board of Governors, 16 Division I representatives, 5 Division II representatives, and 5 Division III representatives. Division II representatives are:

- **Gayle Hutchinson** – President, Chico State
- **Jim Johnson** – Director of Athletics, Pittsburg State
- **Madeleine McKenna** – Volleyball Student-Athlete, California University of Pennsylvania
- **Julie Ruppert** – Commissioner, Northeast-10 Conference
- **Harry Stinson** – Director of Athletics, Lincoln University of Pennsylvania

The central charge of this committee is to reassess the basic mission and role of the NCAA while tackling the question – how can the association serve student-athletes and its member institutions? The committee is seeking simplification and clarity in developing a new NCAA Constitution, while working to determine what aspects of intercollegiate athletics should be governed at the association, division, conference, and institutional levels. Division-specific operating bylaws are not part of this initial review.

In late August a survey of student-athletes as well as campus, conference, and coaches' association leaders was conducted. Nearly 5,000 individual responses were recorded, including 81% of all Division II athletic directors. Survey results indicated over three-quarters of all respondents agreed the following principles were central to the future of the NCAA as a governing body: conducting national championships, the primacy of academic experience in policy and decision making, sport-specific rules for competition and participation, standards for allocation of national revenue, standards for athlete eligibility, and standards for athlete health and safety. Generally speaking, the membership in Division II and Division III are much more satisfied with the current governance structure than those in Division I.

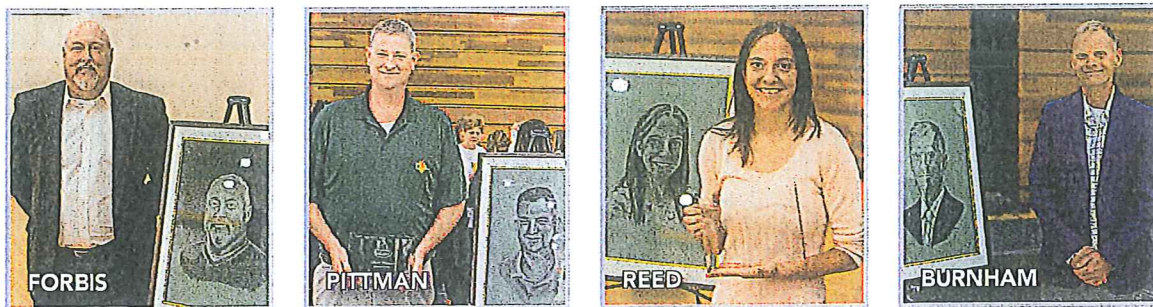
On November 8, initial concepts of a new NCAA constitution were presented to the membership. The specially-called constitutional convention will take place on Nov. 15. After a month of

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feedback and review, final recommendations will be presented to the Board of Governors on Dec. 15. Membership-sponsored amendments will be considered until an association-wide vote takes place on Jan. 20 at the NCAA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind.

Following the adoption of a new constitution, each divisional governance structure will be charged with reviewing and rewriting the rules governing the division to ensure they are consistent with the new constitution. This process will take place between January and August of 2022 to be effective for the 2022-23 academic year.

## ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME WEEKEND



After a one-year hiatus, the Missouri Southern athletic department resumed its annual Hall of Fame celebration on Oct. 29-30. The Hall of Fame Class of 2021 was comprised of **Steve Forbis '86** (football), **Chuck Pittman '93** (baseball), **Kimi (Shank) Reed '10** (Cross Country/Track & Field), **Jamie Burnham** (Cross Country/Track & Field – Coach), and the 1986 and 1990 softball teams. The weekend began with a Friday evening reception in the North End Zone Facility for inductees and their guests. Saturday morning more than 170 people enjoyed brunch and the official induction ceremony in Young Gymnasium. Inductees were invited to the president's gameday celebration and honored at halftime of the football game.

Of note, 14 of 15 members of the 1986 softball team and 15 of 17 members of the 1990 team were able to attend, including one alumna that traveled all the way from Seattle, Wash.. The current softball team was in attendance for the induction ceremony and on Saturday evening competed against a team of alumnae, led by Hall of Fame coach Dr. Pat Lipira.

## TRICK OR TREAT SO OTHERS CAN EAT

The student-athlete advisory committee (SAAC) once again lead an effort by MSSU student-athletes to collect canned goods and nonperishable items for the benefit of Soul's Harbor, a human services and homeless shelter in downtown Joplin.

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Student-athletes began by distributing flyers in neighborhoods throughout Joplin and surrounding communities. These flyers asked people to consider gathering items for donation and placing them on their front porch. Student-athletes then returned to collect the donated goods. The effort culminated on November 1 when SAAC representatives, along with advisor Cori Reid, delivered 6,302 items to Soul's Harbor. The donation annually serves as the shelter's single largest and provides enough to keep their shelves stocked through the winter months.

This serves as a tremendous example that our student-athletes can have within our community and is something we want to continue to build upon as community engagement becomes an area of increased focus for the Athletic Department.

### **LIONBACKER UPDATE**

After a down year in 2020-21 due to COVID-19 (canceled football season and limited basketball spectators), Lionbacker donations have rebounded to near pre-pandemic levels. The 2021 membership drive has garnered 226 members and \$113,500 in total donations to date. This is a significant improvement over the 2020-21 totals of 139 donors and \$75,840, and is approaching the 2019-20 level of 286 memberships and \$122,900.

The average gift made through Lionbackers this year is \$502.21, up from \$429.72 during the 2019-20 campaign. Additionally, there have been 41 donors join at the \$1,200 level or higher, up from a previous high of 35.

With the membership push for basketball season still ongoing, it is likely that we will exceed the 2019-20 total dollars raised while likely falling a bit short of the total membership level. The funds raised through Lionbacker memberships will once again be distributed to our sport programs and other areas of athletics to help meet previously identified priority needs.