

# **MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **Board of Governors**

### **Special Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 17, 2023**

**4:00 PM**

**Plaster Hall 204 or via teleconference 417-625-9700 pin 6589**

A special meeting of the Board of Governors took place on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 for the purpose of two agenda items; recommendation to request update and expansion of the University's Statewide Mission and a progress report and review of the university's proposed new Strategic Plan. No other items were discussed or brought forward for Board consideration and/or approval during the meeting.

The meeting began at 4:00 pm via a conference call with Chairwoman Anita Oplotnik welcoming all in attendance via phone and thanking them for their participation. Roll call was taken with the following in attendance:

- Anita Oplotnik – present, via conference call
- Mariann Morgan – present, via conference call
- Bill Gipson – present, via conference call
- T. Mark Elliott – present, via conference call
- Carlos Haley – present
- Ron Richard – present
- Dr. Rosenberg - present
- John Hammons- present, via conference call

Governor Oplotnik noted seven Board members were in attendance which constituted a quorum. Others in attendance were Dr. Dean Van Galen, Dr. Lisa Toms, Linda Eis, Dr. Shellie Hewitt, Bethany Kendrick, Rob Mallory, and Jeanie Nice. Unable to participate in the meeting was Alison Hershewe.

Dr. Van Galen thanked the Board for convening to cover the two items on the agenda. For the first item, we would like to communicate with the Coordinating Board of Higher Education by June 2, that is why we called this special meeting to gain your support. Material was provided earlier in the week detailing the proposed updates to the Statewide Mission statement and the documentation supporting the changes. Since 1995 our Statewide Mission has been International/Global Education. The proposal before the Board contains four items:

1. Maintain our selectivity status as moderately selective.
2. Maintain international/global education concept as part of our Statewide mission.
3. Add Health and Life Sciences.
4. Add Immersive Learning Experiences.


Approval by the Board is the first step in the process of updating the statewide mission statement. A request would then be submitted to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. If approved, it would go through the state legislative session for approval.

*A motion was made by Mariann Morgan and seconded by Ron Richard to approve the recommendation to request update and expansion of the University's Statewide Mission. Motion passed unanimously.*

The proposed Mission statement, Vision statement and statement of Core Values, as well as four goals and a number of objectives that would be included in the university-wide strategic plan had been shared with the Board earlier in the week by Dr. Toms. Dr. Toms detailed the background on how the updated Mission, Vision and Value statements were developed. The Board will be asked to vote on these statements, as well as the goals and objectives, at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. No changes are expected before the Board's requested approval in June.

Next Board of Governors meeting is set for Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in BSC Boardroom.

*A motion was made by Dr. Rosenberg and seconded by Mariann Morgan to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.*

  
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Board Chair

  
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Board Secretary