



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

December 3, 2020

1:30 P.M.

Room 220

Blum Student Union



AGENDA

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

December 3, 2020 - 1:30 P.M. BLUM UNION, ROOM 220

Notice is hereby given that Missouri Western State University's Board of Governors will convene a virtual Board meeting beginning with its Public Session at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2020. The virtual meeting will originate from Blum 220 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Missouri. The meeting will also be livestreamed at griff.vn/BOG120320.

Note: Due to social distancing requirements, attendance in the Board Room will be limited to Board members and required personnel.

PUBLIC SESSION

Approval of August 20, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
Approval of October 22, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Division Reports

- Academic & Student Affairs (Doug Davenport)
- Athletics & University Advancement (Josh Looney)
- Marketing & Communications (Kent Heier)
- Financial Planning & Administration (Darrell Morrison)

Financial Report

- November 2020 Update

Report of the Student Governor

Report of the Interim President

Report of the Chair

Board Member Comments/Questions

A vote will be held to close the meeting pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1), (2), (3), and (14) to consider legal matters, real estate, personnel, other matters protected by law. This virtual meeting in executive session will also originate from Blum 220 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Items & Legal Matters

PUBLIC SESSION

Adjournment

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
August 20, 2020

Due to air conditioning issues in the Board Room, the Board of Governors meeting was moved to Fulkerson Center.

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements, attendance at the Board meeting was limited to Board members and required personnel. Some Board members were in attendance virtually through Zoom (noted below). The public session of the Board meeting was live streamed on YouTube at [griff.vn/BOGAugust20](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=griff.vn/BOGAugust20). The highest number of viewers during the meeting was 33.

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Chair Lee Tieman in person at Fulkerson Center and virtually via Zoom/YouTube.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

Board Members Present

Lee Tieman – Chair
Rick Ebersold – Vice Chair
Al Landes
Dave Liechti
Greg Mason (virtually)
Kayla Schoonover
Debbie Smith (virtually)
Hannah Berry – Student Governor

Faculty and Staff Members Present

Sarah Cravens, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Legal & Chief of Staff
Cori Criger, Instructional Technology Director
Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Tom Flaska, Event Technology Coordinator
Crystal Harris, Interim Dean, College of Science and Health & COVID Coordinator
Elizabeth Kennedy, Interim President
Josh Looney, Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics
Darrell Morrison, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Jomel Nichols, Director of Public Relations and Marketing
Jake Noyd, Instructional Technology Engineer
Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Governors

Others Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2020 Finance Committee meeting and Board of Governors meeting and the July 7, 2020 Special Board of

Governors meeting minutes. Governor Landes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0. Chair Tieman asked for a motion to ratify the July 10, 2020 Board Poll (Personnel: Elizabeth Kennedy). Governor Ebersold made a motion to approve the board poll; Governor Liechti seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

DIVISION REPORTS

Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Beginning of fall semester COVID-19
 - Interesting time we are in. The number of students VP Davenport didn't physically see is "surreal." VP Davenport assisted in student move-in day and thanks to Student Affairs with precautions and protocols to make move-in a safe environment for students.
 - Center for Workforce Development is now an authorized testing center. The Center will meet the needs of employers in the region.
 - Bachelor of Science Law degree was approved with the HLC (Higher Learning Commission).
 - HLC approved the teach out plan. Each student has a teach out plan for their degree. This is with Park University & UMKC.
 - New members of VP Davenport's team. The new Interim Vice Provost is Elise Hepworth and in Student Affairs, Justin McMillian, was recently hired as the Student Development Director.
- VP Davenport took a question from the Board about current enrollment.
 - Credit hours are down 9%, head count is down 10%. Incoming freshman is down but consistent with national trends for universities. Uncertainty about COVID made the decision harder to make.
 - Retention efforts have been ongoing with phone calls and personal communication. This was a team effort by everyone.
- Question from the Board about workforce development courses being offered.
 - How many are currently enrolled? VP Davenport advised the Board that he doesn't have the exact number with him but that he's follow up with an answer.

Josh Looney, Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics

- Athletics update
 - Since the Athletic report was printed things have developed in college sports, "postpone fall sports to January 1, 2021." This is definitely a disappointment to student-athletes and coaches.
 - Athletes are built to be resilient and can pivot. Practices have carried on with strict protocols. Voluntary workouts were held up to August 14.
 - Athletics are holding small group strength training with 10-15 student-athletes, starting at 4:30am-6:00pm.
 - Athletics focus has been on mental health, retention, academic engagement, and future recruitment measures.
 - Women's soccer team has gone through a lot recently. They had 2 head coaches in one month and a delay season. The women's soccer team have strong student-athletes who are leaders. Kudos to Leah Stringer.

- The MWSU/YWCA Charity Auction was virtual this year. This is the single biggest fundraiser for Griffon Athletics, with a portion going to the YWCA. VP Looney encouraged all listening to log on and register and bid on the items. As of the Board meeting, Athletics was only \$200 short of at the same time last year.
- Administration Update. Kudos to Emily Ludwig on reopening Recreation Services. It has gone smoothly.
- VP Looney took a question from the Board about how fall sports will conflict with spring sports.
 - VP Looney advised the Board that it will conflict but we don't know how exactly it will conflict. Football will be challenging with athletes balancing injuries with being ready for 2021. Don't know what spring sports will look like at this time.
 - Chair Tieman made a comment about the auction and encouraged everyone to donate and get involved.

Jomel Nichols, Chief Communications Officer, Marketing and Communications

- Marketing and Communications Update
 - Busy welcoming students to campus.
 - Managing and updating the COVID page.
 - Busy with recruiting packet. Jomel presented each Board member a packet of recruiting materials her team has worked on. Jomel acknowledged her team members for putting in many hours to create the pieces.
 - Marketing and Communications had two team members join them.
 - Jomel took a minute to say her farewell to the Board as she will be retiring at the end of August. She thanked the Board for their support and will miss her time at MWSU.
 - Jomel played the "Home" video that her team produced and was played during the kickoff employee virtual event.
 - The Board gave Jomel positive comments and wished her well in retirement.

Darrell Morrison, Vice President of Finance & Administration

- Administration Update
 - Parking policy has changed with mixed reviews. Students like, but faculty/staff not so much.
 - Tech services have had a challenging few months. Social distancing in classrooms has led to classrooms adjusting their capacities.
 - Grounds crew had done a great job keeping the grass mowed. VP Morrison challenged them to make campus "look nicer."
 - HR is down staff members but they are moving ahead.
- Financial Update
 - Preparing for audit and staff working on year-end.
 - VP Morrison used a power point presentation (see attached) to brief the Board about year-end figures. VP Morrison advised the Board that a power point slide was incorrect and the Board book had the correct figure. There's a 942,000 positive, not negative.
 - Discussion with the Board about the 2.5 million dollar foundation gift and if that gift was included in the figures. VP Morrison confirmed that it was included.
 - Discussion amongst the Board and VP Morrison about Total Cash & Investments and account payables and receivables.

- The Board was briefed on FY21 in regards to student credit hours being strong as VP Davenport reported compared to what was budgeted although the enrollment numbers are down compared to prior years.
- The Board was briefed on housing revenue and that it is below the budgeted amount. Number of cancellations and no-shows.
- VP Morrison updated the Board on COVID funds at the federal level. \$1.8 million was dispersed to students and \$1.8 million for institutional aid the university can use on lost revenue and COVID related expenses.
- At the state level there is \$2.6 million (three different funds totaling \$2.6 million) to be reimbursed to the university for COVID related expenses. VP Morrison was able to talk to Governor Parson while at a roundtable event in Maryville recently.
- VP Morrison pointed out to the Board there's still a budget deficit. VP Morrison is committed to have a balanced budget for FY22.

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the June 30, 2020 Financial Report as presented; Governor Landes made a motion to approve the June 30, 2020 Financial Report; Governor Mason seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote 7-0.

VP Morrison presented bid FB21-007 Potter Hall & Fulkerson Center Air Unit Replacements. Purchasing contract with the State of Missouri allows MWSU to buy units without a bid process. The bid proposal is for installation of air units. Administration recommends acceptance of the bid from Daikin Applied Americas, Inc for \$408,582.90. Governor Smith made a motion to approve FB21-007 Potter Hall & Fulkerson Center Air Unit Replacements as presented; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote 7-0.

STUDENT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Student-Governor Hannah Berry presented her report to the Board and described the start of semester as "unique." Governor Berry is excited to be back. It's different for faculty and students, and normalcy is appreciated. Governor Berry briefed the Board that she's working to open communication for individual students by taking suggestions, questions, and concerns.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kennedy is thankful to the Board for their confidence in her. She expressed her appreciation to the MWSU community. We faced challenges and made difficult decisions but the university will not just survive but thrive.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board on the COVID Response Plan and publically thanked all those who are serving on the committee. The Administration continues to monitor the situation daily with several members of the campus community as contact tracers. Dr. Crystal Harris is the COVID-19 Coordinator and works closely with Dr. Gary Clapp and Dr. Michael Grantham. Dr. Kennedy continues to have weekly meetings with the Department of Higher Ed and Workforce Development, while all universities are navigating through this pandemic.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board that student head count and credit hours are down. Many other institutions are down by double digits. Many thanks for the retention efforts of faculty and staff. A late-person registration day brought 75 additional students.

Dr. Kennedy explained to the Board the employee kick-off was virtual this year. Dr. Kennedy participated as a Griffon Greeter welcoming students to campus while social distancing.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board about academic initiatives in 2020-2021. The Academic Master Plan and Academic Program Review process. Dr. Kennedy has asked the Provost to lead these initiatives.

Dr. Kennedy updated the Board on the Center for Workforce Development, the Center for Service and the Center for Entrepreneurship.

Dr. Kennedy advised the Board she's working on community engagement and relations.

Dr. Kennedy corrected her written report that the gift from the Foundation is not a loan. In light of the university's financial emergency we are careful and responsible in spending.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Crystal Harris presented a request to the Board to approve the naming of the simulation lab. MWSU received \$557,744 through MDHE's MoExcels workforce initiative to establish a Center of Excellence in Applied Health Care Learning (CEAHL). Mosaic Life Care, Mosaic Life Care Auxiliary, Mosaic Life Care Foundation and MWSU Foundation provided matching funds. The lab is located in Murphy Hall, Room 101. It is now complete and Mosaic has scheduled seventeen and completed seventeen classes.

In recognition of Mosaic Life Care Auxiliary donation, it is requested that the Board of Governors approve naming the simulation lab the "Mosaic Life Care Auxiliary Community Lab."

Chair Tieman expressed his appreciation to Dr. Harris on being awarded the MoExcel grant.

Governor Liechti made a motion to approve the naming of the simulation lab at Murphy Hall the "Mosaic Life Care Auxiliary Community Lab." Governor Landes seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

Conflict of Interest Ordinance

VP Sarah Cravens briefed the Board on the Conflict of Interest Ordinance and offered to answer questions.

Governor Smith made a motion to re-adopt the Conflict of Interest Ordinance; Governor Schoonover, seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Tieman addressed the Board on this transition period the university is going through. To answer questions about a presidential search, with the school year starting the focus is on students. Chair Tieman is pleased with Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy serving as the leader. Chair

Tieman wanted to publicly acknowledge the Board doesn't take selecting a president lightly. The Board is confident in the university's leadership.

Chair Tieman announced the formation of Board committees:

Personnel, Finance & Operations Committee

Al Landes—Chair

Dave Liechti

Greg Mason

Darrell Morrison

Academic & Student Engagement Committee:

Kayla Schoonover—Chair

Debbie Smith

Rick Ebersold

Doug Davenport

Policies & Bylaws Committee:

Debbie Smith—Chair

Kayla Schoonover

Rick Ebersold

Betsy Wright

Legal Counsel (future hire)

The Board is mindful of oversight; and they've heard others and want to reestablish confidence.

Chair Tieman provided the date of the next scheduled Board meeting, Thursday, October 22 at 1:30.

There being no additional Board comments or questions, Chair Tieman asked for a motion to meet in executive session, pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1), (2) and (3) to consider legal matter, real estate, and personnel. Governor Liechti moved to meet in executive session; Governor Ebersold seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED

REGULAR SESSION RE-CONVENED

Governor Liechti made a motion to approve the personnel items recommended in closed session. Governor Landes seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

There being no further business, Chair Tieman adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Lee Tieman, Chair
Board of Governors

Betsy Wright, Secretary

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
October 22, 2020

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements, attendance at the Board meeting was limited to Board members and required personnel. Some Board members were in attendance virtually through Zoom (noted below). The public session of the Board meeting was live streamed on YouTube at [griff.vn/BOG102220](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=griff.vn/BOG102220). The highest number of viewers during the meeting was 39.

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Chair Lee Tieman in person in Room 220 of the Blum Student Union Building and virtually via Zoom/YouTube.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

Board Members Present

Lee Tieman – Chair

Rick Ebersold – Vice Chair

Al Landes

Greg Mason (virtually) (left meeting at 5:00)

Lisa Norton

Kayla Schoonover

Debbie Smith (virtually) (not in attendance at closed session)

Hannah Berry – Student Governor

Faculty and Staff Members Present

Cori Criger, Instructional Technology Director

Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Tom Flaska, Event Technology Coordinator

Kent Heier, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communication

Elizabeth Kennedy, Interim President

Tim Kissock (virtually), Director of Purchasing and Risk Management

Josh Looney, Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics

Logan Jones, Special Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives and Dean, College of Business & Professional Studies

Mark Mills, Professor, Biology

Darrell Morrison, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Steve Johnston, Director of External Affairs

Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Governors

Others Present

Judge Dan Kellogg, in attendance to administer oath of office, left meeting at 1:45

Dave Liechti, was recognized for his service as a Board member and presented with his portrait and an engraved clock, left meeting at 1:40

(not listed individually - open livestream via YouTube)

OATH OF OFFICE

Circuit Judge Dan Kellogg, 5th Judicial Circuit court of Andrew and Buchanan County, administered the Oath of Office to new Governor, Lisa Norton.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Tieman announced that due to a clerical error in the August Board of Governors minutes they will be submitted for approval at the next Board meeting.

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to ratify the October 8, 2020 Board Poll (FB21-028 Campus Wide Air Handlers & Strata Information Group). Governor Ebersold made a motion to approve the board poll; Governor Landes seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

DIVISION REPORTS

Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

- September Commencements
 - Two commencements were held on Saturday, September 20. This was rescheduled from spring 2020 when commencement was postponed. This was complex with several unknowns but was successful. Two hundred plus graduates and over one thousand family members invited. Many thanks to the seventy-five plus faculty and staff that made sure health and safety protocols were followed.
- Fall Census Date
 - The university saw a decline in enrollment, this was nothing unexpected as to what they had seen.
 - Everyone is doing what they can as a team to recruit and retain students.
- Winter Session
 - Four classes will be offered. These are high-demand classes that are difficult to complete. Winter session will begin right after fall semester ends. This offers another pathway to graduation.
- Center for Teaching and Learning
 - The Center hosted a Virtual Scholarship Summit. Due to travel restrictions and in some instances conferences cancelled this gave faculty an opportunity to showcase their research.
- As an open access institution MWSU students often times struggle, financially, academically, or socially, etc. As an institution we are obligated to serve these students which can be a challenge with limited resources. With a small amount of money, MWSU has invested in EdSites which is a “chatbot” that texts students and engages with them. With this, information is gathered and we can reach out to at-risk students and offer services.
- Compliments from Chair Tieman about the dedication of the CEAHL lab and how this new lab will be a benefit to the university and region. Chair Tieman also expressed his appreciation toward graduation and that he heard from graduates and their family members who also voiced their appreciation.

Josh Looney, Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics & Interim Vice President of Advancement

- Athletics

- With the closing of the downtown YMCA, MWSU has partnered with the Y and the City of St. Joseph to provide aquatic services at MWSU. This started in October and has extended the pool usage from Monday-Friday.
- MWSU has partnered with the St. Joseph Sports Commission and will host the 2023 & 2024 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship at the St. Joseph Civic Arena.
- Currently there are 440 student-athletes. This represents a record number of student-athletes in 10 years and a 13% increase from last year.
- Athletics has partnered with an external funding source to provide COVID-19 testing for student-athletes. This allows students to compete and the first football game is Oct. 31 against Central Arkansas. Football has partnered with two MIAA institutions to have a modified fall schedule.
- The Esports arena is under construction. Going through a branding phase, equipment is ordered and there will be a soft opening in January when students return and a formal ribbon cutting in February 2021.
- Damian Macias was named the head women's soccer coach.
- Athletic general fundraising exceeded more than \$200,000 from September 1st to October 9th. 519 gifts from 125 donors totaling \$203,670.25.
- Advancement
 - Foundation audit is complete and received a clean audit. As of June 30 total assets totaled \$53.1 million.
 - Michele Chambers, an alum, was named assistant director and financial officer of the MWSU foundation.
 - Kudos to Chrissy McCan who is heading up a membership rally to enroll additional individuals and businesses into the Western League for Excellence. The goal is to raise \$300,000.

Darrell Morrison, Vice President of Finance & Administration

- Administration Update
 - Finishing FY2020 financial statements.
 - Implemented new parking policy.
 - Continue to monitor university budgets for this year.
 - In a COVID environment there were technology assessments and upgrades.
 - Kudos to financial aid, business office and HR who serve students and employees.
 - VP Morrison thanked his staff who are dedicated and have love for the campus.
 - Kudos to the university physical plant who have completed many renovations and repair projects.

FINANCIAL REPORT

VP Darrell Morrison compared operating and non-operating revenues and expenses for FY18, FY19, FY20 (unaudited).

In 2019 the university was down approximately \$9.3 million in net position and in 2018 was \$8.3 million. In 2020 the university is down approximately \$6.3 million. VP Morrison stated that the steps the university is taking are working. The university is on the right track.

VP Morrison gave an overview of the FY21 budget. VP Morrison briefed the Board with details in terms of operating revenue and operating expenses.

VP Morrison state that Governor Parson released some state appropriations. The impact to MWSU was about \$500,000. This did not restore full funding. The Governor called a special session to address state budgetary needs.

VP Morrison updated the Board on cash balance. In 2018 the university had \$12.4 million in cash, in 2019, \$11.7 million and in 2020, \$13.9 million. VP Morrison briefed the Board that the university is in the right direction and that the university is “not out of the woods” and has a long way to go.

VP Morrison updated the Board on COVID-19 funds. In total a little more than \$7 million in CARES Act Funding (federal, state, and county). VP Morrison briefed the Board on how it was spent (student payments, revenue recovery, technology, preventative supplies, building/ventilation, other [including labor]). See attached slides.

VP Morrison updated the Board about the designated CARES Act funds in terms of preventative supplies, technology, building/ventilation, and athletics COVID-19 testing and other.

Question from the Board about the timeline that the money has to be spent. VP Morrison said most of the money remaining is federal has to be spent by June next year.

Question from the Board if administration is having meetings with faculty and staff to educate them on the financial situation. VP Morrison said they are attending faculty senate and staff senate meetings. Information is being disseminated through Cabinet meetings.

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the September 20, 2020 Financial Report as presented; Governor Smith made a motion to approve the September 20, 2020 Financial Report; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote 7-0.

VP Morrison presented the Board with the 2021 Benefit Plan Renewal. VP Morrison briefed the Board on challenges the university is facing in terms of \$3.9 million dollar deficit, mandatory retirement increase to MOSERS, utilization increase of 22%, and overall proposed rate increase of 19%.

VP Morrison presented to the Board the current plans and proposed plans for 2021. Blue Cross Kansas City will continue to be the benefit provider. The medical plan options will go from four to two plans for employees to choose. Eliminating the HMO and PPO Buy Up plans. Continue to offer the PPO and HDHP with HSA. No changes to the health savings account and flexible spending account. Dental insurance is changing from The Standard to Delta Dental of Missouri. Vision will remain the same with The Standard (VSP). Life insurance with AD&D will move from Prudential to UNUM. Employee Assistance Program and long and short term disability remain the same. Retirement plans remain the same.

Voluntary coverage plans will be offered for employees (critical illness insurance, accident insurance, cancer insurance, and hospital indemnity insurance).

VP Morrison explained to the Board that Dental, Vision, and Life insurance will continue to be 100% funded by the university. Medical plans will have a contribution by the employee. The two health plans that are offered will not have a change to the plan. No increase in the deductible.

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the 2021 employee insurance benefits renewal as presented; Governor Landes made a motion to approve the 2021 employee insurance benefits renewal as presented; Governor Norton seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote 7-0.

VP Morrison presented information regarding a contact with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc. for Scanlon Hall Controllers. This will provide HVAC upgrades and proper air circulation in all of Scanlon Hall. The administration recommends acceptance of a contract with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc for \$188,240. Chair Tieman asked for a motion to a contract with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc as presented; Governor Ebersold made a motion to approve the contact with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote 7-0.

STUDENT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Student-Governor Hannah Berry presented her report to the Board and described life on campus and the unique learning experience such as "zoom fatigue." Governor Berry announced a few upcoming events such as a football watch party and on October 9, SGA passed its Financial Reform Act. Governor Berry partnered with SGA and WAC to create Griffs Bake Gratitude initiative. This is aimed at spreading kindness and gratitude across campus.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kennedy addressed the Board that we are two-thirds of the way in the semester. She appreciates faculty and staff for their engagement in various activities and endeavors.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board in terms of concern in a decline in freshmen enrollment. As of census date, September 28, 2020, fall enrollment is down (overall) 9.8% in head count and 10.2% in student credit hours. Comparing Fall 2020 to Fall 2019 there is a decline in the number of admitted students and enrolled students. As is seen across the nation in higher ed, a decline in new freshman can be attributed, in part, to the pandemic.

Dr. Kennedy addressed the Board that on September 29 she met with ten St. Joseph School District guidance counselors to address enrollment and recruitment.

Dr. Kennedy supplied the Board with a fact sheet, prepared by Dr. Angela Grant, compiled of data related in Fall 2020 at Missouri Western State University. (see attached)

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board that fall break is approaching and classes end on November 19 with finals ending on November 24. Winter commencement was scheduled on November 25 and with the current state of the pandemic in our area the decision was made to cancel Winter commencement.

Dr. Kennedy went on to address the Board that Spring semester is intended to start on January 19, 2021 pending any new developments with COVID-19. In terms of the Spring semester, spring break will be held as usual but will be moved back to week ten of the semester. This aligns with the St. Joseph School District spring break which provides better alignment with midterms schedule and gives the university flexibility should we need to pivot if the pandemic forces us.

Dr. Kennedy shared with the Board that she held a day-long Cabinet retreat on October 16.

Dr. Kennedy updated the Board on the Center for Service. CFS is partnering with VOMO, a volunteer engagement software platform with connect students to community partners. There are currently 14 dedicated and short-term projects with over 2,518 service hours available to students. The current major business partners are American Red Cross, Mosaic, Second Harvest, St. Joseph Museum and St. Joseph Youth Alliance.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board that dental medicine has been added to the 3+3 early matriculation partnership program with Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. So far, 25 of our MWSU graduates are on track to complete medical school through one of these partnerships. Many thanks to Dr. Jason Baker who has been instrumental in this initiative.

Dr. Kennedy invited the Board to visit the MWSU COVID-19 dashboard which provides current numbers of COVID positive cases. The most recent update to the website provides MWSU Decision Triggers. Dr. Kennedy is coordinating with MDHEWD Commissioner Zora Mulligan regarding anticipated distribution of a COVID vaccine and antigen testing, which will be free. Dr. Kennedy has had numerous conversations with the county health department.

Dr. Kennedy expresses her appreciation to everyone who is keeping campus open. Dr. Kennedy is meeting with others to promote MWSU. She's meets regularly with Faculty Senate President and walks around campus and meets with Staff Association. She's working with the City to promote and enhance the university. Dr. Kennedy has met with key legislatures.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board that Steve Johnston has assisted with the St. Joseph Legislative Partnerships with St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, City of St. Joseph, and Buchanan County Commissioners. Dr. Kennedy and Steve Johnston have also worked with lobbyists Trent Watson and Mark Rhoades to identify key legislative priorities for MWSU. Dr. Kennedy expressed her appreciation to Steve Johnston and his work in the lab ribbon cutting and his work on the governor's visit.

Dr. Kennedy addressed the Board that the university remains in a state of financial emergency. Dr. Kennedy announced that a Budgeting and Planning Committee is formed and led by VP Morrison and consisting of staff and faculty across campus.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Mark Mills presented a request to the Board to approve the naming of the campus prairie to the "John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie." (see attached PPT) The prairie is located near 50th and Messanie Streets.

Governor Ebersold made a motion to approve the naming of the campus prairie the "John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie." Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Tieman addressed the Board in terms of the important role of the Board. It is critical to be transparent and in terms of a presidential search this is an interim role and there isn't a need to rush this process. The Board and Dr. Kennedy are in agreement that they do not need to rush this process and there's no commitment to a timeframe. Students come first and the need to focus on the academic year and support Dr. Kennedy.

Chair Tieman addressed the board that the university is still in financial distress. While the administration is prudent with spending there has been a need to hire and make adjustments to salary. Chair Tieman has talked to Dr. Kennedy about making these adjustments as budget neutral as possible and Dr. Kennedy has taken that to heart.

Chair Tieman talked about enrollment and how important recruiting is and the role of the Vice President of Enrollment Management.

Chair Tieman addressed the Board that the three new committees established are a work in progress and that these are starting from the ground floor.

Chair Tieman provided the date of the next scheduled Board meeting, December 3, 2020 at 1:30.

There being no additional Board comments or questions, Chair Tieman asked for a motion to meet in executive session, pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1), (3) and (14) to consider legal matter, personnel, and other matters protected by law. Governor Landes moved to meet in executive session; Governor Norton seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED

REGULAR SESSION RE-CONVENED

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the personnel items recommended in closed session. Governor Landes made a motion to approve the personnel items recommended in closed session. Governor Ebersold seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 5-0.

Professor Emeritus:

Dr. Patrick McMurray Social Sciences and Humanities

Vice President for Enrollment Management:

Dr. Melissa Mace (eff. November 2020)

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the amended long-term ground lease agreement with the City of St. Joseph to construct a fire station with the city providing \$275,000 to the university for general use as presented in the lease agreement. Governor Ebersold made a

motion to approve the long-term lease agreement with the City of St. Joseph. Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, Chair Tieman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Governor Norton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Governor Ebersold seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passes 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Wright, Secretary

APPROVED:

Lee Tieman, Chair
Board of Governors

Board of Governors Finance and Administration Report

October 22, 2020



Updates

- FY2020 Financial Statements / Audit
- Implemented New Parking Policies
- Monitoring University Budgets
- Serving Students in Business Office and Financial Aid
- Technology Assessments and Upgrades
- Supporting employees and campus community in Human Resources



University Physical Plant Major Renovations (Since July 2019)



Renovations and Repairs

Popplewell Hall:

- Craig School of Business renovations (Classroom, Lobby, Hallway)
- Early Learning Academy Office renovated
- 1 Air Handler and 1 Condensing Unit replaced

Potter Hall:

- New Fume Hood installed
- Main Storm Roof Drain repaired
- 3 Air Handler and 3 Condensing Units replaced

Looney Complex:

- Looney Pool repaired
- Scoreboard and Starting Stands installed
- Main Waste Line repaired
- Women's Basketball Locker Rooms renovated
- 2 Air Handler and 2 Condensing Units replaced



Renovations and Repairs

Wilson Hall:

- New Roof installed
- YMCA Child Daycare Restroom renovated
- Handrail replaced

Remington/Agenstein Halls:

- HVAC/Hood upgraded
- Boiler replaced
- Chiller Control replaced
- Einstein's renovated

GISC:

- HVAC Controls replaced

Baker Fitness:

- Men's and Women's Track Locker Rooms built
- Women's Lacrosse Lock Room built



Renovations and Repairs

Blum Union:

- Esports Arena and Classroom built
- PDR and Dining Hall Roof replaced
- LED Lighting upgraded
- Jr. College Room / Student Lounge renovated
- 5 Air Handlers replaced

Fulkerson Center:

- New Chiller installed
- Entrance renovated

Leah Spratt Hall:

- New chiller installed
- University Art Gallery renovated
- LED Lighting upgraded
- University Advancement/Alumni Office renovated
- Enright Room soffit repaired



Renovations and Repairs

Hearnes Center:

- Barnes and Noble Bookstore built

Eder Hall:

- Admissions Department Offices renovated
- Registrar's Department Offices renovated

Murphy Hall:

- Nursing Department Renovations (Classrooms, Labs, Meeting Spaces)
- Esports Student Gaming Space renovated

Residence Halls:

- Scanlon Hall Roof resurfaced
- Juda Hall Fire Alarm System upgraded
- Scanlon Hall HVAC Controls upgraded
- Leaverton Hall Chiller replaced



Renovations and Repairs

Campus/Other:

- Reflection Pool improvements
- Parking Lot and Crosswalk Painted
- Treated/removed diseased trees
- Plaza Fountain repairs
- North Kansas City Campus relocated
- Missouri Western Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie
- Chiefs Practice Facility's Seating berm
- Chiefs Practice Facility Electrical and Network upgraded
- Lot H Storm Drain replaced
- McCarthy Drive Storm Drain replaced
- Clock Tower sound card speakers
- Parking Lots repainted and Signage Installed



Finance Update Fiscal Year 2019-2020



Year-to-Year Comparison

	2020 (unaudited)	2019	2018
Operating Revenues			
Tuition and fees, net	\$ 25,047,081	\$ 25,242,244	\$24,641,238
Federal grants and contracts	421,889	544,774	504,743
State grants and contracts	872,631	442,782	473,333
Nongovernmental Grants and Contracts	135,600	-	-
Interest on student loans receivable	25,244	37,632	78,251
Sales and services of educational activities	631,386	471,295	442,913
Auxiliary enterprises, net	7,169,203	8,318,825	7,855,278
Other operating revenues	550,976	633,171	518,163
Total operating revenues	34,854,010	35,690,723	34,513,919



Year-to-Year Comparison

	2020 (unaudited)	2019	2018
Operating Expenses			
Salaries and wages	31,463,312	32,683,566	32,548,984
Fringe benefits	19,133,597	17,215,157	16,058,752
Supplies and other services	14,266,656	14,894,366	14,171,304
Scholarships and fellowships	4,613,509	3,991,681	4,023,423
Depreciation	5,398,317	5,504,358	5,463,445
Utilities	2,035,094	2,164,888	2,315,426
Total operating expenses	76,910,485	76,454,016	74,581,334
Operating loss	(42,056,475)	(40,763,293)	(40,067,415)



Year-to-Year Comparison

	2020 (unaudited)	2019	2018
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)			
State appropriations	18,775,759	20,609,352	20,609,352
Federal grants	11,752,111	8,717,853	8,918,275
Federal interest rebate	257,495	256,787	261,798
Contributions	5,322,311	1,706,301	1,832,368
Interest income	158,177	298,778	252,406
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(105,950)	(55,196)	(341,033)
Loss on retirement of bonds	-	(25,041)	-
Interest on capital asset-related debt	(1,961,256)	(2,018,106)	(2,115,067)
Net non-operating revenues	34,198,647	29,490,728	29,418,099



Year-to-Year Comparison

	2020 (unaudited)	2019	2018
Other Changes in Net Position			
Capital appropriations	-	-	1,080,444
Capital Contributions (Non-Cash)	1,566,090	1,916,545	1,237,300
Total other changes in net position	1,566,090	1,916,545	2,317,744
Decrease in Net Position	(6,289,718)	(9,354,001)	(8,329,554)
Net Position, Beginning of Year	22,887,387	32,243,407	40,574,979
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 16,597,669	\$ 22,889,406	\$32,245,425

Budget/Finance
Fiscal Year 2020-2021Budget to Actual
FY2021 – Total All Funds
(as of 9/30/20)

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
OPERATING REVENUE					
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 34,751,404	\$ (92,529)	\$ 34,658,875	\$ 17,111,359	49.4%
Federal grants and contracts	295,781	846,070	1,141,851	9,601	0.8%
State grants and contracts	24,395	2,567,546	2,591,941	-	0.0%
Non-gov grants and contracts	13,000	540,900	553,900	35,750	6.5%
Sales and service of educational depts	239,500	2,028	241,528	118,110	48.9%
Auxiliary enterprises:					
Athletics	989,580	1,000	990,580	166,102	16.8%
Housing	5,543,004	365,139	5,908,143	3,100,058	52.5%
Food service	3,894,217	-	3,894,217	1,796,028	46.1%
Bookstore	173,200	-	173,200	476	0.3%
Other auxiliary enterprises	164,458	-	164,458	17,789	10.8%
Other operating revenues	293,680	(3,000)	290,680	5,808	2.0%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	46,382,219	4,227,154	50,609,373	22,361,081	44.2%

Budget to Actual
FY2021 – Total All Funds
(as of 9/30/20)

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Salaries and compensation	27,436,537	141,117	27,577,654	5,681,631	20.6%
Fringe benefits	10,062,704	85,119	10,147,823	2,201,094	21.7%
Supplies and services	12,757,635	79,573	12,837,208	4,232,291	33.0%
Travel	875,603	145,045	1,020,648	6,877	0.7%
Utilities	2,560,936	1,192	2,562,128	417,985	16.3%
Scholarships	20,351,891	(175,680)	20,176,211	9,321,620	46.2%
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	74,045,306	276,366	74,321,672	21,861,498	29.4%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(27,663,087)	3,950,788	(23,712,299)	499,583	-2.1%

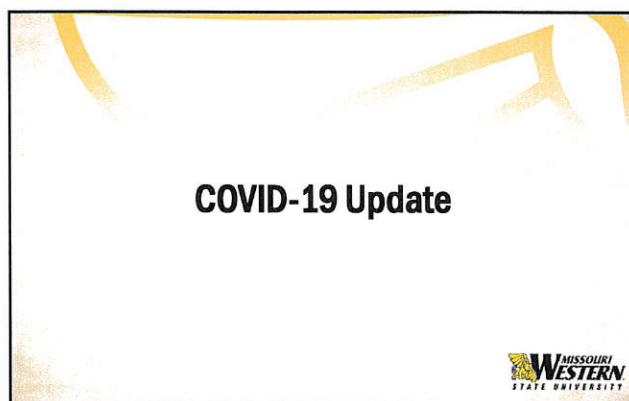
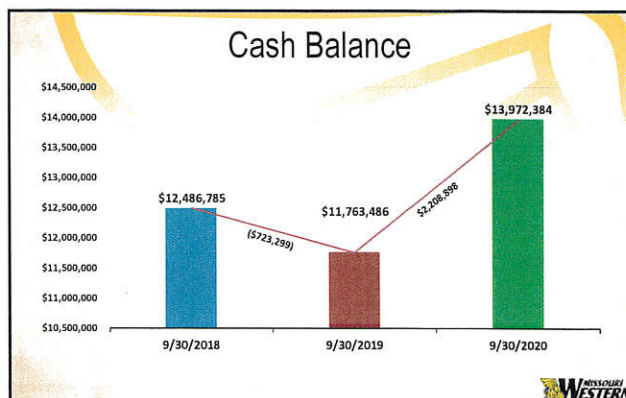
Budget to Actual
FY2021 – Total All Funds
(as of 9/30/20)

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)					
State appropriations	17,751,987	-	17,751,987	4,714,965	26.6%
Grants	8,764,988	-	8,764,988	3,175,000	36.2%
Gifts	1,768,239	207,861	1,976,100	496,874	25.1%
Investment income	426,202	-	426,202	10,199	2.4%
Interest on capital related debt	(1,814,543)	-	(1,814,543)	(473,457)	26.1%
Capital	(518,500)	(3,038,729)	(3,557,229)	(319,532)	9.0%
Other	(2,680,907)	-	(2,680,907)	-	0.0%
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	23,697,466	(2,830,868)	20,866,598	7,604,049	36.4%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFER	(3,965,621)	1,119,920	(2,845,701)	8,103,632	-284.8%



Budget to Actual FY2021 – Total All Funds (as of 9/30/20)

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)					
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Aux from E&G	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	-	-	-	-	-
INC (DEC) IN NET POSITION	(3,965,621)	1,119,920	(2,845,701)	8,103,632	-284.8%
OTHER					
Prior year funds	-	223,370	223,370	-	0.0%
	<u>\$ (3,965,621)</u>	<u>\$ 1,343,290</u>	<u>\$ (2,622,331)</u>	<u>\$ 8,103,632</u>	<u>-309.0%</u>



CARES Act Funding

Awards
• Federal
◦ \$3,906,537
• State
◦ \$2,669,710
• County
◦ \$467,400
• Total
◦ \$7,043,3647

CARES Act Funding

Expended - \$5,200,333
• Student Payments - \$1,845,000
• Revenue Recovery - \$1,220,319
• Technology - \$188,082
• Preventative Supplies - \$146,173
• Other (Including Labor) - \$173,201
• Building / Ventilation - \$1,627,558

CARES Act Funding

Designated - \$1,390,157
• Preventative Supplies - \$236,567
• Technology - \$415,598
• Building / Ventilation - \$419,681
• Other (Including Labor) - \$50,911
• Athletics COVID-19 Testing - \$267,400
Remaining - \$453,157

Questions/Comments



University Employee Benefits Update



Employee Benefits Renewal

Challenges Faced:

- University wide budget shortfall of \$3.9 million for the current year
- Facing a mandatory increase in contributions to MOSERS of 1.11%
- Medical coverage
 - 21.77% utilization increase for current year
 - 5.5% increase due to COVID-19 costs for 2021
- Overall proposed rate increase of 19% (\$780,000)
- Proposed total plan funding would have increased from \$3,358,000 to \$4,138,000



Employee Benefits Renewal

What to do?

- **"Forced"** to make changes
 - Plans offered
 - Contribution structure
 - Providers

What will this look like?



2020

Medical

- BCBS Kansas City
- Four Plans
 - HMO
 - PPO
 - PPO Buy Up
 - HDHP with HSA

Health Savings Account

UMB Bank

Flexible Spending Account

Discovery Benefits

2021

Medical

- BCBS Kansas City
- Two Plans
 - PPO
 - HDHP with HSA

Health Savings Account

UMB Bank

Flexible Spending Account

Discovery Benefits



2020

Dental

The Standard

Vision

The Standard (VSP)

Life with AD&D

Prudential

Employee Assistance Program

New Direction Behavioral Health

Long and Short Term Disability

2021

Dental

Delta Dental of Missouri

Vision

The Standard (VSP)

Life with AD&D

UNUM

Employee Assistance Program

New Direction Behavioral Health

Long- and Short-Term Disability



2020	2021
<u>Retirement</u> MOSERS CURP Voluntary	<u>Retirement</u> MOSERS CURP Voluntary
<u>Voluntary Coverage Plans</u> None	<u>Voluntary Coverage Plans</u> Critical Illness Insurance Accident Insurance Cancer Insurance Hospital Indemnity Insurance



Summary
Total Plan Benefit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated Total University Cost \$3,358,000 (Annually) Per employee / Per month (Avg) \$634.24 FY 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated Total University Cost \$3,821,000 (Annually) Per employee / Per month (Avg) \$721.69
Requesting Approval for Health Insurance Contract
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City



Contract Approval Request
Scanlon Hall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HVAC Upgrades \$188,240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by Buchanan County CARES Act



Questions/Comments



FACT SHEET

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY—FALL 2020

We provide open access to high-quality, affordable education

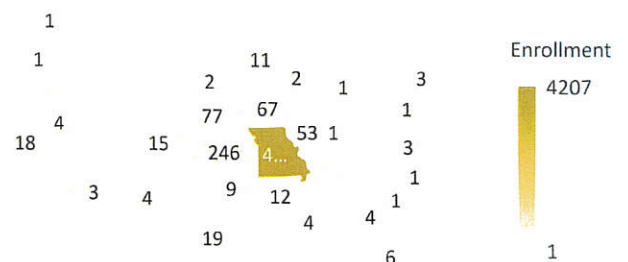
- Our **degree offerings** include:
 - Pre-baccalaureate certificates: 2
 - Associate's degrees: 4
 - Bachelor's degrees: 58
 - Graduate certificates: 8
 - Master's degrees: 11
- We are accredited as a university by the Higher Learning Commission
 - We have 9 specialized accreditations, ranging from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business to the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

We are a small school with a big impact

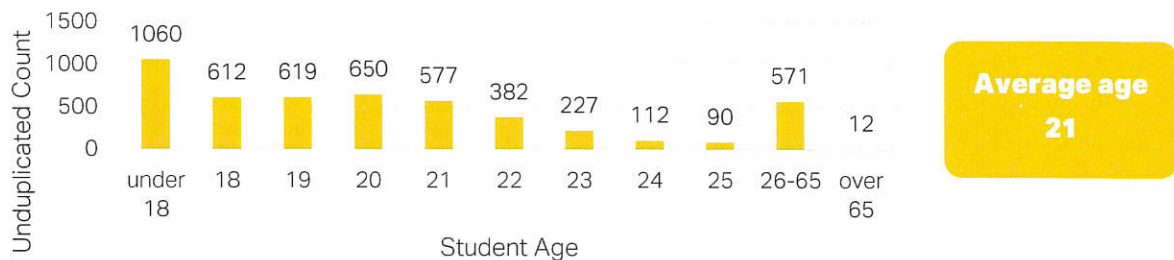
- **Total Enrollment:** 4,911
 - Non-degree seeking: 25% (1,187)
 - Average credit hours: 4.3
 - Our Early College Academy serves 1,143 high school students
 - Degree-seeking: 75% (3,724)
 - Undergraduate: 3,530 students enrolled in 13.1 credit hours on average
 - Graduate: 194 students enrolled in 6.53 credit hours on average
 - Full-time students: 63% (3,086)
 - We define full-time status as:
 - Undergraduates: enrollment in 12 or more credit hours
 - Graduate students: enrollment in 9 or more credit hours
- **Graduates:** 821 degrees and certificates awarded in academic year 2019-2020.
 - 84% (692) baccalaureate degrees
 - 11% (86) master's degrees
 - 3% (27) associate degrees
 - 1% (10) certificates
 - 1% (6) graduate certificates

Our students come from northwest Missouri and beyond

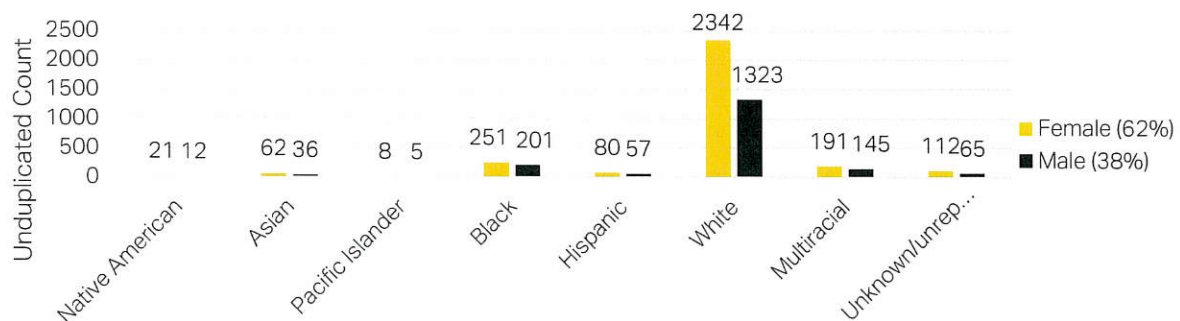
- Missouri: 86% (4,207)
 - Immediate ten county service area:
 - 71% (3,466)
- Other states: 13% (651)
- International: 1% (53)



Our students are life-long learners



Our students are diverse



Statistical Snapshot: First-time, degree-seeking undergraduates

- Percent of total undergraduate enrollment: 19% (683)
- Average ACT Composite score: 18.2
- High School Rank: 17% (118) were in the top 20% of their high school class
- Age Range:
 - Under 18: 0.9% (6)
 - 18-21: 95.2% (650)
 - 22 and over: 3.95% (27)

Statistical Snapshot: Undergraduate transfer students

- Percent of new degree-seeking undergraduate students: 25% (229)
- Transfers from Missouri: 73% of undergraduate transfers (168)
 - Top 2-year feeder schools:
 - Metropolitan Community College—Kansas City: 32
 - North Central Missouri College: 24
 - Top 4-year feeder schools:
 - University of Missouri—Kansas City: 13
 - Northwest Missouri State University: 10
- Transfers from other states: 27% of undergraduate transfers (61)
 - Kansas: 25 (16 from Highland Community College)
 - Iowa: 7
 - Illinois: 7
 - California: 4

Update on Campus Prairie and a Proposal to Name the Prairie after Professor Emeritus



Dr. John Rushin

By
Dr. Mark Mills, Department of Biology
Jeff Powelson, Missouri Department of
Conservation
22 October 2020



Update on progress of prairie restoration

- Planted in January 2020
- Mowed to control invasive plants (weeds)
- Planted trees in savannah area on north side
- Classes already using prairie
- Future plans



Tree planting (September 2020)

- Approximately 100 trees were planted by students from the MWSU Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, 5 biology faculty, Jeff Powelson (MDC), Dean Crystal Harris, Professor Emeritus John Rushin, and board member Rick Ebersold



Biology classes using the prairie

- Dr. Tilo Roy's Local Flora class: prairie flora surveys
- Dr. Julie Jedlicka's Animal Behavior class: pollinator behavior observations
- Dr. Carissa Ganong's Invertebrate Biology class: studying terrestrial insect diversity
- Dr. Mills' Ecology class: quantifying plant biomass



Future plans

- Educational/interpretive prairie garden
- Parking lot
- Establishment of experimental plots for future classes and research projects
- Visits by local school groups



John Rushin has shown "significant contribution of good deeds or exemplary service" to the university in many ways, including:

- John has mentored and influenced thousands of MWSU students over his 33 year career.
- John taught BIO 101, botany and other plant courses, ornithology, biology teaching courses and more at Missouri Western from 1979 to 2012.
- John was awarded three conservation grants from the MO Dept. of Conservation and the MWSU Foundation to develop and establish the Otoe Creek Natural Area to include a self-interpretive nature trail and the prairie area. John and a series of students, along with the Master Naturalist Program, developed and published an interpretive trail guide for the nature trail that is still being used today and is freely available to the public.
- In 1985 John established the first prairie restoration project on approximately 1/4 acre within the Otoe Creek Natural Area here on campus.
- John was instrumental in initiating MWSU's Wildlife Conservation program, which has gone on to become a very successful, award-winning program.
- John and his students gave numerous presentations on prairie ecosystems in professional and community settings.
- John and co-authors published two scientific papers on prairies.
- John played a key role in the establishment of the Northwest Regional Office of MDC on our campus. No other university in Missouri has an MDC office on their campus! This has been a tremendous asset to both faculty and students at MWSU.

In honor of Dr. John Rushin, and in recognition of his many contributions to Missouri Western, thousands of students, and the community, the Biology Department humbly requests that the Board of Governors approve the following name for the campus prairie:

"The John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie"



MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, Interim President

FROM: Dr. Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

DATE: November 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Report to the Board of Governors

Academic Affairs

- The Center for Military and Veterans Services honored Veterans Day on November 11th with a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of the Center. We welcomed Governor Mike Parson, who joined us as the keynote speaker, along with Major General Levon E. Cumpton the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard.
- More than 60 people attended the official dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie located on the MWSU campus. This 40-acre site is the result of a partnership between MWSU and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and will be used by students and faculty for labs and research projects, is currently the site of the MWSU Cross Country Course, and will be open to members of the community, including school groups, scout troops, and others. Speakers at the event included President Elizabeth Kennedy, Jeff Powelson (MDC), Mark Mills, Cary Chevalier, Todd Eckdahl, and Professor Emeritus John Rushin. Those in attendance included students, faculty, staff, BOG Rick Ebersold, representatives from the local Audubon, Master Naturalists, and Master Gardeners chapters, and Representative Brenda Shields.
- Though we will not host a Winter Commencement event this semester, we look forward to celebrating with fall graduates at our Spring Commencement, currently scheduled for May 8, 2021.

College of Business and Professional Studies

Programs & Partnerships

- The Center for Service orchestrated a group project between Mosaic and the MWSU girl's tennis team to manicure and maintain the flower beds and select areas to prepare for the fall/winter gardening.
- The Center for Service is coordinating with 11 community partners that have generated eight one-time projects and 12 recurring projects that provide an available 5000 hours of service from September through the end of December 2020.
- The Center for Service has recently partnered with the Chamber of Commerce, Sisters for Solace and United Way to provide more opportunities for students.
- The Center for Service has 48 students that have enrolled and expressed interest in the program with 45 completed projects by students that total 190.50 service hours with an overall economic impact of \$5,181.60.
- The Center for Service is beta testing the capture of faculty and staff service hours within the community to evaluate community service impact.

- The Center for Military and Veterans Services briefed all leaders from the 139th Air Wing to help educate them on the GEM and AU-ABC programs in hopes to be able to grow recruitment opportunities with them.
- Two scholarships were established in memory of Chad Nold – Chad Nold Family Scholarship. Mr. Nold was the father of Nathan Nold, a graduate from the CSB and awarded a Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory franchise. Pam Klaus has been asked to be a member of the scholarship committee. \$1,000 for high school seniors (\$500 per semester) from Andrew or Buchanan planning to attend MWSU with a preference in business. \$1,000 for a senior business student interested in entrepreneurship with a preference in the Applied Business Ownership class.
- Pam Klaus attended the North Kansas City school district advisory council meeting on October 30. Members include area KC businesses, high school teachers, and a student. Ms. Klaus is the only member affiliated with Higher Education.
- The Center for Entrepreneurship assisted with writing the business plan and acquiring funding for the Copper Hill Creek Golf Club, owned by April and Brandon Kendall, and the Angry Swede Brewery, owned by Mike Olinger.
- The Center for Entrepreneurship received a grant from Gertrude and Doyle Norris Charitable Trust in the amount of \$5,000 to help fund CFE coordinator position.
- The Center for Entrepreneurship was honored to receive Evergy's Hometown Economic Recovery Program in the amount of \$15,000.
- Center for Workforce Development (CWD) has enrolled 12 priests in three courses from the Kansas City Catholic Diocese. NorAm currently has 24 enrolled employees in eight different courses.

People & Campus

- On October 20, 2020, Bin Qiu presented a working paper entitled "Do Risk Factor Disclosures Reduce Stock Price Crash Risk?" at the 2020 national Financial Management Association annual meeting. It was a virtual conference.
- Brett Luthans was selected to receive the 2020 Governor's Award for Excellence in Education. He received letters from Governor Parsons and Dr. Kennedy and was awarded a plaque.
- Dr. Gary Clapp continues to work with the City and the County helping with analysis of COVID monitoring and advising the City on their response to the New Normal.
- Zhao Zhang will serve as a Technical Committee Member for IVSP 2021. The 2021 3rd international Conference on Image, Video, and Signal Processing is in preparation, it will be held in Singapore during March 19-21, 2021. <http://www.ivsp.net/committee.html>
- Jinwen Zhu, Wesley Moore, and 5 AGC students (Associated General Contractors of America), attended the CLC Leadership Development Conference that was hosted in Wilson Hall October 13th-15th. <https://clc-leadership-development-conference.heysummit.com/>
- Jen Botello published a book review along with B. L. Gregory -- "Educated: A Memoir and the Impact on Teacher Preparation Programs" in the *August 2020 National Youth-At-Risk Journal*, 4(1). <https://doi.org/10.20429/nyarj.2020.040107>
- Benedict Adams was invited to present "Preservice teachers and their development to diversity and social justice consciousness using the four seasons approach to ethnography" at the National Conference of Curriculum and Pedagogy on October 23.
- The Centers for Franchise Development and Entrepreneurship welcomes Theresa Buttz as their new Administrative Assistant.

College of Liberal Arts

Student Experience & Innovation

- The Transpersonal/Spiritual Psychology class taught by Christine Ziemer heard from guest speakers Dr. John Ziemer who spoke about T'ai Chi, Breathwork practitioner Laura Lockton, Jenny Severo who spoke about ecstatic dance and Joni Freesoul who spoke about ecstatic sex.
- Three Political Science majors (Max Miller, Sara Mosley, and Kendall Reger) presented peer reviewed posters at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association (conference held virtually).
- Political Science major Jordan Miller served as a paid Campus Election Engagement Fellow with a focus on voter registration, voter information, and get out and vote (position funded through Campus Election Engagement Project).

Programs & Partnerships

- Social Sciences and Humanities, in collaboration with Student Affairs and Student Government, partnered with the Ask Every Student Project. Partnership focused on a 4-year commitment to increasing voter registration on campus. (MWSU received a \$1,000 competitive grant).
- Ed Taylor, Social Sciences and Humanities, has worked with the National Council on US-Arab Relations to host the Midwest Regional Model Arab League at MWSU in Spring 2021. (This will be a hybrid high school/college conference).

People & Campus

- Corey White, Rhimmon Simchy-Gross and Gavin Waters submitted a presentation titled 'RT Bank: An online repository for reaction time data and models' at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Corey White and student co-authors Whitney Davidson, Kiah Kitchen and Danny Walsh presented 'Do Delta Plots Provide a Clean Measure of Conflict Processing?' at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting.
- Teresa Harris had two mixed-media pieces, *Lesson III* and *Birdman I*, accepted into the national juried exhibition, "Core New Art Space: Small Works", at the Core New Art Space in Lakewood, Colorado. The juror, Valerie Savarie, is an internationally-known artist and owner of Valkarie Gallery in Belmar, Colorado.
- Ed Taylor served as an invited speaker at a round table on on-line pedagogy at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association (Conference Held Virtually).
- Angela Haas gave a virtual public presentation titled, "Women and the Witch Stereotype: A Historical Analysis of European Witch Trials" for the Rolling Hills Library.
- Evan Elizabeth Hart presented "Fight the Power: Today's Protests in the Context of History" for MWSU students. Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Education.
- Evan Elizabeth Hart presented "100 Years of Women's Suffrage: A Discussion of the 19th Amendment" for Rolling Hills Library's Celebration of the 19th Amendment.
- Evan Elizabeth Hart published a review of *Reshaping Women's History: Voices of Nontraditional Women Historians* in the Fall 2020 edition of *Insights: Notes from the Coordinating Council for Women in History*.
- Jennifer Jackson co-authored a book chapter with James Carviou that was accepted for publication titled "Facemasks and Gender: A Critical Exploration of Pandemic Protection as a Threat to Masculinity."

- Michael Charlton published a chapter in "Till Death Do Us Part: Romancing the Stone, Death Becomes Her, and the Romance Genre." A Critical Companion to Robert Zemeckis Part of *Critical Companions to Contemporary Directors*.
- Marianne Kunkel has accepted an invitation to be an executive board member of Whispering Prairie Press, which publishes two literary magazines, *Kansas City Voices* and *Kansas City Voices Youth*.

College of Science and Health

Student Experience & Innovation

- MWSU Geography Club painted a world map and a US map on the playground at North Nodaway Elementary School in Pickering, MO. The project was sponsored by MWSU Student Government Association and Lowes of St. Joseph, MO.
- Carissa Ganong and three summer PORTAL students Audrey Lindsteadt, Anthony Rademann and Zachary Schank presented two posters about their summer research on MWSU campus ponds at the virtual regional Great Plains Limnology Conference. One of the posters "Anthropogenic Impacts on Zooplankton Abundance and Population Dynamics in Nine Urban Ponds" won the student poster contest at the conference.
- The Organization of Student Social Workers (OSSW) volunteered at Second Harvest Community Food Bank and helped pack boxes for the 139th Children's Christmas Workshop in St. Joseph, MO. The OSSW was presented the 2020 Excellence in Philanthropy Award by the MWSU Foundation.
- The Social Work Program hosted Master of Social Work Virtual Informational Sessions.
- Grey Endres had his SWK 415 Social Work Practice III students present their group emPowerU advocacy presentations in St. Joseph, MO.
- OSSW and the Social Work Program partnered with Northwest Health Services and Summers Motors to host the annual "Walk for the Homeless." This year the Walk for the Homeless was a Drive due to social distancing and safety of participants.
- Csengele Barta and student researcher Lauren Tinoco presented their research "Chemical warfare in the plant world: How do invasive species relying on the synthesis of secondary allelopathic metabolites compete out natives in Missouri habitats?" at the International Plant Biology 2020 virtual convention. The work was co-authored by five additional MWSU undergraduate students from Csengele Barta's research team.
- Jeff Woodford and student researcher Nelson Maxey presented their research "Fully Numerical Computation of Vibrational Properties of Small Molecules" in the MWSU Center for Teaching and Learning Virtual Scholarship Summit.
- Population Health Management Seniors presented digital and tactile storyboard presentations for a project through Mosaic Life Care Foundation.

Programs & Partnerships

- Fiona Sansone was asked to serve as a Board Member for the Mosaic Life Care Foundation.
- Mechel McKinney is the new President-elect for New Mexico Health Information Management Association (HIMA). It is a three year term including service as President, Past President and as one of the delegates representing New Mexico HIMA at the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) House of Delegates.
- Bill Russell is the 2020 recipient of the Dr. Kathleen Kinderfather Award, exhibiting honor, dignity, integrity and exemplary contributions to Missouri Society of Health and Physical Education (MoShape).

- Kelly Fast and a colleague created a video podcast on the topic of mentorship for “Tune in Tuesday” through the Missouri HIMA state organization.
- Maureen Raffensperger was selected as one of five from Missouri to serve in the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) House of Delegates.
- Grey Endres and Pam Clary were recognized as Compass Award Recipients for most influential professors by the MWSU Missouri Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society.
- The Department of Chemistry is working to finalize a new clinical affiliation for the Medical Lab Science program with Truman Medical Center. The goal is to have students competing for those seats for the upcoming 2021/22 training cycle.

People & Campus

- Tilottama Roy was the corresponding author of the scientific article “Radioprotective natural products as alternative complements in oncological radiotherapy” published in the *Latin American and Caribbean Bulletin of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants*.
- Dawn Drake presented a paper entitled “Can suburbanization be a savior for farms in the US’ dairy death spiral?” at the MWSU Center for Teaching and Learning’s Virtual Scholarship Summit.
- Pi-Ming Yeh and Gavin Waters presented an oral presentation “Path Analysis Testing the Development of Personality and Psychological Well-being Model” at the Fall 2020 Virtual Scholarship Summit hosted by the MWSU Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Kelly Fast and Mechel McKinney attended the 2020 virtual KHIMA & MoHIMA Joint Annual Meeting “Looking to the Future of HIM.”
- Britt Johnson passed the Missouri Content Assessment (MoCA) Business exam.
- Elissa Zorn was accepted to participate in the Association for Nursing Professional Development’s (ANPD) 2020–2021 Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Academy program.
- Grey Endres was the co-chair, along with Dave Tushaus, for the Human Rights Fair. This event featured exhibits in Blum Union on human rights issues by Social Work students and a zoom lecture entitled *The Human Rights and the Orphan Trains*.
- Jeff Woodford has been appointed to the Chemistry GRE Exam Committee. As part of his appointment Jeff will be reviewing the current exam and developing content for the next iteration of the exam.
- Csengele Barta, Cary Chevalier and Carissa Ganong submitted a collaborative proposal for funding to the National Science Foundation (NSF). The proposal, “Collaborative Research: Digitization TCN: Endemism and biotic interactions in the Interior Highlands, a region of exceptional biogeography” is a joint collaborative effort between twelve institutions in Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Tennessee, and Kansas and the requested total funding amounts to \$3.7 million.
- Csengele Barta received the Outstanding Reviewer Award from the journal of international circulation, *Plants*, for her reviewer contributions to ensuring quality in scientific publishing.
- Cary Chevalier organized the first Hunter Education Workshop for the MWSU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation. The workshop was attended by 14 majors of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Program at MWSU, and members of the Student Chapter, and one faculty member of the Biology Department, Aracely Newton. A final exam scoring 80% or higher was required for earning Certification and all 15 participants successfully received the scores required for earning this internationally recognized certification.

Graduate School

- Dr. Susan M. Bashinski, Professor of Special Education and Interim Dean of the Graduate School, completed two reviews for a special deaf-blindness issue of the journal *Frontiers in Education*.

Honors Program

- On October 13, 22 MWSU students became the newest members of Alpha Chi. Alpha Chi invites students who academically rank in the top 10% of their Junior and Senior class to join. The organization, sponsored by Drs Teddi Deka, Angela Haas, and Phillip Frank, with officers Jordan Jennings (President), Delaynee Ross (Vice President), Kelly Oliphant (Secretary) and Zachary Schank (Treasurer), invited inductees to a ceremony along with their most influential professors, who receive the chapter's Compass Awards. The ceremony was streamed live for inductees' families and those who could not attend. Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, Interim President of Missouri Western State University, addressed the inductees regarding leadership and future opportunities. The inductees were Brittany Addison, Rylee Aggus, Tori Barrett, Hannah Berry, Tennyson Clary, Whitney Davidson, Jennifer Dorris, Cassidy Edson, Mackenzie Grantham, Jordan Holkesvik, Nicole Jackson, Madyson Lytton, Tanner Merwin, Skyler Murphy, Madelyn O'Connell, Mackenzie O'Neill, Grace Slater-Pinnick, Callie Smith, Julia Stofus, Michael Thomson, Raechel Tittor, and Emily Weese. Professors receiving Compass Awards as most influential professors were Drs. Pam Clary, Todd Eckdahl, Grey Endres, Michael Grantham, Melinda Kovacs, Jay Lemanski, Jon Mandracchia, Natalie Mikita, Mark Mills, Madeline Rislow, Kristen Walton, and Corey White.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, Interim President

FROM: Dr. Doug Davenport, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

DATE: November 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Report to the Board of Governors

Student Affairs

Student Experience and Innovation

- **COVID-19 Case Management & Rapid Testing:** The Case Management Team will continue to provide support, housing, and food delivery during the Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks. Additional staff members have been recruited to assist with case management of positive cases and close contacts, including Latoya Muhammad, Megan Raney, Jackie Burns, and Stephanie Spratt. All members of the Case Management Team have completed the John Hopkins Contact Tracer Course. The Esry Student Health Center has applied and been approved for **COVID-19 BinaxNOW Antigen Testing** through the Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS). The BinaxNOW Antigen test is a rapid test that will provide results within 15 minutes. The testing will be available for Students, Faculty, and Staff that are symptomatic and meet the screening criteria for COVID-19 testing. Training for the Electronic COVID-19 Reporting of Point of Care Test Results to DHSS is scheduled for November 10 and will be completed by the Esry Student Health Staff, including Pam Esely, Ashley Hux, and Beth Roderick. Finally, several Flu Clinics are being offered to students from Health Services during the months of October through November.
- **Student Engagement:** Student Affairs and Registered Student Organizations continued to offer COVID-safe events and activities for students to attend, especially as human connection and psychological wellbeing are increasingly concerning.
 - Missouri Western Student Affairs, Student Government Association, Western Activities Council, Center for Student Involvement, and Alumni Relations hosted a **Football Watch Party** in Spratt Stadium for the first football game of the year against Central Arkansas on October 31, 2020. Attendees socially distanced on the football field to watch the game on the stadium screen, and participated in pumpkin carving and costume contests. Rally towels, SGA hand sanitizers, Griffon masks, and Voter t-shirts were provided, as was hot apple cider, hot dogs, and carmel apples. Roughly 200 students, staff, faculty, and alumni attended. The event included performances by Elite Cheer Team, Missouri Western Dance Company, and the Missouri Western Drumline.
 - Additional events have included a **Mental Health Speaker** on October 13, **Grocery Bingo** on October 27, and a **Movie Night** on November 4 all hosted

by Black Student Union. MWSU's National Pan-Hellenic Council hosted a **Hump Day Event** on October 14 and November 11, and a **Trivia Night** on November 9. The Center for Student Involvement hosted a **Kick Back** on November 4 to allow students to destress after the election. Western Activities Council hosted a **Haunted House** on October 30 and a **Spirit Week** October 19-23, including an Office Decorating contest. (1st place - Chemistry Department, 2nd Place - Center for Student Involvement, 3rd Place - Purchasing.) Housing and Residence Life partnered with the Office of New Student Initiatives to host a **Griffon Trivia Night** in Scanlon Hall. Additionally, Resident Assistants have hosted **Face Mask Painting**, a **Scavenger Hunt**, and a **Stress Relief Program with Emotional Support Animals**, including Barley, the certified therapy dog of Dr. Hannah Piechowski. The Esry Student Health Center is hosting a **Candy and Condoms** program on November 13. Finally, the Center for Multicultural Education and the Global Center are partnering to host a **Virtual Multicultural and International Graduate Reception**.

- **Housing During Breaks:** During the Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks, Residence Life staff will continue to be available to students who remain on campus. Students must request to remain on campus, which can be approved at no charge. Acceptable reasons to stay include working locally, International student status, and the inability to go home due to high-risk relatives or unsupportive home conditions. Residents who are not permitted to remain in the halls must turn in their keys and check out of the halls by Tuesday, November 24 at 7:00pm. Residents must complete a COVID symptom screening before retrieving their keys when they return in January. Food service will not be available for students during the break, with the exception of those in isolation or quarantine.
- **Student Government End of Semester Progress Report:** SGA has been hard at work finding ways to **engage with students in a safe manner**, including two events which had over 200 attendees. This is a major boost in engagement from recent history. The SGA Senate passed SB FY21-14 the "**Financial Freedom Reform Act**" after months of work by the financial oversight committee (FOC) to reform the FOC allocations system. In response to the COVID pandemic, the SGA Senate passed SB FY21-07 to create an **SGA Health and Safety Committee**, to advocate for student health during and investigate AEDs and First Aid Kits. **SGA social media** engagement has increased across all platforms, including +1350% Twitter engagement. All senate meetings are not streamed live on Youtube and weekly press releases are issued. SGA has continued to **invest in the campus community**, including \$50,000 in Blum Lobby refurbishing, \$20,000 investment in Griffon Media, \$15,000 for Baker Fitness equipment, \$8,000 in Blum Private Dining Room technology upgrades, and \$5,000 for partnerships with Social Work Students to improve Campus Crosswalks.
- **Spring Accommodation Letters:** The Accessibility Resource Center is working to process students registered who are requesting accommodations for the Spring Semester.

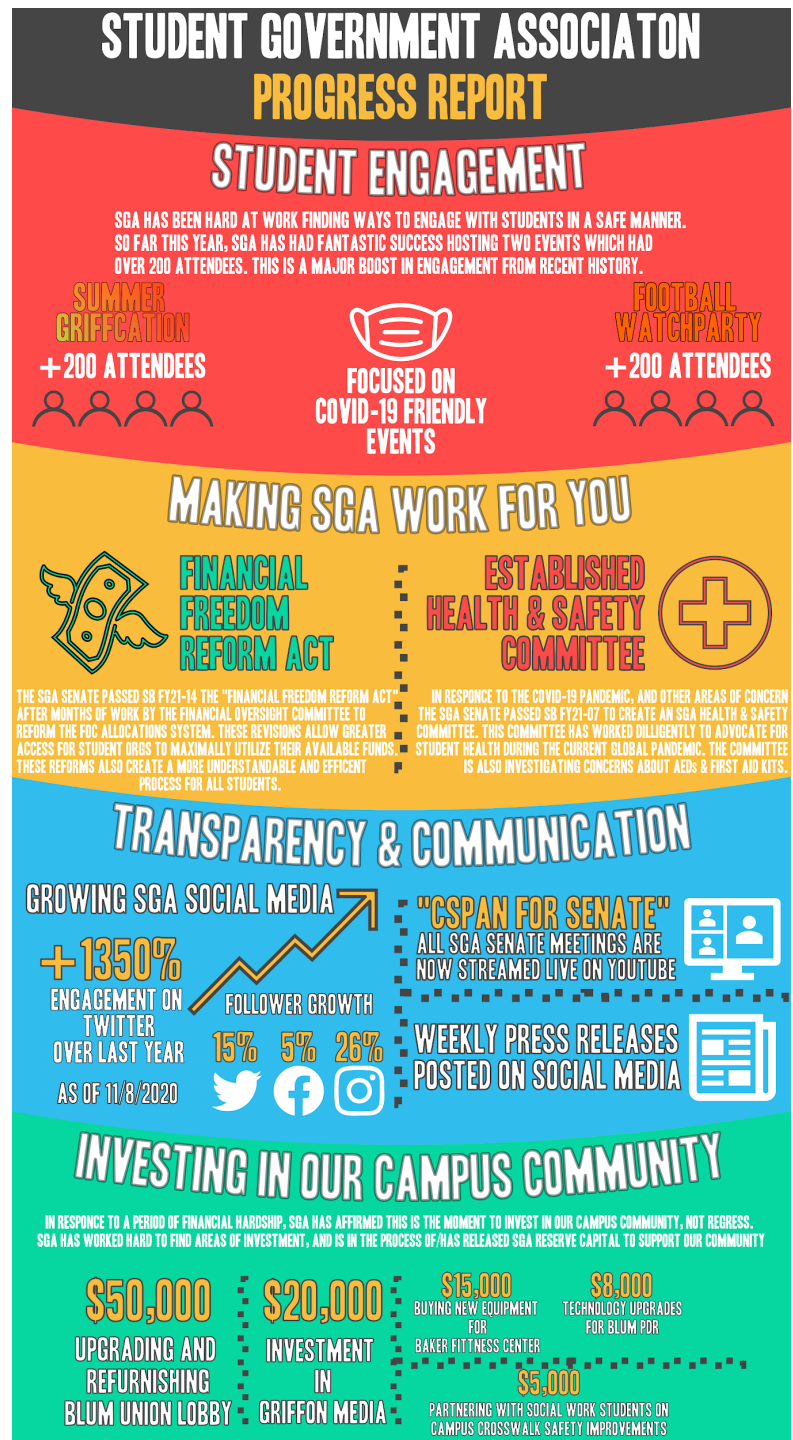
- **Employment Opportunities:**

The Career Development Center continues to approve jobs through the Handshake program for students, including over 1,500 new employment opportunities in October and November.

- **2020-2021 Housing**

Application Live Dec 1: The self-service website students use for housing applications and roommate requests has been updated, now featuring a cleaner interface and accessibility from a mobile device.

- **Mentorship:** The Center for Multicultural Education hosted the first mentor program meet up on October 16, 2020 to discuss program goals and to provide an opportunity for students to get to know each other and the mentors. The mentor program meets every Friday at 1:00pm to get to know one another, discuss upcoming events, and to receive tips on how to be successful while they are a student at MWSU. In the theme of mentorship, Latoya Muhammad in the Center for Multicultural Education met with students of color who received unsatisfactory grades on their midterms. They discussed study tips, motivation, and sleep habits with students to help them come up with a plan to improve their grades.



Strengths and Stewardship

- **Sock Drive:** Nontraditional students participated in a Sock Drive for local homeless shelters.

- **Campus Cupboard Donations:** Multiple organizations have hosted food drives for the Missouri Western Campus Cupboard in October and November, resulting in an overflow of resources! Special thanks to many of our colleagues and community members who brought donations. For the rest of the semester, the Campus Cupboard is refraining from accepting donations as need will decrease during the Thanksgiving and Winter breaks.

Programs and Partnerships

- **Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation:** The Academic Resource Center is celebrating 25 years of partnership with Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation, which provides psychoeducational evaluations for qualified students at no cost and considerable tuition assistance.
- **YWCA Board:** Latoya Muhammad, Multicultural Education Director, continues to serve and represent Missouri Western on the YWCA Board, including the October 22, 2020 meeting.
- **Partners in Prevention:** Katie Jeffers, MWSU Counselor, serves as the representative of Missouri Western to the monthly Partners in Prevention (PIP) meeting, most recently November 6. In addition to the monthly coalition meeting, Dr. Molly Downing from Ohio State University presented "Evidence-based and evidence-informed prevention strategies for young adults that address prescription opioid or stimulant misuse" which discussed the scope of prescription drug misuse on college campuses and identified effective individual and environmental prescription drug misuse prevention strategies that can be targeted to young adults and campus communities.
- **City of Saint Joseph Health Department:** The Esry Student Health Center is installing condom dispensers and condoms in the Commons and Residence Halls which were donated by the City of St. Joseph Health Department.

Telling Our Story

- Articles:
 - Steve Potter, Counselor, was interviewed for an article published on November 8 in the Griffon News entitled "**Depression, Anxiety and Support Animals**" by student reporter Briana Reed.
 - Dr. Hannah Piechowski, AVP & Dean of Students, and Steve Potter, Counselor, were interviewed for an article published on October 28 in the Griffon News Entitled "**Difficulties and Limitations in the African American Student Community at Missouri Western**" by student reporter Briana Reed. Piechowski was also interviewed for articles by Griffon Media including "**Event Attendance Down**", "**Watch Party Celebrates First Football Game**", and "**Black Lives Matter**".
 - Katie Jeffers, Counselor, was interviewed for an article published October 20 in the Griffon News entitled "**Missouri Western Counseling Center Turns to Telehealth for Sessions**" by student reporter Olivia Wabski.

- Conferences and Presentations:
 - Interim Director of Housing and Residence Life Josh Maples attended the virtual **Upper Midwest Region, Housing Association (UMR-ACUHO) Regional Conference**.
 - Dr. Hannah Piechowski, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, attended the **Virtual Annual National Behavioral Intervention Team Association (NABITA) Conference** November 10 & 11, the annual **MIAA Senior Student Affairs Officers Meeting** (virtually) on November 12, the **WIR(ED): A IV-W Virtual Conference** and the **NASPA Region IV-W Advisory Board** by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators on November 2, and the **Missouri Chief Student Affairs Officers Meeting** hosted by the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development on November 30.

People and Campus

- The Counseling Center will be welcoming back intern **Tiffany Bomberger** from Avila University for the Spring 2021 semester.
- The Division of Student Affairs is continuing several position searchings. Candidates came to campus the week of November 9 for both the **Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life** and the **Administrative Coordinator for Student Affairs** positions. The search for **Director of Counseling and Health Services** initially failed, but will resume in the Spring 2021 semester.
- **Josh Maples**, Interim Director of Housing and Residence Life, was named Contracted Service, Housing, & Residence Life category chair for the NASPA Excellence Awards Program.

MEMORANDUM

To: MWSU Board of Governors
From: Dr. Josh Looney, Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics
Date: December 3, 2020 (as of November 16, 2020)
Re: BOG Report (Athletics, Esports and Recreation Services)

Programs & Partnerships

- **Reflecting on the 2020 Football Season and COVID-19 Testing.** Griffon student-athletes, coaches and staff – especially our athletic training staff – should be commended for their relentless commitment in navigating COVID-19 protocols and unique circumstances to move forward with a modified 2020 fall football schedule. The logistics surrounding the acquisition of testing resources and building an independent football schedule was challenging enough, but the discipline to execute weekly NCAA virus mitigation requirements is even more significant. The return of football was a massive step forward for the entire department's return to competition. Football's COVID-19 NCAA testing requirements generated more than 700 PCR tests from September 28th – November 16th with a positivity rate below 2%.
- **Looking Ahead to Basketball Season.** On November 19th, the MIAA will officially tipoff the 2020-21 hoops season and become the first conference in NCAA Division I or Division II to begin regular season college basketball competition in 2020. This will be a basketball season like nothing we've experience before, but Missouri Western is ready for the fight and I am confident in our COVID-19 mitigation strategies to navigate the season. Our first home date is set for December 3rd.

As we prepare for the 2020-21 college basketball season, we anticipate last-minute postponements, baseball/softball-like schedule changes and teams battling their way through uncharted circumstances. Our athletic department has rallied around a "Find A Way" mentality this fall and we've encouraged our student-athletes and fans to be flexible, understanding and resilient as we navigate schedule changes over the next few months. Our goal is to safely compete in all 44 MIAA games on our men's and women's basketball schedule – and we are grateful for each game we are able to play in front of our fans. While we set MWSU Fieldhouse attendance records last year, with both programs finishing the 2019-20 season among the nation's top-10 programs in NCAA D-II basketball attendance, we will be operating at just 25% capacity this season. Attendance policies will be continually reviewed throughout the year.

- **Cross Country Completes 2020 Campaign in National Invitational.** On November 14th, in Lubbock, Texas, the women's cross country team and one male Griffon qualifier wrapped up their season at nationals. Concluding a shortened fall season, the Griffons achieved their first-ever national competition with three runners earning "all-American" honors. In the 6K, freshman Madison Nash finished 12th overall with a time of 22:59, followed closely by senior Megan Gillen in 22nd with a time of 23:23. In the men's race,

junior Riley Gorham finished 25th in the 10K with a time of 33:09. Additionally, the fourth-year program finished sixth nationally in the women's team standings. Equally impressive, the cross country team aced its NCAA COVID-19 testing requirements this semester with no positive test results from mandatory testing.

- **Griffon Men's Basketball Achieves Highest Preseason Ranking in a Decade.** The MIAA announced its preseason coaches poll for the 2020-2021 men's basketball season during the 2020 MIAA Basketball Virtual Media Day Presented by Seigfreid Bingham. Coming off their best season in a decade, the Griffon men were rewarded with their highest MIAA preseason ranking in a decade. The men were selected fifth with 122 points, trailing Rogers State (123 points), Washburn (140 points), Missouri Southern (147 points) and Northwest Missouri (169 points). The preseason ranking represents a rapid rise for a program picked 14th in the 2018-19 preseason poll.
- **Griffon Women's Basketball Selected Sixth in Preseason Poll.** Coming off a 21-8 record in Candi Whitaker's first season as head coach, Griffon Women's Basketball were picked sixth in the MIAA Preseason Poll during the 2020 MIAA Basketball Virtual Media Day Presented by Seigfreid Bingham. The women were ranked 11th in the 2019-20 preseason poll.

Student Experience

- **Esports Wraps Up Inaugural Semester Competition.** The Esports competitive seasons are winding down for the fall semester. A report of competition since the October Board of Governors meeting includes:
 - League of Legends finished their league with the second-highest ranking, allowing them to move on to the championship where they made it to the semi-finals before getting eliminated.
 - Rocket League performed well enough in their league that they were invited to take part in an invitational tournament sponsored by Maui, in which they were undefeated up until the final match where they went 1-2.
 - Fortnite's league ended on November 16th and they have qualified for the championship, which will be taking place in December.
 - Overwatch's league is ongoing. They will not be placing very high as they struggled in the beginning but have grown leaps and bounds towards the end.
 - Head Coach Christian Konczal is very excited about competitiveness of MWSU's Rocket League and Overwatch teams, with both programs leading the way into spring for the Griffons inaugural season.
- **Blum Union Continues to Transform.** The former bookstore space in Blum Union continues to transform through construction and branding of the new Esports Arena. The student-centered location remains on track for a soft opening in January before official dedication in February 2021.

People and Campus

- **Pool Continues Serving External Clients.** Recreation Services has been pleased with the operation and usage of the pool, especially during the high school boys swim team season. Congratulations to the Central High School “Elite Eight” as they head to the state meet. The high school girl’s season is in its beginning stages and the department is excited to see that success continue. The pool will remain open during reserved times over winter break to serve community aquatics needs.
- **Winter Pool Improvements Scheduled.** Additional improvements to the pool are expected to be made in the upcoming weeks. New starting blocks were funded by Central High School and have been delivered to campus. Installation should be completed soon. Recreation services has also been receiving a lot of praise from the community about the professionalism and efficiency of the lifeguards on staff. This is a huge testament to the commitment to their training by Jende Smith (the collaborator from the City of St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Department) and Avery Cary-Wilmes (a part-time employee with Recreation Services).
- **Re-alignment of Recreation Services Staffing.** To better meet the needs of Missouri Western students, Recreation Services has re-aligned its staffing plan to search for a Recreation Programming Coordinator. The department is excited to bring someone in to help supervise health and wellness activities, as well as coordinate intramurals and other recreation events when it is safe for them to resume.
- **Head Athletic Trainer Search.** Blaise Kriley submitted his resignation in early November after leading the Griffon athletic training staff for six years. He was particularly integral in authoring the department’s COVID-19 protocols alongside Dr. Juan Dominguez and the MWSU Athletics medical team at Mosaic Life Care. We wish Blaise the best as he joins Cameron Regional Medical Center. A national search is underway.

Telling our Story

- **Esports Hot on Recruitment Trail.** Head Coach and Director Christian Konczal has started scheduling meet and greets with Missouri high schools. These low key events are hosted remotely and offer a chance to talk about MWSU’s new program with prospective students and athletes. Konczal’s goal is to run a mini-combine during the spring semester for graduating seniors who are interested in Esports.

In addition, Esports has started forging relationships with local gamers/streamers who have been helping spread the word about the new program and MWSU’s stream, which has been very helpful in increasing the program’s digital footprint. For the fall semester, the program’s Twitch metrics are:

- 51 hours and 40 minutes streamed
- 11 average viewers at any one time, (max was 35, min was 2)
- 622 unique viewers

- 126 unique engaged viewers, (chatting, etc)
 - 100 follows
- **Griffons Ink Numerous New Student-Athletes in Early Signing Period.** The first wave of new Griffon student-athletes signed with the University on November 11th when the initial signing period opened for sports other than football. Football's signing day opens December 16th for midyear transfers and February 3, 2021 for the regular signing period. Of note, Griffon women's lacrosse continued to grow its 2020-21 roster with three mid-semester transfers. MWSU women's lacrosse anticipates 26 student-athletes on its inaugural roster, shattering Year 1 roster expectations.

MEMORANDUM

To: MWSU Board of Governors
From: Dr. Josh Looney, Interim Vice President of Advancement
Date: December 3, 2020 (as of November 16, 2020)
Re: BOG Report (University Advancement and the MWSU Foundation)

Programs & Partnerships

- **MWSU Foundation Board of Directors Meeting.** The MWSU Foundation held its Board of Directors Meeting on November 4th. The leadership body took action on approving the FY20 Audited Financial Statement as well as finalizing the board roster for 2020-21.
- **Alumni Board Partners with Student Affairs.** MWSU Alumni Board members assisted student affairs by volunteering at the Griffon Football Watch Party in Spratt Stadium on October 31st.

People and Campus

- **Foundation Welcomes New Board Members; Elects Officers for 2020-21.** The MWSU Foundation Governance Committee met on August 25th to discuss and approve potential board member nominees and provide a recommendation of a new slate of officers. On November 4th, the MWSU Foundation Board of Directors took action on the following recommendations.

New Board Members

First 3-Year Term

Jennifer Dixon '89
Todd Michalski '93
Blake Schreck '78
Edward Stroud

Board Member Terms Extended

Second 3-Year Term

Darrell Jones '88
Bob Wollenman '72

Third 3-Year Term

Ashley Albers
Bill Grimwood
Susan Pettigrew '83

2020-21 Slate of Officers

Chair: Bill Grimwood
Vice Chair: Bob Wollenman '72

Treasurer: Pat Modlin '88
Secretary: Susan Pettigrew '83
Immediate Past Chair: Dennis Rosonke

- **Alumni Awards Recipients Honored.** MWSU Alumni Award Recipients were honored at a private reception at Room 108 in Downtown St. Joseph on the evening of November 6th. Guests enjoyed refreshments and watched the YouTube Premiere of the award video that was created from Zoom interviews conducted by Elliot Swope in the Marketing and Communications Department. Recipients were then honored at Spratt Stadium during halftime of the football game on November 7th.

To watch the Awards video and learn more about our wonderful awardees, please visit <https://youtu.be/xfTU9rvxXO8>

Student Experience/Telling our Story

- **Excellence in Philanthropy Award.** Since 2013, the MWSU Foundation has presented this award to a student organization that has demonstrated outstanding commitment to their community through direct financial contributions, development of charitable programs, volunteering and leadership in philanthropy. This year's Excellence in Philanthropy Award was presented to the Organization for Student Social Workers.

While the organization participates in numerous philanthropic efforts, their main project each year is the Annual Walk for the Homeless - raising awareness and money for the social issue of homelessness. For the past eight years, this event has raised well over \$20,000 for our community's homeless. Accepting the award at the Foundation's November 4th board meeting was Julia Stolfus, the current President of the Organization for Student Social Workers, and Dr. Pam Clary, Associate Professor and Advisor for the group.

- **Ambassadors Host Modified Luncheon.** The MWSU Ambassadors held a modified Thanksgiving luncheon at the St. Joseph Country Club on November 12th. Members heard testimony from a current student and a recent graduate who described the powerful impact receiving the Ambassador Scholarship had on their lives. The Ambassadors continue to support non-traditional students by raising scholarship funds through dues of \$20 each year and their annual fundraising event "Night at the Ritz."

Strength & Stewardship

- **MWSU Foundation Annual Fund Updates.** A year-end direct mail solicitation featured Merle Phillips '20, a recent graduate who began medical school this fall at Harvard. This piece was mailed to 22,000 alumni and friends on November 16th. Prior to the mailing, the direct mail campaign was at 20% of its annual goal. Additionally, a "Thanks for Giving" e-card was sent the week of Thanksgiving to donors who have given this past year.

To end the calendar year, the Western League will officially embark on a giving campaign December 8th and 9th. It is the first coordinated campaign for the Western League since 2005. The all-hands on deck initiative will engage volunteers from the Alumni Board and the Foundation Board to participate in an Olympic Membership Rally to enroll additional individuals and businesses into the Western League for Excellence (MWSU's unrestricted giving society). The goal is to raise an additional \$300,000 in annual unrestricted giving.

Memorandum

To: Missouri Western State University Board of Governors
From: Kent Heier, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications
Date: Nov. 16, 2020
RE: Board of Governors Report

As we near the end of the fall semester, I'm exceptionally proud of the work Marketing and Communications has done in difficult circumstances. In addition to the normal demands of their jobs, team members responded to the additional communication needs associated with the global pandemic with grace and efficiency.

Social Media

Our social media audience continues to grow. On Facebook, our total number of followers is nearly 14,000 an increase of 8 percent over last year. In October, our Facebook page reached an average of more than 37,000 people per day, an increase of more than 20 percent. On Twitter, we have 8,583 followers, an increase of 5 percent. An average tweet receives about 2,156 impressions, an increase of almost 20 percent over a year ago.

Our most engaging posts on social media in the past few weeks have included some of our student success stories, a yard-sign giveaway to promote Griffon pride, invitations to the socially distanced Griffon football watch party on Halloween, recognition of the Shout Out Award winners for academic advisors, and reminders about COVID measures and flu shots.

Marketing and Communications has also worked with Human Resources to facilitate the posting of job vacancies on social media, especially LinkedIn.

Traditional Media

Governor Parson's visits to Missouri Western in October and November generated media coverage of our Center for Excellence in Applied Healthcare Learning and our Center for Military and Veterans Services. Also generating media coverage has been our general success in continuing to offer in-person classes during the COVID-19 pandemic, the dedication of the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie, and faculty experts in a number of areas, notably political science during the election season, economics and health topics related to the pandemic.

Web

Marketing and Communications has continued to update the University's COVID-19 response page throughout the fall semester and will freshen the content for the spring semester. We have also created a new webpage to promote Wintersession classes and updated the webpages for the Center for Military and Veterans Services, Center for Service, Early College Academy and several others.

Christa Byer, who has been our web coordinator and analyst, resigned in November. She started as a marketing coordinator in the Western Institute, has provided outstanding service in whatever role we have asked her to fill, and will definitely be missed. We are working with Technology Services to refine the job description and find the right person for the role.

Publications

Marketing and Communications is working with Advancement and Alumni Services to prepare the Winter 2021 issue of the magazine for publication in January.

The Family Newsletter sent in the first week of November included information about the revised academic calendar and end of semester, including residence hall move-out procedures, financial aid information and other useful information as well as general campus news.

Creative Services

Our graphic designers are working on a variety of projects with numerous units on campus, most notably Admissions, Advancement and Athletics. We also created invitations and programs for the recent ribbon-cutting of the Center for Military and Veterans Services

Videography

Our videographer worked with the Alumni office to create an outstanding video for their virtual Alumni Awards presentation on Nov. 6. He is also working with Admissions on a promotional video that can be shown in classrooms in lieu of in-person recruiting visits (limited by COVID-19) and with various offices around campus on videos congratulating our graduates since we aren't able to gather for a Winter Commencement ceremony.

MEMORANDUM

To: MWSU Board of Governors

From: Darrell R. Morrison, VP Finance & Administration

Date: November 16, 2020

Subject: BOG Report

Financials

The Budget Director has completed and submitted the annual Legislative Budget to the Department of Higher Education Workforce Development as well as the annual S&P Public University Questionnaire. A follow up phone interview is scheduled with S&P later in November.

Accounting has been working continually on the annual financial audit in coordination with our auditors, BKD. The anticipated date of completion is December 2020.

The Finance Department has been working to clean up the chart of accounts and continues to assist departments with budget questions.

The federal government has strict guidelines regarding the spending of the CARES Act funds. Monitoring of Covid funding is ongoing. The university has spent approximately \$6.5M of our awarded \$7M. The funds have been allocated for a wide array of technology service to aid in distance learning and work from home abilities, PPE (personal protective equipment), loss of revenues, unemployment, food service contracts, campus air filtration, water filling stations, signage, thermal check in stations, emergency sick and family leave as well as student refunds. MWSU plans to utilize the remaining funds in the spring semester.

The State has released \$396,900 of allocated withheld funds back to MWSU for FY21.

People and Campus

Human Resources continues to work with employees regarding the upcoming Benefits Enrollment process. Employees have been sent the 2021 Employee Benefit Guide via email along with information outlining how the process will work. A Webinar Recording was also included in that email. Open Enrollment appointment calls began the week of November 9-20. All employees were informed that they must go through the enrollment process, regardless if they elect or waive coverage. Employees were also given information on how to reach CBIZ representatives regarding any questions or concerns they may have.

To date Financial Aid has processed the following:

- 3,262 Financial Aid Recipients
- Disbursed Funds \$18,286,082
- Federal Grants/Scholarships \$3,849,884
- State Grants/Scholarships \$1,197,524

Physical Plant has been busy replacing eleven Air Handler Units as well as six Condensing Units in the following buildings; Blum Union, Popplewell Hall, Potter Hall, and Looney Complex. The project is in part to the CARES Act funds received. The project will improve air quality by allowing improved air flow as well as improving the filtration. The updates improve the reliability of end of life equipment while also improving the operating costs with updated and more efficient equipment. The project is scheduled to be completed and operational by the end of November 2020.

MWSU has been focused on lowering utility costs across campus without sacrificing quality for our students and staff. Through continued assistance and partnership with Evergy, updated HVAC equipment, LED lighting installation, and set point control the university has lowered annual electrical costs in December 2019 through November of 2020 by approximately \$300,000 compared to the same time period of December 2018 through November of 2019.

Physical Plant remains very active in assisting several departments with renovations such as ESports, Lacrosse Locker Rooms, and the Kit Bond Incubator to name a few. Grounds crew continues to work around campus removing dead trees, trimming and general fall cleanup. Custodial staff remains vigilant in their efforts of sanitizing and cleaning buildings to ensure the health and safety of everyone.

Tech Support

Outdated network infrastructure equipment has been replaced in the data center and multiple buildings to enhance virtual learning initiatives and protect against failures.

Continue to support faculty and staff with enhanced technology as many of our learning environments have moved to a digital format. Also, server environments from previous IMC and IT departments are being brought into a single modern private cloud environment.

COVID Response

COVID guidelines continue to be followed and enforced. Conducting meetings via Zoom, maintaining social distances, and staying home when ill are just a few ways of complying with CDC regulations while striving to meet the needs of students, families, and employees.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

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November 19, 2020

To: Missouri Western State University Board of Governors

From: Darrell R. Morrison, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Subject: Financial Information – Board Meeting, December 3, 2020

Please find the following financial documents for the date of November 15, 2020 pertaining to fiscal year 2021 for your review:

- Attachment #1 – “Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual”
 - This document reflects the current reconciliation of changes made to the total University budget for fiscal year 2021 and a comparison of actual items to the current year revised budget.
- Attachment #2 – “Comparison of Actual Revenues and Expenses”
 - This document compares revenues and expenses for the current fiscal year to the prior fiscal year
- Attachment #3 – “Schedule of Funds Invested”
- Attachment #4 – “Statement of Cash Position”

Thank you for your attention to these documents and let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2020
(As of November 15, 2020)

TOTAL - ALL FUNDS

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
OPERATING REVENUE					
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 34,751,404	\$ (62,029)	\$ 34,689,375	\$ 17,128,587	49.4%
Less: Institutional scholarships					
Less: Other scholarship allowances	295,781	817,666	1,113,447	349,603	31.4%
Federal grants and contracts	24,395	2,567,546	2,591,941	231,789	8.9%
State grants and contracts	13,000	541,900	554,900	505,200	91.0%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	239,500	1,528	241,028	153,966	63.9%
Sales and service of educational departments					
Auxiliary enterprises:					
Athletics	989,580	31,000	1,020,580	170,353	16.7%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Housing	5,543,004	365,139	5,908,143	3,092,500	52.3%
Less: Scholarship allowances	3,894,217	-	3,894,217	1,824,686	46.9%
Food service					
Less: Scholarship allowances	173,200	-	173,200	70,879	40.9%
Bookstore					
Less: Scholarship allowances	164,458	500	164,958	10,446	6.3%
Other auxiliary enterprises					
Less: Scholarship allowances	293,680	4,234	297,914	57,193	19.2%
Other operating revenues	46,382,219	4,267,484	50,649,703	23,595,202	46.6%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES					
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Salaries and compensation	27,436,537	271,598	27,708,135	8,064,817	29.1%
Fringe benefits	10,062,704	94,641	10,157,345	3,019,644	29.7%
Supplies and services	12,757,635	333,340	13,090,975	6,055,996	46.3%
Travel	875,603	138,245	1,013,848	131,428	13.0%
Utilities	2,560,936	(4,072)	2,556,864	704,538	27.6%
Scholarships	20,351,891	(167,080)	20,184,811	9,453,231	46.8%
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	74,045,306	666,672	74,711,978	27,429,654	36.7%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(27,663,087)	3,600,812	(24,062,275)	(3,834,452)	15.9%

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2020
(As of November 15, 2020)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)					
State appropriations	17,751,987	396,900	18,148,887	7,946,475	43.8%
Grants	8,764,988	-	8,764,988	3,977,532	45.4%
Gifts	1,768,239	382,665	2,150,904	684,791	31.8%
Investment income	426,202	-	426,202	27,535	6.5%
Interest on capital related debt	(1,814,543)	-	(1,814,543)	(484,189)	26.7%
Capital	(518,500)	(3,338,153)	(3,856,653)	(529,398)	13.7%
Other	(2,680,907)	-	(2,680,907)	-	0.0%
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	23,697,466	(2,558,588)	21,138,878	11,622,746	55.0%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(3,965,621)	1,042,224	(2,923,397)	7,788,294	-266.4%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)					
Debt service	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	
Transfer to Aux from E&G	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	-	-	-	-	
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	(3,965,621)	1,042,224	(2,923,397)	7,788,294	-266.4%
OTHER					
Prior year funds	-	733,736	733,736	-	0.0%
\$	(3,965,621) \$	1,775,960 \$	(2,189,661) \$	7,788,294	-355.7%

Missouri Western State University
Comparison of Actual Revenues and Expenses
For Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021
(As of November 15, 2019 and 2020)

TOTAL - ALL FUNDS				
	FY 20	FY 21	Change	Percentage Change
OPERATING REVENUE				
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 19,596,367	\$ 17,128,587	\$ (2,467,780)	-12.6%
Federal grants and contracts	424,246	349,603	(74,643)	-17.6%
State grants and contracts	501,394	231,789	(269,605)	-53.8%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	18,709	505,200	486,491	2600.3%
Sales and service of educational departments	144,111	153,966	9,855	6.8%
Auxiliary enterprises:				
Athletics	60,108	170,353	110,245	183.4%
Housing	3,550,005	3,092,500	(457,505)	-12.9%
Food service	2,633,857	1,824,686	(809,171)	-30.7%
Bookstore	96,533	70,879	(25,654)	-26.6%
Other auxiliary enterprises	22,303	10,446	(11,857)	-53.2%
Other operating revenues	426,020	57,193	(368,827)	-86.6%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	27,473,653	23,595,202	(3,878,451)	-14.1%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Salaries and compensation	9,914,015	8,064,817	1,849,198	18.7%
Fringe benefits	3,381,117	3,019,644	361,473	10.7%
Supplies and services	6,901,729	6,055,996	845,733	12.3%
Travel	372,803	131,428	241,375	64.7%
Utilities	850,105	704,538	145,567	17.1%
Scholarships	10,292,861	9,453,231	839,630	8.2%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	31,712,630	27,429,654	4,282,976	13.5%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(4,238,977)	(3,834,452)	404,525	-9.5%

Missouri Western State University
Comparison of Actual Revenues and Expenses
For Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021
(As of November 15, 2019 and 2020)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)				
State appropriations	8,994,515	7,946,475	(1,048,040)	-11.7%
Grants	4,173,784	3,977,532	(196,252)	-4.7%
Gifts	782,717	684,791	(97,926)	-12.5%
Investment income	77,575	27,535	(50,040)	-64.5%
Interest on capital related debt	(53,559)	(484,189)	(430,630)	804.0%
Capital	(581,951)	(529,398)	52,553	-9.0%
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	13,393,081	11,622,746	(1,770,335)	-13.2%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	9,154,104	7,788,294	(1,365,810)	-14.9%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)				
Debt service	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	
Transfer to Aux from E&G	-	-	-	
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	-	-	-	-
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	\$ 9,154,104	\$ 7,788,294	\$ (1,365,810)	-14.9%

Missouri Western State University
Schedule of Funds Invested
11/15/2020

OPERATING FUND	YIELD	AMOUNT	BANK
Checking Account	0.50%	11,925,393	Citizens Bank
Miscellaneous Petty Cash/Change Funds	0.00%	4,850	Campus Locations
<i>TOTAL OPERATING, AUXILIARY & AGENCY FUNDS</i>		<u>11,930,243</u>	
AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS			
Escrow Bond Refunding Account	0.00%	-	Commerce Bank
Repair & Replacement Reserve	0.50%	300,000	Citizens Bank
<i>TOTAL AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND FUNDS</i>		<u>300,000</u>	
INSTITUTIONAL LOAN FUND			
Checking Account	0.50%	82,483	Citizens Bank
<i>TOTAL LOAN FUNDS</i>		<u>82,483</u>	
TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED		<u><u>\$ 12,312,726</u></u>	

Average Interest Rate

November 2020 - 0.50%

November 2019 - 1.97%

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Cash Position
November 15, 2020

Fund	11/15/2020 Available Balance	11/15/2019 Available Balance	11/15/2018 Available Balance
Operating, Auxiliary, Agency, Payroll, & Petty Cash	\$ 11,930,243	\$ 9,961,926	\$ 11,194,140
Auxiliary System Revenue Bond Funds	300,000	310,581	300,000
Loan Funds	82,483	82,483	60,860
TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED	<u>\$ 12,312,726</u>	<u>\$ 10,354,990</u>	<u>\$ 11,555,000</u>

Statement of Cash Position

Report of the Student Governor Hannah Berry

19 November 2020

I am pleased to be writing this report to close out the fall 2020 semester. This semester was full of new challenges and opportunities alike, and I believe I speak for all students in stating that we are more than ready for a long winter break. Dialogue with students in recent weeks has proven that many of us learn differently and have adapted well. As community we have learned to persevere in new learning and living situations. While this semester has been in no way easy, we are better learners, teachers, and leaders coming out of it. I look forward to seeing continued growth as a result of this year's challenges.

I am proud of our university; we have all overcome much adversity this year during the Coronavirus pandemic. Leaders and administrators have adapted to lead differently. Professors have learned to teach differently. And students have adjusted to new learning environments. As an organization we are thankful for our local community, your support this year has been valuable and encouraging. Wishing everyone a safe and healthy winter break. Enjoy your time with family and loved ones, six feet apart!



Report of the Interim President to the Board of Governors

December 3, 2020 Report

Introduction

As of the date of this report, MWSU's Fall 2020 semester will be nearing its conclusion; courses will have been completed and final exams finished, with only the submission of term grades as the sole remaining task. Given the many challenges imposed upon our campus community by the COVID-19 pandemic, reaching this milestone represents a significant achievement. The determination shown by every Griffon in working to keep our campus open as a safe, healthy, and educationally relevant environment is solid testimony to the level of dedication that so many have for this institution.

Importantly, however, our efforts to maintain positive momentum at MWSU have not been limited to managing the pandemic. There has been much good work undertaken to advance the institution, and I am happy to provide the following updates and highlights of our work toward that goal. Details may also be found in the Vice President and/or unit reports provided herein.

COVID-19 Response

In coordination with MDHEWD Commissioner Mulligan and in conjunction with Governor Parson's office, we have received slightly over 2,000 of the **Antigen/Abbott BinaxNOW tests** for use with symptomatic students and employees. While we have been approved by the State as a testing site, we are awaiting final approval for our testing protocols and inclusion in the State's reporting system. Therefore, our testing deployment (at this writing) is temporarily on hold. However, we have planned for and are prepared to begin testing (again, limited to symptomatic students and employees) as soon as the necessary approval and system insertion occurs, hopefully in the very near future.

In the meantime, we continue to execute and update as necessary our COVID-19 protocols and practices as we monitor CDC and other health organizations' guidelines and recommendations. To date, we have employed 13 contact tracers who have been assisting our COVID Coordinator in monitoring campus conditions and reporting to our local public health authorities. We are maintaining our COVID Cases Dashboard and participate weekly in the **Saint Joseph Community COVID Conference Call** for information sharing with Mosaic, the Saint Joseph Health Department, the SJ School District, Commissioners' Office, Mayor's Office, and the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Mulligan continues to hold weekly COVID zoom meetings among four-year universities for informational sharing in which myself, our COVID Coordinator, and other members of our COVID response team participate. We are also exploring options for vaccination delivery in conjunction with our local health agencies as soon as a vaccine is made available for our populations. We have made use of CARES funding available to us totaling nearly \$6.5 million dollars.

Spring 2021 Semester Planning

As mentioned in my October 2020 report, the Spring 2021 semester is scheduled to begin on January 19, pending, of course, any new developments in the COVID-19 pandemic which would impact our ability to start as scheduled. Classes will end on April 30, 2021, and final

exams will finish on May 7, 2021. We are working on our return-to-campus screening to include processes conducted at the start of this past fall semester as well as new protocols which may be helpful (e.g., use of the rapid tests we now have available for symptomatic individuals).

Additionally, spring break will be held as is typical but will be moved back to March 22 – 26.

This provides better alignment with our scheduled midterms and gives the University a bit more flexibility should the need to induce a COVID-campus pivot in operations arise.

As the spring enrollment process began October 26, I have **initiated enrollment data collection and analyses** through the offices of the Registrar and Institutional Research. The necessity for doing so was driven by two factors. First, our new Vice President of Enrollment Management was not scheduled to arrive on campus until November 16, 2020, and secondly, routine monitoring of spring semester enrollments has not been uniformly performed in the past. To this latter piece, I have mobilized the Office of Academic Affairs to address areas of lagging student enrollment by engaging in similar retention efforts deployed during late spring and through the summer months, to include contacting students via email, phone, and texting. I am confident this will have a positive impact on our spring enrollment. I am further confident that Dr. Mace, now on campus, will help bolster our fall-to-spring retention efforts to assist our overall enrollment numbers.

University Initiatives

Programs and Partnerships; Student Experience; People and Campus

Our **Center for Military and Veterans Services (CMVS)** currently supports approximately 128 military-connected students. Designed as a one-stop-shop, active military and veteran students, spouses and dependents receive assistance crucial to their collegiate success. From their first contact point to their ultimate graduation, MWSU military-connected students are guided through resources related to admissions, registration, financial aid, advising, and academic support. Further, the CMVS also houses a study/lounge area which has space for comradery and meaningful interaction among these students. The Center has strong potential to contribute significantly to the enrollment at MW and efforts are underway to solidify relationships which will assist in that goal.

In honor of Veterans Day, on November 11, 2020, the CMVS held a ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony which included remarks from **Governor Mike Parson** and **Brigadier General Levon Compton**, the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard. Many other distinguished guests attended, ranging from key military leaders from the 139 Airlift Wing **including Colonel Cluck** and **Chief Master Sargent Neros**, state legislators including **11th District Representative Brenda Shields** and **9th District Representative-elect Dean VanSchoiack**, Mayor **McMurray**, Buchanan County Commissioners **Lee Sawyer (Presiding Commissioner)** and **Ron Hook (Western District Commissioner)**, current **Chair Dennis Rosonoke** and **Chair-elect Bill Grimwood** of the University Foundation Board as well as the **Chair Tieman**, **Vice Chair Ebersold**, and a **Governor Landes** from our own MWSU Board of Governors. The event was well received and provided excellent media coverage highlighting the University.

As directed by Dr. Gary Clapp, the **Center for Service (CFS)** is the perfect vehicle through which MW can further its fusion with the city of Saint Joseph and our surrounding communities. Through their service, MW students provide needed manpower and creative energy to businesses, agencies, and other organizations while serving as University ambassadors to our CFS partners, and thus clearly demonstrating the value proposition that MW brings to our area. Despite the current COVID-19 conditions, the CFS continues to expand. The CFS is coordinating with 11 community partners that have generated eleven one-time projects (a 26% increase since October) and 12 recurring projects that can provide more than 5000 hours of service from September through the end of December 2020. The Center now has 64 students who have enrolled and/or expressed interest in the program via Canvas (up 16 from last report) with approximately 48 completed projects for a total 272.5 service hours and an overall economic impact of \$7,405.20 (e.g., using the estimated Missouri Volunteer pay rate equivalency of \$27.20/hr). This is an increase of 82 hours since October. As a way of illustrating our entire campus' service participation, the CFS is beta testing the capture of faculty and staff service hours to evaluate community service impact.

Many campus activities which contribute significantly to a student's collegiate experience had to be canceled this semester due to the pandemic. However, through creative, innovative planning that was also very mindful of COVID protocols, the campus requirement of social distancing did not result in social isolation for our students. I am grateful to all those under the auspices of Student Affairs, Physical Plant, and other related units which contributed their efforts to provide such programming. Several campus activities were held involving a variety of student organizations and University offices / units. For example, our Student Government Association (SGA), Western Activities Council, Center for Student Involvement, and Student Affairs hosted a **MWSU Football vs. the University of Central Arkansas Watch Party at Spratt Stadium** on October 31. Activities included pumpkin carving and best costume contests. The **MWSU Griffon football team hosted Pittsburgh State University** for the season's only home game on November 7 while supporting a spectator crowd limited to 25% stadium capacity.

Students' reactions to the campus learning experience this fall were ascertained via our **partnership with EdSights (EdSights)** which uses an SMS chatbot (aka Max Griffon) to connect with students through text messaging. Mid-to-late semester messaging with students indicated that nearly 85% of those responding felt safe being on campus this fall. Further, students overall appear to be very satisfied with their choice of instructional format, as a majority indicated that they would make the same choice in course delivery method as they had originally signed up for at the start of the semester (i.e., face-to-face – 73%, online – 63%, or a hybrid combination of both – 62%).

As faculty continue to adjust to the new COVID-19 teaching environment, they can find resources through the **Center for Teaching & Learning (CTL)**, which develops and supports a community dedicated to excellent teaching and learning, regardless of location, formality, or modality. The Center recently introduced *Griff Vids*, professional development videos made by and for MWSU employees. For example, Dr. Jordan Atkinson, assistant professor of communication, has created an instructional video series titled, "Building a Learning Culture in

the College Classroom.” With the intention of improving instructional practices and promoting a culture of learning, each of these videos introduces and defines a given topic, discusses applicable research, and offers tips and resources for instructors. I invite the Governors to view this on the CTL website.

More evidence of the continued commitment to teaching excellence and applied learning was apparent on October 31 when the **John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie (JRTLPrarie)** was dedicated. In culmination of a six-year project-partnership with the Missouri Department of Conversation – NW Region Office and named in honor of Emeritus Biology Faculty member, Dr. John Rushin, the prairie will serve as a living-learning laboratory for students and faculty as well as a place of beauty and repose for the general public. Nearly 60 individuals attended the ribbon-cutting dedication, including **Representative Brenda Shields (11th District)**, which provided an excellent showcase to the University’s applied learning focus.

Finally, I have begun regular conversations with the **Staff Association President and Board members, the Faculty Senate President and Executive Board members**, as well as the **Student Government Association President and Vice President** in an effort to provide avenues for productive conversation and input beyond regular faculty senate, staff association, and student government association meetings. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the very good work on behalf of the University that these individuals and their organizations provide. Shared governance requires shared commitment, and I am happy to engage in these endeavors.

Community Engagement and Relations

Strength and Stewardship

As mentioned earlier, **Dr. Melissa Mace** has joined our Griffon family as the **Vice President of Enrollment Management**; her duties relate to areas critical to the University’s wellbeing, including student recruitment, enrollment, retention, and success at both domestic and international levels. To best leverage impact, the Registrar, Academic Advising and Student Success, and the Center for Academic Support have been shifted from Academic Affairs to the Enrollment Management area. We are all very excited to welcome Dr. Mace as part of our leadership team.

I have continued my engagement with the **MWSU Alumni Board and Association**. I supported their 2020 Alumni Association Award ceremony on November 6 and reported at their November 12, 2020 Alumni Board meeting. I also continue to engage with the **University’s Foundation** and am very excited about the **Western League’s giving campaign**, which will be initiated early December and marks its first coordinated campaign since 2005. The planned **Olympic Membership Rally** is seeking to enroll individuals and businesses into the Western League for Excellence (MWSU’s unrestricted giving society) with a fundraising goal of \$300K. Under the inspiration of Advancement Officer Chrissy McCann and the guidance of Executive Director Kim Weddle and Interim VP for University Advancement and Executive Director Josh Looney, I am supremely confident this campaign will be very successful.

I consider my work to connect/reconnect with others across various entities and agencies essential to the University. Despite limitations on travel and in-person meetings, I have begun forging important relationships to ensure that MW is front and center in respect to governmental budget and policy formation. In the last three weeks, I have connected personally with the following individuals: 1) **Congressman Sam Graves'** field representatives, Matt Barry and Buffy Smith; 2) **Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Parson, Robert Knodell**; 3) **State Senator-elect Greg Razer** of the 25th District; 4) Chris Dunn – House Appropriations Staffer for **Representative Cody Smith of the 163rd District**; 5) **Zora Mulligan, Commissioner, MDHEWD**; 6) **Paul Wagner, Executive Director of the Council on Public Education in Missouri (COPHE)**; and 7) our Saint Joseph Legislative Partnership lobbyists, **Trent Watson and Mark Rhodes**. Additionally, I participated in the Saint Joseph Legislative Partnership discussion with our key local legislators (e.g., **Senators Dan Hegeman and Tony Luetkemeyer, Representatives Shields and Falkner and Representative-elect VanSchoiack**) and our lobbyists in which maintenance of state core funding levels for MWSU was the number one priority presented for the partnership.

I was recently appointed to the **Mosaic Life Care Foundation Board** and eagerly await the initiation of my work there.

Financial Situation

As the Board is aware, the University remains in a state of Financial Emergency. While we have made improvement in our financial situation, we are nonetheless still dealing with financial stress. We are projecting, at this point in time, a budget deficit of approximately \$2.2 million. We have exercised sound fiscal responsibility in managing COVID-related CARES funding which has provided for both the typical COVID-related expenditures as well as opportunities to address physical plant maintenance projects (again with significant COVID implications such as air handling systems, condenser units) that would have otherwise been deferred. We have been fortunate to have returned to us approximately \$396K of the State's initial withheld funds for FY21. Further, I am pleased to report that the work of the **Budgeting and Planning Committee**, led by VP Morrison and consisting of members from our staff and faculty across campus, is both ongoing and robust. As I mentioned in my October report, the work of this committee in promoting a budget-conscious campus which will assist efforts to promote greater understanding of both our current financial situation and the University's budgeting processes and realities is critically important.

Summary

Perhaps it is the approaching Thanksgiving holiday, but as I approach the fourth month in my service as Interim President of Missouri Western State University, I find myself feeling very grateful. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the University, despite the significant challenges we face; I am grateful for the work that our faculty, staff, and administrators unflinchingly undertake in order to ensure our students are prepared to succeed; and I am very grateful to be part of this Griffon family with its strong and deep roots to the city of Saint Joseph

and our surrounding communities. I am both hopeful and confident in the future of MWSU and I look forward to working to ensure that the University continue its positive trajectory.