

MISSOURI SOUTHERN

STATE UNIVERSITY

Division of Student Affairs Board of Governors Report March 18, 2016

Preparing for Fall

- Priority Class Registration begins April 1st.
- The Registrar's Office is currently offering Degree Audit Training for advisors and students.
- Southern Welcome - April 20th will be the first Southern Welcome. This date coincides with the Honors Signing Ceremony (10:00am) on that date.
- Processing for 16-17 FAFSA is in progress. As of 3/14/16, we have received over 3,000 FAFSAs for the upcoming Fall/Spring.
- Foundation scholarship eligible student lists are being issued to departments this month to make award selections for FY16-17. Selected students will be notified before the end of the Spring semester if they are awarded a Foundation scholarship.
- FY16-17 Residence Hall applications are online and open to all incoming students. Housing applications are available through LioNet under the Campus Housing header.

Graduation Preparation

- Graduation applications – 497 for May and 74 for July (10 of these are master's students)
- Degrees applied for – 627 for May and 102 for July

Upcoming Events

- **Education Career Fair** – The Education Career Fair was held Wednesday, March 16. Fifty-three students and alumni were served with 29 employers in attendance.
- **Graduation Expo 2016** - Wednesday, March 30, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center.
- **Dress to Impress Professional Clothing Giveaway** - March 31, 9am - 5pm. Students can build their own professional wardrobe with free clothing donated by community members. Volunteers will be on hand to help students select an appropriate outfit for the Spring Career Fair and interviews.
- **Spring Career Fair** will be held April 6, 10 am - 2:00 pm, in the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center. Students and alumni can visit with over 100 regional and national employers and graduate schools to explore full-time, part-time, and volunteer opportunities.

- **Greek Week** will be held April 4th – 10th. Events will include a Greek BBQ, chariot races, dodge ball and a blood drive. The week will wrap up with the annual Greek Awards ceremony hosted by Order of Omega.

Program Updates

- **Talent Search** - The new Talent Search grant proposal for 2016-17 has been submitted. If approved, this program would be grant funded for approximately \$1.2 million over a five year grant cycle.
- **Veterans Services** - Maghan Alberts has been hired as Veteran Services Coordinator. Her first day was March 9, 2016. This is a newly upgraded position to enhance our support to military service members. She is a Navy veteran.
- **Student Loan Default Rate** - Our current official cohort default rate is 11.5%, but the updated draft rate (preliminary to the September 2016 official rate release) is 10.8%. We have seen a decline in our default rate over the past few years. This is a testament to our Default Prevention Grant as well as consistent efforts to reach out to our student borrowers.
- **Student Success Center** - SSC has been re-accredited by the College Reading & Learning Association to continue to provide Level 1 and Level 2 (Advanced) tutor training.
- **Safe Zone Committee** - Training held on March 10 for 21 attendees. This brings the total of trained Safe Zones on campus to 40. The Committee is in the process of planning a continuing education opportunity in relation to the Ash Beckham presentation on campus, which is scheduled for April 7 at 7p.m. in Corley Auditorium.

Smoking Cessation Update

- Door decals have been placed around campus by the Student Senate.
- Parking lot signs have arrived, and will be installed during April by the Physical Plant.
- Approximately 10 individuals are using the cessation services through the Wilcoxon Health Center.
- MSSU is still receiving free nicotine replacement therapy products through the Partners in Prevention grant. These products are available in the Health Center.
- Chantix is available through AETNA and the Health Center is writing prescriptions.
- Group cessation programs begin April 6.
- URM is working on a marketing campaign for the main rollout in the fall semester.