

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

September 15, 2017

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The September 15, 2017, 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, Jim Fleischaker, Alison Hershewe, Carlos Haley, Mitch McCumber, Anita Oplotnik, Mike Franks, and Bill Gipson. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Dr. Brad Hodson, Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Nick Nicoletti, Sharon Fraser, Joe Blank, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, and Laura Boyd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber welcomed everyone.

MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 21, 2017, Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Tracy Flanigan and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve minutes of the August 21, 2017 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book).

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis)

Cash Graph:

Linda noted in reviewing the statements for the period ending August 31, 2017, the Cash Graph reflects cash at \$10.1M; an increase over the prior year of about \$360k.

Statement of Net Position:

Total Assets of \$181M, Total Liabilities of \$96M, making Total Net Assets \$85M. Linda noted the university will make the semi-annual bond payment of \$2.6M at the end of September. The MoHEFA bond payment of \$441k is included in this payment.

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

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased over the prior year by \$729k.
- **Total Operating Expenses** increased by \$361k.
- **Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)** decreased (\$720k) due to a decrease in state appropriations as well as the prior year included appropriation funding for the satellite dental program.
- **Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues** reflects the current year at \$16.5M, with the prior year at \$16.9M reflecting a decrease of \$400k.

Treasurer (continued):**Other Items:**

Linda noted MSSU went “live” with the transition to Simmons Bank yesterday, September 14 and thanked IT, the Bursar and Human Resources offices and Michelle Arwood (Director of Accounting) for all their hard work during the transition process.

The annual audit is progressing very well and is anticipated be presented, as usual, at the October Board meeting.

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Carlos Haley to approve the August 31, 2017 financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for August 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 final report for **Reynolds Hall** is complete with a donor reception scheduled at 3 o'clock following today's Board meeting. The total square footage remodeled, 34,030 is approximately 54% of the building.
- 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 process of acquiring the final right of way from the Northpark Mall owners. This project should go out for bid soon with construction anticipated to begin within 60 days with completion in the spring.

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

- The Missouri Southern men's and women's **Cross Country** teams have both won each meet they have competed in this season. MSSU will compete and host the **28th annual Southern Stampede** on September 16. Competitors will include 2900 men and women, both collegiate and high school, who will compete on the Tom Rutledge Cross Country Course beginning at 8:00am on Saturday morning.
- **The Missouri Southern Athletics Hall of Fame** will induct four new members as part of Hall of Fame weekend. Dr. Wayne Harrell (meritorious), Joey Ballard (football and baseball 1999-2002), Jim Baranoski (baseball 1986-89) and Michelle Heimerman (women's track and field 1996-97) will all join the Missouri Southern Athletics Hall of Fame as the 2017 Induction Class this weekend. With the addition of the 2017 class, the MSSU Athletics Hall of Fame now includes 121 members and 2 teams.
- **NCAA Updates:**
 - ✓ New Regional Bids for Cross Country (XC) are available.
 - ✓ MSSU is currently hosting the 2018-2019 NCAA Regionals.
 - ✓ New directives from the NCAA regarding Title IX Training and Sexual Violence have been approved but it is not entirely clear what requirements will be regarding documentation and training.

Director of Athletics (continued):

- ✓ Notification has been received, the NCAA Agreed-Upon Procedures audit for FY18 will be conducted in the Fall of 2018. This audit is conducted every 3 years by an independent accounting firm.
- MSSU's **Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC)**, held a fall kickoff social event for all athletes on September 13. SAAC is also working on a canned food drive for the end of October as well as hosting a talent show in November. Their focus for this year is more community engagement through community service.
- **Upcoming Promotions** include Bacon Night as well as a canned food collection during the September 16 football game. Free T-shirts for students will be given out at the September 23 volleyball match and free car decals will be given to fans at the September 30 homecoming football game.
- The **Lionbackers & Annual Campaign** officially began June 1 with a steady influx of membership applications being received. Lionbacker membership is currently at 252 with an increase expected due to increased mailing of Lionbacker brochures to alums as well as MSSU instituting a Great Game of Education mini-game in the athletic department in hopes of driving membership.

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.

Admissions:

The official enrollment count will take place at 5:00pm today which occurs every semester on the 20th day. Enrollment is anticipated to be around 6,170, which will be a 0.9% drop from MSSU's all-time record in 2016. Even though new freshmen enrollment is down 4.1% compared to last fall, it is still the third largest freshman class in Southern history. MSSU's enrollment (students from the eight neighboring states and Texas) grew 3.9% and graduate students increased by 40.

University Relations and Marketing:

- **Crossroads Online** is a new communication vehicle launched in August for alumni and friends of MSSU. Crossroads Online is a monthly electronic newsletter sent to over 11,000 constituents via email. The design of the newsletter mirrors the current print edition of **Crossroads** magazine, and will allow staff in University Relations, Development, and Alumni relations to communicate much more quickly regarding campus news, points of pride, and upcoming events. All alumni and friends in the new Raiser's Edge database who have a valid e-mail address will receive the monthly communication on an ongoing basis.
- An **Alumni event in Northwest Arkansas** was held in late August with over 30 alumni and friends attending.
- The **Football Homecoming 2017** festivities include an award dinner September 29, and a parade, tailgate event, and football game on Saturday, September 30.
- The **Missouri Southern Foundation** presented a proposal to the Joplin City Council on Monday, August 28, requesting the sale of the former Joplin Public Library building at fourth and Main. The City Council authorized the city's attorney to negotiate terms of

Executive Vice President (continued):

the sale with the Foundation, which have begun. The Foundation is in the process of creating a real estate corporation to hold and facilitate redevelopment of the property. A fundraising campaign is being planned to fund 100% of the renovation cost.

- At 3:00 this afternoon donors would be recognized in regards to the Reynolds Hall Project. A million dollars was contributed to help supplement state appropriations for the renovation.
- The third edition “*Remember When*” was mailed out to past alumni. The **Joplin Junior College “Remember When”** magazine continues to strengthen the universities outreach and communication efforts to our junior college alumni.

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.

Dr. Carson noted, through the Great Game of Education in Academic Affairs, the cost per student credit hour is being determined by total expenditures compared to credit hours generated with a common metric across all academic disciplines. Other possible metrics (to be chosen by departments in conjunction with the Great Game of Education) include:

- 1) Idea Survey Outcomes
 - 2) DFW rates (Grades D, F and Withdrawals)
 - 3) Retention rates;
 - 4) Job placement rates;
 - 5) Advising and registration effectiveness;
 - 6) Assurance of learning/assessment/learning outcomes
 - 7) Graduation rates
- Also in conjunction with the **Great Game of Education**, Missouri Southern has begun piloting the **Huddle Pilot Departments** process in two academic departments; Chemical/Physical Science and Social Science. Updates will be provided as this process advances.
 - Missouri Southern’s **Nursing Program** ranked number one on the list of Most Affordable Nursing Degrees in Missouri. In addition, MSSU also maintains a very high quality Nursing program.
 - Missouri Southern’s **Internal Program Review** for 2017-2018 will review three departments this year as follows: 1) Chemical and Physical Sciences, (this program was deferred from last year due to the Reynolds Hall Renovation); 2) Criminal Justice, and for the first time, 3) an internal review of the International English Program, a component of MSSU’s global mission, will take place.
 - The Honors Program will host a visit to campus by physicist and novelist **Alan Lightman** on Thursday, October 5. Alan Lightman is the author of the international bestseller *Einstein’s Dreams*, which has been translated into 30 languages.

Additional items referred to by Dr. Carson included brief comments on handouts regarding a EMS Program Recognition, Yours to Lose Program Curriculum of Study/Guided Pathway, and Department of Kinesiology Partnerships. In addition, a very moving film, also shown during the fall semester Welcome Back was shown on empathy and retention.

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.

Hurricanes Harvey & Irma Disaster Outreach

- Missouri Southern State University has identified at least forty-seven students whose primary residence is in the **Hurricane Harvey and Irma** impacted areas. Broken down there are thirty-six students in the British Virgin Island areas, sixteen students totally online and five students who have requested to be dropped from classes and receive refunds. Several Advising and Student Affairs staff members have reached out to all the students by email, but with power disruptions, the university is waiting for many of those students to respond. Missouri Southern is currently working with the on-campus students to offer counseling and support. The **Missouri Southern Foundation** has created a special account to accept the donations of faculty, staff and students for the hurricane victims. Funds collected will be provided to hurricane relief efforts in the coming weeks.
- Submitted information from the **Missouri House Subcommittee Student Debt Relief** shows default prevention efforts have directly reduced student loan borrowing by \$335,000 over the last six years. With the help and knowledge of the subcommittee, more students are taking less money than offered on their loans. The average debt for a student at Missouri Southern State University is \$3,527.00 per student per year.
- President Marble and Darren recently met with a contingent of students concerned about recent changes to the **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** laws. Students were assured the university is speaking with local legislators and are hopeful something is decided soon.

Darren also mentioned Missouri Southern was the only institution in Missouri selected by the Department of Education for a **default prevention experiment** that is being conducted nationwide. This includes 2-year colleges, 4-year universities, public universities, and private universities.

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.

The Faculty Senate met on Monday, August 28 at 3:00pm and has filled all Senate committee positions and administrative positions. Committees are currently meeting in preparation for the October 2 meeting.

Many faculty members attended a healthcare seminar recently at Missouri Southern, which resulted in a discussion regarding the new health insurance plan at the August Faculty Senate meeting. Dr. Nicoletti explained the feedback was very positive from members in regards to the health savings plan and Cigna answering many questions.

Staff Senate President (Sharon Fraser)

Staff Senate members are encouraging all University staff members to donate and support hurricane victims through the Missouri Southern Foundation's fund which will support students impacted by the hurricanes, or to the Teacher Education Department's initiative to raise funds for a school in Houston, TX.

Staff Senate President (continued):

Sharon also noted all employees will soon be able to report their Community Service volunteer hours. Plans are to announce the total number of service hours periodically to the campus community.

Student Senate President (Joe Blank)

Joe noted the Student Senate is off to a strong start this year with 100% of its seats filled. The first Student Senate meeting of the fall semester took place on September 13 and the 2017-18 Senators were prepared and educated regarding their roles on campus. Presentations were given on parliamentary procedure, Senate history, and the vision of Senate was decided for this school year.

Top priorities discussed include installing an ATM in Plaster Hall, expanding dorm side recycling, installing more dorm side security cameras, expanding the Greek Trophy case, obtaining club banners for campus, creating a Student Senate Alumni Registry on Facebook, and hosting a charity event with the recipient being determined by a vote from the Senate.

Board Committees:

Budget Audit Committee (Bill Gipson, Chair)

Bill Gipson reported the Budget Audit Committee met at 11:00am. before today's board meeting for the purpose of considering the **Board Attendance Policy**.

The Policy outlines the process the Board can use to eliminate a board member who is not doing his or her duty when meeting times are missed with an unexcused absence.

On behalf of the Budget Audit Committee, Mr. Gipson brought forward the Board Attendance Policy proposal for Board consideration in the form of a motion:

A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Mike Franks to approve the Board Attendance Policy as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the Attendance Policy is archived in the permanent record book).

Governor Gipson noted there was also discussion regarding "**The concept of rolling the required fees into the credit hour rate**" which will require more discussion at the October meeting.

The last item of discussion was **The Great Game of Education process** and when MSSU reaches the critical number, how a reward will be shared. Mr. Gipson noted the Budget Audit Committee will also discuss this item when it meets again in October.

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.

- Missouri Southern, in an effort to enhance the **Strategic Planning** process, has created an online participation option for those unable to attend face-to-face meetings with the intent to provide as many functional avenues for input as possible, gather data, and return to the Board of Governors with the information. Initial identical morning and afternoon meetings will be available for faculty and staff to: 1) introduce the overall scope of the Strategic Planning process; 2) define and delimit "mission, vision, and values" and, 3) focus on identifying "words and/or short phrases" that describe Missouri Southern's mission in a concise and direct manner.

President (continued):

A second set of meetings with faculty and staff are intended to assist in understanding the challenges and opportunities faced by: 1) conducting a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats); 2) engaging in an Environmental Scanning Exercise to better grasp MSSU's place in a changing world; and, 3) develop aspirational visioning for the eventual identification of "goals and objectives".

The Student Senate's input will also soon be sought regarding all of these topics, as well as the Foundation Board, Alumni Board, Lionbackers, and a few community members. These results will be accumulated, categorized, and presented to the Board of Governors for consideration and deliberation in October.

- A WebEx meeting, conducted earlier this month with **Mr. Drew Erdmann** (Chief Operating Officer for the state of Missouri), who shared his vision for operating procedures across all state agencies focused on efficiency, productivity, goal setting, and relevant metrics. Missouri Southern has received an official invitation from Commissioner Zora Mulligan to present the Great Game of Education to the college and university Chief Financial Officers at an upcoming meeting.
- Missouri Southern made a formal presentation to the **Joplin City Council** regarding the conveyance of the former Joplin Library building. As a result, negotiations were authorized regarding the acquisition and repurposing of the former Library facility.
- Dr. Sheena Greitens, Co-Director of the Institute for **Korean Studies** at the University of Missouri-Columbia, as well as a very accomplished academic and engaging speaker, recently visited campus and lectured on the culture of Korea. Missouri Southern was fortunate to have Dr. Greitens visit campus for the themed semester activities.
- It appears the legal teams for both SRC (Springfield Remanufacturing Company, parent of the Great Game of Business) and Missouri Southern are approaching the finish line regarding the final agreement concerning the rights and responsibilities of both parties going forward. This is a very critical step in continuing MSSU's partnership in a formal and sustainable way with **The Great Game of Education (GGOE)**.

OLD BUSINESS

None

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

None at this time.

School of Business, Dean-Dr. Jeffrey Zimmerman (Dr. Paula Carson)

Dr. Zimmerman (new Dean, Plaster School of Business) received his bachelor's in computer science and economics from State University of New York at Albany in 1984, and a master of art's degree in economics from West Virginia University in 1986. Dr. Zimmerman obtained his masters of science in economics from Purdue University in 1988, and his Ph.D. in economics three years later.

Dr. Zimmerman's goals for the School of Business include: 1) Extending Accreditation, 2) Raising MSSU's community profile, (engaging the community), 3) ensuring MSSU's programs, (new and existing) are relevant to meet market demand and by expanding for example online

School of Business, Dean-Dr. Jeffrey Zimmerman (continued):

programs, and 4) increasing opportunities available to surrounding schools, such as internships.

Mitch McCumber welcomed Dr. Zimmerman to the campus community.

Great Game of Education Award Presentation

Missouri Southern State University was recognized in honor of receiving the Pioneer Award during this year's annual Gathering of the Games for its efforts in the **Great Game of Education**. MSSU attendees at the Gathering, held in Dallas, Texas were Scott Cragin, Scott Wells, Scott Snell, Jeff Gibson, Landon Adams, Becca Diskin, Will Delehanty, and Maryann Mitts (who presented in a mini-game and won \$2500 for the university).

Jack Stack, Founder, President and CEO of SRC Holdings Corporation, recognized and congratulated Missouri Southern State University for its accomplishments in innovation. Board Vice Chair, Bill Gipson received the Pioneer Award on behalf of Missouri Southern.

Other Items

None

Future Meeting Dates:


The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for October 20, 2017 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 Bill Gipson and seconded by Jim Fleishaker to adjourn. Motion passed.


Secretary


Chair