

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

January 15, 2010 -- 1:00 pm

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The January 15th meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Chair, Rod Anderson. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, David Ansley, Sherry Buchanan, Dwight Douglas, David Jones, Dr. Charles McGinty, Nancy Perry, and Richard Walter. Others in attendance were Dr. Bruce Speck, Rob Yust, Dr. Brad Kleindl, Dr. Roger Chelf, Darren Fullerton, Lindi Todd, Linda Eis, Jon Dermott, and Connie Shelton for Sharon Odem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rod Anderson welcomed Sherry Buchanan as a new member to the Board and Lindi Todd as Student Senate President. Rod noted Lindi is filling in as student representative to the Board until a new student representative is appointed by Governor Nixon.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Dwight Douglas and seconded by David Ansley, to approve minutes of the November 20, 2009 Board meeting. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Financial (Linda Eis, Treasurer):

- Statement of Net Assets
- Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets
- Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
- Cash Flow Analysis
- Cash Graph

Linda began her report by presenting the December Cash Graph and noted both the November and December financial statements had been sent to the Board. Linda noted cash trends continue as in the past and the January financial statements will show a spike in cash due to the collection of tuition and fees. Early numbers indicate enrollment will be up for spring. Students have several payment options including cash, check, and credit card with the ability to pay online; payment plans are still available.

A motion was made by Charles McGinty and seconded by Nancy Perry to approve the November 30, and December 31, 2009 financial statements. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for November and December, 2009 are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Construction (Mr. Rob Yust, Interim Vice President for Business Affairs):

- **Renovations to Billingsly Student Center**
This project is considered complete with only interior signage and some landscaping still needed.
- **Health Sciences Building**
 - This project is progressing well. The exterior work is almost complete and work on the interior is quickly progressing.
 - Completion date expected the end of March, 2010.
 - As of this date, \$12.6 million has been requested and reimbursed (in a timely manner) from the state Lewis & Clark Discovery Initiative funds. Paul Wagner, today during his visit to Southern, assured state reimbursements will continue.
- **Mansion Renovation**
 - Two guest houses and the Learning Center adjacent to the mansion have been torn down and the height of the white wall by the mansion will be lowered during Spring break.
 - Interior renovation work is progressing well with estimated completion date of April, 2010.

VP for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation (Dr. Mark Parsons):

▪ Alumni

- Upcoming events: Legacy Day, February 6 and Alumni Athletes reunion, February 20.
- Crossroads magazine is complete and has been mailed out to the community. Dr. Parsons expressed thanks to the Communications Department (Dr. Jay Moorman, Head), Rhonda Clark (faculty member) and the Alumni office for their hard work and dedication to this project. Dr. Parsons noted Crossroads magazine is a centerpiece publication to promote alumni and is a high quality publication which he looks forward to working on in the future.

▪ University Relations & Marketing

- Preparations continue for the 2nd annual Sweetheart Banquet which will raise funds for an endowment to establish a Sweetheart Scholarship fund.
- A video project is being worked on with the Joplin Chamber of Commerce. Links to the video will be available from both the City of Joplin and the Chamber.
- Radio, TV and newspaper advertisements continue to promote Missouri Southern.

▪ Grant Resource Center

The Grant Resource Center recently received a donation of computers from the United Way of Southwest Missouri. Dr. Parsons noted the computers will be a great way to help partner with the community in researching and seeking grants. On-campus as well as off-campus people are encouraged to use the Center.

▪ Development

- Funding and grant opportunities for the new medical school are being sought.
- The first gift of \$100,000 toward the Mansion renovation has been received.
- A gift to purchase Bloomberg software for the Edward Jones Investment Center has been received.
- A loan of \$250,000, needed to move ahead with architectural plans for the new DO school, has been closed at 4.5%. This loan was necessary due to only private funds being used for this project; no state funds will be used.
- Searches for two new positions are underway; one for an Annual Fund Officer and the other for a Major Gift Officer. Prospects for each position have been narrowed to three and candidates will be brought to campus for interviews during the next two weeks with anticipated hires by March 1. These positions are needed to raise the profile of fundraising at Southern which will be vital for the future.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. Roger Chelf – Faculty Senate, President):

- The first Faculty Senate meeting for the spring semester is scheduled for February 1. Dr. Chelf noted he expects faculty sentiment from last semester to continue with little change anticipated. Dr. Chelf noted one of the biggest concerns faculty continue to express is the hiring of faculty for one year contracts instead of tenure track.
- Dr. Chelf encouraged Dr. Parsons to improve fundraising, but expressed disappointment on behalf of the faculty for the hiring of two new staff members in the Development office when the University is struggling to fill faculty positions.
- Dr. Chelf also noted the faculty “were taken back” regarding the Foundation borrowing \$250,000 to begin architectural plans for the medical school. Dr. Chelf noted many faculty members view this as a “win all for KCUMB” and would have liked to have seen this money obtained in some sort of deferred rent or lease payments from KCUMB.
- Dr. Chelf noted he continues to encourage dialog from faculty to administrators during Faculty Senate meetings following administrator reports and that he thinks this is the best time for dialog to take place.
- Dr. Chelf will attend the 2nd annual Missouri Association of Faculty Senates in February.

Rod Anderson asked for questions or comments. The following comments were made:

Dwight Douglas commented after listening to Dr. Chelf’s reports the last few months that Dr. Chelf’s reports have continued to be progressively and continually negative. Mr. Douglas expressed disappointment

Faculty Liaison (continued):

over Dr. Chelf's negative report today over hiring of people to do fundraising and hiring an architect for the medical school. Mr. Douglas commented that both of these are very positive events for the future of Missouri Southern. Mr. Douglas asked Dr. Chelf to convey to the Faculty Senate the future of Missouri Southern is vested in a positive attitude not a negative attitude. Mr. Douglas noted he hopes the Faculty Senate will join the Board in moving forward with these very positive exciting activities. Dr. Chelf replied the Senate does not disagree there needs to be a positive attitude, but noted that faculty do have grave concerns for the future and it is his job to report those to the Board. Mr. Douglas replied that as Faculty Senate president, Dr. Chelf can do a lot to assist in setting a positive attitude for the campus and noted that he has seen very little leadership in Faculty Senate attempting to do that. Mr. Douglas noted he wants to encourage Faculty Senate to be positive about the many exciting things happening at Missouri Southern.

David Ansley commented he understands these have been very trying times for faculty, but he echoed Dwight Douglas's comments about never hearing anything positive from the faculty; only negative comments are heard. Mr. Ansley noted he believes there has to be positive things the faculty approve in regards to the administration of Southern and to improve dialogue it would be very helpful to hear both the positive and the negative.

Nancy Perry commented she also understands frustrations of the faculty and frustrations of the Board. Regarding the two individuals Dr. Parsons is hiring, Nancy noted these people will be fundraisers who will be raising money to subsidize their own salaries and to bring money into the Foundation. These fundraising efforts will make the Foundation more economically sound with the potential to pass down these benefits to the professors. Nancy also noted it is very important to have people generating income for Southern and commented that it is difficult to understand why faculty would be opposed to this logical thinking. Dr. Chelf commented he does not believe the faculty are opposed to this long term plan, but are more concerned about filling classrooms with qualified instructors now.

Richard Walter commented the medical school is very important for the entire community in regards to its educational and economical impact. It will take a joint effort with a lot of people working together toward its success. The message from Southern and the Board needs to be a positive one and everyone needs to be mindful of the perception in the community as people work together to advance Missouri Southern.

Dr. McGinty commented the Board will be hearing reports from the Deans and Administrators at their Retreat regarding staffing faculty positions and programs. Dr. McGinty noted the Board knows it is very important to fill faculty positions with quality faculty at all levels.

Rod Anderson commented faculty concerns do not go unnoticed, but after Paul Wagner's presentation, state monetary shortfalls predicted for the future are very apparent. Mr. Anderson commented that is why it was imperative for Dr. Parsons to begin work as soon as possible and for Southern to move forward with fundraising efforts.

Staff Liaison (Mr. Darren Fullerton – Staff Senate, President):

- Staff Senate met on January 13th for its regular monthly meeting with the February meeting scheduled for the 19th at 2:00 p.m. in Plaster Hall, room 306.
- Staff Senate meetings are now being rotated to different locations and times to accommodate both day and night staff schedules.
- Administrators have been approached regarding giving reports at the monthly meetings.
- During the January meeting, ways were discussed to improve campus morale, campus communication ("Listening Meetings" with Dr. Speck will now include faculty and staff), and budget issues. Darren charged the staff to come up with ways to increase funds, ways to generate revenue and to improve morale.

Student Representative (Ms. Lindi Todd, Student Senate President):

(Lindi, the newly elected Student Senate President, replaced Will Lynch who is serving as a legislative intern in Jefferson City.)

- Student Senate's first meeting for the spring semester is scheduled for January 20.

Student Representative (continued):

- Two members of Student Senate, Kisa Clark and Lauren Alumbaugh represented Missouri Southern at Governor Nixon's Leadership Conference in Jefferson City, January 4-6, 2010.
- Three student senators will serve as legislative interns in Jefferson City during the spring semester: Will Lynch, Jon Saunders & Adam Givins.

BOARD COMMITTEES**Budget Audit (David Jones, Chair):**

This committee has not met since the last Board meeting. No report was given.

Academic Affairs (Dr. Charles McGinty & Richard Walter Co-Chairs):

This committee has not met since the last Board meeting. No report was given. Dr. McGinty noted this committee will not meet again until after the Board Retreat scheduled in February.

Rod Anderson noted the appointment of Sherry Buchanan to this committee.

DO School Update (Dwight Douglas):

Dwight Douglas asked Dr. Speck to report on a recent meeting held with Dr. H. Danny Weaver, Acting President and Chairman of the Board of KCUMB. Dr. Speck reported a meeting was held with MSSU and KCUMB administrators, community leaders and Dr. Weaver at Missouri Southern on January 13. The meeting went extremely well, with Dr. Weaver giving Dr. Speck a 100% level of assurance the medical school partnership will move forward. Dr. Weaver assured Dr. Speck the partnership agreement between MSSU and KCUMB will be brought before their Board to gain approval by April 1. The partnership was on the agenda for KCUMB's Board in October, 2009, but was removed due to circumstances taking place at KCUMB during that time.

Dwight Douglas reported support from the Steering committee has not wavered. The cost to build a 35,000 square foot building is estimated at \$10 million which will come from private donations. Verbal and private commitments of a little over \$2.5 million are already in place. Dr. Schooler, Chief Medical Officer at Freeman, is continuing to receive positive commitments regarding clinical placements for Jr. and Sr. year medical students. The opening of the medical school will probably be pushed back until August of 2013 due to a permanent president at KCUMB needing to be in place before application can be made to the Higher Learning Commission and the American Osteopathic Association.

- **Approval of Architect Firm (Rob Yust):**

- In October, 2009 a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was submitted to architectural firms to program and design a School of Osteopathic Medicine building on MSSU's campus.
- Over 25 documents were received. These documents were reviewed and narrowed down to 6 firms.
- Six firms came to campus to make presentations to several people from MSSU and Dr. Haug from KCUMB.
- Based on their presentation with unanimous agreement from the people seeing their presentation, Rob recommended Crawford & Associates from Kansas City for Board approval for a negotiated rate for services of 6 ½%.

Dr. McGinty asked if an option to end the contract will be available during the design process. Jon Dermott, university legal counsel who reviewed the contract, replied yes.

A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Nancy Perry to approve the hiring of Crawford & Associates to design a medical school building on the Missouri Southern campus. Motion passed.

President (Dr. Bruce Speck):

Dr. Speck wished the Board a prosperous New Year, thanked them for their generous donation of time to Southern, welcomed Sherry Buchanan as a newly appointed member to the Board, and reported the following:

- Paul Wagner, Deputy Commissioner of the Missouri Board for Higher Education, is visiting campus today to provide the Board, faculty, and staff with current information about the state budget.

President (continued):

- Dr. George Greenlee, English, received the President's Award for Outstanding Service this morning during the Faculty Study Conference.
- Classes begin next Monday, January 18 with enrollment being strong.
- Dr. Speck commended Linda Eis and her staff in the Business office for their efforts in working with the new tuition payment schedule which was implemented fall of 2009. The new schedule encourages students to pay on time resulting in fewer students being dropped for nonpayment. For example the payment period for the spring 2010 semester began with 1300 preregistered students who had not paid and through the efforts of Linda and her staff that number was reduced to 317.
- Input from faculty and staff continues to be solicited about their concerns and ideas for Southern. A new series of "Listening Meetings" are scheduled for this semester and will include the Vice Presidents. Two sessions each month are scheduled and have been announced in Southern's electronic newsletter.
- A January 13th meeting with Dr. Weaver and other members of his staff from KCUMB along with the Vice Presidents from Southern, and two community leaders confirmed KCUMB's commitment to move forward with the medical school partnership between Missouri Southern and KCUMB. The change in leadership at KCUMB may delay the accrediting process, but Dr. Speck noted KCUMB is a good partner and loose ends are expected to be tied up soon.
- Dr. Speck noted, Sharon Odem was not at today's Board meeting due to her daughter and son-in-law (who live in Oklahoma) having twins. Connie Shelton assisted in Sharon's absence.
- Martin Luther King Day is Monday, January 18th. A breakfast will be held in Connor Ballroom with Dr. Al Cade, Department Head of Teacher Education, being the featured speaker. Various service projects are also scheduled.
- The annual Board Retreat is scheduled for February 19th & 20th and will be held in the Board room. An informative time is planned with updates on various issues.

Dr. Speck noted he is looking forward to a very successful semester as Southern continues its tradition of providing an excellent education to its students.

Regarding information for the February Board Retreat, Dr. McGinty asked for enrollment numbers for students taking classes over the Internet and also information regarding which programs have the highest student enrollment.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:**State Budget Report (Mr. Paul Wagner, Deputy Commissioner of the Missouri Board for Higher Ed):**

Dr. Speck introduced Paul Wagner who gave an overview of the state budget situation. Mr. Wagner noted he has given this presentation to several other institutions in the state. Key points included in Mr. Wagner's presentation were the nature of the federal stimulus package, the state's current balance sheet, the outlook for higher education budgets, and challenges for Missouri Southern. Mr. Wagner's noted budget cuts in FY11 will be permanent cuts with additional permanent cuts expected for FY12 when the current federal stimulus money is no longer available. Higher Education budgets may be the tool for balancing the budget in FY12 and Mr. Wagner noted the business of state government will have to fundamentally change. Specific challenges faced by Missouri Southern are low state funding and a low tuition rate. Missouri Southern will continue to need to do more with less. Employees will need to be better educated and more productive at their jobs. Positives for Missouri Southern include the proposed DO School which will have a positive economic impact and strong legislative advocates. *(A copy of Mr. Wagner's power point presentation is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

Questions and comments:

Dwight Douglas asked about the funding status for FY2011. Mr. Wagner replied a recommended cut of 5% for Higher Education with the largest predicted cut being 7%. Dwight Douglas stated Southern has a very good

State Budget Report (continued):

staff to faculty ratio and noted Southern is very efficient, but this is the second year without raises for faculty and staff with continued increases in utilities, health insurance and benefit costs. Senate Bill 389 has handcuffed Southern regarding tuition with Southern's tuition currently \$20 a credit hour less than Missouri Western's. Dwight Douglas and other Board members noted a change is needed to allow Southern to set its own tuition rate. Dr. McGinty noted the awarding of state money for scholarships to students attending private institutions continues to be a concern. Mr. Wagner replied he anticipates a tuition freeze will be the norm and that it will be hard for Governor Nixon not to freeze tuition again. Mr. Wagner encouraged the Board to generate a movement to remove the handcuffs of Senate Bill 389 and to be proactive. The Board expressed appreciation for Mr. Wagner's visit.

Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Brad Kleindl, Interim V.P. Academic Affairs):

Dr. Kleindl noted there were six reports due to programs being adjusted. Please refer to the summary handout for detail.

A motion was made by Dr. McGinty and seconded by Richard Walter to approve the Academic Policy Proposals. Motion passed. (A copy of the Academic Policy proposals is included with the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Consideration of Appointments, Retirements, Resignations (Dr. Brad Kleindl, Interim V.P. Academic Affairs):

- New Hires:
 - None
- Retirements:
 - Mr. Val Christensen (Effective February 1, 2010)
 - Mr. Bud Clark (Effective June 1, 2010)
- Resignations:
 - None
- Other Action:
 - Dr. Linda Hand has resigned as Assistant Director of the Honors Program to return to the classroom on a full-time basis.

A motion was made by Richard Walter and seconded by Nancy Perry to approve Appointments, Retirements, Resignations and Other Action. Motion passed. (A personnel sheet is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

OTHER ITEMS:

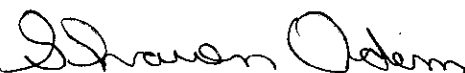
None.

FUTURE DATES:

Rod Anderson noted a date has not been set for the June Board meeting and the Board typically does not meet in July. Rod also noted the Board Retreat is scheduled for February 19th & 20th.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by David Ansley and seconded by David Jones to go into closed session under RSMo 610.021 (1) and RSMo 610.021 (3). A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.


Secretary


Chair