

# MISSOURI SOUTHERN

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## STATE UNIVERSITY

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### Division of Student Affairs Board of Governors Report August 23, 2016

#### VPSA Updates

- **Talent Search was funded for a 5-year period (more than \$1.3 million).** The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their postsecondary education. Current schools include Carthage, Joplin, Carl Junction, Webb City, Riverton, & Sarcoxie.
- **Missouri Department of Higher Education Default Prevention Grant was renewed for 2016-2017 (\$25,000).**
- **Student Activities and Recreation departments have been merged into the Student Life department.** – Landon Adams will serve as the Director of Student Life.
- **Residence Halls are over capacity** – Capacity is 879 occupants. We currently have 935 occupants.
- **Wellness Committee** - A Wellness Committee/Partners in Prevention Coalition has been formed. This committee features a variety of campus representatives and will focus on implementing the employee wellness plan developed in cooperation with Gallagher & Company. In addition, this group will be responsible for developing and implementing the Partners in Prevention Strategic Plan.
- **Community Day, August 24, 2016** - Sponsored by Career Services, with volunteers from across campus. This event has 131 community businesses and organizations participating.

#### Financial Aid

- Current stats as of August 19, 2016:
  - FAFSA Count 8,254
  - Packaged Students 4,891 (approximately 500 increase)
  - State Aid
    - Access MO - 1,330 pending @ \$1,438,630 for Fall
    - Bright Flight - 45 pending @\$65,850 for Fall
- Have certified 195 veterans for VA Benefits already this fall. More will be expected.
- Student Employment has approx. 30 on-campus positions available currently for the fall semester

- Financial Aid has introduced a Financial Literacy curriculum to students who are on Financial Aid Suspension status. USA Funds LifeSkills lessons are available to these students on topics related to budgeting, credit card debt, goal-setting, and student-loan repayment.
- Early FAFSA filing will be encouraged this fall for the 2017-18 Academic Year. October 1, 2016 instead of January 1, 2017 will move our processes up about three months.

### **First Year Experience**

- UE 100 Classes
  - 1,132 students are currently enrolled in UE 100
  - Approximately 300 freshmen attended the First Year Student Convocation on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Southern Welcome Summer Orientation
  - 860 freshmen enrolled
  - 100 transfer students enrolled

### **Student Success Center (SSC)**

- Tutoring begins on Monday, August 29 (2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes)
- Conducting six UE 150 (Academic Skills Classes)
- Student Success Center is currently working on partnerships with Biology, Kinesiology, Project Stay, and Math.

### **ACTS**

- Advising Services Appointments
  - 163 new student enrollments
  - 512 advising ACT major schedule appointments
  - 557 Advising non-ACTS majors scheduled appointments
  - 70 Walk-ins non-ACTS majors
- Counseling Services
  - 24 clients for 105 sessions
- Testing Services lab in Webster 114 is finished, with 15 testing stations
  - 279 Distance Learning exams
  - 14 non MSSU students
  - 361 TOEFL exams

### **Bursar's Office**

- Fall account balances are due by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 30
  - 5-pay payment plans available through due date (2nd payment due September 1)
  - 4-pay payment plans available through due date (2nd payment due October 1)

## **Career Services**

- Sixth Performance Measure - All institutions would use the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) survey.
  - MSSU must have verifiable employment data on 60% of the graduates.
  - The overall career outcomes rate (employed + service + military + continuing education) benchmark will be 73.4%.

## **Student Life**

- Campus Activities Board
  - Lion Pride Weekend was a huge success. Events included:
    - Captain America: Civil War – 153 unique student scans. 79.7% were Resident Students. 67% were freshmen.
    - Glo-ga Party – 257 unique student scans. 76.7% were Resident Students. 61.8% were freshmen.
    - Campus Craze featuring Comedian: Jessi Campbell: 232 unique student scans. 62.1% were Resident Students. 52.6% were freshmen.
- Greek Life
  - Currently, we have 36 women signed up for Sorority Recruitment.
- Registered Student Organizations - Nearly 50 registered student organizations participated in Campus Craze on Sunday, August 21.
- Safe Zone
  - On August 17, the university's Resident Assistants underwent Safe Zone Training. In addition to the 40 Faculty and Staff Safe Zones on campus we now have our very first student Safe Zones (13).
  - The next Faculty/Staff Safe Zone Training will take place on Tuesday, September 13 from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Individuals can register by emailing Landon Adams at [Adams-L@MSSU.edu](mailto:Adams-L@MSSU.edu)
- Wellness
  - Wellness Wednesdays will be held as a drop-in event every other Wednesday throughout the semester. Each of the 8 Wednesdays will feature one of the 8 dimensions of Wellness. The first Wellness Wednesday will be held on August 31, from 11 AM to 1 PM. This event will be “Yoga on the Oval” and will focus on the spiritual dimension of Wellness.