

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

January 17, 2014 – 1:00 pm

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The January 17th meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Lynn Ewing, Vice Chair. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Lynn Ewing, Tracy Flanigan (newly appointed Governor awaiting Senate confirmation replacing Richard Walter, term expired), Jim Fleischaker, Keith Hankins and Mitch McCumber. Others in attendance were Dr. Pat Lipira, JoAnn Graffam, Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Joy Dworkin, Alicia Hughes, Brittney Lampe, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis and Sharon Odem; Dr. Alan Marble and Jared Bruggeman were absent due to attending the NCAA annual convention.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Lynn Ewing welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and called the meeting to order. Mr. Ewing noted due to Richard Walter no longer serving as Board Chair due to the Governor appointing Tracy Flanigan as Mr. Walter's replacement due to his term being expired, under the Board's bylaws, the responsibility falls to the Vice Chair to serve in the capacity of the Chair until the Board holds an election.

Mr. Ewing called Richard Walter (seated in the audience) to the front of the Board room and presented Mr. Walter with a plaque of appreciation for his service to the Board and to the University. Mr. Walter served on the Board for six years including two terms as Vice Chair and was elected Chair in 2013. Mr. Ewing noted he appreciated Mr. Walter's interest in high academic standards and his ability to ask not only hard questions, but the right questions.

Before his replacement on the Board was named, Mr. Walter was serving as a representative of the Board and co-chairing the Presidential Search committee. Mr. Ewing noted he wants Mr. Walter to continue serving on the Search committee and in the capacity of co-chair and asked Board Secretary, Sharon Odem, to reflect in the Board minutes his appointment of Mr. Walter to the search committee.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve minutes of the November 15, 2013 Board meeting as presented. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):

Due to the Board not meeting in December (as is typical), the financial statements for both November and December 2013 were included in the January meeting packet. Linda presented the December 2013 statements since they contain the most up-to-date figures.

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

Cash Graph: The Cash Graph as of December 31, 2013 shows cash at \$11.6 million reflecting an increase of \$430,000 compared to the prior year.

Statement of Net Position: As of December 31, 2013, Total Assets are \$117 million. Total Liabilities are \$28 million which includes bonds payable. Total Net Position as of December 31, 2013 is at \$89 million.

Treasurer (continued):

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position: In looking at the “difference column”, Total Operating Revenues increased by \$617,000. Total Operating Expenses increased by \$1.4 million. Total Non-operating Revenues increased by \$190,000.

Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues: As of December 31, 2013, the current year reflects a decrease of \$393,000. The prior year shows an increase of \$174,000 resulting in a comparative decrease between the two years of \$567,000.

Other Items: Linda noted as approved by the Board during the November 2013 Board meeting, RFP’s were sent to 11 vendors to seek and to secure short-term financing that will be used to purchase furniture for the new and existing residence halls. Seven submissions were received. After careful review, US Bank due to its excellent interest rate and very flexible options is the vendor chosen.

A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Sherry Buchanan to approve the December 31, 2013 financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for December 31, 2013 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

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

Highlights of Rob’s report are as follows:

- **Residence Hall.** Design development is complete and construction drawings are being prepared. A pre-bid meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 10th and the bid opening is tentatively scheduled for February 26th.
- **FEMA Shelter.** Construction drawing and specs are being prepared and will be sent to FEMA for review and approval. The approval process could take up to 90 days.
- **End Zone Facility.** Work continues on the design and scope of an athletic support facility with the architects and the construction manager. This project should be ready to go out for bid in February with construction possibly beginning in March.
- **Trail Project.** Due to the EPA and DNR changing the boundaries of the flood plain surrounding Turkey Creek, the trail and bridge project planned in conjunction with the City of Joplin has been impacted and this project has been put on hold for about a year. Predictions are for construction to begin in the spring of 2015 and be completed in the summer of 2015.
- **Budget.** Work on the FY2015 budget has begun. Information from the state is needed regarding appropriations MSSU will receive and the CPI rate. Plans are to set tuition during the February Board meeting if this information is received in a timely manner.

Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):

Note: Jared was unable to attend the Board meeting due to attending the annual NCAA convention and provided a written report. Jared’s written report was distributed to the Board and is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Vice President for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation (Ms. JoAnn Graffam):

Note: Highlights of JoAnn’s report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- **Alumni Association**
 - The Alumni Association is spearheading a project to raise funds for a scholarship in honor of Coach Corn’s 25th year of coaching at Missouri Southern.
 - As an outreach to area school districts, school employees will receive “candy grams” recognizing their efforts in education. School employees will also be encouraged to contact the Alumni Association for information on how they can receive a MSSU pennant. This project is a partnership with University Relations and Marketing and Admissions.
- **Development**
 - **Baseball:** Fundraising efforts are ongoing with additional gifts and pledges totaling \$31,000 recently being received.

Development (continued):

- **Annual Fund:** The Annual Fund Drive will begin later this month with the Phonathon portion planned for February 15th – 27th.
- **Steel Drum Ensemble:** Fundraising efforts to-date in pledges and donations total \$22,000 of the \$25,000 needed to purchase the drums.
- Two newly created scholarships will assist students in different areas as follows: One will be awarded to either a sociology or history major with preference given to a veteran or a current member of the military. The other new scholarship will be awarded to a MSSU freshman who graduated from Joplin High School.
- **Foundation Investments:** Twenty-five proposals were received for fund management services in the Foundation and are currently being reviewed. The top companies will be invited to make presentations.
- **Training:** The annual CASE District VI conference was attended by several staff members who learned new ideas that can be helpful with a variety of fundraising efforts.

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Pat Lipira):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Lipira's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- **Updates**

- MSSU's **61st Commencement** was held on December 14th with 267 students earning undergraduate degrees and 28 completing cooperative master's programs. Several new features were implemented at this ceremony including a video prior to the processional, presentation of colors by MSSU's Show Me Gold program, and faculty congratulating graduates in the recessional.
- A **ribbon cutting** hosted by Crowder College for the grand opening of its new facility in Jane was held on January 10th with several representatives from MSSU in attendance. The new facility will house Crowder's nursing program and a variety of general education classes. MSSU will provide courses that will enable students to complete a Business degree.
- A weeklong celebration of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** at Missouri Southern will include a community breakfast, a Volunteer Fair, service projects and a Dr. King impersonator.
- The annual **COTA** (CBHE's Committee on Transfer and Articulation) will hold its annual conference on January 29th in Jefferson City.
- **HLC** (Higher Learning Commission) will hold its annual conference April 10 – 14 in Chicago.
- The latest edition of *Focus on Faculty* (Fall 2013) has been published and distributed. The addition of retired faculty to the mailing list has been very well received and is a great way to keep them connected to the campus.
- **Retirement:** Dr. Kexi Liu – Professor, Music; Director of Suzuki Violin Academy and Symphony Orchestra.
- **New Faculty:** Katherine Corum – Assistant Professor, Dental Hygiene; Coeta Ogle – Instructor, Nursing.
- **New Department Chairs:** Brian Fronzaglia, Music; Diane Moore, Dental Hygiene.

Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Mr. Darren Fullerton):

Note: Highlights of Darren's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

- **Updates**

- A portion of the Default Prevention Grant received by the Financial Aid department has been used to purchase software that will assist with enhancing communication in various ways.
- During 2013, the Registrar's Office processed a large number of transcripts totaling 11,184.

Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (continued):

- Staff from MSSU's Student Support Center (SSC) have been invited to present at the first-ever MoCAPT (Missouri Congress of A+ Tutors) conference that will be held in Columbia in March. This honor is due to the unique tutor program (only one in the state) that has been developed at MSSU. MoCAPT will enable SSC staff to share tutor training ideas, discuss Tutor Day (unique to MSSU) and will provide state-wide networking opportunities.
- Two Financial aid presentations by MSSU staff at Joplin High School are scheduled during January.
- Leadership Joplin (a program through the Joplin Chamber) representatives this year from MSSU will be Dr. Ron Mitchell, Dean of Students, and Ms. Cheryl Dobson, Registrar.
- Registration for the spring semester continues with various forms of communication being used to reach students who have not yet enrolled.

Faculty Liaison (Dr. Joy Dworkin - Faculty Senate, President):

Highlights of Dr. Dworkin's report are as follows:

- **Fall Semester:** The end of the fall semester was highlighted by the December commencement. The innovative addition of new graduates walking through a faculty line-up at the end of the ceremony and study abroad students who wore country sashes denoting the country they studied in were nice additions.
- The fall themed Italy semester was a great success with many wonderful events taking place. One highlight was the opera which was a collaborate effort between the Institute of International Studies, Southern Theatre, and the Heartland Opera; over 750 people attended the performances.
- During the last **Faculty Senate** meeting Dr. Dworkin shared the following highlights:

Presentations and Reports:

- ✓ Darren Fullerton updated the Senate on recent activity in Student Affairs.
- ✓ A PowerPoint presentation from the Financial Stability committee summarizing information from recent financial presentations, the committee's role, its promotion of open book management techniques and the need for all employees to understand where the University is financially was well received.
- ✓ Discussion of faculty hiring trends and various committee reports were also part of the meeting.

Actions:

- ✓ The Senate passed by unanimous approval language establishing the process and definition of Faculty Emeritus Status which Dr. Dworkin noted is a positive result of a coordinated effort between the Faculty Senate's Welfare committee and the Administration.
- ✓ Changes to the Writing Program were also approved. Dr. Dworkin noted this was a very important academic issue that led to a lot of involvement on the part of faculty and staff in the decision making process and demonstrated shared governance.

Presidential Search:

- ✓ Faculty are eager for the Presidential Search committee to receive its formal charge. Dr. Dworkin noted she is taking her role on the search committee very seriously and will share faculty input as it comes through her to the search committee.

Staff Liaison (Ms. Alicia Hughes – Staff Senate, President):

Highlights of Alicia's report are as follows:

- During the January Staff Senate meeting, Aaron Lewis reported on work being done by the Financial Stability committee. Several good ideas and suggestions have been made regarding areas where money can be saved as a result of the campus financial presentations.
- Nicole Brown made an excellent presentation about the Super Leaders' program at Southern and asked Senators to encourage student participation. Applications for the next Super Leaders' class are due January 22.

Staff Liaison (continued):

- Staff Senate is looking for new ways to solicit and encourage positive, constructive feedback and suggestions from staff and faculty.
- Staff Senate will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12th.

Student Representative (Ms. Brittney Lampe - Student Senate Vice President)

Darren introduced Brittney Lampe, an Education major from Carthage. Brittney, the Vice President of Student Senate, will report at today's Board meeting due to Noah Triplett being unable to attend. Highlights of Brittney's report are as follows:

- Student Senate will hold its first meeting of the spring semester next week and is looking forward to another busy semester.
- Highlights of items worked on by the Student Senate during last semester include revising its constitution, donating funds for benches to beautify the campus (Darren noted over \$11,000 for the purchase and installation of benches around the campus was donated by Student Senate), extending the Tunnel Mural, and work on the annual St. Baldrick's fundraiser (charitable event to raise funds and awareness of childhood cancer).

Board Committees:**Academic Affairs Committee (Lynn Ewing, Chair):**

No report given.

Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair)

Committee Chair Mitch McCumber reported the Board's Budget Audit committee met today at 11:00 a.m. and all Board members were present at this important meeting during which discussion took place regarding setting the tuition rate for MSSU's new stand-alone graduate programs. Information from the Deans and Rob Yust were presented. As a result of this meeting, two motions were brought before the Board for approval as follows:

- (1) *A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to set the Graduate in-state and Graduate LionPride tuition rate at \$250.00 per-credit-hour beginning with the fall 2014 semester. Motion passed.*
- (2) *A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to set the Graduate out-of-state tuition rate at \$375 per-credit-hour beginning with the fall 2014 semester. Motion passed.*

Committee Chair McCumber also noted due to CDARS investments coming due in the near future, authorization from the Board for the Administration to move forward with a RFP for investment options was needed.

A motion was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to authorize the Administration to move forward with a RFP for Investments. Motion passed.

Executive Committee (Lynn Ewing, Chair)

No report given.

Personnel Committee (Lynn Ewing, Chair)

No report given.

Ad Hoc Program Prioritization Committee (Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Chair)

No report given.

Presidential Search Committee (Dr. Sherry Buchanan)

Highlights from Dr. Buchanan's report are as follows:

- The Charge to the Presidential Search Committee has been developed and will be brought before the Board for approval today under "New Business".
- Dr. Buchanan thanked Richard Walter for his efforts to form and finalize the membership of the Search committee which, thanks to his efforts, is now complete.
- A link to the Presidential Search is located on MSSU's home page (www.mssu.edu) to provide easy access to information about the search to the campus and the community. Dr. Buchanan demonstrated the easy steps to access the link and spoke briefly about its content.
- Focus Group meetings were held on campus on December 3rd and 4th and provided opportunities for input from the campus and the community regarding expectations for the next president of MSSU.
- The Board's Executive committee met on January 4th to discuss the presidential search and to develop a plan for moving forward with this process.

Interim President (Dr. Alan D. Marble):

Dr. Marble was unable to attend the Board meeting due to attending the NCAA annual convention in San Diego, California. Dr. Marble submitted a brief written report (attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chair Ewing noted the Board will need to be updated on Program Prioritization in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS

Presidential Search Committee Charge (Dr. Sherry Buchanan):

As noted earlier, Vice Chair Ewing asked for the minutes of today's meeting to reflect his continued appointment of Richard Walter to serve on the Presidential Search Committee. Mr. Ewing noted Richard Walter brings a unique gift of being able to assemble information together and he appreciates Richard's willingness to continue to serve on the committee even though he is no longer a member of the Board of Governors.

Vice Chair Ewing also noted the make-up of the Presidential Search Committee has included two members of the Board of Governors and in order for this make-up to continue another Board member needs to be appointed. Mr. Ewing then appointed Jim Fleischaker to the Search Committee.

Dr. Buchanan noted the proposed Charge to the Presidential Search Committee, by the Board of Governors, has been circulated to the Board for review. The Charge is based on an AGB (Association of Governing Boards) model. Dr. Buchanan recommended the Board approve the Charge as written and brought forward a motion.

A motion to approve the Board of Governor's Charge to the Presidential Search Committee as presented was made by Dr. Sherry Buchanan and seconded by Rod Anderson. Motion passed. (A copy of the Charge is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)

Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Pat Lipira):

Dr. Lipira noted due to this being a catalog year, there are over 40 pages in the Reports and Curricular Proposals summary provided to the Board. All of the items have gone through the proper channels and have been approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve the Reports and Curricular Proposals as presented. Motion passed.

“Super Leaders” (Mr. Darren Fullerton and Nicole Brown):

Darren introduced Nicole Brown, Director of Career Services, who spoke about MSSU’s Super Leaders program. This unique program is a partnership between MSSU and the Joplin Chamber’s Young Professionals Network and enables MSSU students to learn by taking part in real world, behind the scenes business operations. Each session is different and enables students to meet business leaders from around the area.

Darren noted Nicole is doing a great job and has been selected by the JCC magazine as a “person to watch in 2014”; a very prestigious honor.

OTHER ITEMS:

New Board Appointment (Lynn Ewing):

Vice Chair Ewing expressed appreciation to Tracy Flanigan (newest member to the Board) for attending today’s Board meeting and noted Tracy’s confirmation by the Senate should be forthcoming in the near future.

Future Board Meeting Dates:

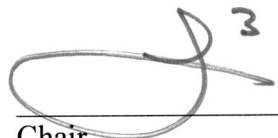
The Board will meet again on February 21st, but will not meet in March due to Spring break.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chair Ewing noted a closed Executive Session of the Board was not needed and asked for a motion to adjourn.

*A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Keith Hankins.
Motion passed.*


Secretary


Chair