

STUDENT AFFAIRS



Student Affairs Board of Governors Report

April 21, 2017

15 to Finish

The 15 to Finish initiative encourages full-time college students to complete 15 or more credit hours a semester to put them on track to receive a bachelor's degree in four years.

Less than half of college students in Missouri earn an average of 15 credit hours per semester. This makes it difficult for students to graduate on time. As a result, students often need an extra year or more in school to finish a degree.

Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and University Relations are devising a plan to assist in the marketing and implementation of this initiative.

Activities will include:

- Discussions with parents and students at Southern Welcome.
- Communications plan that will use the logo on student schedules, bills, etc.
- Plans of study that encourage students to take the right courses at the right time to graduate on time (Guided Pathways).
- Baccalaureate degree minimum number of credit hours reduced to 120 from 124 (where possible).
- Computer Literacy requirement has been dropped.
- Upper division requirement of 40 hours reduced to 39 hours – most of our courses are 3 credit hours. Students often scrambled to get that additional hour.
- Our freshman orientation course, UE 100: The University Experience, is now an 8-week, one credit hour course.
- Reduced general education requirements.
- Baccalaureate residence requirements used to be 30 of the last 36 hours in residence at MSSU – updated to 30 hours in residence at MSSU.
- New degree audit software is being implemented with projected availability in October. Degree Works offers clear visual progression, student planning tools, what-if analysis, real-time counseling capabilities between the advisor and student, robust transfer articulation, advanced reporting enabling us to plan for the future and identify emerging enrollment patterns.
- And More!



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Dolence Leadership Awards

Dolence Leadership Awards

The 26th annual Glenn Dolence Leadership and Service Awards were announced during a ceremony held Thursday, April 5th.

Sponsored by Student Affairs and Omicron Delta Kappa, the awards are named in honor of Dr. Glenn D. Dolence, retired Vice President for Student Affairs at Missouri Southern.

The awards are given to graduating seniors who have made significant leadership/service contributions to the university and/or the community. The purpose of the awards is to formally recognize students who have made a difference in campus organizations, student employment, student services or athletics.

26 outstanding students were honored at this ceremony:

Ashley Abeyata - Elementary Education
 Allison Banze - Respiratory Therapy
 Jordan Blythe - Respiratory Therapy
 Carly Cecil - Biology/Pre-Med
 Katherine Coulombe - Health Promotion & Wellness
 Kandace Eck - Human Resource Management
 Mariah Evans - Communications/PR
 Blair Freed - Biology/Pre-Med
 Taylor Gaines - Biology/Bio Tech Micro
 Emma Gillion - Spanish
 Megan Gonzalez - Secondary Education/English
 Megan Harrison - Social Work
 Trent Hayes - Computer Information Science
 Devonn Kastl - Dental Hygiene
 Katie Miller - Accountancy
 Rebecca Morrison - Dental Hygiene
 Robin Nelson - Education
 Tori Page - Chemistry/Math
 Gabe Patterson - Health Promotion & Wellness
 Greg Reynaga - Biology/Pre-Med
 Kelly Samuel - Human Resource Management
 Laynce Sanders - General Studies
 Colby Smith - Biology/Pre-Med
 Duncan Street - Political Science/Legal Studies
 Aubrey Wilson - Elementary Education

Student Leader of the Year

The 2017 Student Leader of the Year is **Ms. Tori Page**.

Ms. Page has been a member of Alpha Chi, a national college honor society that admits students from all academic disciplines. It's membership is limited to the top 10 percent of an institution's juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

Ms. Page is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society. In addition, Tori has served on the executive council of the Chemistry Club, and is currently serving as the President of the Campus Activities Board.

To date, Tori has contributed over 268 volunteer hours to the operation of CAB events and Student Activities.



Leader of the Year!

Degree Works - Coming Soon

The MSSU Registrars Office is putting the finishing touches on a new software tool for the entire campus.

Degree Works™ is a comprehensive academic advising, transfer articulation, and degree audit solution that aligns students, advisors, and institutions to a common goal: helping students graduate on time.

One of the main features is the Degree audit and tracking aspect. This function will assist students and advisors with monitoring the student's progress toward degree completion.

The Registrar's Office is currently in the testing phase and will be reaching out to Academic and Support units for training and introductions to this new tool within the next few weeks.



Career Services

- Spring Career Fair Participants: 100 employers
225 students
- Students Assisted (year to date): 928
- Hire-A-Lion full-time jobs posted in March: 240



Phi Eta Sigma

On April 13th, 20 outstanding students were inducted into Phi Eta Sigma. Phi Eta Sigma is a freshman honor society for students that have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher during their first year in college.

Congratulations to:

Alyssa Lynn Canady
Nick Freitas
Payton Lynn Frossard
Makayla Gearhart
Hailey Marilyn Hausheer
Abigael Killinger
Rachel McCoy
Rock Robbins
Alyssa M. Tooley
Kasey Dawn Ward

Julie Falleri
Kennedee French
Luzarianna Galindo Rodriguez
Katjana Gries
Chance Adam Johnson
Angelica Maria Macias
Kathryn Paine
Kimberly Teed
Melissa Wagner
Mariyah N. Wilkins

Fast Facts

- Financial Aid has received 263 summer applications and 8,162 Fall applications for Financial Aid
- 224 bookings took place in the Billingsly Student Center in March. Those bookings totaled 940.5 hours and had an estimated attendance of 3,591.
- This semester, 1,893 students have checked into the Recreation Center for a total of 23,071 visits.
- The Student Success Center completed 444 hours of tutoring as of April 10th.
- The SSC has completed 814 hours of Athletics and Greek study sessions this semester.
- Residence Life is 161 contracts ahead of last year. The Residence Halls are quickly filling up with 9 Southern Welcomes to go.
- Currently 2821 of Spring 2017 students have enrolled for the fall semester.

Dates to Remember

April 24th

Open enrollment Begins

May 8-12th

Final Exams

May 13th

Commencement

- 9:30 a.m.

Schools of Business and
Educations, BGS, BAS

- 1:00 p.m.

Schools of Health
Sciences and Arts &
Science



Dr. Ron Mitchell Leaves Dean of Students Position

Dr. Ron Mitchell will be leaving MSSU July 1, 2017, to assume the role of Superintendent for the East Newton School District. Dr. Mitchell has served as the Dean of Students for the past 6 years. Prior to coming to MSSU, Dr. Mitchell spent 15 years in the K-12 educational system. The Student Affairs Division would like to wish Dr. Mitchell the best of luck in his new position.