

# MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Board of Governors

### Minutes

August 21, 2017 -10:00 AM

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The August 21, 2017, meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order at 10 o'clock by Mitch McCumber, Chair. Governors in attendance were Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Carlos Haley, Mitch McCumber and Anita Oplotnik. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Dr. Brad Hodson, Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Andrea Cullers (reporting for Faculty Senate President, Nick Nicoletti), Sharon Fraser (Staff Senate President), Jacob Layne (reporting for Student Senate President, Joe Blank), Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, and Laura Boyd.

Board members Mike Franks, Bill Gipson, and Alison Hersheve were in non-attendance.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber welcomed everyone and requested a change in the order of the meeting to move the election of Board Secretary to the beginning of the agenda. Sharon Odem, administrative assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board, is retiring.

Dr. Marble made a recommendation to the Board for Laura Boyd, Sharon Odem's replacement, be elected Board Secretary.

*A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker, and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to elect Laura Boyd Board Secretary effective immediately. Motion passed unanimously.*

### MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 14, 2017, Board meeting; none were noted.

*A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve minutes of the June 14, 2017 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book).*

### REPORTS

#### **Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):**

Linda noted during the first two weeks in August the auditors have been on campus as part of the annual audit. FY17 ended with a cash balance of approximately \$11.7M compared to the prior year of \$10.9M making a difference of approximately \$800K. For the current year, FY18, the cash balance is currently \$9.1M which is an increase over the prior year of approximately \$1.4M.

#### **Statement of Net Position:**

Total Assets are \$182M, Total Liabilities of \$95M, and Total Net Assets \$87M.

**Comparative Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position:** \*\*Looking at the "difference" column\*\*

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased by \$1.1M due to enrollment and tuition rate increase.
- **Total Operating Expenses** decreased by (\$51K).

**Treasurer (continued):**

- **Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)** decreased (\$338K) due to decreased regular appropriations as well as the prior year had appropriation funding for the satellite dental program.
- **Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues** comparing the current year and prior year, the current year reflects an increase of \$800K.
- **Other Items:**

Linda noted Bank transitions are going very well, are still on track, and should be finalized mid-September.

The annual audit is moving along well and it is anticipated it will be presented, as usual, at the October Board meeting.

*A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Carlos Haley to approve the July 31, 2017 financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for July 31, 2017 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:*

- The first floor renovation of **Reynolds Hall** is complete and classes were held there this summer.
- Work continues on the design of **Nixon Hall**. This facility will mainly house Math classrooms and offices. This project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2018 with classes utilizing this new space beginning in the spring of 2019.
- The **Trail Project**, with the city of Joplin, is now in the engineering phase and will go out for bid soon. Plans are to begin construction in spring of 2018.

**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**

- A taskforce has been in full swing for the last month and a half regarding the **MIAA Webcasting Network**. The taskforce includes Jared Bruggeman, Randon Coffey and Justin Maskus. They have developed a plan for fall and winter sports for webcasting of football, men's basketball, women's basketball and volleyball.
- The Missouri Southern Athletic Department will host its **2017 Sports Kickoff** for all sports on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Student athletes from all sports will participate in this fun campus/community event.
- An **MSSU Flag Giveaway**, to the first 100 fans who requested a flag, recently took place. This event was very well received with all 100 flags being given away in one day. The flags were sent to twelve states and one foreign country, Spain.
- This year is an **ISSG** (Institutional Self Study Guide) reporting year. Due to gender equality, a women's sport needs to be added and discussions are underway regarding adding women's golf.

**Director of Athletics (continued):**

- The **Lionbackers Annual Campaign** officially began on June 1<sup>st</sup> with a steady influx of membership applications being received. Lionbacker membership is currently at 180 with an increase expected due to increased mailing of Lionbacker brochures to alums.
- **Two new endowments** are in the process of being created: the Darin Moore Scholarship Endowment and the Sallie Beard Facility Enhancement Endowment.

**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.*

Brad noted his handout included updates on fundraising and admissions but the focus of his report was to give an update on work being done by the Performance Funding Task Force of the Missouri Department of Higher Education. The task force is comprised of 10 members, five from 4-year public higher ed institutions and five from 2-year public higher ed institutions, and Missouri Southern was fortunate to be one of the five 4-year publics. The task force has met four times and will meet one more time in September to finalize the new performance measures. Institutions have to meet six performance measures each year in order to gain new money. Four of the six are significantly changed and the two remaining are unchanged. The changes came about due to concerns of the legislators therefore, changes include the elimination of the menu of options so that institutions will be compared to other institutions across the system in 5 of the 6 measures, assignment of peer groups will now be made by MDHE and information will be more easily communicated to the public regarding key areas in higher ed. MDHE will pick peer groups based on 4 criteria: total budget, enrollment, percent of state appropriations as a percent of total budget, and average ACT score. Southern was in a group of 32 peers but has been assigned a new group of 19 and only 4 of the 32 peers are in the new group. There are no other Missouri schools in Southern's peer group.

The four new or significantly changed measures are:

- **Cost to produce a degree** which is calculated by dividing operating expenditures by the total number of credentials awarded in a year. Operating expenditures would not include auxiliary services, grants or research dollars.
- **Percent of operating budget spent on academics.** This includes expenditures for instruction, research and public service.
- **Completion efficiency,** the number of completions each year per student FTE, replaces the old measurement, 6-year graduation rate of first-time full-time students. In Missouri, less than 18% of graduates are first-time full-time. The new measurement is better for Missouri Southern.
- **Affordability.** This measure has not been completed at this time. Missouri is among the most affordable in tuition in the United States due to Senate Bill 389.

The measures that were not changed were **Graduate Employment**, the percent of graduates employed within 6 months after graduation, and **Student Learning**, professional licensure and general education assessment.

Of the six measurements, the peer group will only be used in one measurement, **Percent of operating budget spent on academics.** Missouri schools are measured against Missouri schools in the other five measurements.

**Executive Vice President (continued):**

Brad noted an approximate 1% increase in preliminary enrollment numbers at MSSU. Freshmen increased 3% and transfers increased 4%.

**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.*

- The **Inaugural Green Coat Ceremony** hosted 25 “Yours to Lose” students. This event was very well attended with well over 200 people in attendance. Dr. Carson expressed excitement and gratitude for this unique one of a kind new program with KCU (Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences) and noted the Dean of KCU has invited MSSU’s “Yours to Lose” students for a campus visit and lunch.
- **MDHE** (Missouri Department of Higher Education) has been very active over the summer. Work has taken place regarding **benchmarking** and the development of offerings to meet ongoing student needs as well as **enriching 12 credit hour course certificates**. Minors at MSSU currently require a minimum of 18 credit hours.
- A **review of low completer program courses** has been initiated by MDHE. Missouri Southern has several programs considered low completers and the list of these programs was submitted (as requested by MDHE) in early July. Feedback from MDHE is anticipated during the month of September.
- Work with MSSU’s community college partners on **Meta-Majors**, which are essentially groups of similar or relevant degrees or other forms of credentials, is underway. This program would help students utilize as much of their earned credit as possible. Meta-Majors used during the first four semesters of study, would enable students to identify a field of study early in their academic career and assist in fast tracking completion of a degree.
- MSSU has been awarded a **Perkins Grant** for \$125,000 to purchase equipment. \$75,000 to \$80,000 will be used in Health Sciences to purchase simulated mannequins and the remainder \$50,000 will be divided up between five or six additional programs.
- A handout (also given to the Board) highlights new faculty hires and illustrates a variety mix of scholars. The faculty search committees have been very immersed and engaged in the hiring process to ensure MSSU has quality hires. Eighteen new faculty, in addition to a new Gold Program Director, are beginning duties this fall.
- **Notable Recognitions** mentioned included the Art Department receiving the Excellence in Assessment Award and Industrial Engineering and Technology being reaccredited by ABET. Outstanding Teachers: Cherona Hicklin and Marty Conklin and the Outstanding Advisor: Lynell Gilbert-Saunders were also mentioned.

**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.*

- Over 350 incoming first-year students participated in the **First-Year Student Convocation** on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Vice President for Student Affairs (continued):**

- **Open registration** held on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> resulted in 268 students enrolling.
- After 31 years of service, **Kelly Wilson, Director of ACTS** (Advising, Counseling and Testing Services) has retired. Mrs. Faustina Abrahams is serving as Interim Director.
- MSSU's **15 to Finish Campaign** has officially kicked off. This national program encourages students to earn a degree in less time and at less cost.
- **Degree-Works Advising Software** will "Go Live" on September 6<sup>th</sup>. This software will provide students and advisors with a degree plan evaluation that is well organized and easy to understand.
- The **Financial Aid** office is collaborating with the Missouri Association for Student Financial Aid Personnel to host a Financial Aid workshop on September 11<sup>th</sup>. This workshop will provide updated information to area high school counselors so they can assist their students regarding Financial Aid and the importance and benefits of applying early.
- **The College Reading & Learning Association's** (CRLA) International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC) team has approved MSSU for Stage 2, Level 3 certification. This certification runs from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2020.
- MSSU has received a **\$3,500 grant** from the Office on Women's Health at the Missouri Department of Social Services to implement violence prevention strategies. MSSU will use these funds to assist in strengthening our Green Dot Bystander Intervention Program.

**Faculty Liaison Dr. Andrea Cullers presented on behalf of Dr. Nick Nicoletti (Faculty Senate President):**

*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.*

The August 17<sup>th</sup> All-Faculty meeting and the August 18<sup>th</sup> All-Employee meeting marked the return of faculty to campus for the 2017-18 academic year. The new Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) is as follows:

- Dr. Grant Lathrom, President-Elect – Associate Professor of Math
- Dr. Bradley Creamer, Past-President – Associate Professor of Biology and Environmental Health
- Dr. William Delehanty, Secretary – Associate Professor of Political Science
- Dr. Natalie Grecu – Assistant Professor of Communications
- Dr. Andrea Cullers – Assistant Professor of Kinesiology

This year, the Faculty Senate hopes to work on several items including GGOE, the Faculty Handbook, Restructuring Task Force, Social Media Policy, Writing Committee, MSSU's Strategic Plan, Conflict of Interest Policy, Faculty Senate Webpage, and the Curricular Routing Document system. This year may also mark General Education requirements/changes through MDHE.

**Staff Senate President (Sharon Fraser)**

The Executive Committee for Staff Senate for 2017-18 is as follows:

- Sharon Fraser, President
- Angela Bennett, President-Elect
- Scott Meeker, Secretary

### **Staff Senate President (continued):**

Sharon noted she anticipates a great year with a very engaging group of Senators and thanked Dr. Carson, Mr. Yust, Mr. Bruggeman, and Dr. Hodson for attending a recent Staff Senate meeting and answering questions regarding the Lion Cub Academy, the addition of a Junior Varsity team, and funding of a new position at the university.

### **Student Senate Representative Jacob Layne presented on behalf of Joe Blank (Student Senator President):**

The Student Senate report included updates on some of last year's projects which included approving use of Student Senate funds to assist in purchasing additional security cameras on campus and the installation of sound panels in the FEMA shelter.

This year Student Senate plans to make some changes to their constitution and bylaws before Homecoming. One such change will be to elect senators in the spring.

### **Board Committees**

No Board committees have met since the last Board meeting. No reports were 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.*

- **Sharon Odem, Administrative Assistant**, who has worked with MSSU for 23 years, has decided to retire to spend more time with her family. Laura Boyd has been hired as Sharon's replacement. A retirement reception for Sharon (and Gary) will be held on August 31st, in the North End Zone facility prior to the first home football.
- The Board Retreat, held before the June Board meeting, resulted in discussion of "the words and/or phrases" that should be considered for inclusion in MSSU's **Mission Statement**. These words have been cataloged and will be cross-referenced with input received from Faculty, Staff, Students and other Stakeholders. Results will be presented to the Board of Governors during a future retreat to consider and eventually refine the Mission Statement and the university's plans for the future.
- Dates have been scheduled for **faculty and staff "face to face" meetings** with an online option also available. Campus wide input into the Mission Statement will be collected and then moved on to a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis, an Environmental Scan, and Aspirational Visioning for the future which will be presented to the Board of Governors during the fall semester.

### **President (Dr. Alan Marble) continues:**

- MSSU welcomed Missouri Higher Education's Commissioner, **Zora Mulligan**, and the state's new Chief Operating Officer, **Drew Erdmann**, to campus this summer. The President's Cabinet met privately with them to explain MSSU's campus wide approach to "efficiency and excellence" via the **Great Game of Education**.
- HB3, which passed in both the House and Senate, included a 6.58% core budget cut for all public colleges and universities. However, \$3 million was added back into the budget for the **UMKC/MSSU Dental School partnership**. The Governor however has red lined the dental school money and announced withholdings that take the higher education core budget cut back to the original 9% he recommended. MSSU anticipated the 9% cut

**President (continued):**

becoming a reality when the budget for FY18 (\$800,000 deficit) was constructed this spring. As a result of MSSU's proactive planning, the current budget to date has been unaffected.

- Dr. Marble noted appreciation for being invited to attend this year's "**Acton University**" conference in Grand Rapids, MI this summer along with 14 other college and university presidents. This year's focus was developing a "productive and virtuous" society. Over 1,100 people, from 84 countries, attended. Dr. Marble also noted appreciation to the Plaster Foundation through which all of his expenses for Acton University were paid.
- MSSU has engaged John Dolence, Attorney at Law, to help negotiate and finalize an agreement with SRC (Springfield Remanufacturing Company) and the Great Game of Business regarding our **partnership arrangement for the Great Game of Education**.
- The Great Game of Education effort at Missouri Southern has earned our institution the very prestigious **Pioneer Award** which will be presented during the "Gathering of the Games" in September.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

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

Due to the summer break, there were no Academic Policy Proposals brought forward for Board consideration.

**Election of Board Secretary (Mr. Mitch McCumber)**

This item was moved to the beginning of the Board meeting, see Announcements section for detail.

**Korea Semester (Dr. Chad Stebbins)**

Dr. Stebbins, Director of International Studies, gave a brief overview of the upcoming theme for the fall semester which is South Korea. Dr. Stebbins noted this is the 21<sup>st</sup> themed semester at Missouri Southern and many activities are planned including 30 different events and 10 films. Themed semesters are designed to bring the world to campus and bring the world to MSSU students. By the time a student graduates he or she will have been exposed to four or five

**Korea Semester (Dr. Chad Stebbins) continues:**

different countries and cultures. One highlight during the fall semester will be a K-Pop workshop (a pop culture dance) that will be presented by students who have studied abroad. Another special event associated with the Korean semester will be a visit to campus by Dr. Sheena Greitens, wife of Missouri Governor Eric Greitens. Dr. Greitens will be on campus Thursday, September 7th to speak and she will also have a book signing that evening for a book she has written about dictators. Dr. Greitens is also the co-director of the institute for Korean studies (founded in 2017) at the University of Missouri. In addition to showcasing the culture of South Korea, events happening in North Korea will also be discussed throughout the semester.

**Other Items**

None


**Future Meeting Dates:**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 o'clock.

**Adjournment:**

Chair McCumber noted the Board did not need to go into a closed Executive Session and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Anita Oplotnik to adjourn. Motion passed.*

  
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Secretary  
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Chair