

# MISSOURI SOUTHERN

## STATE UNIVERSITY

### Division of Student Affairs Board of Governors' Report March 17, 2017

#### **Summer and Fall Priority Registration**

March 27 Seniors: 90+ credit hours and students registered with disability services, honors, junior & senior varsity athletes, junior & senior athletic trainers, approved participants in Project STAY, military service members, veterans and *Yours To Lose* students

April 3 Juniors: 60+ Credit Hours

April 10 Sophomores: 30+ Credit Hours

April 12 Transfer Students

April 17 Current Freshmen: 1+ credit hours, Post Graduates

April 24 Open Enrollment

#### **Career Services**

- **Dress to Impress** - Career Services sponsored the annual Dress to Impress event on March 15, 2017. This event is a collaborative effort by MSSU Career Services and the Young Professional's Network. This year's event assisted **302** students. In addition, we had **66** community volunteers participate, including Leadership Joplin.
- Currently there are 62 employers registered for the **Spring Career Fair** - April 5, 2017

#### **Registrar**

- End of Year Data for 2016
  - Undergraduate degree applications – 1,237; total student applications – 989
  - Undergraduate degrees awarded – 1,161; total students awarded – 968
  - Graduate degrees awarded – 18

#### **Department of Veterans Affairs Compliance Audit**

MSSU received a good review in our Federal VA Compliance Audit. Of all of the documentation, the evaluator only identified three minor documentation errors. The evaluator was very impressed with this as MSSU had not had a federal VA Compliance Audit since 2003. MSSU does receive a review by the State of Missouri VA every 2 years. Congratulations to Becca Diskin, Director of Financial Aid and Maghan Alberts, Veterans Services Coordinator. MSSU averages approximately 300 veterans per semester.

#### **Upward Bound Math Science Grant Application – Potential for \$257,500 per year**

The Upward Bound Math and Science program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue postsecondary degrees in math and science, and ultimately careers in the math and science profession.

## **Residence Life**

- The 2017-2018 housing application is available to all students on Lionet.
- 713 housing students have already been assigned for Fall

## **Student Success Center** – Spring Participation as of March 10, 2017

- Conducted 328 hours of tutoring
- Conducted 639 hours of Greek and Athletic study sessions
- Conducted 34 hours of Supplemental Instruction for Anatomy and Physiology
- Conducted 20 hours of tutoring specifically for the Plaster School of Business
- The SSC and Distance Learning have teamed up to provide campus-based (via the SSC) online tutoring. This will replace SmarThinking (current online tutoring platform) by the end of August.

## **Financial Aid Concerns**

The MSSU Financial Aid staff are currently monitoring the proposed federal budget which could cut \$9.2 billion — or 13.5 percent — from the Education Department's budget. Areas of potential impact for MSSU include:

- **Federal work-study** - funds that help students work their way through college would be reduced "significantly." Potential Impact: **\$96,547**
- **Federal TRIO Programs** - The proposal also calls for nearly \$200 million in cuts to federal TRIO and Gear Up programs, which help disadvantaged students in middle and high schools prepare for college. MSSU currently has three TRIO Programs; Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Service (Project Stay). Potential Impact: Approximately **\$795,000** per year for all three programs combined.
- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)** – Potential Impact - **\$121,393** for students with demonstrated financial need.
- **Teach Grant** – Grants for preparing educators. Potential Impact - **\$88,060**.

### **Other Concerns:**

- **Pell Grants** - The budget maintains the current funding level for Pell grants and calls for the "cancellation" of \$3.9 billion in Pell reserves, money that lawmakers on both sides of the aisle had hoped would be used to help students take summer classes. MSSU FY 16-17 distribution was **\$11,387,194**.
- **Data Retrieval Tool** - The Federal Government is currently experiencing issues with the Internal Revenue Service Data Retrieval Tool. This is the tool that assists students and families in completing their FAFSA's. Without this tool, students will need actual copies of their parents tax records to complete the process. At this time, there is not an expected date for repair to this feature (it has currently been down since March 3, 2017).