

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Board of Governors
Minutes

February 19, 2016 – 1:00 pm
Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The February 19, 2016, meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Jim Fleischaker, Chair. Governors in attendance were Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Bill Gipson, Keith Hankins, Alison Hershewe, Mitch McCumber, and Anita Oplotnik; Michael Franks was in non-attendance. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Paula Carson, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Brad Hodson, Rob Yust, Dr. David Sharlow, Elisa Bryant, Kyle Prisock, Kristen Blanchard (in place of Jon Dermott), Linda Eis, and Sharon Odem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Fleischaker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone; no additional announcements were made.

MINUTES

Chair Fleischaker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the January 21, 2016, Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Alison Hershewe to approve minutes of the January 21, 2016, Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):

Financial Statements for the period ending January 31, 2016 were presented as follows:

- 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 January 31, 2016, shows unrestricted cash, Board Designated Cash & Board Designated Investments at \$7.8 million. As noted during the January Board meeting, a timing difference of Financial Aid disbursements for FY16 taking place in February 2016 compared to the FY15 Financial Aid disbursement that took place in January 2015 impacted the timing of cash. Linda noted the cash balance can change quickly this time of the semester and as of this morning, cash was at \$17.3 million reflecting financial aid disbursements.

Statement of Net Position: As of January 31, 2016, Total Assets are \$153 million and Total Liabilities are \$77 million making Total Net Position as of January 31, 2016, \$76 million.

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position: In looking at the “difference column”, again due to the timing of Financial Aid disbursements, Total Operating Revenues increased \$775,000 and Total Operating Expenses decreased by \$8.4 million of which \$8 million is due to timing of scholarship distribution. Total Non-operating Revenues decreased by \$5.5 million (primarily due to the timing of Pell Grant distributions).

Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues: As of January 31, 2016, compared to January 31, 2015, there is a comparative increase between the two years of \$3.7 million again due to timing of financial aid disbursements.

Other Revenues: Total reimbursement payments of Capital State Appropriations of \$154,000 for the remodel of Reynolds Hall has been received. Linda noted the reimbursement process with the state continues to run smoothly with a quick turnaround time.

Treasurer (continued):

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Bill Gipson to approve the January 31, 2016, financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for January 31, 2016, 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.

- ✓ **Reynolds Hall Remodel** – Construction drawings by the architects are about 50% complete and should be finished by the end of March. Once the drawings are complete, the project will be bid out to subs by the contractor. Light demo is anticipated to begin soon on the 3rd floor with major demo of walls taking place after the end of the spring semester and before summer school begins to avoid disrupting classes.
- ✓ **City of Joplin Trail Project** – FEMA has notified the City the revised application for the Joplin Trail project has been received. The City is now awaiting FEMA approval.
- ✓ **Budget** – Preparation for next year's budget is progressing. The Board's Budget Audit committee met this morning and discussed setting the tuition rate for FY2017. Results of this meeting will be shared during Board committee reports.

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 attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- ✓ The NCAA's **Agreed Upon Procedures Audit** is complete. The final report has been accepted and the initial report of "no findings" has been confirmed. Jared noted it is clear many people on campus have taken a great deal of time and effort to ensure this detailed report is accurate. Jared thanked Linda Eis, Treasurer; Alicia Hughes, Bursar; Becca Diskin, Financial Aid and the staff in these areas as well as Rachel Burleson, Assistant AD, for their dedicated work on this complex project.
- ✓ **February 27th** is the last regular season home basketball game as the Lions play against Pitt State. Special events for this game include Senior Day and Fan Appreciation Day.
- ✓ The **Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)** held a "Miracle Minute" during a recent home basketball game and raised \$291 for the Make-A-Wish foundation. Another fundraiser for Make-A-Wish is planned during an upcoming baseball game.
- ✓ A **Lionbacker Appreciation** event was held prior to a recent basketball game with over 150 Lionbackers in attendance. Jared thanked Elisa Bryant for her work on this event.
- ✓ **MOSO Trivia Night**, a fundraiser for Athletics, is scheduled for February 25th. This event will begin with a social time at 5:45 followed by the event at 6:30 and will be held in the North End Zone facility (NEZ). Jared encouraged members of the Board to form a team and take part in this fun filled evening.

Executive Vice President (Dr. Brad Hodson):

Highlights of Dr. Hodson'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.

- ✓ Comparing **enrollment** for spring 2016 to spring 2015 on the 20th day of the semester, the number of students enrolled has increased by almost 4% or 199 students.
- ✓ The number of **credit hours** (important due to tuition being paid on credit hours not headcount) has also increased by slightly over 1,700 hours; a 2.8% increase compared to spring 2015.
- ✓ **International student enrollment** has also increased with 206 students from 40 countries currently enrolled for the spring 2016 semester.

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

- ✓ **Academic Work in Progress** items noted included developing certificate programs in the area of "critical thinking" as well as other career-ready interdisciplinary areas; developing 18 credit hour graduate portfolios in Math, Biology and Social Sciences which will enable teachers to teach Dual Credit (DC) students in these high demand areas of study; academic searches (which typically occur in the spring) are being conducted in the areas of English, Music, Nursing and Management; the first Academic Signing ceremony in conjunction with Joplin High School during which seniors will sign academic letters of intent to attend MSSU in the fall will take place this spring; rapid progress is being made by the Graduate Council as it meets on a regular basis; the accreditation process for Dental Hygiene, currently underway, is going very well; the next ITS (Ideas That Stick), TED Talk style presentation, is scheduled for February 26th with Dr. Joy Dworkin as the featured speaker, a second ITS Friday for the spring is scheduled later in the semester and will feature Dr. Conrad Gubera.
- ✓ Missouri Southern has been chosen (one out of only 20 universities nationwide) to host the 20th anniversary **Tournées French Film Festival** which is quite an honor.
- ✓ MSSU's **Chamber Singers** will have the honor of performing in pre-concert for the next Pro Musica event in Joplin when the male vocal group Chanticleer perform on February 26th. The Chanticleer's are a Grammy award winning ensemble based in San Francisco.
- ✓ Dr. Carson noted congratulations to Dr. Chris Moos and the International Business student team for qualifying to go to the **NASBITE** (National Association of Small Business International Trade Educators) finals which will be held this year in Rhode Island. Last year MSSU won the NASBITE International Student Case Competition which is open to all colleges and universities that have an undergraduate academic business program.

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.

- ✓ Upcoming **ALICE** (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate) training, that was offered to members of the Board this morning, will be offered to faculty and staff on February 25th.
- ✓ **State financial aid deadline changes** by the Missouri Department of Higher Education will take place in 2017 when the FAFSA filing date will change from the current April 1st date to February 1st. This date change will accommodate the earlier FAFSA filing opportunity for the 2017-18 academic year.
- ✓ A **Housing Fair** for current MSSU students will be held February 24 – 26th. Housing applications for new students will be available online beginning on March 1st.
- ✓ Darren brought the Board's attention to the portion of his written report containing a breakdown of different types of federal financial aid utilized at MSSU and noted through current legislation, **Perkins Loans** have been extended into 2017. Darren noted if Perkins Loans are not extended past 2017, these federally funded loans distributed through the university that students are required to pay back, have the potential to create a negative impact if the government does not keep extending this program.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. David Sharlow - Faculty Senate, President):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Sharlow'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.

- ✓ A main focus of Dr. Sharlow's report featured **responses to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee** from charges issued at the end of last semester to the Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) and the Academic Policies Committee (APC). These responses illustrate the process change requests go through before being brought forward to the Senate and eventually the Board of Governors for approval. An example highlighted was a report from the APC recommending a change in the institutional residency requirement for baccalaureate degree programs from the current 36 hour minimum to a 30 hour minimum requirement. This example (which was adopted by Faculty Senate by acclamation and sent to

Faculty Liaison (continued):

Dr. Carson for approval to bring before the Board) was used to illustrate the approval change process which Dr. Sharlow noted is working very well.

- ✓ **Other items** discussed during the February 1st Faculty Senate meeting included Textbook Buyers; faculty representative Dr. John Summerfield attending the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates meeting recently held in Jefferson City; and three newly proposed Graduate Courses related to the MS Management degree which were approved by Senate acclamation.

Dr. Sharlow also shared briefly about how honored **MSSU's Chamber Singers** are to be invited to present a pre-concert for Chanticleer during the Pro Musica event on February 26th. This Grammy award winning ensemble will also conduct a Master Class with MSSU's Chamber Singers during the day on the 26th which will be a great learning experience.

Staff Liaison (Ms. Elisa Bryant – Staff Senate, President):

- ✓ Staff Senate is in the process of revising its original **by-laws**.
- ✓ A recommendation regarding **textbook buyers** is being developed with input from administrative assistants and will be taken to Faculty Senate in the near future.
- ✓ Work on a **compensation survey** for staff is taking place with HR. Campus distribution of the survey is anticipated in approximately two weeks.

Student Representative (Mr. Kyle Prisock, President Student Senate):

- ✓ The remaining two **vacant Senate seats** have been filled with great applications received.
- ✓ **Comment Boxes** have been repositioned around campus and various constructive comments are being received.
- ✓ Student Senate is changing its fundraising focus to **support local charities** and will not be involved in St. Baldrick's this year.
- ✓ In order to **develop consistency** in Student Senate and assist future officers, each member of the Executive Committee is developing their own binder of information that will be passed on to their future replacement.

Darren noted each member of Student Senate has received a 15 page document containing information about upcoming legislation and will make recommendations back to the administration in order to share student opinions. Darren noted appreciation for this anticipated feedback.

Board Committees:**Academic Affairs Committee (Tracy Flanigan, Chair):**

Committee has not met; no report was given.

Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):

The Budget Audit Committee met before today's Board meeting at 10:30 a.m. to discuss tuition and the textbook rental fee for FY2017. Mitch McCumber noted all members of the Board present at today's meeting were present at the Budget Audit Committee meeting (Michael Franks was absent) and thanked Board members for their attendance and input.

On behalf of the Budget Audit Committee, Mr. McCumber brought forward and read the following three proposals for Board consideration:

1. Subsequent to the receipt or approval of the Governor's recommended 6% appropriation increase for FY2017, the University will not increase in-state tuition. If the approved appropriation increase does not meet or exceed the Governor's recommended 6% increase, the Board of Governor's hereby reserves the right to authorize the administration to set the in-state and Lion Pride tuition rate at \$178.61 per credit hour for FY2017, as pursuant to Senate Bill 389. This reflects an increase of \$1.58 per credit hour.
2. Authorize the Administration to set the out-of-state tuition rate at \$357.22 per credit hour for FY2017. This reflects an increase of \$3.16 per credit hour.

Budget Audit Committee (continued):

3. Textbook Rental Fee: Increase the textbook rental fee to \$14/per credit hour/per book. This is a \$2/per credit hour/per book increase.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Keith Hankins to approve three proposals as read and written in the minutes pertaining to in-state tuition, out-of-state tuition, and the textbook rental fee for FY2017. Motion passed.

Executive Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

Personnel Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

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 and Legislative Priorities include supporting the Coordinating Board's recommendation for a 7% core budget increase for higher education (with 2% dedicated to STEM programs) and after CBHE's recommendation, also supporting the Governor's proposed 6% increase in his recommended budget released in conjunction with his State of the State speech.
- ✓ **Tuition** at MSSU is \$20 per credit hour below Missouri Western State University considered to be MSSU's sister institution. MSSU's low tuition in addition to limited state appropriations combines to make the least total funds available in educating our students compared to other state public universities.
- ✓ **Testimony before the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee** in support of either the 6 or 7% increase have taken place. Dr. Marble noted either increase would be significant compared to the past and is needed in order to avoid significant tuition increases at several public universities, in particular Missouri Southern.
- ✓ The **Governor's recommendation** of a 6% increase comes with the stipulation tuition will not be increased for the 2016-17 academic year which MSSU supports, but Dr. Marble noted if the full 6% increase in appropriations does not become a reality, the administration will reserve an option to ask the Board to reconsider keeping tuition flat in order to prudently manage the budget.
- ✓ University **operating costs** such as health insurance, utilities, and other general operating expenses are anticipated to continue to increase.
- ✓ Proposed changes to the **Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)** would also impact MSSU's budget significantly by shifting several "professional staff level" positions from "salary exempt" status to "non-exempt" status and require overtime to be paid for things such as drive time for recruiters and bus rides for athletic personnel. These proposed changes will need to be monitored closely in regards to the budget.
- ✓ **Testimony before the Senate** in opposition to the proposed legislation allowing firearms on campus took place by both Dr. Marble and Darren Fullerton recently in Jefferson City. As the legislation is currently written, it makes no provision for banning firearms in Residence Halls, Athletic Events, Board of Governors meetings, etc. which is very concerning for the safety of the campus as a whole. Dr. Marble noted even though he understands and supports the 2nd Amendment to the U. S. Constitution he believes unrestricted access to campus by people carrying firearms will not create a safer environment and also believes the decision to allow or disallow firearms on campus should be determined by the Board of Governors.
- ✓ The **Great Game of Education (GGOE)** continues to gain momentum. A newly created Culture Committee (CC) will oversee the employee training effort, program deployment strategies, and ongoing support of the open book management process. The goal is to have this 15 member committee operational within the next 30 days.

President (continued):

- ✓ Work continues with Husch Blackwell, legal counsel, to create a **Policy Library**. In order to begin this process overarching Organizational policies that apply to the university as a whole and determined by the Board of Governors, need to be developed which will enable remaining policies to be viewed as Operational. Operational policies can then be determined by the University Council or appropriate institutional units such as Academic Policies, etc. To ensure all policy guidelines remain current, each policy will come before University Council for communication and/or deliberation. Rob Yust, Vice President for Business Affairs and the Business Affairs Office will act as the official entity responsible for recording and posting changes to these policies. A timeline for this process includes having the suggested Policy on Policies available for the Board of Governors to review within approximately 30 days which will determine the policies that will be considered at the Board level and policies that will be delegated to institutional units.
- ✓ The February Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) meeting was the last one for **Commissioner David Russell** due to his upcoming retirement. Leroy Wade has been named as the Interim Commissioner until the search process is complete.
- ✓ Dr. Marble noted support of **Sabbatical** requests from Dr. Karen Kostan, Psychology, and Mr. Tim Klein, Acting and Directing, for fall 2016 that were previously emailed to the Board. Sabbaticals, which are very cost effective for the university, provide a great opportunity for faculty enhancement and renewal.

OLD BUSINESS**Political Activity Policy (Dr. Brad Hodson):**

Dr. Hodson thanked the Board for their input and feedback regarding the new Political Activity Policy under development that was presented to them for review during the January 2016 Board meeting.

The 2nd draft of this new policy, included in the Board meeting packet, is the same as the first draft except a “General Information” Section I has been added at the beginning of the document. This new section contains a “Definition” of political activity at Missouri Southern and also the “Scope” of this policy as it applies to faculty and staff.

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to approve the 2nd draft of the Political Action Policy as presented. Motion passed. A copy of the Political Activity Policy is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Dr. Hodson noted the Political Activity Policy is the first Board organizational policy to be approved for the Policy Library being developed for the University in conjunction with Husch Blackwell.

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

Dr. Carson brought forward two Report Proposals for Board consideration: (1) A Change in institutional residency requirement for baccalaureate degree programs to make 30 hours the minimum requirement for residency at Missouri Southern from the current 36 hours and (2) to add a course objective to Oral Histology and Embryology. Both of these items have been approved by the Academic Policies Committee and the Faculty Senate and are fully vetted.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to approve the Report Proposals as presented. Motion passed. A copy of the Curricular Proposals summary is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

“Yours to Lose” MSSU-KCU Medical School Partnership (Dr. Paula Carson)

Dr. Carson gave an update on the development of curriculum and admissions standards for the “Yours to Lose” – Advanced Medical School Acceptance program as well as the background of this unique one-of-a-kind partnership between the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCU) and Missouri Southern State University (MSSU). This partnership, many years in development, was finalized when a formal agreement was signed between the two universities on December 18, 2015 during a ceremony at Missouri Southern.

“Yours to Lose” MSSU-KCU Medical School Partnership (continued):

The MSSU and KCU partnership will allow up to 25 students guaranteed admittance into KCU at the same time they are admitted to MSSU as long as they complete the MSSU/KCU rigorous undergraduate pre-med program at MSSU; thus the name “Yours to Lose”. The students in the cohort will not be required to take the MCAT and the stress of not knowing where they will attend medical school will be alleviated enabling them to concentrate on their studies providing a great advantage for these students. An additional 23 students will be selected as alternates in each cohort. The alternate students will be able to take full advantage of the special programs, enriching experiences, and opportunities at MSSU that will enable them to be well prepared to pursue a medical degree at any medical school they choose.

In fall of 2016, Missouri Southern will begin identifying “transitional” students at high schools in the surrounding region who will be eligible to join the “Yours to Lose” program when the Joplin campus opens in 2017. The first cohort will then be admitted in fall 2017. In addition to general education and courses specific to the pre-med program, specialized courses will also be included to enable students to develop various special skills including verbal and non-verbal communication needed to develop a good bedside manner, critical thinking, and medical writing. Options for enrichment summers are also being explored that could provide an international component with real world hands on experience. More than a dozen high schools have already been identified as “Yours to Lose” partners who will work with their students through development of a special high school curriculum to prepare these outstanding students for the accelerated undergraduate MSSU/KCU pre-med program and KCU medical degree program.

Future Meeting Dates:

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Friday, March 18th.

Executive Session:

Mr. Fleischaker noted a closed executive session of the Board was needed to discuss real estate (RSMo 610.021 (2)) and personnel (RSMo 610.021 (3)) and asked for a roll call vote by Board Secretary, Sharon Odem. The following motion was brought forward:

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Keith Hankins requesting the Board to go into a closed Executive Session under RSMo 610.021(2) and RSMo 610.021(3). Seven Board members responded in favor during the roll-call vote with one absence noted for Michael Franks. Motion passed.

Open Session:

At the conclusion of the closed Executive Session, during which no votes or actions were taken, the following motion was brought forward:

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Tracy Flanigan for the Board to go back into a second open session. Motion passed.

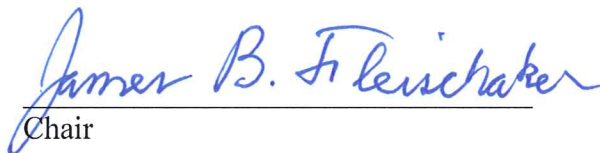
Adjournment:

At the conclusion of the second open session, during which no votes or actions were taken, the following motion was brought forward:

A motion was made by Alison Hershewe and seconded by Keith Hankins for the meeting to adjourn. Motion passed.



Secretary



Chair