

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Board of Governors
Minutes

November 15, 2013 – 1:00 pm
Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The November 15th meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Richard Walter, Chair. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Lynn Ewing, Jim Fleischaker, Mitch McCumber and Richard Walter; Keith Hankins was absent. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Crystal Lemmons, JoAnn Graffam, Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Joy Dworkin, Alicia Hughes, Noah Triplett, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis and Sharon Odem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chair Richard Walter welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter noted sympathy to the family of Mrs. Sue Billingsly who recently passed away. Mrs. Billingsly was the widow of Dr. Leon Billingsly the first President of Missouri Southern. Mrs. Billingsly was also the first director of the Missouri Southern Foundation. Her many accomplishments include establishing the Lantern Society and the annual Phonathon, both of which continue today. Mrs. Billingsly will be greatly missed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve minutes of the October 18, 2013 Board meeting as presented. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):

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

Cash Graph: The Cash Graph as of October 31, 2013 shows cash at \$14.7 million reflecting a decrease of \$752,000 compared to the prior year.

Statement of Net Position: As of October 31, 2013, Total Assets are \$122 million. Total Liabilities are \$28 million which includes bonds payable. Total Net Position as of October 31, 2013 is at \$94 million.

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position: In looking at the "difference column", Total Operating Revenues increased by \$506,000. Total Operating Expenses increased by \$1.5 million. Total Non-operating Revenues increased by \$273,000 of which \$188,000 is additional State appropriations.

Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues: As of October 31, 2013, the current year reflects an increase of \$4.7 million. The prior year shows an increase of \$5.4 million, resulting in a comparative decrease between the two years of \$700,000.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve the October 31, 2013 financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for October 31, 2013 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

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

Highlights of Rob's report are as follows:

- **Construction**
 - **Athletic Support Facility.** Work continues on the design and scope of an athletic support facility with the architects, Sapp Design Group, and the construction manager.

Vice President for Business Affairs (continued):

- **Baseball Stadium.** Design discussions are taking place on the future baseball stadium with the extent of the design subject to ongoing fundraising efforts.
- **Trail Project.** The City of Joplin is in the process of obtaining easements from property owners along the trail. Construction is planned to begin early next year.
- **Residence Halls & FEMA Shelter.** Rob introduced Bob Harrington who presented a PowerPoint that provided detail of the proposed new residence halls and FEMA shelter. The design of the new residence halls will have the appearance of an apartment/town house and will feature private entrances for each unit. Each unit will house four students who will each have their own bedroom and bathroom with a common living and kitchen area. Green space with common areas will also be featured. The design of the FEMA shelter will be included in the design of the residence halls and be built to accommodate up to 2,000 people in the event of a tornado.

Rob noted with the success of the Lion Pride Tuition program and the current low interest rates in the bond market, this is a good time to issue bonds for the construction of new residence halls and to also refinance some existing bonds which will result in a significant savings.

Governor McCumber thanked the staff for all of their hard work on this project and noted the Board's Budget Audit committee met this morning at 10:30. On behalf of the Budget Audit committee, Governor McCumber brought forward and recommended the Board approve three motions as follows:

- (1) *A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Rod Anderson to authorize the Administration to issue a combined 2014 bond issue which will allow for the refunding of the outstanding Series 2000 bond issue and provide new money of \$14 million, independent of cost of issuance, to be deposited into the project fund for construction of a new residence hall. Motion passed.*
- (2) *A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to utilize up to \$800,000 in Board Designated cash to fund the portion of the FEMA tornado shelter not paid for by the Federal Grant. Motion passed.*
- (3) *A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to secure short-term financing, not to exceed \$2 million, in order to purchase furniture for the new and the existing residence halls. Motion passed.*

Chair Walter noted this is a big step forward and very exciting for the University.

Dr. Marble noted thanks and appreciation to Bob Harrington, Rob Yust and Jeff Gibson for their work to drive cost down on this capital improvement investment project.

Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):

Note: 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.

- **Team Updates & Events**
 - Football finished its season overall 7-3 and 5-3 in the MIAA securing two back-to-back winning seasons.
 - Volleyball's regular season will end with a double header at Pitt State this weekend.
 - Upcoming events include MOSO Trivia night, a fundraiser for Athletics. Jared encouraged Board members as well as faculty and staff to form teams and take part in this fun event.
 - A handout containing a complete list of upcoming athletic events was included in Jared's report.
- **Athletic Department Updates:**
 - Jared congratulated Giresse Forchu on being named CoSida Academic All-District. Giresse has a 4.0 GPA in Biology and is a starting running back for football.
 - Jared noted special thanks to the campus community, the local community and nationally for the support that has been received after the tragic death of Coach Derek Moore. Everyone in athletics,

Director of Athletics (continued):

as well as the Moore family, appreciate all of the support and help during this time of grief.

- The RFP process to select the next provider of athletic apparel is complete. BSN has been selected as the Nike supplier. This change to Nike will take place over the next few seasons as uniforms and apparel need to be replaced.
- During last Saturday's football home game against Lindenwood-Belleville, approximately 1,000 children attended to take part in All-Star events including the Zimmer Tent, Touchdown Alley, and pictures with Roary the mascot. Also attending were over 150 boy scouts and their families.
- Average attendance at this year's football games was 4,871 which is an increase over last year even without Homecoming that was not held due to the tragic death of Coach Derek Moore. Jared noted this increase in attendance shows community support and interest in MSSU.

- **Athletic Facility Updates:**

- The new Video Board project in Leggett and Platt is progressing well. The old scoreboard has been removed and the existing panels have been installed along the East and West walls of Leggett and Platt. The old scoreboards in Young Gym have also been replaced.
- The anticipated completion date for the new Video Board is December 5 in time for the Men's and Women's basketball games against the University of Nebraska-Kearney.
- Jared thanked the anonymous donor again for the very generous gift of \$250,000 that made the Video Board possible.

Vice President for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation (Ms. JoAnn Graffam):

Note: Highlights of JoAnn'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.

- **Alumni Association**

- Many activities were held the week of Homecoming including the alumni reception on Friday evening, but as already noted, the final day of activities were cancelled due to the tragic death of Coach Moore. Homecoming royalty will be honored at a later date.
- A Christmas Open House is scheduled at the Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center on December 2nd and will feature the annual Harutun Christmas Carol event.
- The Joplin Chamber's "Business After Hours" is scheduled at the Alumni Center on November 19th and will be a great opportunity to showcase the Center to the community.
- *Crossroads* magazine continues to receive awards. The fall edition is almost complete and includes interactive contests in the online version as a new way to boost readership. This year it received the Platinum MarCom award for writing and two Gold awards for design. JoAnn noted she is very proud of MSSU's staff and students for their work in receiving these very prestigious awards.

- **Development**

- A brochure has been developed to aid in fundraising for the Steel Drum Ensemble. Joann noted several members of the Foundation Board are assisting with this campaign.
- An electronic piece has been developed and will be distributed to area financial service providers to assist their clients in year-end giving through the IRA Charitable rollover provision.
- A fun and creative "Goatee Challenge" begun by Dr. Marble was a success with over \$1,100 being raised for scholarships. As a result, Hank Rotten Jr., local radio and television personality, allowed his goatee to be painted green and gold for Homecoming.
- An RFP has been completed and distributed seeking proposals for a provider of fund management services for the Foundation. A lot of interest in the RFP has been received. December 2nd is the deadline for proposals to be received.

Interim 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.

▪ **Updates**

- Faculty are busy advising, enrolling students and preparing for finals in preparation for the end of the semester. A special effort is being made to enroll students for the Spring 2014 before the semester break which is critical for retention.
- Deans are collecting and reviewing numerous "Voluntary Changes/Initiatives Continuous Quality Improvement" documents. Today is the deadline for submission.
- Mr. Zane Daye has recently begun an eight month contract as an Assistant Professor in Biology due to an extensive medical leave of a Biology faculty member.
- As a result of Noel-Levitz, an Academic Advising Council has been established. Nine faculty and staff advisors recently attended the MACADA (Missouri Academic Advising Association) as part of the initial effort of this Council. This Council will be working on advising issues and alignment throughout the Academic Year that will help with retention.
- An articulation agreement between MSSU and Crowder will be signed on November 26th that will create an easy transition for Crowder Honor Program students to MSSU. This agreement will allow Crowder Honor students to transition into MSSU's Honor Program with the first two years of Honors requirements already completed.
- The last event for the Italy semester will be held on Tuesday, November 19th. Planning for the 2014 Fall themed semester, focusing on Turkey, will begin in January.
- MSSU's annual Study Abroad Fair is scheduled for November 20th.
- On November 20th, a U.S. State Department Diplomat will speak on internships and careers with the U.S. Department of State. Dr. Lipira noted it has been several years since a U.S. State Department Diplomat has spoken at MSSU.
- An articulation agreement between MSSU and Northwest Arkansas Community College to facilitate the transfer process for its Global Studies students who want to pursue an International Studies degree at MSSU is being developed.
- Recently Dr. Lipira and Julie Wengert attended the NACEP convention (National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships) to learn about the Dual Credit accreditation process. Due to the efforts of Julie, three new Dual Credit partner high schools, Jasper, Crane, and Liberal, have recently been added for the 2013-2014 academic year.
- As a way to raise awareness of the importance of student-teacher interaction in Internet classes, faculty have been presenting and sharing methods of interaction at monthly "Bag N Brag lunches."
- Ways are being explored to reduce the cost of Blackboard by considering internal storage of content. This suggestion was submitted by Scott Snell in Distance Learning in the Continuous Quality Improvement Report.
- Charging stations for electronic devices have been added throughout the Library and have been very well received by students.
- The Library held its 2nd annual open house in October with the purpose to familiarize students with the physical layout of the library, services and personnel.
- Captain Amanda Self, Director of MSSU's Show Me Gold Program, has been involved in a weeklong series of events to honor and celebrate U.S. veterans. Activities include a "Run with the Heroes" 5K, a ceremony at the Veteran's Memorial and will end today with a Crossfit competition at the stadium.

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 a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

▪ **Updates**

- A Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) for \$9,000 has been awarded to the University Police Department due to a persistent effort. This money will be used to help purchase a used police car that is very badly needed to replace one of the older vehicles currently in use.
- An induction ceremony for this year's Super Leaders was held on November 23. This unique program recently received a positive evaluation from MDHE staff.
- Forty-five different action items were reviewed during a procedural audit of Admissions. The purpose of the audit was to assess and evaluate the effectiveness of policies and procedures currently used in Admissions.
- An audit in Financial Aid and Scholarships to find ways to maximize efficiencies, evaluate scholarship amounts, and methods of awarding various scholarships was recently conducted. Input was encouraged by faculty and the Foundation resulting in many recommendations for improvements.
- First Year Experience recently hosted a lunch and book signing opportunity with international author Favio Geda whose book was the common read for the University Experience class. This was a great event to directly connect students, instructors and the author.
- Registration for Spring 2014 continues to be a priority with continued outreach from faculty and staff to assist students who have not yet enrolled.
- Recent recruiting events by Admissions include Future Lions Day held on November 1 with 186 people in attendance and Health Professionals Discovery Day held on November 8 with 200 people in attendance.
- Tutor Day, conducted by the Student Success Center on October 23, was a great success with 101 high school tutors from eight area schools attending. Some of the students who attended had never been to Joplin. This great event continues to grow each year and is much needed in the area.
- Safe Halloween, conducted by Residence Life, was another great success this year with approximately 375 children and over 900 total participants. This is a great family event is a good opportunity to bring people from the community to campus.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. Joy Dworkin - Faculty Senate, President):

Highlights of Dr. Dworkin's report are as follows:

- It is an extremely busy time of the semester for faculty and students preparing for the end of the semester and enrolling and advising for the spring semester. In addition, it is also the time of year for departments to determine hiring needs for new faculty. Dr. Dworkin noted serving on a search committee is one of her favorite activities!
- Dr. Dworkin expressed appreciation to Dr. Lipira for responding quickly and openly to recent information requests from Faculty Senate.
- In November, Faculty Senate held an abbreviated meeting in order to allow people to attend the memorial service for Coach Moore. Some items of business had to be postponed, but two key Senate items were addressed as follows:
 - (1) Proposed change to the writing instruction across the curriculum. An additional discussion was held as a result of the October Senate meeting that involved faculty and staff. The meeting had great participation from faculty and staff with lively discussion taking place. Everyone in attendance had an opportunity for input resulting in a good process. As a result of concerns voiced during this meeting the committee drafted a revised proposal which Dr. Dworkin expects the Senate to vote on during its next meeting.
 - (2) Ideas from across the campus responding to the CQI (Continuous Quality Improvement) report were shared. Senators from various departments are ready to move the campus forward involving this process.

Faculty Liaison (continued):

- The policy review effort is ongoing on campus with good progress being made. A meeting with various individuals representing Senate and Administrative committees will take place soon to finalize another revised policy for the Faculty Handbook.

Staff Liaison (Ms. Alicia Hughes – Staff Senate, President):

Highlights of Alicia's report are as follows:

- Southern Service Champ award winners for the last quarter of 2013 are as follows: Lori Berry, Taylor Hall custodian; Mitzi Russell, Bursar's Office cashier; Becca Diskin, Financial Aid Director. Alicia noted sincere congratulations to all of these winners for their outstanding service to the University.
- The proposed design of the "Restore the Roar" proposal will be discussed again soon.
- Senator Aaron Lewis who serves on the Financial Stability committee recently gave a great overview of the committee to Senate. Aaron encouraged everyone to attend one of the campus Financial Presentations scheduled for next week and noted the importance of the campus working together to improve finances at the University.
- On behalf of Staff Senate, Alicia formally recognized and thanked Student Senate for its example of pride and leadership from which everyone can learn. Alicia noted the Student Senate has "set the bar high" for present and past Senates and thanked them for their investments in the University and their Lion Pride!
- Staff Senate will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 11th.

Student Representative (Mr. Noah Triplett - Student Senate President)

Highlights of Noah's report are as follows:

- Student Senate has approved purchasing benches to place around campus for a cost of over \$11,000 dollars.
- Work continues on the Tunnel Mural project which is one-third finished. Each year an artist will paint an additional part of the Tunnel Mural and will receive a small stipend funded by Senate.
- The Student Senate Veteran Advisory committee has been very active in all of the weeklong Veteran's events including participating in the first 5K run honoring veterans.
- Darren Fullerton noted Noah and Ashleigh Thompson were recently inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) honor society which is a great honor for Noah and Ashleigh as students and for Student Senate to have them as active members of Senate. Darren also noted the bios of students inducted into ODK as well as other honor societies on campus are amazing reflecting the accomplishments these students have made even before they graduate. Darren noted pride in Student Senators who conduct themselves in a professional manner and also dress professionally for each of their meetings.
- JoAnn Graffam noted Darren was inducted as an honorary member of ODK, during its recent induction ceremony and noted this is a great reflection of Darren's leadership.

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

No report given.

Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair)

Committee Chair Mitch McCumber responded he had no additional information to relate other than the information conveyed during Rob Yust's report.

Executive Committee (Richard Walter, Chair)

No report given.

Board Committees (continued):**Personnel Committee (Richard Walter, Chair)**

No report given.

Ad Hoc Program Prioritization Committee (Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Chair)

No report given.

Presidential Search Committee (Richard Walter and Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Co-Chairs)

Governor Walter reported only three more people are needed to complete the Presidential Search committee with plans to activate the committee in early 2014.

Governor Buchanan reported Focus Group meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, December 3rd from 3:00 to 4:00 and Wednesday, December 4th from 11:00 to 12:00. The campus community as well as the surrounding community are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings. Three main topics will be discussed regarding what the campus and community wants and needs to look for in the next president of MSSU. Everyone is encouraged to attend and voice their opinions and ideas.

Interim President (Dr. Alan D. Marble):

Highlights of Dr. Marble's report are as follows:

- Dr. Marble noted sympathy for the tragic loss of Coach Moore. The campus pulled together during this very difficult time and had to make a quick decision to cancel Homecoming activities. Dr. Marble thanked the community for their support and apologized to those who had traveled to attend Homecoming, but noted cancelling it was the right thing to do out of respect for Coach Moore and his family. Cassie Mathes, Justin Maskus, Coaches, Counselors and many other individuals all worked together during this very difficult time to cancel activities and support the student athletes. Derek Moore's family greatly appreciated the support shown to them by Dr. Marble, Jared and some of the coaches who were able to attend Coach Moore's funeral.
- Over 100 voluntary change forms have been received as part of Continuous Quality Improvement with more anticipated. The timing is difficult due to enrollment for the spring semester taking place. The Deans will review the forms and generate a report as soon as possible.
- The Financial Stability committee is studying the history of cost control and working to find ways to build sustainable revenue for the future. During next week's campus wide financial presentations, Scott Cragin (faculty) and Aaron Lewis (staff) both of whom are members of the Financial Stability committee, have agreed to attend both presentations as representatives of the committee.
- Dr. Marble and Richard Walter recently attended Governor Nixon's Higher Education conference during which information was presented about next year's budget. Predictions are any increase in funding for Higher Education will likely come through Performance Funding.
- The Legislature will begin appropriation discussions again in January. MSSU already has its priorities for funding in place with Reynolds Hall being the top priority. Work on the Funding Formula by Senator Pearce continues and work is also needed on funding amounts for scholarships both of which need to be fair and equitable.
- Dr. Marble recently attended a Student Senate meeting and noted Student Senate is doing great work. Discussion took place regarding what students think will help retention and as a result, Student Senate volunteered to form a Committee on Retention to gather ideas and provide feedback.

OLD BUSINESS**Faculty Senate International Studies Committee (Dr. Pat Lipira)**

- Last spring a packet from the Faculty Senate's Committee on Committees containing several committee changes was brought before the Board for approval.
- The International Studies Committee portion of the packet was pulled by Dr. Speck due to some of its language and was never resubmitted to the Board for approval.

Faculty Senate International Studies Committee (continued):

- The revised language which includes the organization and duties of the committee has now been approved by both the Faculty and the Administration and is ready to come before the Board for approval (*a handout containing details of the International Studies Committee revisions provided to the Board is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book*).

A motion was made by Lynn Ewing and seconded by Rod Anderson to approve the changes and makeup of the Faculty Senate International Studies Committee as presented. Motion approved.

Consideration of Foundation Memorandum of Understanding (Dr. Alan Marble)

- Dr. Marble noted the University and the Foundation are legally two separate entities. Considerable work and time have been spent to update the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Missouri Southern and the Foundation. The MOU is now finished and ready to come before the Board for approval.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Dr. Sherry Buchanan to approve the Foundation MOU as presented. Motion passed. (The MOU is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

NEW BUSINESS

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

Dr. Lipira noted there are numerous items listed in the Reports and Curricular Proposals information distributed to the Board this month for approval due to this being a catalog year. All of the items have gone through the proper channels and have been approved.

Jim Fleischaker asked if there will be any negative effects on current students with the proposed curricular changes. Dr. Lipira replied no. Students are entitled to finish their degree under the requirements in the catalog the year they begin if they finish their degree within the required time limits.

A motion was made by Dr. Sherry Buchanan and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve the Reports and Curricular Proposals as presented. Motion passed.

Four Winds Interactive (Mr. Rob Yust and Rod Surber):

Rob noted as part of an ongoing effort for the campus to look for and establish new revenue streams, Rob Surber has been chosen to begin a new role as the Director of Account Development. Rob voiced confidence in Rod being an ideal person for this role due to Rod's familiarity with the area community, his experience in advertising and web development.

Rod thanked the Board for the opportunity to share information regarding his new duties and plans for the future for developing an ongoing revenue stream through different types of advertising and sponsorships. Four Winds Interactive will play a major role in this new plan by enabling electronic communications to students, faculty, and staff by businesses. Four Winds Interactive will also be a very useful tool to share campus information and can be used by departments to recruit new students and share information with current students. Rod made a PowerPoint presentation and distributed a new brochure both of which gave detail about Four Winds, advertising options and sponsorship opportunities. (*The PowerPoint and brochure are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.*)

OTHER ITEMS:

Elijah Moore Education Fund (Dr. Alan Marble):

Dr. Marble shared information about an Education Trust Fund that has been established for Elijah Moore, the son of deceased Coach Moore, at Commerce Bank. Dr. Marble also shared that if Elijah decides to come to Missouri Southern after he graduates from high school, a scholarship from Missouri Southern will be provided for Elijah for up to 140 credit hours or ten (10) full-time semesters of coursework.

The Trust Fund at Commerce currently has approximately \$3500 in donations (\$2500 from MSSU's last home football game plus \$1,000 additional donations). Donations continue to be accepted with a goal of \$20,000. Dr. Marble encouraged everyone to contribute to this very worthy cause.

OTHER ITEMS (continued):**Important Dates:**

The December Commencement will be held on Saturday, December 14th at 10:00 AM.
The Board will not meet in December and will meet again on Friday, January 17, 2014.

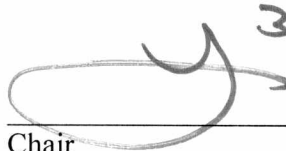
ADJOURNMENT:

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

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Lynn Ewing and seconded by Jim Fleischaker. Motion passed.



Secretary



Chair