

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

**March 18, 2011 – 12:00 noon**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The March 18<sup>th</sup> 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, David Jones, Nancy Perry, and Richard Walter; Dr. Charles McGinty was in nonattendance. Others in attendance were Dr. Bruce Speck, Dr. AJ Anglin, Dr. Mark Parsons, Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Jared Bruggeman, Dr. Cheryl Cifelli, Erik Hilgendorf, Ezekiel Tarrant, Linda Eis, Jon Dermott, and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dwight Douglas shared Myrna Martz, a Lionbacker and great supporter of MSSU, fell at the post season MIAA tournament in Edmond, OK and as a result broke her hip. Mr. Douglas asked the Board to keep Myrna and her husband Bill in their thoughts and prayers during this time of recovery.

**MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Dr. Sherry Buchanan and seconded by Lynn Ewing to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2011 Board meeting. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)*

**REPORTS**

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

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

Linda noted as of February 28, 2011 the unrestricted cash balance was \$18.5 million which is an increase of \$682,000 over February 28, 2010 and excludes the \$5 million invested in CEDARS. Linda also noted the \$5 million invested in CEDARS has earned approximately \$3,000 in interest since being invested last month.

Linda gave a special thanks to Alicia Hughes, Bursar; Bob Harrington, Physical Plant Director; Al Stadler and Tim Owen IT; Brian Estes, mail room; and Rob Yust, VP for Business Affairs for their assistance during the snow storm to ensure checks to students went out on time. Approximately 3165 checks were processed and mailed totaling approximately \$7.4 million.

*A motion was made by Nancy Perry and seconded by Richard Walter to approve the February 28, 2011 financial statements. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for February 28, 2011 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

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

- **Ummel Technology Remodel**
  - The demolition and asbestos abatement is complete. This project is progressing as planned and is on track for completion in time for the Fall 2011 semester.
- **Athletic Complex**
  - Work on permanent signage for the “Robert W. Plaster Sports Complex”, as part of the gift from the Plaster Foundation, has begun.

Rob also noted discussions continue regarding a digital sign for the campus which he hopes may be a reality as early as this summer.

**Vice President for Business Affairs (continued):**▪ **Budget**

- Budget analysis and preparation continue. Rob noted financial scenarios will be presented on Saturday during the Board Retreat and will include discussions about tuition, appropriations, and deferred maintenance in hopes of finding the best combination for MSSU and one that will be accepted by the state.
- A Budget Audit subcommittee meeting is planned for April 11 to review the budget and scenarios in great detail with the intent of setting tuition during the April 15 Board meeting.

▪ **Resolution to Adopt the Jasper County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan**

- Rob noted in order for MSSU to apply for post-disaster mitigation funds from FEMA and/or SEMA, MSSU must have a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan includes risk assessments of numerous natural disasters and can take a long time to develop.
- For the past two years, Missouri Southern has worked with the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council who worked with 22 area cities, 7 school districts and Crowder to update and develop the Jasper County Natural Hazardous Mitigation Plan to include all of these areas. The result is an all inclusive plan that is approximately 500 pages long. Due to the detail and time already spent developing this plan, Rob asked the Board to adopt it for Missouri Southern and noted if adopted, the plan will be housed in the office of the VP for Business Affairs.

*A motion was made by Richard Walter and seconded by Nancy Perry to adopt the Jasper County Natural Hazardous Mitigation Plan produced by the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council for Jasper County. Motion passed. (The signed "Intent to Participate" document is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

**Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):****MIAA Expansion and Contraction:**

- The University of Nebraska-Omaha (UN) has left Division II after only being a member for three years. UN also cut its football and wrestling programs. The wrestling program was cut the night they won the national championship.
- Discussions are taking place regarding scheduling of all sports since UN no longer has football and they will now be in Division I.

**Two Upcoming Reports/Reviews/Audits**

- **NCAA Compliance Blueprint Review** is required every 5 years and will take place during spring 2012.
- **NCAA ISSG (Institutional Self Study Guide)** is required by the NCAA every 10 years for membership continuation in the NCAA. This is a comprehensive study of the athletics department that requires extensive documentation and this study will also take place in 2012. New legislation requires that 10% of these be audited annually.
- **Areas of compliance** (institutional oversight, budgetary control, ethical conduct, recruiting, eligibility, financial aid, rules compliance, health & safety) and **Strategic-initiative related topics** (philosophy statement, institutional control & responsibility, athletics operations, student-athlete well-being, health & safety, life in the balance/overall educational experience, cultural diversity & gender equity, minority opportunities and facilities) will be reviewed.

▪ **Additional Updates**

- The basketball season is finished, but baseball and softball season are in full swing.
- An alumni baseball social/recognition ceremony is planned for April 1-3 with an anticipated 100 – 150 baseball players coming back for these events.

Chair Anderson congratulated both the men's and women's basketball teams and coaches on their winning season and noted appreciation of their efforts.

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

- **Alumni Relations**
  - An open house and a “Dress the House” fundraiser will be held at the Ralph L. Gray Alumni center on April 16. These events are in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MSSU Football Friends and Family game and Golf Tournament also scheduled on April 16.
  - Stories continue to be sought for MSSU’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book that Brad Belk (member of the Alumni Board) is working on. “In Their Words” is the focus of how the book will be written with stories in the words of alumni and friends spanning different decades.
  - The spring edition of *Crossroads* magazine is currently in production and will feature articles on MSSU’s MIAA Championship Basketball team, the Child Development Center, alumnus Adam Doss, and the Marketing students who met and worked with entertainer Andy Williams in Branson.
- **Public Relations and Marketing**
  - In collaboration with the IT department the new website has been launched! Very positive feedback has been received and development of the website will continue for several months.
  - The News Bureau is working hard to promote the many spring activities taking place on campus.
- **Development**
  - **Southern Annual Fund:** The annual Phonathon is complete. This year’s new high tech approach brought great results with an approximate increase of \$15,000 in unrestricted pledges. In addition there was also a substantial increase in total donors and new donors. Dr. Parsons noted the 25 student callers who participated did an outstanding job. For people not reached by phone, additional solicitation mailings will be sent out in the near future.
  - **Scholarships:** Work is progressing to meet a challenge given by the Foundation Board to increase and develop new scholarships. One example is seven new endowed scholarships that have been established during the current fiscal year. Dr. Parsons shared a “Believe in Dreams” brochure recently developed by Mike Fontana that promotes different ways to support scholarships. (*A copy of the brochure is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.*)
  - **Major Gifts:**
    - ✓ A new program endowment has been established in the Computer Information Science Department with details being announced soon.
    - ✓ The first meeting of the fundraising campaign committee for renovations to the Ummel Technology building has taken place.
    - ✓ A draft of a Gift Acceptance Policy has been completed and is currently under review by the Foundation Board.
    - ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding between the Foundation and the University is being developed.

### VP for Academic Affairs (Dr. AJ Anglin):

Dr. Anglin noted his report would be brief due to many of his topics being covered today during the Retreat.

- **Course Redesign**
  - Eighteen faculty, staff, and administrators attended a Course Redesign training workshop by Carol Twigg held in Columbia last month. Missouri Southern’s Oral Communication class has been submitted for course redesign. Dr. Anglin noted another meeting will be held in April and it is hoped this project will be complete by July. Dr. Anglin commended the people in the Communication department for their hard work on this project. He noted this project was very work intensive and required a very detailed report. Among other things, the report required a cost analysis comparing the current cost to offer this course and its projected cost if it is redesigned. Current learning outcomes and projected learning outcomes also had to be reported.
  - Dr. Anglin noted approval of the work by Faculty Senate to revise the Tenure Policy which Dr. Anglin noted Cheryl Cifelli will include in her report.

### **VP for Academic Affairs (continued):**

- Dr. Anglin shared one of his goals is to develop a method for peer evaluation and noted he has already been evaluated by the President.
- Since arriving at Southern, Dr. Anglin has held two open forums and more are scheduled. These forums do not have agendas and anyone is welcome to attend and ask questions.
- An exciting change this year for the Fall Faculty Conference will be to bring a keynote speaker to campus. Due to the presenter's availability, the conference will be held all day on the Wednesday before the fall semester begins. Dr. George McHaffy, Vice President of AASCU, will present the Red Balloon Project. The focus of this Project is to help AASCU member institutions re-imagine undergraduate education. Due to Dr. McHaffy's position with AASCU, the only cost will be his travel expenses. The entire day will be set aside as a special time for faculty with many activities planned including panel discussions.

### **VP for Student Affairs (Mr. Darren Fullerton):**

- **Student Affairs Committees**
  - Committees are being updated and the following new committees have been established: Divisional Mission, Assessment, and Customer Service Training.
- **Customer Service Training**
  - To date over 200 employees have completed this training with three more sessions planned.
- **Admissions**
  - The Transfer Counselors organized and hosted an event at MSSU on March 11 to enable MSSU's academic departments to meet their Crowder colleagues. The goal was to improve communication and to educate Crowder Faculty and Staff about opportunities at MSSU for their students.
- **Registrar's Office**
  - Mid-terms grades have been processed. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester mid-term grades have been required. Many areas in addition to faculty are involved in this process including the Registrar's office, Financial Aid, Advising & Counseling, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Experience office. All of these areas reach out to students who are having difficulty academically.
- **Veterans**
  - The number of veterans at Missouri Southern continues to increase with approximately 900 enrolled; 200 of which receive financial aid.
- **Career Services**
  - Hundreds of MSSU students attended the Spring Job Expo held on March 9 with over 45 businesses from the four-states participating.
- **Recreational Services**
  - In the first year of operation, the Beimdiek Recreation Center had a usage of over 70,000 people. To date, the usage has been over 56,000 which is an increase of 6,000 from this same time last year.
- **Student Senate**
  - MSSU's Student Senate will take part in a Leadership Challenge scheduled April 7 & 8 at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. The Senate also took part in St. Baldnick's Day which is a fundraiser that brings awareness to children's cancer. To date the Senate has raised \$3,500 for this worthy cause.
- **Greek Life**
  - Congratulations to MSSU's Kappa Alpha Order which recently won a national honor, "Most Improved Chapter" at this year's KA Province Council.
- **"Safe Spring Break"**
  - A week long program of activities was recently held to prepare students for a safe Spring Break. Topics included safety in the sun, travel, alcohol, tobacco and personal safety issues.

**VP for Student Affairs (Mr. Darren Fullerton):**

The Board congratulated Darren on his recent position change to the permanent VP for Student Affairs and noted this position is much needed. Dr. Speck also noted Darren has done an outstanding job as the interim VP for Student Affairs and Darren was a unanimous choice by the VPSA search committee.

**Focus on Students: First Year Experience, Natalie Bruce for Susan Craig (Mr. Darren Fullerton)**

Natalie Bruce, coordinator of the First Year Experience (FYE) program, spoke on behalf of Susan Craig, Director. Natalie shared background information about (FYE), gave a brief overview and distributed a handout listing some of the highlights of the program. (*The handout is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.*) The Mission of FYE is “To make the first year of college a success” and its office serves as a resource center and one stop shop designed exclusively for first-year students. It also features freshmen exclusive events designed to help students be more involved with the campus community. One such event is the Lion Pride Weekend which began in the fall of 2010 and will now be an annual event due to its great success. Between 400 & 500 students and their families participated last fall and plans are to expand this event. The capstone of Lion Pride Weekend was a First Year Convocation during which each student received a First Year medallion they will exchange for a graduation medallion when they complete their degree. The Convocation will also be a new tradition at Missouri Southern.

Another component of the First Year Experience is UE 100: The University Experience course. This course is required for all students who have 30 hours or less and is tied into Southern’s International Mission.

Dr. Anglin commented MSSU’s FYE program is the most efficient program he has seen over the last 25 years and commended Natalie and Susan for their passion to make students successful.

**Faculty Liaison (Dr. Cheryl Cifelli - Faculty Senate, President):**

**Updates**

- Faculty Senate has had a very busy year. One project has been to develop a campus wide Faculty Survey. The survey is open online and will be available for responses until Sunday.
- Work is progressing on revising the Tenure policy and plans are to have it through Senate in time to be voted on during the spring All Faculty Organizational meeting. Dr. Cifelli noted she is proud of the work that has gone into developing this quality document and welcomes faculty comments. Changes in committee ownership will also be voted on.

**Staff Liaison (Mr. Erik Hilgendorf – Staff Senate, President):**

- Staff Senate continues to explore options for establishing a network with other colleges and universities in order to share ideas with other Staff Councils and Senates in the state.
- During this week’s Staff Senate meeting, a representative from Student Senate approached the Senate in regards to revisiting the Smoking-tobacco policy at Southern.
- Olive Talley, Senator and a member of the Shared Governance Taskforce Framework subcommittee, presented recommendations from the Framework subcommittee to Senate. They are as follows: reorganize Administrative Council to provide a better forum for communication; rename and reorganize the Executive Budget committee to be named the Budget Advisory committee in order to provide broader and more balanced campus representation; establish a new permanent Strategic Planning committee which will be responsible for overseeing and doing ongoing assessment and improvement of the University’s Strategic Plan. All of these recommendations were unanimously endorsed by the Staff Senate.

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

- Student Senate continues to be engaged on campus. Capital improvement projects being discussed are adopting some of the campus flower beds, purchasing display cases for Billingsly Student Center and purchasing a Lion statue to create a special location for photo opportunities.

**Student Representative (continued):**

- Plans for an electronic sign are progressing and Senate has pledged \$10,000 in support of the sign purchase and installation. Zeke thanked the administration and physical plant staff for their support and researching the feasibility of this project. Zeke also thanked *The Chart* for publishing an article in support of an electronic sign and noted it is exciting to see this project become a collaborative effort.
- Zeke shared a plaque Student Senate received for its participation in the St. Baldnick's fundraiser for children's cancer research and noted great support of this worthy cause from Student Senate.
- Darren noted Governor Nixon's office has received names of the nominees submitted by MSSU's Student Senate for Zeke's replacement with interviews scheduled to take place on April 5. (A new student representative to the Board is needed due to Zeke graduating in May.) Darren commended Zeke on his excellent representation of the students to the Board, his active participation with Student Senate, and the positive changes he has initiated this year.

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

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

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

No report given. David Jones noted this committee plans on meeting the evening of April 11 and will discuss next year's budget. Mr. Jones encouraged all Board members to attend.

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

Dr. Speck noted updates about the Bright Futures program will be an ongoing part of his future reports due to his service on its Board and MSSU's involvement with Joplin Schools. Due to the Bright Futures program, Joplin Schools is the grand prize winner of the national Magna Award for schools in the 5,000 – 20,000 student range. Over 350 school districts applied for this award and the Bright Futures program was cited as the reason Joplin won. Bright Futures has only been in existence for one year.

The search for a permanent Vice President for Student Affairs is complete. Dr. Speck noted due to the unanimous recommendation of the search committee, he has offered this permanent position to Darren Fullerton and Darren has accepted. Dr. Cheryl Cifelli who served on the search committee commented the committee looked at all the internal and external applicants and Darren without a doubt stood out. Dr. Cifelli noted the entire search committee voted unanimously to offer the job to Darren. Dr. Speck noted while serving as the intern VP for Student Affairs, Darren had an opportunity to prove himself and did an excellent job. Dr. Speck and the Board congratulated Darren on his new appointment.

Dr. Speck noted due to presenting his detailed vision to the Board during their Retreat on Saturday, this concluded today's report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:****Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. AJ Anglin, V.P. Academic Affairs):**

- **Reports**
  - None
- **Course Change (2)**
  - Regions and Nations
  - Human and Cultural Geography
- **Course Drop**
  - None

**Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (continued):**

- **New Courses**
  - None

*A motion was made by Nancy Perry and seconded by David Jones 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. AJ Anglin, V.P. Academic Affairs):**


- **New Hires:**  
None
- **Retirements:**  
None
- **Resignations:**  
None
- **Other Action:**  
None


**OTHER ITEMS:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Anderson noted a closed Executive Session was not needed and adjourned the meeting for the purpose of beginning the Board Retreat.

  
Secretary

  
Chair