

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

**May 21, 2010 – 1:00 pm**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The May 21<sup>st</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, Dr. Charles McGinty, Nancy Perry, and Richard Walter. Others in attendance were Dr. Bruce Speck, Dr. Brad Kleindl, Dr. Mark Parsons, Rob Yust, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Cheryl Cifelli (new Faculty Senate President), Josh Doak, Ezekiel Tarrant, Linda Eis, Jon Dermott, and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rod Anderson expressed condolences on behalf of the Board to Nancy Perry and the Grace family for their recent loss of Ray Grace. Rod noted Ray Grace was a former regent who served on the Board for 10 years and also served on the Foundation Board. Rod commented that Mr. Grace loved Missouri Southern, the surrounding community, and was a proud democrat who promoted working together for the greater good. Rod noted everyone who met Ray Grace was a better person for it and that Mr. Grace will be greatly missed.

**MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Dwight Douglas and seconded by Dr. Sherry Buchanan to approve minutes of the April 16, 2010 Board meeting. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)*

**REPORTS**

**Financial (Ms. 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 April 30, 2010 is \$15.1 million which is an increase of \$5.5 million over the prior year. Cash continues to be consistent with other years showing a peak when fees are paid and a subsequent decline is expected during the rest of the year. Linda also noted tuition and fees for pre-registered students for the summer session are due on Tuesday, June 1 and payment plans are available through TMS (Tuition Management Systems).

Dwight Douglas commented as a result of 2 years of hard work, Missouri Southern is in a much better position for the hard economic times ahead. Mr. Douglas noted operating cash on hand for a nonprofit such as Missouri Southern is considered to be \$5 million per 30 days; this year Southern will end the year with 60 days cash on hand compared to the past when Southern has had less than 30 days of operating cash on hand. Linda agreed and noted at one point, Southern only had 23 days of operating cash. Linda also noted short term investments are being looked into as a way to help generate more revenue for the future.

Dwight Douglas asked Linda if pledged securities at Great Southern are greater than the cash on deposit and if this is still being reviewed monthly. Linda replied yes and noted the pledged securities at Great Southern are always greater than the cash Southern has on deposit. Linda also noted two reports are received each month; one from Great Southern and one from FHLB.

*A motion was made by Dwight Douglas and seconded by David Jones to approve the April 30, 2010 financial statements. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for April, 2010 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

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

- **Health Sciences Building**
  - All exterior work is nearing completion.
  - The second & third floors have been turned over to Southern. Physical plant employees are cleaning and all the furniture has been delivered.
  - Respiratory Therapy and Radiology have been moved into the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Nursing and Psychology will be moved into the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor next week.
  - Estimated completion date is mid-June.
  - As of this date, approximately \$14.3 million of the budgeted \$18.9 million has been requested and reimbursed (in a timely manner) from the state Lewis & Clark Discovery Initiative funds.
  - If time permits, a tour of this facility will be available following today's Board meeting.
- **Mansion Renovation**
  - Interior and exterior walls have been repaired and are being painted. The wood floors are being refinished.
  - Asphalt for the new parking lot will be poured next week.
  - Exterior signage (Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center) has been installed.
  - Estimated completion is early June.

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

- **Alumni Relations**
  - The mansion renovation project is nearing completion. A grand opening donor dinner is being planned for September 17<sup>th</sup> which is also the date of the September Board meeting. Community and campus open houses will be in stages and an underwriter's tour is also planned.
  - The Spring edition of "Crossroads Magazine" which features the Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center is complete and has been distributed. Dr. Parsons thanked Lee Pound, Rhonda Clark and a staff of six students for their hard work on this project.
  - The annual alumni game in Kansas City will be July 31<sup>st</sup> and the Springfield alumni game will be August 28<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the game and pre-game tailgate will be available soon at a cost of \$10 each. The date for the Arkansas Alumni Travelers game will be set in the near future.
- **University Relations & Marketing (URM)**
  - Two different options are being looked at for a new web design. Focus groups including high school and university students are meeting for feedback.
  - Rod is working with our IT department to develop training for the campus.
- **Grant Resource Center (GRC)**
  - \$4 million in federal grants were applied for last month; \$3.5 million for a new program in the School of Education and over \$400,000 to establish a campus-wide Emergency Management program.
  - Dr. Parsons noted he is excited about the Grant Resource Center and stressed the need to increase grant writing.
- **Development**
  - The annual phonathon goal of \$65,000 is within reach with \$63,000 currently being raised. Dr. Parsons expressed appreciation to the Governors and the Foundation Board for their support and encouraged everyone who wanted to still give to do so by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - An audit of the Annual Fund efforts is complete. This audit includes benchmarking with comparable programs with recommendations to build upon and improve our existing fundraising efforts. Results of the audit will be presented to President's Council.
  - JoAnn Graffam (Major Gifts Officer) is creating naming opportunities around campus. Dr. Parsons noted donors from the past as well as current donors will be honored. One example is the creation of a plaque to honor Dr. Donald Crockett and his involvement and philanthropy with Southern and placing it in the new Health Sciences building.

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

- **Registrar's Office**
  - 498 May graduates will complete 589 degrees and 86 July graduates will complete 105 degrees. This is the largest number of degrees conferred since Spring 2004.
- **Admissions**
  - A recent hire is a part-time Transfer Admissions Counselor to work with Crowder.
  - Applications are being sought for a Grant-Funded Health Professions Admission Recruiter. This position will be shared with the School of Technology.
- **Advising Counseling and Testing**
  - Three Southern Welcomes are complete with nearly 100 students already in attendance which is an increase from last year. Due to the great response, three additional dates have been added.
- **Student Activities**
  - 19<sup>th</sup> annual Glenn Dolence Leadership/Service Awards ceremony recognized 22 outstanding graduating seniors.
  - Greek Life Awards ceremony recognized Greek students and Chapters for outstanding service and scholarship.
  - The Order of Omega, an honor society for members of Greek organizations who are juniors and seniors and who exemplify high standards in the areas of scholarships, leadership, and involvement within their respective organization, campus and local community, has been initiated by the Student Activities office. 14 students were inducted.
- **Campus Recreation & Wellness - Willcoxon Health Center & Beimdiek Recreation Center**
  - The Willcoxon Health Center was mentioned in the November 2009 issue of Athletic Business.
  - The Beimdiek Recreation Center has been selected as a winner in the Innovative Architecture & Design Awards sponsored by Recreation Management magazine and will be featured in the May 2010 issue. The Center has also been selected for the Architectural Showcase, sponsored by Athletic Business magazine, which recognizes the best projects in recently constructed athletic, recreation and fitness facilities around the world. MSSU will be featured in the June 2010 issue of Athletic Business.

Dr. Speck noted the idea for the Health and Recreation Centers was begun by Darren on a napkin 10 years ago. Dr. Speck congratulated Darren for his vision for the University.

- **Disability Services**
  - A workshop (free of charge) was recently conducted by Ms. Kerry S. Tate, M.S. on a variety of areas with emphasis on distance learning and alternative learning practices. Ms. Tate is a graduate of Cottey College and was traveling through this area.
- **Financial Aid**
  - As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, \$7.5 million for 1400 students has been packaged for next year. 5600 FAFSA applications have also been packaged.
- **Learning Center**
  - Six additional students have received national certification for a Level 2 Advanced Tutor.

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

Rod Anderson welcomed Dr. Cifelli and Dr. Cifelli thanked the Board and the administration for the welcome she has received. Dr. Cifelli reported the following:

- The Board has received the last piece of business from the 2009 – 2010 Faculty Senate, the "Statement of Concerns". Dr. Cifelli asked if the Board had any questions and none were asked.
- Positive collaboration has already taken place with administration as follows:
  - ✓ Clarification of the Absence Policy.
  - ✓ Discussion of the Funeral Leave Policy (working on this summer).
  - ✓ Opportunity for input on points of justification for hiring faculty for tenure track positions (will work with new VP of Academic Affairs).

**Faculty Liaison (continued):**

- ✓ Faculty appreciated the very informative presentations made by administration at the all Faculty Organizational meeting held in April. Dr. Cifelli noted the presentations helped faculty understand the budget situation Southern is facing.
- Faculty are remaining fully engaged in the VPAA search and are awaiting the final results. Dr. Cifelli noted faculty feedback indicate the Search committee has done a great job bringing in qualified candidates.
- Dr. Cifelli thanked Dr. Roger Chelf for his service to the faculty and the University during his time as Senate President.

**Staff Liaison (Mr. Josh Doak – Staff Senate, President):**

- The revised Sick Leave Pool Policy has been implemented. Anyone wanting to sign up to participate may do so by contacting Human Resources.
- Elections were held May 3-6 with approximately 40% of staff voting. Two professional staff, one physical plant and one classified staff member were elected; their terms begin in July.
- The Benefits committee is exploring more discounts to employees from community vendors. The committee is also looking at ways to revamp the Staff Service awards to include more Staff.
- Announcement of the summer work schedule of 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (instead of 7:00 to 5:30) Monday through Thursday has been very well received and is appreciated by the Staff.

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

- Students are busy with finals.
- Zeke noted he met with the new Student Senate officers and Darren Fullerton and had a very productive meeting.
- In the past communication has been a concern, but Zeke is hopeful this will change with implementation of a new link on Lionet which will include Student Senate meeting minutes and agendas.
- Zeke also noted ways to improve communication with the administration are being developed and noted he appreciates the great job that Darren Fullerton is doing. (Dr. Speck assured Zeke communication from Student Senate through Darren Fullerton to him would be sent directly to the Board when requested or as needed in a timely manner.)
- In the past student activity fee dollars have primarily gone to campus organizations. Zeke is encouraging Student Senate to explore options of investing in campus improvement projects instead of only giving these funds to campus organizations.
- Zeke noted he has a lot of confidence in the new Senate officers.

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

Dr. McGinty reported the Academic Affairs committee met before today's Board meeting in Reynolds Hall to look at labs. Great dialog took place regarding ways administration can make improvements for faculty and students.

Richard Walter noted the committee is in the information gathering phase regarding proposals received from Student Senate and Faculty Senate; assistance is being requested from other individuals.

Richard Walter also noted the first meeting of the new International Mission Advisory Board was also held before today's Board meeting; both he and Nancy Perry serve on this Board and noted the meeting was very informative. A number of community people in attendance shared their dedication to the International Mission and also to Missouri Southern. The next meeting is scheduled for June 16.

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

David Jones noted at the April Board meeting the Board approved a tuition increase of \$5.60 per credit hour for in-state tuition for FY2011 which needs to be amended. This amendment is needed due to revised information received from the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE). Linda Eis explained the revised information provides a lower average than was previously calculated. The new lower average does not include student approved fees. As a result, the FY2011 in-state tuition rate at Missouri Southern will be increased by \$5.53 per credit hour versus the previously approved increase of \$5.60 per credit hour. Linda also noted as previously stated, due to the efforts by Governor Nixon to keep appropriation reductions for higher education minimal and if this agreement holds, this increase will not be charged to our students during the FY2011 academic year.

*A motion was made by Dwight Douglas and seconded by Nancy Perry to amend the tuition increase approved at the April, 2010 Board meeting from \$5.60 per credit hour for in-state tuition to an increase of \$5.53 per credit hour for in-state tuition resulting in a decrease of .07 cents. Motion passed.*

David Jones reported the Budget Audit committee and available Board members met May 11th to discuss the FY2011 budget with the Finance Team. As a result, Mr. Jones on behalf of the Budget Audit committee recommended Board approval of the proposed FY2011 budget which projects total revenues of \$71.5 million and total expenses of \$71.3 million. The budget includes no across the board salary increases due to further predicted reductions in state appropriations and no further federal stimulus dollars in FY2012.

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Nancy Perry to approve the FY2011 budget as proposed. Motion passed. (A copy of the FY2011 budget is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

Dwight Douglas noted approximately three hours was spent at the Budget Audit committee meeting going through the proposed budget for FY2011. Mr. Douglas asked for the record to show the budget as presented to the Board is shown in a cash format. This form of presentation should not be confused with the fact that accounting records at Missouri Southern are kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles which require an accrual method of accounting which includes depreciation. This format is in accordance with current financial standards. Dwight Douglas also noted the end of year audit report prepared by BKD will show the budget as stated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and will not be in a cash format. Mr. Douglas also noted this clarification is important to avoid any confusion that might be caused by the article in today's Joplin Globe regarding Southern's budget.

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

- Many events are taking place celebrating the accomplishments of Southern's excellent students all across the campus.
- The largest graduating class since 2004 (498 students) will be awarded diplomas at commencement.
- Attendance at Southern Welcomes are at a record 10-year high which is an indication of another enrollment increase for fall.
- Through a series of budget decisions to minimize the impact of the projected \$1.2 million cut in state appropriations to next year's budget, Dr. Speck noted his outlook is still positive as the campus moves forward. Dr. Speck noted he anticipates positive working relationships with Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Senate and is looking forward to completing the Executive Leadership team with the hiring of a permanent VP for Academic Affairs.
- The fall will bring the opening of the Health Science building, completion of the restoration of the mansion, and the beginning of a thorough review of policies and procedures campus wide.

Dr. Speck expressed appreciation to the faculty, staff, and students for their team efforts to move Southern forward as an excellent university.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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**NEW BUSINESS:****Proposed Budget for FY2011 (Dr. Bruce Speck):**

Dr. Speck noted the budget approved today by the Board is based on the University's commitment to move forward through difficult economic times. Dr. Speck commended the sacrifices made to reduce expenses and to increase revenues and thanked the campus again for their team effort in working together to make the University stronger for the future. Dr. Speck also noted he does want to give raises as soon as the budget permits, but difficult economic times have to be overcome before raises can be given.

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

- **Reports (4)**
  - Missouri Southern State University Honors Program Mission Statement
  - Mid-Semester Progress Report Proposal
  - Changes to Non-BSA Marketing Minor
  - Creation of the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree
- **Course Change (2)**
  - Use of Computer Software in the Classroom
  - Principles of Marketing
- **Course Drop (1)**
  - Fundamentals of Earth and Space Science

*A motion was made by Richard Walter and seconded by Dr. Charles McGinty 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:**
  - None
- **Resignations:**
  - Dr. Sandra Jennings (Effective May 31, 2010)
- **Other Action:**
  - Dr. Karen Plucinski will resign as the Department Head for Biology and Environmental Health effective August 1, 2010. Dr. Crystal Lemmons has been nominated to replace Dr. Plucinski effective August 1, 2010.
  - Dr. Juan Vazquez will resign as Department Head of Mathematics effective August 1, 2010. Dr. Kerry Johnson has been nominated to replace Dr. Vazquez effective August 1, 2010.

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty 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.)*

**Consideration of Faculty Promotion and Tenure (Dr. Brad Kleindl, Interim V.P. Academic Affairs):****Promotion**

- **Assistant Professor to Associate Professor**
  - Dr. Cheryl Cifelli

**Consideration of Faculty Promotion and Tenure (continued):****Tenure**

- **School of Arts & Sciences**
  - Dr. Cheryl Cifelli, Ms. Beatrice Haase-Dubuis, Dr. Grant Lathrom, Dr. Yuanjin Liu, Ms. Josie Mai, Dr. Stephen Smith
- **School of Education**
  - Dr. Clara Jean Cozens, Dr. Larry Flatt
- **School of Technology**
  - Ms. Patricia Hemptmyer, Ms. Erica Little

*A motion was made by Dr. Charles McGinty and seconded by Dr. Sherry Buchanan to approve Faculty Promotion and Tenure. Motion passed. (A copy of the promotion and tenure recommendation sheet is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- None

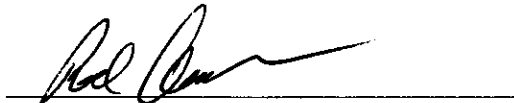
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Rod Anderson requested the Board go into closed Executive Session under RSMo 610.021 (2) and RSMo 610.021 (3).

*A motion to adjourn and go into Executive Session was made by David Jones and seconded by Dr. Charles McGinty. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.*



Secretary



Chair