

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Board of Governors
Minutes

April 17, 2015 – 1:00 pm
Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The April 17, 2015 meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Jim Fleischaker, Chair. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Bill Gipson, Keith Hankins, and Mitch McCumber; Lynn Ewing was in non-attendance. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Jared Bruggeman, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Brad Hodson, Dr. Pat Lipira, Rob Yust, Dr. Michael Garoutte, Robert Frossard, Jake Messer, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, and Sharon Odem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Fleischaker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES

Chair Fleischaker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 20, 2015 Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to approve minutes of the February 20, 2015 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):

Linda noted due to the board not meeting in March, both the February and March financial statements were included in the Board packet. Due to the financial statements ending on March 31, 2015 containing the most recent information, they were presented to the Board as follows:

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

Cash Graph: The Cash Graph as of March 31, 2015 shows cash at \$14.9 million reflecting a decrease of \$1.5 million compared to the prior year. Linda noted of the \$14.9 million, \$6.5 million is Board designated cash and investments.

Statement of Net Position: As of March 31, 2015, Total Assets are \$142 million and Total Liabilities are \$47 million making Total Net Position as of March 31, 2015 at \$95 million. Linda noted a bond payment of interest only of \$650,000 was paid at the end of March.

Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position: This statement is presented quarterly and provides information on actual versus budget.

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position: In looking at the “difference column”, Total Operating Revenues increased by \$1.3 million. Total Operating Expenses increased by \$3.2 million. Total Non-operating Revenues increased \$1.7 million which include \$619,000 in state appropriations.

Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues: As of March 31, 2015, the current year reflects an increase of \$4.32 million. The prior year shows an increase of \$4.48 million resulting in a comparative decrease between the two years of \$155,000.

Other Revenues increased \$3.6 million due to capital gifts for campus projects including the new Baseball Stadium, Fieldhouse, FEMA shelter and turf for the football field.

Treasurer (continued):

Bond Refunding of the remaining series 2008 & 2005A bonds is being explored with Edward Jones due to favorable rates. This bond refunding, if approved, will create a substantial savings for the University. A representative from Edward Jones plans to attend the next Board meeting and share information about this opportunity.

A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Keith Hankins to approve the March 31, 2015 financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for March 31, 2015 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.

- ✓ **Baseball Stadium** – Weather permitting, a dedication of the new baseball stadium will take place tomorrow, April 18. A few punch list items still remain, but this project is essentially complete.
- ✓ **Field House** – Installation of the roof is complete. The exterior metal panels and the glass will be installed soon which will enable interior painting to begin. Completion is anticipated in late summer.
- ✓ **FEMA Shelter** – Punch list items are being finished by the contractor with painting by MSSU staff scheduled to begin in two weeks. Before possession of this building is turned over to MSSU (anticipated in one or two months), extensive training by FEMA is required.
- ✓ **Residence Hall** – Work on the new residence hall is progressing very quickly. Glass storefronts between some of the building are being installed, installation of appliances in four out of the six buildings is complete and five of the six buildings have flooring installed.
- ✓ **Temporary Labs (FEMA trailers)** – A request for quotes to pour piers, relocate and reassemble the trailers/labs and are due in two weeks.
- ✓ **Turf Replacement** – Funding from an external source has been secured to replace the turf at Fred G. Hughes Stadium. Due to the cost of this project, the Board discussed granting formal approval in the form of a motion to show support for this project and enable it to move forward.

A motion was made by Dr. Sherry Buchanan and seconded by Rod Anderson granting Board approval to replace the turf at Fred G. Hughes stadium using funds donated from an external source. Motion passed.

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.

- ✓ **Military Appreciation Events**, partnering with the Show Me Gold program, recently took place at baseball and softball games. Military vehicles were on display at both events.
- ✓ **Relay for Life -American Cancer Society**, will receive a \$1 donation for every ticket sold during one of MSSU's home baseball games this month.
- ✓ **"Pride 4 Pink"** will present a check to the Freeman Foundation as a way of giving back in support of its cancer awareness efforts during the May 4 athletics banquet. Jared noted special thanks to the student athletes and coaches for the time and effort they have spent on various fundraising activities that will directly benefit individuals in the surrounding community.
- ✓ The **Baseball** team recently held a clinic for 20 international students to teach the fundamentals of baseball. Most of the international students participating had never played or even seen a baseball game and greatly enjoyed this opportunity.
- ✓ The annual **Lionbacker Campaign** will begin soon. This year's theme is "Grow the Pride".

Executive Vice President (Dr. Brad Hodson):

Note: 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.

- ✓ **Capital Projects** – As of April 15, the majority of funds committed for large capital improvement projects including the Baseball Stadium, End Zone Facility, Lipira Softball Field and Stadium Turf have been received. Dr. Hodson noted all of these projects are being funded by outside donors.
- ✓ **Sophomore Day** – On April 28, over 2,000 sophomore students from seven area school districts will visit MSSU and participate in campus tours that will highlight programs and facilities at the university. Various fun activities are also being planned.
- ✓ **Nominations** are being sought for new Foundation board members. The Foundation board has 15 members and two vacancies, due to term limits, will occur on July 1, 2015. A strong candidate pool is desired. Nominations can be made by contacting Dr. Hodson directly before May 1.

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.

- ✓ Strategies for assessing General Education outcomes; institutional support for student learning; involvement of faculty and staff in the assessment process; as well as many other vital topics were covered during a recent conference of the North Central Association **Higher Learning Commission** (HLC) held in Chicago. Several people from MSSU attended in preparation for MSSU's next comprehensive evaluation scheduled for 2017-2018.
- ✓ Provisional approval from MDHE has been received to offer a new graduate program: **Master of Science in Management** with two tracks, General Management and Human Resource Management. Approval is currently being sought from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).
- ✓ Representing MSSU the 2015 **Governor's Award for Excellence in Education** was awarded posthumously to Dr. Al Cade, former Dean, School of Education, and Professor of Teacher Education, who recently passed away. This award is presented to an outstanding faculty member from each participating higher education institution in the state.
- ✓ Approximately 1,000 people from the campus and community took part in the second annual **World Music & Cuisine Festival** held on April 11. Fifteen international student groups, eight international faculty and staff members, and four ethnic restaurants participated.
- ✓ The **Ein Deutsches Requiem**, an outstanding community event and concert conducted by Dr. David Sharlow featuring MSSU's Symphonic Chorus, Symphony Orchestra, and Chamber Singers, took place on April 12.
- ✓ Seven faculty-led **study abroad trips** will take place during May and June to the following nine countries: Costa Rica, France, Spain, Ireland, the Czech Republic, Poland, Denmark, Japan, and Sweden.
- ✓ The **Regional Science Fair, Southwest Missouri High School District Solo/Ensemble Vocal and Instrumental Festival, Business Contest, Foreign Language Field Day, Missouri Region 6 History Day, and Math League** have brought thousands of area junior high and high students to campus throughout the spring. Many of these competitions and events have involved MSSU faculty and staff as well as people from the surrounding community.
- ✓ During the spring **All-Faculty Meeting** scheduled on April 29, faculty will elect Senators for the next academic year and vote on the new Faculty Handbook.
- ✓ **Changes in faculty members** were noted as follows:
 - (1) **Retirements:** Dr. Elaine Freeman – Professor, Teacher Education; Dr. Vikki Spencer – Professor, Teacher Education.
 - (2) **New hires:** Dr. Rabindra Bajracharya – Assistant Professor, Physics; Mr. Jacob Boswell – Assistant Professor, Mathematics; Dr. John Davenport – Assistant Professor, Geography; Mr. William Fischer – Assistant Professor, History; Mr. Tim Wilson – Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice.

✓ **Changes in faculty members (continued):**

(3) **Resignations:** Dr. Anna Cunningham – Assistant Professor, Biology; Dr. Karen Turman – Assistant Professor, Foreign Language (French).

(4) **Additional Announcements:** Dr. Deb Brown – Interim Dean, School of Education; Ms. Lorinda Hackett – Interim Department Chair, Teacher Education.

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 handouts distributed to the Board that are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- ✓ On April 16, MSSU hosted a **Title IX Investigator Training**. Nine staff members from MSSU as well as individuals from Ozark Christian College, Emporia State, Coffeyville Community College, Drury University, and Bryan College of Health Sciences in Lincoln, Nebraska completed training.
- ✓ Thirty-one outstanding MSSU students were honored during the **Dolence Leadership Awards** held on April 16; Cara Gooch was named Leader of the Year.
- ✓ **Dress for Success Clothing Drive**, a cooperative effort between the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network, MSSU's Career Services and Alumni Association, collected over 3,000 items for a clothing giveaway held on March 31. Volunteer personal shoppers assisted 187 students in selecting interview-appropriate clothing.
- ✓ Enrollment for the summer and fall semesters is currently underway and the Honors Signing Ceremony is scheduled for April 28.
- ✓ Destination Imagination recently brought over 1400 outstanding students (and their families) from all over the Midwest to Joplin and MSSU to take part in various workshops over the course of a weekend.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. Michael Garoutte - Faculty Senate, President):

Dr. Garoutte presented a PowerPoint (also presented to Faculty Senate) detailing the long involved process to update the Faculty Handbook. Key topics presented included the history, process, major differences in the new handbook and what the next steps are. A brief summary follows:

- ✓ In 2011 Faculty Senate's Ad Hoc Tenure and Promotion Committee proposed a new policy on tenure which brought to the Senate's attention in 2012 the need to review the entire handbook.
- ✓ In 2013 a Faculty Handbook Oversight committee was formed and soon realized the task of reviewing the handbook was too large for one committee.
- ✓ In 2014 the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc committee on promotion produced recommendations and in early 2014 five special Focus Groups, Academic Statements & Faculty Policies and Responsibilities; Faculty Appointments; Tenure; Evaluation Criteria & Promotion, and the Faculty Handbook Revision Oversight committee were created with 61 faculty members volunteering to participate.
- ✓ During the spring of 2014 two open forums were held and the first five Focus Groups met. During the fall these Focus Groups completed recommendations and Focus Groups 6 – 9 were formed. Groups 6 – 9 were made up of existing committees comprised mostly of faculty.
- ✓ During the spring of 2015 organization into ten chapters, additions and updating of institutional and faculty policies and creation of assessment tools took place in cooperation with legal counsel.
- ✓ On April 20 & 21, Q & A sessions will take place. A vote by all faculty will take place on April 29 and if approved, the revised handbook will then come before the Board of Governors for approval during its combined May/June meeting on June 4.
- ✓ When/if the approval process is complete, implementation of the revised handbook will take place on July 1, 2015.

Staff Liaison (Mr. Robert Frossard – Staff Senate, President):

The revised reduced tuition benefit for employees, that will include domestic partners, has been approved by both Staff and Faculty Senate and will move forward to President's Council in the near future.

Student Representative (Mr. Jake Messer, Student Senate President):

Highlights of Jake's report are as follows:

- ✓ As part of the 20 year Master Plan, Student Senate is continuing to purchase benches to place in various locations around campus.
- ✓ The 5th annual St. Baldrick's was a great success. \$30,000 to \$40,000 has been raised during the five years this event has taken place on campus.
- ✓ A forum recently held with dorm students provided feedback regarding a need to increase activities for dorm students and purchase new washers and dryers. Jake noted these changes will be easy to do and noted Student Senate will concentrate on enhancing the dorm side of campus during the upcoming academic year.
- ✓ There is competition and excitement for this year's election of officers reflecting positive changes in Student Senate.
- ✓ To support the roll-out of the new Tobacco Free campus policy, Student Senate is researching options to purchase new trash cans that will be used to replace the current ones that have ash trays.

Board Committees:

Academic Affairs Committee (Lynn Ewing, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):

Committee has not met; no report was given.

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 D. Marble):

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

- ✓ The **Provost/VPAA** Search Committee finished its work mid-March and noted optimism about the new potential Dr. Paula Carson will bring as she serves as MSSU's next Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Marble noted special thanks and appreciation for the dedicated work of the Search Committee and Dr. Garoutte's efforts as co-chair in making this search a great success.
- ✓ A special tribute and memorial service was held in Taylor Auditorium for **Dr. Al Cade** who recently passed away. Dr. Marble noted appreciation on behalf of Dr. Cade's family to the Board for allowing Taylor Auditorium to be used for Dr. Cade's memorial service and noted Dr. Cade was a very important part of MSSU for many years and will be greatly missed.
- ✓ Updates regarding legislative action in Jefferson City included **HB16** which has been passed and signed by the Governor. HB16 contains needed money to reimburse MSSU for the State's share of the cost of constructing the FEMA shelter in the Residence Hall area and when received will flow through SEMA. **HB3**, the bill that provides annual appropriations for public colleges and universities, has had a lot of debate. The House version of HB3 included a 1.9% increase and the Senate version included a 3% increase. This bill has been sent to a Conference committee to reach an agreement. The **Bonding Bill** that will finance a renovation to Reynold's Hall, is being held up in the approval process due to disagreements over a transportation tax. Dr. Marble expressed hope issues with the Bonding bill will be resolved soon and money will be available to fund vitally needed updates to Reynolds.
- ✓ Updates on the **Great Game of Education (GGOE)** include plans for broad based training; identifying "operating cash" as the University's critical number and developing a scoreboard template.

President (continued):

- ✓ During recent Investiture ceremonies for Dr. Marc Hahn, the 14th President of the **Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCUMB)**, Dr. Hahn announced the school will now be known as **Kansas City University (KCU)** and has new research partnerships with UMKC and the University of Kansas. Dr. Hahn also made the official announcement of the opening of the **Joplin Campus of KCU** in the fall of 2017 which will enroll 150 medical students per year. This new Joplin campus will have a very positive impact on the local economy and has the potential to create a surge in enrollment in MSSU's STEM programs making renovations to Reynold's Hall even more urgent.
- ✓ Efforts continue with the **Coordinating Board for Higher Education** expressing disappointment in the way MSSU is being treated regarding a Financial Accountability performance funding measure for 2011-2012. During this year a tuition waiver was sought and approved due to the May 2011 tornado and now MSSU is being penalized for that period of time over three years ago. Current performance funding measures that MSSU is under did not even exist in 2012. Dr. Marble noted work will continue with the Department of Higher Education and legislators if needed to rectify this situation.
- ✓ MSSU's proposed **Master's Degree in Management** was approved at the April 9 CBHE meeting. Efforts are being made to move the final approval process for this program ahead as quickly as possible due to a significant student demand.
- ✓ The annual **Regional Media Hall of Fame** awards ceremony was hosted by the Communication Department on April 2. This year's inductees were Dale Switzer of KOAM and Bob Foos owner of the Webb City Sentinel.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS**Consideration of Faculty Promotions (Dr. Alan Marble)**

A recommendation from the Promotion committee through Dr. Lipira to Dr. Marble in support of promoting the following faculty effective with their 2015-2016 contracts was brought before the Board for approval:

Associate Professor To Full Professor:

1. Dr. Anthony Adamopoulos, Psychology
2. Dr. Robert (Kip) Heth, Biology and Environmental Health
3. Dr. James Kilpatrick, Foreign Language
4. Dr. Jim Lile, Theatre
5. Dr. Brian Nichols, Finance/Economics
6. Dr. Steve Smith, Geography

Assistant Professor To Associate Professor:

1. Mr. James Capeci, Librarian
2. Mrs. Chrys Corcoran, Nursing
3. Mr. William Delehanty, Political Science
4. Dr. James Donelson, Chemistry
5. Dr. Cherona Hicklin, Teacher Education
6. Ms. Ann Lile, Theatre
7. Dr. David Sharlow, Music
8. Ms. Susan Tucker, Psychology
9. Ms. Patricia Vavra, Kinesiology

Consideration of Faculty Promotions (continued):

Instructor To Assistant Professor:

1. Ms. Megan Douglas, Management/Marketing
2. Ms. Hong Li, Librarian

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Keith Hankins to approve the recommendations for faculty promotions as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the Faculty Promotion Recommendations memo dated March 26, 2015 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Consideration of NCAA Compliance Affirmation (Dr. Alan Marble):

Dr. Marble read a statement to the Board reaffirming Missouri Southern's Endorsement of NCAA Principles. The statement reaffirms a component of the Athletics Department's and Missouri Southern's mission is to incorporate the NCAA's principals of sportsmanship and ethical conduct into the comprehensive mission of the University and to meet compliance requirements.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Bill Gipson to approve the reaffirmation statement confirming MSSU's endorsement of NCAA principles as read. Motion passed. (A copy of the statement dated April 17, 2015 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

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

Dr. Lipira noted a small list of Reports and Curricular proposals, already approved by the Academic Policies committee and Faculty Senate, is being submitted to the Board for approval. The majority of the items are course drops and course changes due to continuing cleanup of the catalog.

A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Rod Anderson to approve the April 17, 2015 Reports and Curricular Proposals as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the Summary of the Reports and Curricular Proposals for April 17, 2015 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Historical Registry (Dr. Alan Marble and Mr. Brad Belk):

Dr. Marble introduced Brad Belk, a local historian and Executive Director of the Joplin Museum Complex, who gave a presentation to the Board on the history of the Mission Hills Mansion, its significance to the University, and efforts to have the Mansion placed on the historical registry.

The Mansion, that now houses the Alumni Center, was built in 1926. When a new location for Joplin's Junior College was needed due to being land locked in downtown Joplin, a defining moment in the history of Missouri Southern and the community occurred when the Mission Hills Estate was purchased and Joplin's Junior College was moved to its present location. The Mansion has and continues to be an intricate part of what is now Missouri Southern State University.

Even though the Mansion has been used for many different things over the years, it eventually fell into disrepair and began to deteriorate, but due to the efforts of the Alumni Association led by Lee Pound, private donations were secured (no state funds were used) to carefully renovate the Mansion while still preserving its historical value. On September 18, 2010 a dedication of the newly renovated Mansion took place tying the past, present and future together in a building that has been the heart of the University from its very beginning.

Mr. Belk is in the process of writing and submitting an application requesting the placement of the Mission Hills Mansion/Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center on the historical registry. This is a very lengthy involved process with no guarantees the application will be approved.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Fleischaker noted it seems appropriate for Mr. Belk to move forward with the needed steps to submit the necessary application and documentation for this project and asked for a motion to show Board support.

A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Mitch McCumber authorizing Mr. Brad Belk to submit an application requesting the Mission Hills Mansion/Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center be placed on the historical registry. Motion passed.

OTHER

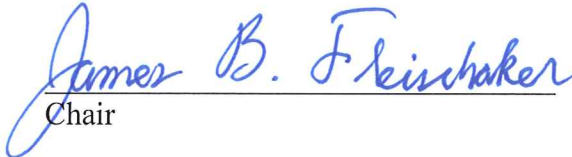
Mr. Fleischaker noted the Board will combine its May and June meetings and meet again on Thursday, June 4 at its regular meeting time of 1 o'clock preceded by lunch at 12:00 noon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fleischaker noted a closed Executive Session was needed under RSMo 610.021(1) relating to "legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys" and requested a motion and roll call vote.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Bill Gipson for the Board to go into closed Executive Session under RSMO 610.021(1). A roll call vote was taken and each Board member voted in favor of the Executive Session. Motion passed.


Secretary


Chair