

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

**September 18, 2015 – 1:00 pm**  
**Billingsly Student Center, Room 310**

The September 18, 2015, meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order by Jim Fleischaker, Chair. Governors in attendance were Tracy Flanigan, Jim Fleischaker, Michael Franks, Bill Gipson, Keith Hankins, Alison Hershewe, and Mitch McCumber. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Jared Bruggeman, Darren Fullerton, Dr. Brad Hodson, Dr. Paula Carson, Rob Yust, Dr. David Sharlow, Elisa Bryant, Kyle Prisock, Jon Dermott, Linda Eis, and Sharon Odem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Fleischaker called the meeting to order and welcomed newly appointed Michael Franks (replaced Rod Anderson, term expired) to the Board and Dr. David Sharlow (replaced Dr. Brian Nichols, Faculty Senate President).

**MINUTES**

Chair Fleischaker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 21, 2015, Board meeting; none were noted.

*A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve minutes of the August 21, 2015, Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book.)*

**REPORTS**

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

Linda presented Financial Statements for the period ending August 31, 2015, to the Board as follows:

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

**Cash Graph:** The Cash Graph as of August 31, 2015, shows unrestricted cash, Board Designated Cash & Board Designated Investments at \$6.8 million which is a decrease of \$2.9 million. Linda noted a lower cash balance is normal for the beginning of the fiscal year and will increase as students pay tuition and fees and financial aid is disbursed which will be reflected in the September financial statements. Linda also noted the cash balance has also been impacted (as noted during the August Board meeting) by the bonds that were refunded in early July and the early prepayment of the September bond payment of \$1.3 million. This refunding is anticipated to save the university over \$700,000 over the life of the bonds. The university is also awaiting reimbursement payments on construction projects.

**Statement of Net Position:** As of August 31, 2015, Total Assets are \$154 million and Total Liabilities are \$78 million making Total Net Position as of August 31, 2015, at \$76 million. The semi-annual bond payment will be made during the month of September.

**Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position:** In looking at the “difference column”, Total Operating Revenues increased by \$974,000 from increased tuition and auxiliary revenues. Total Operating Expenses decreased by \$532,000 which is attributed to dollars spent in the prior year for Residence Hall furniture and appliance purchases. Total Non-operating Revenues increased by \$26,000. Appropriations in FY16 currently show an increase of \$230,000 due to a timing difference. The actual increase will be \$18,000 per month due to performance funding dollars.

**Treasurer (continued):**

**Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues:** As of August 31, 2015, the current year reflects an increase of \$14.5 million. The prior year shows an increase of \$13 million resulting in a comparative increase between the two years of \$1.5 million.

**Other:** Linda noted plans are still in place to present the annual audit conducted by BKD during the October Board meeting.

*A motion was made by Alison Hershewe and seconded by Keith Hankins to approve the August 31, 2015, financial statements as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the financial statements for August 31, 2015, is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

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

*Note: Highlights of Rob's report are as follows.*

- ✓ **Field House** – This project is essentially complete except for the remaining furniture still being delivered and a few windows that need to be tinted. A formal ribbon cutting is scheduled tomorrow.
- ✓ **Reynolds Hall Lab Remodel** – Numerous meetings between architects and the science and math departments to work on the redesign and remodel of Reynolds have taken place. This project is challenging due to physical and financial limitations, but people are working together as a team to plan what will be best for students. Demo for this project will begin as early as spring of 2016.
- ✓ **Mobile (temporary) Classrooms** – The glass storefront and double entrance doors to the mobile classrooms have been installed with plumbing, electrical and sewer work now in progress. Plans are to utilize this facility beginning with the spring 2016 semester.

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

*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.*

- ✓ **Southern Stampede** will take place tomorrow at the Tom Rutledge Cross Country course. This event will have a huge economic impact on the area due to 2,400 participants (many of whom are from out-of-state) in addition to an anticipated 5,000 spectators expected to attend.
- ✓ Updates on **NCAA Reporting**:
  - The **Sports Sponsorship and Demographics report** has been submitted.
  - The Department of Education's **EADA** (Equity in Athletics Data Analysis) report, due in October, is in progress.
  - The **Agreed Upon Procedures audit** has begun with preparation of documents in progress. Auditors will be visiting campus the week of November 9th.
  - The **NCAA Academic Tracking Report** has been initiated.
- ✓ Four individuals will be inducted into the **Hall of Fame** on Saturday followed by the ribbon cutting for the new North End Zone facility.
- ✓ To-date **Student-Athletes** enrolled for the fall semester total 339. Of these 339 student athletes, 107 are first-time freshman and 55 are transfers which translates into 162 new students coming to campus through Athletics.

**Executive Vice President (Dr. Brad Hodson):**

*Note: Highlights of Dr. Hodson'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.*

**Admissions:**

- ✓ The final overall **enrollment** and **freshman enrollment** have both increased for the fall 2015 semester. Overall enrollment has increased by 3% with a total of 5,783 students and freshman enrollment has also increased by 8% with 925 freshmen enrolled compared to 856 last fall. Dr. Hodson noted this fall's freshman class is nearly the largest class in the history of Missouri Southern.
- ✓ **Transfer** enrollment has increased by 12% from 581 in 2014 to 652 in 2015; which is a record.
- ✓ Compared to fall of 2014 **credit hours** have also increased by 1,938 for a total of 68,101.

### **Executive Vice President (continued):**

#### **University Relations and Marketing:**

- ✓ **Revenue** from sales of licensed merchandise through Learfield Licensing continues to steadily increase. Dr. Hodson shared an example of an unlicensed brand of merchandise that was recently quickly removed from a local retailer with the assistance of Learfield.
- ✓ A new **Brand Standards** manual is now complete and was distributed to the Board. This manual will be very useful to ensure consistency in correct branding in all areas including merchandise.
- ✓ A **commemorative magazine** showcasing the new North End Zone facility, also distributed to the Board, will be inserted in 9,500 *Joplin Globe* newspapers on Sunday.
- ✓ New **billboards** are up on Rangeline and have a new innovative design to create community excitement about Lion football.

### **Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Paula Carson):**

*Note: Highlights of Dr. Carson'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.*

Dr. Carson noted great progress is being made academically and noted the newly revised faculty handbook is leading to positive changes.

- ✓ Updates on **Faculty Governance** included establishing a Graduate Council to provide a solid foundation for current and future graduate programs; criteria for faculty promotion including research, scholarly activity and service; significant changes in Distance Learning including developing and expanding interdisciplinary programs and options for international students outside of Missouri and reallocating resources to ensure they are used wisely.
- ✓ **Retreats for Deans and Academic Leadership** were held in late August and results will be used to develop new strategies.
- ✓ Focuses of **Institutional Effectiveness (IE)** include establishing an IRB (Institution Research Board, a committee that performs an ethical review of proposed research involving human subjects) and obtaining a FWA (Federal Wide Assurances) that is needed in order to for MSSU's IRB to receive support from HHS (Department of Health and Human Services). **Assessment and Assurance of Learning** will also be focused on in IE during the next two months.
- ✓ **MOMOM** (Missouri Mission of Mercy) hosted by the Missouri Dental Association will be at MSSU during the summer of 2017. This two day event will provide approximately \$2,000,000 in basic dental service to an estimated 2,000 patients.
- ✓ **Outreach** is taking place with 12 regional high schools, Northwest Arkansas Community College and Crowder to develop a pipeline of synergistic and collaborative programs in preparation for the new medical school.
- ✓ A lot of time and effort went into the **300 Trumpets** project which involved composing and recording the song "300 Trumpets" with Dontae Winslow, a half-time performance during MSSU's Mass Band Day with seven area high school bands and the filming of a documentary on this project which has been released on iTunes; a first for MSSU.
- ✓ **Television Practicum** students are enjoying unique hands-on-experiences assisting with television and radio coverage of home football games.

### **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.*

- ✓ The **Student Success Center** has been awarded second place in the National College Learning Center / Learning Support Centers in Higher Education website excellence award competition. This very prestigious award has been given in the past to much larger institutions of higher learning including Clemson, the University of Arizona, and the University of Oklahoma.

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

- ✓ **Career Services** has received the Outstanding Community & Campus Collaboration award presented by Missouri Campus Compact. This award recognizes a sustained campus-community partnership in the State of Missouri that demonstrates a true partnership between a college campus and a community agency. Darren noted “Dress for Success” and Career Fair are two of the many campus and community events that helped Career Services win this honor.
- ✓ The Dean of Students continues to work with Husch Blackwell to ensure MSSU’s **Title IX Training** for students, faculty, and staff is current.
- ✓ Annual **FERPA (Family Rights and Privacy Act)** information has been distributed to the campus community and FERPA refresher seminars are being conducted.
- ✓ A **Taste of Spain** highlighting traditional food from Spain was recently held in Mayes Dining Hall. Darren thanked Jim Fleischaker for representing the Board of Governors at this fun event.
- ✓ Changes to the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** have been announced by the Federal Government effective with the 2017-18 academic year. Prior-prior year (PPY) tax information will be used which will allow students to complete the FAFSA as early as October enabling financial aid award notices to be received up to 8 months earlier than in the past. This change will greatly assist students and aid administrators.
- ✓ The **Perkins Loan Program**, a federally funded program administered by MSSU that provides low-interest student loans to undergraduate and graduate students demonstrating exceptional financial need, could end as soon as October 1, 2015. As an administrator of Perkins Loans, MSSU is considered the lender enabling the loan and interest to be repaid to MSSU. Missouri Southern has 258 students who have \$446,034.00 in Perkins loans averaging \$1,728.81 that will be impacted for 2013-2014 if this program ends. Darren noted advantages to Perkins loans include the ability for students to work off these loans and even have loan forgiveness.

### **Faculty Liaison (Dr. David Sharlow - Faculty Senate, President):**

Please note: As shared by Dr. Brian Nichols during the August Board meeting, he has stepped down as Faculty Senate president due to his recent appointment to Associate Dean of the Plaster School of Business. During the Faculty Senate meeting held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, Dr. David Sharlow, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities/Music Education, was elected Senate President.

*Note: Highlights of Dr. Sharlow’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.*

Dr. Sharlow thanked the Board for the opportunity to report on behalf of faculty and shared briefly about his background. Dr. Sharlow noted he shares Dr. Nichols’ vision regarding five “main tasks” the Senate will work on during this academic year:

1. Establishing the new faculty evaluation procedures and training for the evaluators.
2. Appointing members to the new Tenure committee.
3. Developing faculty mentoring and colleague appraisal systems.
4. Implementing assessment tools for teaching, scholarly/creative activity, and service.
5. Ensuring the new structure of the Academic Policies and School Curriculum Oversight committees function smoothly.

Dr. Sharlow noted work has already begun between himself, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC), Provost, Deans, Academic Policies Committee (APC) and School Curriculum Oversight Committee (SCOC) to smooth out the process of approving curricular changes, additions and deletions; dialog has been positive and productive. Dr. Sharlow noted it is important to make the Faculty Handbook as useful as possible.

**Staff Liaison (Ms. Elisa Bryant – Staff Senate, President):**

Staff Senate will sponsor **Angel Tree** again this year. To be eligible to participate, a child must be under the age of 15, the child's parent must be a current student at MSSU and the parent must be Pell eligible. Applications will be taken during October and the first 50 children selected will receive Christmas gifts provided by participating staff and faculty. Angel Tree was begun last year by Staff Senate, was very successful and is a very worthwhile project for students and their families.

**Student Representative (Mr. Kyle Prisock, President Student Senate):**

*Highlights of Kyle's report are as follows:*

The fall semester has begun by vacancies being filled and committee chairs appointed. Determining Student Senate representatives to the Faculty and Staff Senates is in progress. Work on a variety of projects is planned and will be reported on during future Board meetings.

**Board Committees:**

Mr. Fleischaker reported recent changes to Board committees have been made and more are needed due to the appointment of new Board member, Michael Franks. Updates will be made in the near future.

**Academic Affairs Committee (Tracy Flanigan, Chair):**

Committee has not met; no report was given.

**Budget Audit Committee (Mitch McCumber, Chair):**

Committee has not met; no report was given.

**Executive Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):**

Committee has not met; no report was given.

**Personnel Committee (Jim Fleischaker, Chair):**

Committee has not met; no report was given.

**President (Dr. Alan Marble):**

*Highlights of Dr. Marble's report are as follows:*

- ✓ The development of an **"online policy library"** will be the major campus initiative Husch Blackwell will undertake this year as part of their contract. Once the policy library is in place, it will be routinely examined and updated.
- ✓ The **Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE)** met on September 3rd and approved MSSU's new BA/BS in Geography. Other approvals included a unanimous vote requesting a 5% core increase plus a 2% increase for STEM programs in next year's budget that will go to the Governor for consideration. Dr. Marble noted both the Council on Public Higher Education (COPHE) and the Missouri Community College Association (MCCA) endorse this request and jointly authored a letter of support. Dr. Marble noted to his knowledge this is the first time COPHE and MCCA have joined together which serves as a model of cooperation and is a very positive step forward.
- ✓ Due to **Commissioner Russell's** intent to retire at the end of the calendar year, a search for a replacement is underway. Dr. Russell has agreed to remain on the job through spring 2016 if needed.
- ✓ **Legislative updates** included supporting CBHE's request for additional higher education funding this year and working with Senator Ron Richard and Representative Tom Flanigan on the potential for additional projects. Dr. Marble noted congratulations to Senator Richard for being elected President Pro Tem of the Senate, and as former Speaker of the House, Senator Richard is the first person in Missouri history to hold the top spot in each Chamber of the General Assembly. Dr. Marble also noted Senator Richard is a Missouri Southern graduate!

**President (continued):**

- ✓ Dr. Marble noted confidence in MSSU athletic programs operating in strict **compliance** with NCAA guidelines, but also noted these guidelines are fluid and change rapidly. In order to stay current with MSSU's compliance efforts Dr. Marble is now meeting monthly with Rachel Burleson, MSSU's Compliance Officer. These meetings will also meet one of the targets set forth in the "NCAA Blueprint Compliance Program" document.
- ✓ When the **Missouri Center for Advanced Power (MOCAP)** was established at MSSU as a joint venture with the University of Missouri, Missouri S & T, and Missouri State University, the goal was to create course work and conduct applied research geared toward "power and power storage." All of the coursework is in place (courses are online) and many pre-engineering and engineering students are finding the courses applicable, but to date MSSU has not been able to acquire grant funding for applied research. Recently notification has been received two grant proposals (from an external source) have made second round review at the National Science Foundation (NSF). If funded, these grants will support research by post-doctoral students from MS&T and provide operating funds for the dry room and lab space in the MOCAP facility (located in the Mills Anderson buildings) as early as next spring.
- ✓ Missouri Southern sponsored a great **"Third Thursday"** yesterday in downtown Joplin and Dr. Marble thanked the whole campus for their terrific participation and support of this event. Dr. Marble noted special thanks to University Relations and Marketing (URM) for their outstanding leadership in putting this event together and the Physical Plant team for their involvement in the detailed set up.
- ✓ While Jeff Gibson and Dr. Scott Cragin continue to roll out the basic financial literacy campus training for the **Great Game of Education (GGOE)**, they also recently spent a couple of days attending Jack Stack's "Great Gathering" in St. Louis. The "Great Gathering" enabled them to bring back a lot of information and new ideas in addition to several contacts they made in the Great Game universe. Dr. Cragin has also submitted an overview of MSSU's Great Game of Education approach to the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) as a new model of shared governance and is awaiting their response.
- ✓ A **University Council** has now been established in association with the Great Game and will work on some of the "campus wide policy and procedural" duties of the former President's Council. University Council will also serve as the "top huddle" in the Great Game reporting structure and will be responsible for monitoring progress via the university scoreboard. Dr. Marble did clarify duties the University Council will not be dealing with include private personnel issues, specific legal questions, or other day-to-day operations. Day-to-day activities will continue to run through Missouri Southern's established reporting system utilizing Department Chairs, Directors, Deans, Vice-Presidents, and President. Dr. Marble shared the University Council's Charge as well as the current membership list (both are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

**OLD BUSINESS****None****NEW BUSINESS****Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Paula Carson):****None****Campus Tobacco Free Policy (Mr. Darren Fullerton):**

Darren gave a brief summary of the development and approval process of the proposed Tobacco Free Campus Policy being brought before the Board for approval as follows:

- ✓ In March of 2011, the first resolution for a tobacco-free campus was passed by Student Senate and the resolution was forwarded to the Staff Senate and the Faculty Senate for review and consideration.
- ✓ On April 29, 2014, Student Senate conducted an all-student survey regarding a tobacco-free campus and the survey indicated students were in support of this change three to one.



### **Campus Tobacco Free Policy (continued):**

- ✓ In November of 2014, a survey was conducted of faculty and staff and this survey indicated more than 70% of survey participants were in favor of a tobacco-free campus.
- ✓ Dr. Pat Lipira (now retired), chaired the Tobacco Free Campus committee and lead the committee in doing research and a thorough comparison of tobacco free policies at other universities to assist in the process of establishing a Tobacco Free Campus Policy for Missouri Southern.
- ✓ In January of 2015, the committee began meeting again and in early September, Darren convened the committee to confirm its new policy was ready to continue forward for final approval. The policy was then sent to the Husch-Blackwell law firm for review and approval was received for the policy to be brought before the Board. Darren did note if approved, the committee recommends a soft rollout now and a full blown rollout in the fall of 2016.

*A motion was made by Michael Franks and seconded by Mitch McCumber to approve the Tobacco Free Campus Policy as presented. Motion passed. (A copy of the Tobacco Free Campus Policy is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

### **Economic Impact Report (Dr. Alan Marble):**

Dr. Marble introduced Dr. Brad Hodson who introduced Joplin's Mayor, Mike Seibert, City Manager, Sam Anselm and Rob O'Brian, President, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce who each spoke briefly regarding the positive aspects of having MSSU in Joplin and the positive economic impact MSSU has on the city and the region.

Highlights of the Economic Impact Report (conducted by a nationally recognized consulting, research and analysis firm, Impact DataSource) included the total economic impact MSSU has on the community. This impact consists of direct, indirect and induced economic impacts attributed to operations and also secondary economic impacts by visitor and student spending of an estimated \$2 million during fiscal year 2014. Each of these categories was highlighted in the report including the monetary impact for each area. *(A summary of the Economic Impact Report as well as the full report are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.)*

### **Future Meeting Dates:**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

### **Adjournment:**

Mr. Fleischaker noted a closed executive session was needed under RSMo.610.021 (2) pertaining to the leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body and asked for a motion to go into a closed executive session.

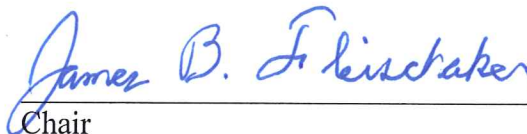
Dr. Marble requested Dr. Brad Hodson and Mr. Rob Yust to accompany the Board into the closed session.

*A motion was made by Bill Gipson and seconded by Tracy Flanigan for the Board to go into a closed executive session. A rollcall vote was taken. Motion passed.*

*At the conclusion of the closed session, a motion was duly made to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.*



Secretary



Chair