



Board Report
09-16-16

Alan Marble

Semester launch – As you will hear later in the meeting, in a report from Derek Skaggs, fall enrollment is very strong... with healthy increases across the board. Even though faculty and staff are busy as bees accommodating this large group of students there seems to be a very positive and electric feel in the air around campus. It's hard to put a finger on the reason, and maybe it's a combination of things, but the mood of faculty, staff, and students all seem to be very energetic and optimistic.

CBHE Blue Print – I know that you are familiar with the Coordinating Board "Blueprint for Higher Education – Preparing Missourians to Succeed" – and Governor Franks served on the committee that prepared the plan. However, I thought I should share with you the clear and straightforward way the Goals and Strategies will be measured. Attached to my report is the first "Quarterly Report" that the Department of Higher Education presented to the Coordinating Board earlier this month. As you can see, a very clear matrix has been established that includes action plans, target dates, and identifies the area within the Department that has been tasked with monitoring each item. I think this approach will be widely applauded among colleges and universities because it lays out a framework of expectations, timelines, and makes reporting duties clear. In the past, other initiatives have been much less focused and direct – which led to confusion and frustration. This approach will not simplify the work to be accomplished but it will remove the ambiguity that we have often experienced in the past.

Great Game update – As campus training continues to roll out and the Culture Committee keeps coming up with great ideas, we were pleasantly surprised to learn that Scott Cragin received an invitation to present the Great Game of Education at the EduTECH International Congress and Expo in Sydney, Australia - in June of next year. This is a giant opportunity because the Expo will be attended by roughly 8,000 higher education leaders from all over the world. We are currently working with Rich Armstrong at the Great Game of Business to finalize an agreement on revenue sharing should we find other universities eager to get in on the Great Game. When we asked the event organizer how she learned of us she said, *"I stumbled upon an article on the Great Game of Education which mentioned you. Australia's higher education is facing funding shortfall/government de-regulation so I thought a presentation that covers an alternative approach to finance/budgets would be interesting. I did see the Great Game of Business consulting firm information and thought the delegates would want to hear from MSSU."*

<http://www.edutech.net.au/highered.html>

Paul Wagner visit – Paul Wagner is the Executive Director of COPHE (Council on Public Higher Education), which is the Association that represents all 4 year universities in Missouri. Mr. Wagner visited campus earlier this month and spent half a day touring campus and meeting with the President's Cabinet. He is making his rounds to every campus this fall in advance of the spring Legislative session, which I believe is a very good idea and will help him have a feel for each organization as questions arise. He was very complimentary of our campus and the plans we have moving forward and pledged to help however possible.

MIAA conference Commissioner - As I mentioned at the last meeting, current MIAA Commissioner, Dr. Bob Boerighter, is retiring at the end of the year and a search for his replacement was underway. The committee came up with three outstanding finalists and after a great deal of consideration, Mike Racy, was selected as the next Commissioner of the conference. Mr. Racy has a law degree but has spent virtually his entire career working at the NCAA home office... with his last job there being the Vice President for Division II... which obviously gives him a unique understanding of the organization... plus some very useful personal contacts within the central office.

Historic Register – As Dr. Hodson pointed out in his report, we were delighted to learn that the Mansion, or Alumni Center as we now refer to it, is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places. But, these things don't happen by accident and I would like to publicly thank Brad Belk, Allen Shirley, and Lee Pound for all the work they put into this project over the past 16 months. I would like to personally thank them for their tireless effort in acquiring this great honor for one of our signature campus buildings.