

**MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Board of Governors**  
**Revised Minutes**

**June 20, 2013 – 4:00 pm**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Chair. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Jim Fleischaker, Keith Hankins, Mitch McCumber and Richard Walter; Lynn Ewing was in non-attendance. Others in attendance were Dr. Pat Lipira, JoAnn Graffam, Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Joy Dworkin, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, Alicia Hughes (President-Elect of Staff Senate), Noah Triplett (President-Elect of Student Senate) and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Buchanan welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and noted two special visitors in the audience; Dr. Glenn Dolence (retired MSSU administrator) and Dr. Alan Marble (President of Crowder College). Dr. Buchanan also welcomed Noah Triplett the new incoming Student Senate President and Alicia Hughes the new incoming Staff Senate President. Dr. Buchanan expressed condolences on behalf of the Board to the family and to the campus for the recent loss of Dr. Larry Flatt. Dr. Flatt, who passed away unexpectedly, was a professor in the Teacher Education Department.

Dr. Buchanan noted this would be her last Board meeting as Chair and her last prepared statement on Shared Governance. Highlights from Dr. Buchanan's June Shared Governance Statement include thanking everyone who has sat at the Board table the last two years while she has served as Chair. Dr. Buchanan also thanked Dr. Speck for his contributions to Missouri Southern and for President's Council for their leadership as well as the faculty and staff for their dedication in keeping MSSU operating on a daily basis. Dr. Buchanan noted even though a leadership change can be unsettling, the Board wants the campus and the community to join together with them and turn this time into a time of great opportunity for the future. Dr. Buchanan noted the Board will act quickly to name an Interim President. The search for the next President will be a comprehensive search based on the long-term leadership needs of Missouri Southern. Dr. Buchanan noted even though the final responsibility of choosing a new President rests with the Board, the Board will be committed to a process of shared governance in the search for the next President. This process will give every constituent on campus as well as community partners representation in the decision making process. Dr. Buchanan noted it has been an honor and gratifying experience to serve as Board Chair and thanked Board members for their unwavering support and dedication. *(Dr. Buchanan's complete shared governance statement for June is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book and will be distributed electronically to the campus following the Board meeting.)*

**MINUTES**

Governor McCumber noted a change in the second paragraph of the May 16, 2013 Board minutes is needed. In the second paragraph, Governor McCumber is listed as being from Newton County. Governor McCumber is actually from McDonald County. Sharon Odem, Board Secretary, agreed to amend the minutes as part of the permanent record to reflect the correct county for Governor McCumber.

*A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to approve the amended minutes of the May 16, 2013 Board meeting as stated above. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)*

## **REPORTS**

### **Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis):**

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

**Cash Graph:** The Cash Graph which includes Unrestricted Cash, Board Designated Cash, and Board Designated Investments (CDARS) shows a balance of \$14.1 million as of May 31, 2013 reflecting an increase of \$632,000 compared to the prior year.

**Statement of Net Assets:** As of May 31, 2013, Total Assets are \$122 million and Total Liabilities are \$30 million making Total Net Assets as of April 30, 2013 at \$92 million.

**Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets:** In looking at the “difference column”, Total Operating Revenues decreased by \$925,000. Total Operating Expenses increased by \$773,000. Total Non-operating Revenues increased by \$845,000.

Linda also noted the following:

- Vendor submissions for the bank bid RFP are being reviewed.
- BKD auditors were on campus the first week of June to begin review of Student Financial Aid.
- Year-end is fast approaching on June 30. All payables must be submitted no later than July 9 in order to be paid from the current FY2013 budget.

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

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

#### ▪ **Construction**

- The footings for the three bench sitting walls for the Lion Icon Sculpture and Plaza have been poured. The actual benches are being framed and will be poured as soon as the electrical boxes are on site. The contractor, RE Smith, will begin the layout and preparation of the large concrete slab next week. Plans are to set the sculpture the last week of July in order to do finish work and landscaping. The unveiling is still on target for the beginning of the fall semester.
- As approved by the Board in May, plans are progressing for new residence halls. A group from MSSU traveled to Springfield last Tuesday to meet with the architects who will design the new residence halls at MSSU. The group also toured residence halls designed by the architects at MSU and Drury. Rob noted the new residence halls are very impressive and will be unlike anything currently at MSSU.

#### ▪ **FEMA Grant**

- Missouri Southern has been awarded a FEMA grant in the amount of \$64,500 to design a safe room. These funds will be used for Phase 1, the design phase, of a 2,000 occupant tornado safe room that, if fully funded, will be located in the residence life complex. Phase II, construction, will require additional funding of approximately \$1.2 million. Rob emphasized Phase II funding is contingent upon FEMA’s approval of the Phase I safe room design.

### **Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):**

*Note: Highlights of Jared’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.*

#### ▪ **NCAA News-ISSG/Blue Print Review Update**

- The ISSG report, which took a year and a half to complete and provides a plan for the next four to five years, has been approved. Implementation will begin this July.
- The NCAA Compliance Blueprint Review is also complete. Hard copies of this very detailed comprehensive report were provided to the Board.

**Director of Athletics (continued):**

- **Learfield Sports/NACDA Director's Cup**

- Out of 315 Division II members, Missouri Southern athletics finished 55<sup>th</sup> in the Learfield Sports/NACDA Director's Cup Standings. This finish ranks MSSU in the top 17% in the country! Jared congratulated all the people who helped obtain this ranking including student athletes, fans, coaches, athletic, and university staff. Jared noted special thanks to faculty members who work with student athletes when they have to miss class and for the education they provide.

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

- **Advancement**

- Donnie Goettel is the new Data Analyst in the Advancement office and has extensive experience working with data bases. JoAnn noted this new position is critical for Advancement and she is very pleased to have Donnie as part of the Advancement Team.

- **Professional Development**

- The University Relations and Marketing staff recently spent a day networking with their counter parts at Missouri State.
- The Development Office staff recently spent a day networking with their counterparts at the University of Arkansas.
- In Marketing, work continues with the Web Team to update and enhance Southern's website.

- **Other**

- The spring edition of the new Foundation newsletter (first edition came out last fall) is complete. JoAnn noted excitement about this new way of communicating that highlights donors.
- Dr. Buchanan asked if a date has been set for an Open House for the newly remodeled and newly relocated University Relations and Marketing offices. JoAnn responded an Open House will be scheduled soon. The new Infinity Wall has recently been finished and will be a highlight of the Open House. The Infinity Wall will offer many opportunities for different types of photography and videography.

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

*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.*

- **Academic Affairs Updates**

- As noted during an earlier Board meeting, Dr. Lipira has begun an effort to reach out to retired faculty. Reaching out includes *Focus on Faculty* newsletters, recaps of the academic year and obtaining email addresses. To date approximately 25 email addresses have been obtained with favorable and appreciative responses received.
- Summer classes are in session with new offerings of four, six, eight and ten week sessions in place. Dr. Lipira noted a 4.5% increase in summer enrollment is being seen so far and it is believed the new session offerings are contributing to this increase.
- Jeffrey Smith, Director of Institutional Research for Ivy Tech Community College, will make a presentation at MSSU on Monday, July 15. Dr. Lipira noted Mr. Smith has the ability to make data "come alive". Mr. Smith will share software with participants and cover key points to "Inspire, Inform, Equip, and Support" during his presentation. Dr. Lipira encouraged the Board to attend.
- Dr. Lipira noted the unexpected passing of Dr. Larry Flatt, Professor of Teacher Education, on June 10. Dr. Flatt had been at Missouri Southern since 2008 and will be greatly missed. Dr. Flatt was very active on and off campus and was a very active supporter of Special Olympics.
- New Hires:
  - ✓ Dr. Albert Yeboah-Forsen, Assistant Professor, Physics
  - ✓ Dr. Amelia Appuhamy, Assistant Professor, Mathematics
  - ✓ Dr. Sheryl Hill, Assistant Professor, Nursing

### **Vice President for Academic Affairs (continued):**

- Resignations:
  - ✓ Dr. Brian Davis, Assistant Professor, Biology
  - ✓ Dr. Stephen Verrill, Associate Professor/Department Chair, Criminal Justice
  - ✓ Dr. Maria Bejan, Associate Professor, International Business
  - ✓ Dr. Dana Bush, Associate Professor, Nursing

### **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**

- Darren thanked the campus for its group effort in increasing both headcount and credit hours for summer school enrollment and the Board for expanding Lion Pride Tuition. Darren also thanked faculty for their work to offer different session options (four, six, eight and ten weeks) and to increase course offerings.
- The Noel-Levitz consultant visited campus again on June 12 and 13 with some committees still finishing work on this project.
- Good news has been received from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education! MSSU's application for recertification to participate in the Missouri Department of Higher Education's (MDHE) administered programs has been approved for the next three years. This MDHE Financial Aid recertification is effective through September 2016. Darren noted this is a huge accomplishment requiring many many hours of hard work and thanked everyone involved for their efforts.
- The Bursar's office has processed nearly \$700,000 in student aid refund checks during the first financial aid disbursement for the Summer session.
- Included in Darren's report, under the Career Services section, is an overview of the employment status of Spring 2013 graduates. Darren noted this information gives a great "snapshot" of MSSU graduates and their accomplishments.

Governor Anderson asked if Darren has enrollment numbers or information to share from Captain Self regarding the "Show Me Gold" ROTC program being offered for the first time this fall at MSSU. Darren responded Captain Self is traveling now and doing recruiting. Indications are the program will be full this fall. Darren noted Captain Self is doing a great job recruiting high school students as well as returning military. Governor Walter asked if Captain Self could speak at an upcoming Board meeting. Darren indicated, he would be glad to contact Captain Self and ask her to speak to the Board.

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

Dr. Dworkin noted the following in her report:

- Faculty are very pleased by the Board's decision to change leadership in the highest administrative position at the University. Faculty realize such a move is costly in terms of finances, media attention, and time associated with a comprehensive presidential search. Dr. Dworkin noted faculty will stand by the Board through this process and understand a comprehensive search process is needed in order to find the right person for this position. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee is brainstorming ways the Senate and faculty in general can support and be helpful during this search process. Materials have begun to be gathered to pass along through Dr. Lipira to the Board to assist. One example is a book that has been selected and ordered through the library to help guide the Board in this search. Dr. Dworkin emphasized faculty are eager to help and will be a valuable resource throughout this process.
- Faculty Senate does not meet during the summer due to most faculty being on 10 month contracts.
- Dr. Linda Hand, last year's Faculty Senate President, has been elected as a delegate from the Missouri Conference to attend the annual national meeting of the AAUP (American Association of University Professors) in Washington, DC. This prestigious opportunity is due to Dr. Hand's strong

**Faculty Liaison (continued):**

Senate leadership and forthright reporting of faculty concerns. Dr. Hand has also been awarded the Hooper Travel Award to fund this trip.

- On a personal note, Dr. Dworkin invited everyone to Joplin's downtown Third Thursday which will begin at 5:30 today. Dr. Dworkin's African marimba band will be performing at the Spiva Center for the Arts. Also a number of MSSU faculty will have art on display in the "art walk".

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

- Staff Senate's annual elections were held in May with seven Senate seats open for election. A record number of votes and nominations were received. Newly elected Senators are as follows: Diana Baker, Patty Hart, Shavonne McCoy, Lauren Powell, Nicole Brown, and Elisa Bryant; Melanie Epperson was re-elected.
- Alicia thanked departing Senators for their time and dedication with a special thanks to last year's Executive Committee for their time and efforts.
- Bob Frossard will serve as President-Elect and incoming Senator Patty Hart will serve as secretary as part of the Executive Committee for 2013 -2014.
- Committees continue to work to find ways to develop and improve staff morale, communication and involvement. Several seats need to be filled on committees due to seven Senators departing. Filling these committee vacancies will be an agenda item for the July Senate meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 10.
- Several positive comments have been received regarding raises given to employees for the upcoming year. On behalf of Staff Senate, Alicia extended a sincere "thank you" to the Board and Administration for their commitment to staff and noted their efforts are very much appreciated.

**Student Representative (Mr. Noah Triplett-Student Senate President-Elect)**

- Noah noted the summer is a quieter time for Student Senate. The Executive Committee will meet this summer, but has to wait until its secretary returns from overseas.
- The Lion Icon Plaza project is well underway and students are looking forward to its completion.
- Work on the mural project for the tunnel under Newman road continues.

**Board Committees:****Academic Affairs Committee (Richard Walter & Lynn Ewing, Co-Chairs):**

No report given.

**Budget Audit Committee (Rod Anderson, Chair)**

No report given.

**Executive Committee (Dr. Buchanan, Chair)**

No report given.

**Personnel Committee (Dr. Buchanan, Chair)**

No report given.

Dr. Buchanan noted she had asked Governor Ewing to report on the Association of Governing Boards conference he attended this spring in San Francisco, but Governor Ewing was detained in court and not able to attend today's Board meeting.

Dr. Buchanan also noted she, Governor Ewing, and Governor Fleischaker recently attended Governor Nixon's Forum on higher education held in Jefferson City in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Higher Education. During the Forum a detailed overview of budget issues critical to higher education was presented. Dr. Buchanan asked Governor Fleischaker if he would like to report on the Forum. Governor Fleischaker noted most of the other institutions of higher education around the state are in the same situation

Missouri Southern is in with regard to funding and share concerns about a bill which was recently vetoed by the Governor. Dr. Buchanan noted the bill Governor Fleishaker referred to is projected, if the Governor's veto is overridden, to reduce both corporate and personal income taxes by approximately the same amount as the amount of funding institutions of higher education now receive. Dr. Buchanan emphasized this does not mean if this bill is passed Missouri Southern would lose all of its state funding, but if passed this bill would have a very negative impact.

Dr. Buchanan introduced Kyna Iman, MSSU's representative for governmental affairs in Jefferson City (who was seated in the audience), and noted Kyna will attend the August Board meeting to give a full report on legislative action.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Buchanan noted Dr. Lipira recently spoke to her about the Board revisiting the timeline for the Program Prioritization project. Dr. Lipira noted Dr. Lemmons and the Task Force has been working very hard accumulating data, but need more time to analyze and summarize the data. The current deadline is mid-June. If this deadline can be moved back to mid-July, it will be very helpful, beneficial, and appreciated by Dr. Lemmons and the Task Force. The summary could then be presented to President's Council in mid-July. Dr. Lipira noted she supports Dr. Buchanan's recommendation of establishing a Board sub-committee to work with President's Council during the Program Prioritization review process.

Dr. Buchanan asked if pushing the timeline to mid-July would still enable the fall deadlines to be kept. Dr. Lipira assured Dr. Buchanan and the Board the fall deadlines would be met. After giving the Board an opportunity for discussion, the Board agreed to push the timeline to complete the Program Prioritization summary from mid-June to mid-July.

Dr. Buchanan asked if the data/reports are already posted and available. Dr. Lipira responded they are posted and available on MSSU's Intranet to all employees. Dr. Buchanan encouraged all employees to study these reports and noted all employees will have an opportunity to give input. Dr. Dworkin responded from a Faculty Senate prospective pushing the timeline to mid-July should not impact their Senate since they do not meet during the summer. Dr. Dworkin did note the Senate will still need time to review the summary before it goes to the Board (as previously agreed upon). Rob Yust and Dr. Lipira both commented all of the campus will be given an opportunity for input and this additional time for Dr. Lemmons will be very valuable and appreciated. Dr. Buchanan noted the Board has shown in the past it is willing to be flexible and it will be willing to re-evaluate this timeline again if needed in the fall.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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

None to report.

#### **Election of Officers (Dr. Sherry Buchanan):**

Rod Anderson expressed thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Board to Dr. Buchanan for her leadership during the last two years as Board Chair. Governor Anderson noted Dr. Buchanan worked around the parameters of what is best for Missouri Southern and its students. Dr. Buchanan led with a high degree of professionalism, purpose and caring, and listened to all with an open mind.

#### **Chair:**

*A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Mitch McCumber to nominate Richard Walter for Board Chair. Motion passed.* Dr. Buchanan asked if there were other nominations; none were given. *A motion to cease nominations and elect Richard Walter Board Chair by acclamation was made by Jim Fleishaker and seconded by Mitch McCumber. Motion passed.*

**Election of Officers (continued):****Vice Chair:**

*A motion was made by Richard Walter and seconded by Jim Fleischaker to nominate Lynn Ewing for Vice Chair. Motion passed. Dr. Buchanan asked if there were other nominations; none were given. A motion to cease nominations and elect Lynn Ewing Vice Chair by acclamation was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Jim Fleischaker. Motion passed.*

**Secretary:**

*A motion was made by Rod Anderson and seconded by Richard Walter to nominate Sharon Odem for Secretary. Motion passed. Dr. Buchanan asked if there were other nominations; none were given. A motion to cease nominations and elect Sharon Odem as Secretary by acclamation was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Richard Walter. Motion passed.*

**Treasurer:**

*A motion was made by Jim Fleischaker and seconded by Richard Walter to nominate Linda Eis for Treasurer. Motion passed. Dr. Buchanan asked if there were other nominations; none were given. A motion to cease nominations and elect Linda Eis Treasurer by acclamation was made by Mitch McCumber and seconded by Richard Walter. Motion passed.*

Dr. Buchanan congratulated the Board officers for being elected and noted she has truly enjoyed the last two years as Chair even though it has required a lot of time and effort. Dr. Buchanan noted she appreciates being able to share responsibilities with the competent people who serve on the Board.

**Other Items:**

Dr. Buchanan noted the Board typically does not meet in July, but because of the transition in leadership needs may arise. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is August 16. In August the Board will go back to its normal meeting schedule of the third Friday with lunch at noon and a meeting at 1 o'clock.

**Closed Executive Session:**

Dr. Buchanan stated the Board needed to go into a closed Executive Session and asked for a motion and a roll call vote.

*A motion was made by Jim Fleishaker and seconded by Mitch McCumber for the Board to go into a closed Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.*

*At the conclusion of the closed Executive Session, a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed.*



Secretary



Chair