

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

**March 19, 2010 – 1:00 pm**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The March 19th meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Chair, Rod Anderson. Governors in attendance were Rod Anderson, Dr. Sherry Buchanan, Dwight Douglas, Lynn Ewing (appointed by Governor Jay Nixon on February 23, 2010), David Jones, Dr. Charles McGinty, and Richard Walter; Nancy Perry was in non-attendance. Others in attendance were Dr. Bruce Speck, Dr. Brad Kleindl, Dr. Mark Parsons, Rob Yust, Dr. Roger Chelf, Darren Fullerton, Ezekiel Tarrant (appointed by Governor Jay Nixon on March 9, 2010), Linda Eis, Jon Dermott, and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rod Anderson welcomed Lynn Ewing and Zeke Tarrant and began the meeting by making the following statement:

“I would like to open this meeting stating that it was regrettable the statement made on the second day of an informative Board retreat. On behalf of the Board, I want to apologize for the offensive remark. Former Governor Ansley has expressed very well his remorse, sorrow & regret. David Ansley is a good person that said a bad thing and was a valuable Governor on this Board.

We shall move forward and improve. With that, I charge the Academic Affairs standing committee of this Board to investigate inquire & advise the best way to proceed regarding university policy understanding and considering various parameters, legal and otherwise.

Those serving on that committee include Governor Walter, Governor McGinty, Governor Buchanan and new overnor Lynn Ewing with President Bruce Speck.”

**MINUTES**

*A motion was made by David Jones and seconded by Richard Walter to approve minutes of the February 19, 2010 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 noted unrestricted cash as of 2/28/10 is \$17.8 million which is an increase of \$7.6 million over the prior year at this same time. (A typical spike in cash is seen in the spring after the disbursement of financial aid.) This increase is also due to a July 1 beginning cash increase of \$2.3 million over the prior year, increased revenue from tuition and fees due to increased enrollment for both the spring and fall semester, increased auxiliary revenue from recreation and health center fees as well as increased bookstore & housing revenues. In addition, savings continue from several areas of reduced expenses. Linda noted the cost saving measures put in place over the last two years and increased revenues are paying off and this increase in cash will be vital to sustain Missouri Southern through the FY11 and FY12 budget years. State appropriation cuts in FY11 are expected to be 5 – 7.2% with the possibility of an additional 20% plus in cuts for FY12. The cash increases in Y09 and FY10 will be needed to sustain Southern through anticipated budget deficits in FY11 and FY12.

Linda also noted two new lines have been added to the Comparative Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Net Assets under Nonoperating Revenues to identify the Federal ARRA funding. As of February, \$1.8 million in ARRA funds has been received to supplement Southern’s regular appropriations. This funding will be

**Financial (continued):**

duced in FY11 and be completely gone in FY12. The second line added is the money from the Caring for Missourians Federal ARRA program.

Linda also noted Pell grants are up \$3 million this year over the prior year. Students are recognizing the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to file their FAFSA in order to qualify for Access Missouri grants. In FY 10 over \$2 million in Access Missouri grants have been awarded.

Dwight Douglas noted the increase in cash is a real testament to changes Dr. Speck, Dr. Agee and the Finance Team began two years ago and the leadership role Dr. Speck has taken. Mr. Douglas noted if changes had not been implemented Missouri Southern would be facing a real financial crisis today; the actions leadership has taken have been the correct ones.

Dr. Speck and Linda both thanked the Board for their support and the campus for pulling together to make these changes possible. They both noted this has been and continues to be a team effort.

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Richard Walter to approve the February 28, 2010 financial statements. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for February, 2010 are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

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

- **Beimdiek Student Recreation Center**

- Only a few punch list items remain.
- The main signage is installed, but a few have to be remanufactured due to errors.
- A portrait gallery of the current Governors is almost complete in the Board room and a similar arrangement of portraits of past Regents/Governors is being worked on. Rob noted the staff at Southern designed and created the display for the Governors' portraits and commended them for their great work.

- **Health Sciences Building**

- This project continues to progress well with the exterior brick work & roof complete. The interior finish work continues.
- Mechanical systems are now operational. Johnson Controls is working on tying the system into the campus-wide energy management system.
- Work on the front drive and parking spaces is progressing well with 30 new parking spaces being created.
- Estimated completion date is the end of May with possession of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in early April.
- As of this date, approximately \$13.4 million of the budgeted \$18.9 million has been requested and reimbursed (in a timely manner) from the state Lewis & Clark Discovery Initiative funds.

Rod Anderson asked if it is anticipated that all of the budgeted \$18.9 million for this project will be used. Rob replied probably not. Dr. Speck replied Missouri Southern has to submit actual expenses for this project and is then reimbursed by the state. Dr. Speck also noted if all of the state money budgeted for this project is not used, it will remain with the state.

- **Mansion Renovation**

- This project continues to progress well.
- Curbs & gutters have been poured in preparation for the parking lot.
- The white wall will be cut down to three feet during Spring break and a cap placed on the wall.
- Estimated completion date is May with a possible tour for the Board after the April Board meeting.

**7P for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation (Dr. Mark Parsons):**

- **Alumni**

- Pre-game send-offs for both the Men's & Women's teams as well as an event for KC area alumni were recently held in Kansas City in conjunction with the MIAA post season basketball tournament.
- The next edition of Crossroads magazine will be ready for print soon.

- **Alumni (continued):**

- Plans for donor recognition and dedication of the Mansion are underway. Ralph Gray (major donor) was in town Monday for a photo shoot.
- Homecoming weekend will be October 29-30 with many great events being planned.

- **University Relations & Marketing (URM)**

- Work continues on the layout and proof of the 2010-2012 catalog as well as the summer and fall class schedules; all of which are scheduled to go to print soon.
- Members of the Advancement website team will be taking part in a content management session, March 30-31, with STAMATS as part of Southern's web redesign effort.
- Sharon Plummer's (B.S. in Biology, 1976) mosaic art will be featured on the April 4th edition of ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. This human interest story was discovered by a student worker and JoAnn Graffam during the phonathon.

- **Grant Resource Center (GRC)**

- As part of the transitional plan to continue, relocate, and expand Service-Learning to the GRC, a proposal has been submitted to Corporation of National Service. This proposal would support all of the personnel and resources necessary to promote this dynamic program on campus. The proposed budget is \$349,000 per year for three years.
- Grants vetted throughout Administration are being carefully looked at for sustainability in order to not add financial burdens to the University when the grants end.

- **Development**

Dr. Parsons introduced and welcomed JoAnn Graffam and Michael Fontana. JoAnn is the new coordinator of Major Gifts and replaces John Tiede who is retiring. Michael Fontana is the Director of Annual Fund and will be working with the annual phonathon and developing scholarships. Dr. Parsons noted he is looking forward to working with these two new members of his team and is looking forward to great things in the future.

Dwight Douglas and Rod Anderson both commented on the new "Join the Pride" billboards and what a great addition they are to the area.

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

- The Faculty Welfare committee is planning on working with Human Resources regarding rebidding of the University's health insurance.
- During the last Senate meeting, the Faculty Welfare committee made a statement expressing the importance and value of tenure track faculty positions for the future of Missouri Southern. The committee is encouraging the Administration to develop a timeline for reinstating hiring for tenure track positions.
- Dr. Chelf noted faculty that are associated with the International Mission are pleased the Board acknowledged the International Mission during the Board Retreat. Committees concerned about the International program have begun meeting and plan to follow through with recommendations made during the report given at the Retreat. One concern is the lack of resources for language labs, but plans are moving ahead looking for ways to bring more funds and influence into the International Mission.
- The Teaching & Learning committee will soon be giving a presentation to faculty regarding classroom management. They may also bring education to the Senate regarding Prairie ecology. Faculty and administration evaluations are also being discussed.
- During the last Senate meeting two resolutions were passed.
  - ✓ One deals with creating a sick leave pool. (A Sick Leave pool resolution has already been passed by Staff Senate.) Dr. Chelf noted the Staff Senate version is different than the Faculty Senate version due to Faculty Senate adding the words "domestic partner". Both of the resolutions (Faculty Senate's and Staff Senate's) have been forwarded to the Administration.

**Faculty Liaison (continued):**

- ✓ The second resolution requests a wording change in Missouri Southern's Equal Opportunity statement. Dr. Chelf noted this resolution was addressed in the statement Board Chair Rod Anderson made at the beginning of today's meeting which directs the Academic Affairs committee to look into this statement. Dr. Chelf noted there are also student and staff movements regarding the Equal Opportunity statement. Dr. Chelf encouraged the Academic Affairs committee and Dr. Speck to move as quickly as possible regarding this statement.

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

Staff Senate continues to hold roving meetings across campus and the March meeting was held in Webster Hall. Darren reported the following:

- Staff Senate discussed the approval of the sick leave pool policy by the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate amendment of adding the wording "domestic partners" to the policy. Darren noted due to the Staff Senate version of this policy being written to reflect current MSSU Human Resource policies, the Staff Senate agreed to retain its original wording. The Staff Senate expressed concern over a delay in adopting this policy if the proposed wording change by Faculty Senate would become a legal issue. No additional vote was needed on this item.
- A Benefits Committee has been formed and will be meeting with Human Resources to discuss a variety of ideas for enhancing employee benefits.
- Staff Senate elections will be held in May. Three Staff Senate positions are open.

**Student Representative (Mr. Ezekial Tarrant):**

Rod Anderson welcomed "Zeke" to the Board as the new student representative. Zeke expressed thanks and appreciation and noted he is honored to represent the student body to the Board.

Zeke noted the first thing he wants/needs to do is to talk with Student Senate to get an overview of the entire student body in order to become orientated to student desires and issues. Zeke told the Board he has not had time to do this due to his recent appointment to the Board.

Zeke also brought to the Board's attention a letter from Project EQUALITY that had been placed by each of their Board books. Zeke noted at this time he does not know if the letter reflects the opinions of the overall student body.

**Board Committees:****Budget Audit (David Jones, Chair):**

David Jones reported the Budget Audit committee has not met since the last Board meeting, but plans to meet toward the end of April. Mr. Jones noted all Board members will be invited and are welcome to attend.

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

Richard Walter reported the Academic Affairs committee met earlier today to continue discussing items from the February Board Retreat. Curriculum, facilities, Distance Learning, and ways to better serve students among other items were discussed. Mr. Walter noted the meeting was very informative and is looking forward to further discussions.

**President (Dr. Bruce Speck):**

- Lynn Ewing and Ezekial Tarrant were welcomed to the Board.
- During the annual Board retreat, three items (increasing the textbook rental fee from \$7 to \$10 per credit hour, increasing the Distance Learning fee from \$35 to \$50 per credit hour, and charging in-state tuition for in-state students and out-of-state tuition for out-of-state students taking Distance Learning classes) were passed by a consensus motion. The consensus motion was needed due to tuition and fees needing to be printed in the upcoming class schedule. Dr. Speck noted according to the Bylaws, the Board must approve all tuition and fee increases and the consensus motion now needs to be voted on officially.

**President (continued):**

*A motion was made by Richard Walter and seconded by Dwight Douglas to approve increasing textbook rental fees from \$7 to \$10 per credit hour, increasing the Distance Learning fee from \$35 to \$50 per credit hour, and charging in-state tuition for in-state students and out-of-state tuition for out-of-state students taking Distance Learning classes. Motion passed.*

- Two items have been forwarded for the Board to consider from Faculty Senate and concerns about the property designated for the medical school have been shared.
- The latest economic information for Higher Education in Missouri predicts a 25-30% cut in appropriations for FY2012 which means Missouri Southern could be cut by about \$7.5 million in addition to the \$1.7 million Southern is planning on losing for the budget year beginning July 1. The cash reserves, as noted by the Finance Team, will be instrumental in carrying Southern through the future when state appropriations are drastically reduced. Dr. Speck noted again the federal stimulus dollars will be gone by FY12 and that in an 18 month period Southern will realize a permanent reduction in appropriations of \$9 million. Predictions are still not being made for FY13.
- Recent meetings between public and private institutions of Higher Education have taken place regarding Access Missouri. As a result, publics and privates have agreed that need-based state financial aid should be the same for public and private institutions. Currently legislation to equalize the payments is being considered by the Missouri legislature.
- Dr. Speck noted he and several university employees recently took a tour of the new Health Sciences building with Rob Yust. Dr. Speck was very impressed by the building and commented the campus will again see the WOW factor when this building is finished. He also noted the Health Sciences building will be the premier academic facility on-campus and will be a state-of-the-art facility.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

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

- **Reports (2)**
  - Engineering Technology – Prefix Change
  - Reinstatement Policy

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Richard Walter to approve Academic Policies Proposals. Motion passed. (A summary sheet is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

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

- **New Hires:**
  - None
- **Retirements:**
  - Dr. Maxine Morris (Effective May 31, 2010)
- **Resignations:**
  - Dr. Ruth Fung (Effective May 31, 2010)
- **Other Action:**
  - Dr. Beverly Block will become Interim Dean of the School of Business Administration effective July 1, 2010.
  - Mr. Marion Sloan will resign as Department Head of the Physical Science Department effective May 31, 2010. Dr. Marsi Archer has been nominated to replace Mr. Sloan effective June 1, 2010.

**Consideration of Appointments, Retirements, Resignations (continued):**

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Richard Walter 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:**

Dr. Kleindl brought before the Board Missouri Southern's proposed revised Mission Statement which the Board discussed & reviewed during the Board retreat. Dr. Kleindl noted changes suggested by the Board had been given to and discussed by the Steering Committee. Dr. Kleindl also noted between the time of the Board Retreat and the March Board meeting a notification had been received from the Coordinating Board of Higher Education stating they have been engaged in a statewide review of university Mission Statements. The notification also included state requirements for Mission Statements. After review of this information and comparing the proposed revised MSSU Mission Statement, Dr. Kleindl noted the following: The Mission Statement paragraph did not need to change and in the International Value statement, the word mandate can be changed to mission. Dr. Kleindl asked the Board to take official action to approve the revised Mission Statement they had before them.

*A motion was made by Dwight Douglas and seconded by Dr. Sherry Buchanan to approve the revised Mission Statement. Motion passed. (A copy of the approved Mission Statement is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

Mr. Lynn Ewing asked for permission to speak. The following is a summary of his comments:

Mr. Ewing expressed his pleasure at being given the opportunity to serve on Missouri Southern's Board of Governors and noted he grew up in Southwest Missouri and has practiced law in this part of the state for 26 years. During the past 40 years, he has seen amazing progress as Missouri Southern has evolved. Mr. Ewing noted he has been interested in serving on MSSU's Board of Governors since Jane Wyman was on the Board and applied for an open position last year.


As a person, Mr. Ewing noted his job is driven by facts, data, and evidence which are necessary in order to make good decisions. Mr. Ewing cited past information printed & posted in The Chart that did not always contain accurate facts. Mr. Ewing also noted a grievance over a conflict with the Board Chair and a Chart reporter in which Mr. Ewing expressed disappointment in the lack of civility shown by the reporter. Mr. Ewing challenged The Chart to check their facts over and over again and stated he hopes the lack of civility will end and accurate reporting will take place in the future.

**FUTURE DATES:**

Rod Anderson discussed with the Board a date for the June Board meeting. Due to the campus being on a four day work week in June, the Board agreed to meet on Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> beginning with a meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*A motion to adjourn was made by Dwight Douglas 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