

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

February 16, 2018

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The February 16, 2018 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 Tracy Flanigan, Mike Franks, Carlos Haley, Alison Hershewe, Mitch McCumber, Anita Oplotnik, Bill Gipson, and Dr. Benjamin Rosenberg. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Dr. Brad Hodson, Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Jon Dermott, Nick Nicoletti, Sharon Fraser, Joe Blank, Linda Eis, and Laura Boyd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber called the meeting to order at 1 o'clock welcomed everyone and asked Jim Fleischaker to come to the front of the boardroom. Jim, whose term expired in January of 2017, was recently replaced when Governor Greitens appointed Dr. Benjamin Rosenberg to the board.

Chair McCumber noted Jim will be greatly missed and thanked him for his support and service to Missouri Southern during his Board term from 2011 – 2018 including Board Chair from 2014 – 2016. Mr. Fleischaker voiced appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Board and noted he has seen tremendous progress during his time as a Board Governor and has confidence in both the administration and the board to continue the good work.

MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the January 24, 2018 Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to approve minutes of the January 24, 2018 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book).

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis)

Linda noted financial statements for January 31, 2018 was included in the Board packet.

Cash Graph:

Linda noted in reviewing the statements for the period ending January 31, 2018, the Cash Graph reflects cash at \$11.8M an Increase of \$800k.

Statement of Net Position:

Total Assets of \$181M, Total Liabilities of \$100M, making Total Net Assets \$81M. Linda noted as is normal at the beginning of the semester, the timing of disbursement of financial aid and the processing of student refund checks crosses over January and February. This is seen in the \$18.2M accounts receivable balance and the \$8.2M account payable balance.

Comparative Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position:

Looking at the "difference" column:

Treasurer (continued):

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased over the prior year by \$380k.
- **Total Operating Expenses** increased by \$1.6M. Linda noted that scholarships reflects an expense increase of \$808k with the offsetting revenue in the increase in Pell grants \$578k and private gifts \$293k.
- **Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)** decreased (\$1.4M) noting (\$1.3M) decrease in state appropriations.
- **Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues** reflects the current year increase \$12.2M, and an increase in the prior year at \$14.9M reflecting a decrease of (\$2.7M).
- **Other Revenues** – Decrease (\$5.4M) from the state capital appropriations for the Reynolds/Nixon Hall project for both years.

Other items from the Treasurers' office included the Professional External Auditing Services:

A bid went out to 15 vendors in December for Professional External Auditing Services. Three vendors submitted bids in January including RubinBrown, Kansas City, MO., CliftonLarsonAllen, St. Louis, MO., and BKD, of Joplin/Springfield, MO. A committee was selected which included Evan Jewsbury, Human Resource Director, Becca Diskin, Financial Aid Director, Al Stadler, CIO, and Linda Eis, Treasurer, all of which work closely with the auditors. The committee voted unanimously to select BKD LLP, due to price, responsiveness, knowledge, and experience. Linda also noted that BKD understands the current higher education climate in that they tied subsequent year increases to CPI (just as universities within Missouri are statutorily required to do) with a max of 4%. The award will be for the current year FY 2018 with four subsequent years.

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to approve the January 31, 2018 financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for January 31, 2018 are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

Chair McCumber explained due to Mr. Blank and Dr. Nicoletti needing to leave the board meeting early, the agenda is as follows:

Student Senate President (Mr. Joe Blank)

Mr. Blank noted three new senators were confirmed at Student Senate on Feb. 23, 2018. The senators filling the seats include Chrystalynn Sanchez, Jacob King, and Arron Smith (who is a returning senator) constituting complete seats in the Senate. Mr. Blank also noted Senators had their Composites taken and will be displayed on the third floor of Billingsly Hall later this year. In addition, the senate will be voting on a trophy case Expansion Project in the near future.

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.

Dr. Nicoletti noted the Faculty Senate met on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 3:00pm. Dr. Nicoletti noted the Tenure and Promotion Committee have been piloting a process where as they act as a single unit this semester. The combined committee has recently sent Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) some language to institutionalize this change in the Handbook.

Faculty Senate President (continued):

Faculty Senate will review the new language once the Handbook fulfills their Charge. Dr. Nicoletti also noted this will be an important item on future agendas.

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) and Faculty Senate are continuing to pursue better health insurance options and more communication and input from faculty for the next circuit of health insurance decisions, which are generally made in the summer in preparation for the fall, with enrollment in October and new insurance beginning in January.

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

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

- Steel "I" beams are being installed to the south of Reynold's Hall to shore up the hillside and road while the piers are drilled and poured. Demolition has also begun with the stair tower at the southeast corner of Reynold's hall, which connects the walkway to **Nixon Hall**. This project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2018 with classes beginning the spring of 2019.
- The process of acquiring the final right of way from the Northpark Mall owners is still in progress. The City has provided modified contract documents and plans regarding the **Trail Project** to mall property owners and MoDOT simultaneously to expedite the review process. Construction is anticipated to begin May 1, 2018 with completion in late summer or early fall.
- Architects will be on campus soon to conduct constituent meetings with staff, students and an outside advisory party regarding the football **Stadium renovation**. The cost and design of the renovation will be paid solely from generous donations.
- Preliminary discussions have begun with the possibility of additional **residence halls**. More to follow regarding size, location and cost.
- On February 8, 2018, Mr. Yust and Linda Eis attended the state **Higher Education Chief Financial Officers meeting** in Jefferson City. After learning budget projections, Mrs. Eis noted on behalf of Mr. Yust, their department anticipates a decrease in state Appropriations for FY 19 for three million dollars.
- Next Month, Missouri Southern will undergo a routine **IRS payroll audit** for the 2016 calendar year. Departments will include human resources and the bursar's office.

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**Sport Program**

- ✓ The **Missouri Southern men's and women's track and field teams** are both ranked nationally in the latest coaches association poll. Currently men are ranked 13th, while the women are ranked 18th. Both teams will be competing at Pittsburg State for the MIAA Championships.

MIAA News:

- ✓ The **MIAA Commissioner** has created a taskforce to analyze Southern's current football schedule. The tentative schedule is set for two conference calls this spring and a meeting in Kansas City late spring or early summer. The Commissioner has also created a taskforce to analyze Southern's current MIAA membership and membership requirements.

Director of Athletics (continued):**Lionbackers & Annual Campaign(s):**

- ✓ Currently the membership is 281, an increase of 28 members from last year.

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.

Fundraising

- A comprehensive and aggressive email and direct mail campaign began in October 2017. Comparing the second quarter results of this year with last year, there is an increase in the number of gifts received (up 224 gifts) and in total dollars raised (up \$292,493).

Major Giving

- The following gifts have been received in the last month:
 - \$450,000 pledge and \$155,000 in cash to start a new endowed scholarship;
 - \$70,000 pledge payment to the Reynolds Hall renovation;
 - \$66,000 gift to start a new endowed scholarship;
 - \$40,000 gift to an existing scholarship;
 - \$10,000 gift to an endowed professorship in accounting;
 - \$10,000 gift to the Julie Leon International Endowment

Admissions**Spring 2018 Enrollment –**

- Friday, February 9, 2018 was census day for the spring 2018 semester. Total enrollment at this time was 5,540, which is down 108 students compared to this time last year. This drop in enrollment was due primarily to a decrease in transfers from community colleges and a decrease in international students.

Transfer Enrollment –

- Low regional unemployment has affected Crowder College's enrollment. Crowder is MSSU's largest source of transfer students. Every effort is being made to smooth the transfer process for transfer students.

International Enrollment –

- International student enrollment is on the decline nationally at universities large and small due largely to a perceived unfriendly environment by students wishing to study in the U.S. from foreign countries.

Freshman Enrollment –

- First-time freshmen enrollment was up six percent this spring. Dr. Hodson noted most first-time freshmen enroll in the fall semester rather than waiting until the spring.

Alumni Relations

- The inaugural "Pride and Purpose Day" has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2018. The event was originally scheduled for Saturday, February 10, but was delayed due to inclement weather. This event is sponsored by the MSSU Alumni Association.

Missouri Southern Foundation**Endowment Day –**

- The annual Endowment and Volunteer Board Recognition event was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at the Lions basketball game versus Southwest Baptist. Representatives from forty endowed funds along with members of the alumni and foundation boards were present.

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.

Updates:

Concurrent Enrollment

Dr. Carson noted MSSU continues to be very invested in concurrent enrollment and diligent with the quality and equivalency of the education experience whether it is the high school level or students at Missouri Southern. There were virtually 500 high school students who took courses in the fall and nearly 400 students enrolled for this spring. A handout was given showing the most common dual credit classes offered by the university in the areas of English, Math, Kinesiology, and Social Science. MSSU anticipates expanding some non Gen-Ed courses that would be lower division courses for specific majors and remain a stable quality provider for concurrent enrollment.

Missouri Math Pathways Initiative

Dr. Carson noted in 2016 the MSSU Mathematics Department adopted four of the following pathways:

- ❖ Math Reasoning (Contemporary Math)
- ❖ Pre-calculus-Algebra (College Algebra)
- ❖ Pre-calculus (College Algebra & Trigonometry)
- ❖ Elementary Education (Math for Elementary Teachers I & II)

With the reversal of the CBHE prerequisite requirement, the department was able to change the Contemporary Math course so that the prerequisite went from Math 30 to Math 20. This created a two-semester co-requisite model for students needing developmental math.

Students can now complete the general education requirement in two semesters rather than three. In addition, the prerequisite for Math for Elementary Teachers I changed from Math 30 to Math 20. Dr. Carson also noted this creates a shorter pathway for students majoring in elementary education that need developmental math.

MDHE Core 42 Program Review

Dr. Carson wanted to take the time to compliment all the faculty and staff in helping with Core 42. The magnitude of changes at state level is such that every single curricular plan has changed however; Missouri Southern continues to be fully committed with the endorsement of Core 42. Dr. Carson gave handouts of a report description explaining the statewide review of Academic Programs and a summary report of 27 programs. Dr. Carson anticipates the report to be finalized by the end of this academic school year.

ITS Friday

Dr. Carson noted Missouri Southern's community historian Brad Belk will offer the next ITS Friday presentation on February 23, 2018 in the Spiva Library. Mr. Belk will offer a presentation regarding restoring, preserving and memorializing former residences of Charles Schifferdecker, Edward Zelleken and Alfred Harrison Rogers all of which are located in Joplin's Murphysburg Historic District.

Workforce Investment Act Partnership

Dr. Carson noted the Missouri Eligible Training Provider System (ETPS) is an online collection of training programs that are approved to receive funding through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, an amendment to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, which helps individuals find self-sustaining employment through education and training programs. MSSU partners with Missouri's Workforce Development System as an

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (continued):

eligible training provider. Dr. Carson noted while only a small number of students participate, Southern is proud to take part in this worthy program that assists Missouri residents who make the decision to further his or her education.

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.

Proposed Federal Department of Education Budget Changes

Mr. Fullerton noted the following proposed Federal Department of Education Budget Changes that would affect MSSU if discontinued:

Eliminate all 2019-2020 TRIO programs to fund a state block for mula grant. The three original programs are:

- Upward Bound, this program targets high school students during the summer months affecting nearly 80 students.
- Educational Talent Search, which targets elementary thru high school students (encouraging students to go to college) affecting approximately 700 students.
- Project Stay (Student Support Services), customarily regards college student's first generation, lower income, and students with disabilities. This program helps in providing services so that students can be successful and affects nearly 200 students.

Mr. Fullerton noted each program gets between \$265,000 – \$270,000 a year. MSSU could substantially lose nearly \$900,000 in federal funds if eliminated. Other proposed changes include:

- The immediate elimination of funds for Educational Opportunity Centers, McNair, Student Support Services and GEAR UP in 2019-2020.
- Eliminating the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program.
- Possible reduction in the amounts for the Federal Work Study (FWS) Program.
- Proposed eliminating the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program.

Mr. Fullerton noted his department will update the board regarding these proposals as information is established.

Missouri Department of Higher Education Legislation Tracking

- Mr. Fullerton noted, as of February 15, 2018 approximately 113 bills have been filed regarding education in the State of Missouri. Of these bills, over 40 would have direct impact on MSSU. The staff at Missouri Southern are spending a great deal of time each day responding to fiscal and program notes from state offices or Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE).

U.S. Army STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Vehicle

- The local Army recruiting office is bringing the U.S. Army STEM Interactive Truck to the MSSU campus on Monday, February 19, 2018 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Billingsly Student Center circle drive. Mr. Fullerton noted given a scenario, students use their knowledge and problem solving skills to obtain success. The mission is humanitarian focused and requires students to use Army technology to complete the task.

Staff Senate President (Mrs. Sharon Fraser)

Mrs. Fraser noted the Staff Welfare Committee has been working with Human Resources to enhance communication with employees and supervisors regarding the completion of annual performance evaluations.

Board Committees:

Chair McCumber noted a Planning Session meeting took place at 10:00am before the board meeting regarding the Mission Statement and anticipates a Budget Planning Session next month.

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.

Budget

- Dr. Marble noted positive feedback from the General Assembly in hopes of restoring some of the higher funding that was slashed in the Governor's recommended budget. In recalling, the Governor's budget cuts 10% across the board and withholds another 10% that can be regained by achieving all six performance-funding measures. The 10% cut alone would cost the university nearly \$2.4 million and would require a 20% tuition hike to offset the cost, which equates to a \$41 per credit hour increase to regain all Southern has lost in two years. The Governor's recommended budget for next year would take Missouri Southern's appropriation below the 2001 level in nominal dollars, not inflation adjusted dollars (MSSU had fewer students in 2001 and things cost less) with the added unintended consequences of SB 389 which locked tuition rates at restrictively low levels compared to our peers and created the "perfect storm" to relegate Missouri Southern to the very bottom of the list in total funds available to provide the high quality education our student's desire and deserve.

An FY 2017 State Appropriations, Tuition and Fees per FTE chart was handed out regarding ten Missouri state universities including Missouri Southern. Southern is at the bottom in terms of tuition dollars per FTE and second lowest in state appropriations per FTE. Dr. Marble also noted at this point there is little the university can do about shrinking state support and not much about tuition without taking the risk of being penalized an additional 5% of our sagging state appropriation (over \$1 million). Dr. Marble noted the university is left with few options, there have been many programs and departmental cuts like never before over the past several years, and there has to be a limit to the downsizing. Next month a few budget options will be presented to the board for consideration and hopefully chart a path forward to give a more solid revenue foothold. Dr. Marble also noted Missouri Southern seriously needs to consider the need for a significant tuition increase to offset some of the lost revenue absorbed, not only this year, but also over the past decade.

Legislative

Dr. Marble noted, currently, there are two or three bills under consideration that could affect the university in one way or another.

- The first is **SB 912** that would provide some relief from the tuition restrictions imposed under **SB 389** by allowing for limited tuition increases beyond the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in years following a cut in state appropriations. (It is still uncertain if this bill will make it through both Chambers, and one wonders if it would be vetoed by the Governor if it makes it to his desk).
- **House Bill 1465** contains language that identifies the University of Missouri System as the only public PH.D. first Professional degree granting institution in the state along with control of all engineering programs. The bill would remove some program restrictions

President (continued):

from Missouri State, Missouri Western, and Missouri Southern. The bill would also allow community colleges to offer 4 year degrees in very limited circumstances and only after they failed to find a cooperating public university to offer the program for them. This bill is moving quickly for approval and it is predicted the Governor will sign it.

- **Senate Bill 759** would require universities to adopt a “locked tuition rate” for all entering freshmen. The tuition rate freshmen begin with cannot be raised for 4 years. While this bill appears attractive, it is actually dangerous for students because the bill could result in huge tuition increases for the next group of freshmen if state appropriations were to be cut, and often are. Fortunately, this bill does not seem to be gaining many supporters.

Great Game of Education (GGOE)

- Dr. Marble expressed gratitude to everyone involved with the GGOE, because even though the university is again challenged by the reduction in state appropriations, Missouri Southern is in much better shape due to the expense controls everyone across campus contributes to. This would not have happened without the great efforts of the GGOE enthusiasts, however; MSSU will continue to decipher a way to help with increased revenue.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Carson)**

Dr. Carson noted the following items have been approved/accepted by the respective School Curricular Oversight Committees (SCOC), Academic Policies (AP) and Faculty Senate (FS) as of February 12, 2018 and are being brought forward to the Board for consideration:

Certificates:

The following proposed certificates:

Chemical and Physical Science Department:

- Electronics, (a 7 % growth is expected over the next decade according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Criminal Justice Department:

- Policing, Criminal Investigation, Corrections, Juvenile Justice, Crime Scene Investigations, Criminal Law, and Homeland Security (currently certificate programs are in greater demand than minors in this field as they allow both degree and non-degree seeking students to earn certification).

Biology and Environmental Health Department:

- Environmental Protection, Environmental Public Health, Occupational Health & Safety, Environmental Health & Safety (current certificates have been reconditioned and will be available to degree seeking and non-degree seeking students, except EHS majors).

Majors and Minors:

Dr. Carson explained **Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages** has combined current degree programs into a BA in Modern Languages with a concentration in either French or Spanish. In a similar way, the Teacher Education BSE degree programs in French and Spanish have also been combined into one.

NEW BUSINESS**Majors and Minors (continued):**

A motion was made by Alison Hershewe and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to approve the Academic Policies Proposals as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the Curricular Proposals memo is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

Missouri Governors Student Leadership Forum (Mr. Darren Fullerton)

- Mr. Fullerton noted he works with many outstanding students who represent Missouri Southern at local, state and national levels through various organizations. Haley Henry was selected to represent Missouri Southern during the Missouri Governor's Leadership Forum in January 2018. This program was established by Governor John Ashcroft in 1990. This non-religious forum, held in Jefferson City, enabled approximately 100 student leaders from across the state to gather and learn about servant leadership modeled after the life of Jesus Christ. Mr. Fullerton presented a letter written by Haley describing her experience as grateful and appreciative for the opportunity to represent Missouri Southern. Mr. Fullerton also presented a letter from last year's outstanding student Ashley Burns.

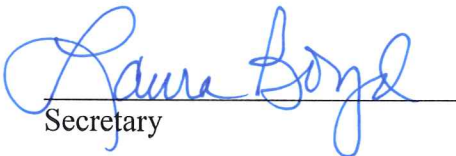
Other Items**Future Meeting Dates:**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 16, 2018 at 1 o'clock.

Adjournment:

Chair McCumber asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Carlos Haley to adjourn. Motion passed.



Secretary



Chair