



February 23, 2023
Blum Student Union Room 220

Personnel, Finance, & Operations
Committee Meeting
11:00 a.m.

Board of Governors' Meeting
1:30 p.m.



Missouri Western State University
4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph MO 64507
www.missouriwestern.edu

Office of the President

AGENDA

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PERSONNEL, FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
February 23, 2023
Blum 220
11:00 a.m.**

Notice is hereby given that Missouri Western State University's Board of Governors will convene a Personnel, Finance & Operations Committee Meeting beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2023 in Blum 220.

Operations

- Project Updates

Finance

- FY2023 Financial Update
- FY2024 Budget Discussion

New Business (As may arise)



AGENDA
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

February 23, 2023 - 1:30 P.M. BLUM STUDENT UNION ROOM 220

Notice is hereby given that Missouri Western State University's Board of Governors will convene a Board meeting beginning with its Public Session at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2023. The meeting will originate from Blum Student Union Room 220 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Missouri. The meeting will also be livestreamed at griff.vn/BOG22323.

I. PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Approval of October 27, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes (Board Book Section A)
Approval of December 1, 2022 Special Board Meeting Minutes (Board Book Section A)
- B. Board of Governors' Committee Report
 - 1. Personnel, Finance & Operations
- C. Division Reports (Board Book Section B)
 - 1. Finance & Administration (Darrell Morrison)
 - 2. Academic Affairs (Laura Reynolds)
 - 3. Student Affairs & Enrollment Management (Melissa Mace)
 - 4. University Advancement & MWSU Foundation (Marc Archambault)
 - 5. Intercollegiate Athletics (Andrew Carter)
 - 6. Marketing & Communication (Becky Dunn)
- D. Report of the President (Board Book Section C)
- E. Other Business
- F. Report of the Chair
- G. 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 meeting in executive session will also originate from Blum Student Union Room 220 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Legal Matters & Personnel Items

III. PUBLIC SESSION

Adjournment

Section

A

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
October 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Rick Ebersold in Room 220 of Blum Student Union.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

Board Members Present

Rick Ebersold – Chair
Kayla Schoonover – Vice Chair
Al Landes
Lisa Norton
Lee Tieman
Bob Wollenman

Faculty and Staff Members Present

Bryan Adkins, Director of Physical Plant
Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement/Executive Director of the MWSU Foundation
Brett Bruner, Assistant Vice President & Dean of Students
Andy Carter, Director of Athletics
Michele Chambers, Assistant Director and Financial Officer, MWSU Foundation
Kelli Douglas, General Counsel
Chris Dowdell, Technology Support Technician
Becky Dunn, Chief Communication Officer
Chris Dunn, Chief of Staff
Sara Freemyer, Human Resources Director
Kathy Gammon, Budget Director
Amber Halsteadt, Staff Association President
Elise Hepworth, Vice Provost
Kent Heier, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communication
Joel Hyer, Dean, College of Liberal Art
Elizabeth Kennedy, President
Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Kevin McQuirter, Instructional Designer, Video
Darrell Morrison, Vice President of Finance & Administration
Letha Nold, Assistant Controller, Finance
Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Kimberly Sherwood, Assistant Vice President & Controller, Finance
Ed Taylor, Faculty Senate President
Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President & Secretary to the Board

Others Present

Dustin Hayward, CPA, Managing Director, Forvis
Hanna Summers, Griffon Media
Tama Wagner, Community Alliance
Lowell Kruse, Community Alliance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board of Governor Chair Rick Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the August 18, 2022 Board meeting minutes. Governor Schoonover made a motion to approve the minutes; Governor Norton seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

RATIFICATION OF BOARD POLL

Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to ratify the October 3, 2022 Board poll (amendment to the Board of Governors Bylaws). Governor Landes made a motion to approve the phone poll; Governor Norton seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Personnel, Finance, & Operations

- Dustin Hayward, CPA, Managing Director, Forvis, briefed the Board on the FY22 audit report and referred to the full presentation at the Personnel, Finance, & Operations Committee meeting. Forvis received complete cooperation and full transparency from the Administration during the audit process. The results were a clean, unmodified opinion. No material weaknesses over financial reporting or compliance.
- VP Morrison briefed the Board with a six-year comparison of finances focusing on operating expenses, net position, cash position and capital assets.
- VP Morrison presented to the Board two information items. Jaggaer Platform and the 4.8% increase for calendar year 2023 for BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City. No changes to plans or increases in expenses passed to the employee.
- Board Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the Personnel, Finance, & Operations Committee report as presented. Governor Norton made a motion to approve the policy; Governor Wollenman seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

DIVISION REPORTS

Laura Reynolds, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Strategic Hiring Process
 - Provost Reynolds is monitoring enrollment numbers and budget while being strategic in hiring.
- Board was briefed in terms of Academic Affairs efforts to increase retention.

Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

- Student Affairs
 - Welcome Week activities highlighted
 - MaxEngage
 - 76 different activities and data was collected
- Enrollment Management
 - Currently recruiting for fall 2024 class.
 - Admissions has attended one-hundred college fairs and eighty high schools.
 - Updates were given in terms of enrollment in Missouri territories with emphasis in Buchanan County.

- Nursing, Psychology and Elementary Education continue to be the top academic areas of interest.

Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement/Executive Director of the MWSU Foundation

- Advancement
 - CTAC Industrial Partners Advisory Council meeting was on September 20, 2022.
 - The Ambassadors held a membership luncheon on September 22, 2022.
 - The Phone-a-thon continues throughout the semester. To date, twenty donors have pledged a total of over \$6,300.
 - The Fall Direct Mail campaign was recently sent.
- Alumni
 - The Alumni Awards Banquet was held on October 7, 2022 in the Fulkerson Center.
 - The Alumni Association will host a reception for awardees before the Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet on October 28.
 - Grad Fest will be held on November 30 in Spratt Atrium.
- Foundation
 - The Foundation's annual Financial Statement audit concluded in September. CliftonLarsonAllen, the Foundation's accounting firm, confirmed the financial position for FY22 operations and cash flow comply with accounting standards. There were no material findings.

Andy Carter, Director of Athletics

- Department Updates
 - The reception and banquet for the 2022 Rogers Pharmacy MWSU Hall of Fame will be on October 8, 2022. On Saturday, October 29, all inductees will be recognized during halftime of the Griffon Football game.
 - A Head Athletic Trainer has been hired and will start late November.
 - Kudos to Theresa Grosbach for her appointment to the DII Management Council.

Becky Dunn, Chief Communications Officer

- Department Updates
 - Update given on the Strategic Plan.
 - New photo sharing site called SmugMug was launched at Family Day.
 - Marketing Communications process 575 project requests during August 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.
 - Social media engagement continues to improve across four major platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
 - Update given on custom viewbook analytics.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board in terms of the many activities the campus community has been engaged in thus far. Over sixty applied learning experiences have been scheduled and nearly one-hundred fifty students have attended.

Dr. Kennedy recognized Erica Dunn who is a 2021 graduate of the Craig School of Business and is pursuing an MBA at MWSU. Ms. Dunn received the 2022 Judith K Sabert Spark award from the Mosaic LifeCare Foundation. Ms. Dunn is currently employed as a facilitator at EmPower U.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board on Winter Commencement scheduled for December 17, 2022. District 11 Representative Brenda Shields will be the Commencement speaker.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board that the improvements that the University has made in financial processes and procedures continue to secure the long-term health of the institution.

There is a four percent increase in new student enrollment this fall and recruitment and enrollment are moving in a positive direction.

The Division of Academic Affairs has new program development and the implementation of the strategic hiring process which resulted in twenty-one new key faculty hires.

The Board was briefed in terms of Griffon Production House, grant acquisition in the Department of Nursing, Law Enforcement Academy, and numerous awards and presentations faculty did during the semester.

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board on her on-going efforts in terms of community engagement and relations. Dr. Kennedy was the keynote speaker for the Downtown Rotary Club, United Way Leadership Saint Joseph, Kiwanis Club, and the Community Alliance. Dr. Kennedy continues to make monthly appearances on the Barry Birr Radio Show. Dr. Kennedy continues to participate in the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development Commissioners Advisory Council and the Saint Joseph School District's Hillyard Technical Expansion Center. Dr. Kennedy continues her work at the co-chair of the MIAA Taskforce on Constitutional Complicance.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Joel Hyer, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Dr. Elise Hepworth, Vice Provost, and Becky Dunn, Chief Communications Officer presented their assessment of the current Strategic Plan: Pathways to Excellence.

Dr. Kennedy addressed the Board with a recommendation to extend the University's Strategic Plan: Pathways to Excellence, for two more years, to sunset in spring 2025.

Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to approve President Kennedy's recommendation to extend the Strategic Plan: Pathways to Excellence to sunset in spring of 2025. Governor Landes made a motion to extend Strategic Plan: Pathways to Excellence to spring 2025 as presented; Governor Tieman seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ebersold provided the date of the next Board meeting, which will be Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

There being no additional Board comments or questions, Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to meet in executive session, pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1), (2), (3) and (14) to consider legal matters, real estate, personnel, and other matters protected by law. Governor

Norton moved to meet in executive session; Governor Wollenman seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED

REGULAR SESSION RE-CONVENED

Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the personnel recommendations and other legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Tieman made a motion to approve the personnel recommendations and other legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Norton seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

Faculty Resignation:

Ashlee Garrett, Instructor

Department of Health Information Management
(eff. 9/19/22)

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

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Wright, Secretary

APPROVED:

Rick Ebersold, Chair
Board of Governors

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
October 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Chair Rick Ebersold in Room 220 of Blum Student Union.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

Board Members Present

Rick Ebersold – Chair
Kayla Schoonover – Vice Chair
Al Landes
Lee Tieman
Bob Wollenman

Faculty and Staff Members Present

Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement/Executive Director of the MWSU Foundation
Andy Carter, Director of Athletics
Kelli Douglas, General Counsel
Chris Dunn, Chief of Staff
Elizabeth Kennedy, President
Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Darrell Morrison, Vice President of Finance & Administration
Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President & Secretary to the Board

Others Present

Brian Zickefoose, Husch Blackwell

Vice President Darrell Morrison brought forth to the Board a recommendation for contract approval FB23-053 Conduit & Cabling to Spring Sports Complex. Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the contract as presented. Governor Landes made a motion to approve FB23-053; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote, 5-0.

There being no additional Board comments or questions, Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to meet in executive session, pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1) to consider legal matters. Governor Tieman moved to meet in executive session; Governor Wollenman seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED

REGULAR SESSION RE-CONVENED

Chair Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Tieman made a motion to approve the legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 5-0.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Wright, Secretary

APPROVED:

Rick Ebersold, Chair
Board of Governors

Section

B

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Missouri Western State University

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February 17, 2023

To: Missouri Western State University Board of Governors

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

Subject: Financial Information – Board Meeting, February 23, 2023

Please find the following financial documents for the period ending January 31, 2023 pertaining to fiscal year 2023 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 2023 and a comparison of actual items to the current year revised budget.
- Attachment #2 – “Statement of Cash Position”
- Attachment #3 – “Schedule of Funds Invested”

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, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

	Educational & General (Undesignated)					Percentage of Total
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 32,754,644	\$ (3,473,891)		\$ 29,280,753	\$ 28,330,360	96.8%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts	25,000	-		25,000	25,000	100.0%
Sales and service of educational departments	175,400	1,463		176,863	90,828	51.4%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	14,165	34,305		48,470	14,819	30.6%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	32,969,209	(3,438,123)		29,531,086	28,461,007	96.4%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation	24,805,043	(1,246,925)		23,558,118	12,184,367	51.7%
Fringe benefits	8,910,106	(515,968)		8,394,138	4,801,896	57.2%
Supplies and services	5,209,096	719,328	3,211	5,931,635	4,072,727	68.7%
Travel	299,500	(38,895)		260,605	128,788	49.4%
Utilities	1,688,661	(278,268)		1,410,393	750,579	53.2%
Insurance	330,118	21,533		351,651	332,713	94.6%
Scholarships	9,699,281	(694,693)		9,004,588	8,781,671	97.5%
Depreciation						
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	50,941,805	(2,033,888)	3,211	48,911,128	31,052,741	63.5%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(17,972,596)	(1,404,235)	(3,211)	(19,380,042)	(2,591,734)	13.4%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations	21,263,692	-		21,263,692	12,403,818	58.3%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-		2,322,497	1,354,787	58.3%
State appropriations - capital	-	541,623		541,623	113,956	21.0%
Grants						
Gifts	1,242,558	93,135		1,335,693	745,830	55.8%
Investment income	40,000	287,675		327,675	172,524	52.7%
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(339,535)	(71,347)		(410,882)	(119,256)	29.0%
Other		450,000		450,000	244,277	54.3%
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	24,529,212	1,301,086	-	25,830,298	14,915,936	57.7%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	6,556,616	(103,149)	(3,211)	6,450,256	12,324,202	191.1%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service	(499,977)	-		(499,977)	(295,899)	59.2%
Other	1,927,551	(617,392)		1,310,159	962,778	73.5%
Transfer to Aux from E&G	(6,000,000)	-		(6,000,000)		0.0%
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	(4,572,426)	(617,392)	-	(5,189,818)	666,879	-12.8%
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	1,984,190	(720,541)	(3,211)	1,260,438	12,991,081	1030.7%
OTHER						
Prior year funds			3,211	3,211		
	\$ 1,984,190	\$ (720,541)	\$ -	\$ 1,263,649	\$ 12,991,081	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

	Educational & General (Designated)					
	Adjustments					
	Original	for Prior Year				Percentage of
	Budget	Adjustments	Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Total
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 1,732,433	\$ (25,913)	\$ -	\$ 1,706,520	\$ 1,611,357	94.4%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts	56,600	-	-	56,600	-	0.0%
Sales and service of educational departments	155,885	-	-	155,885	112,495	72.2%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	195,339	25,720	-	221,059	125,793	56.9%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	2,140,257	(193)	-	2,140,064	1,849,645	86.4%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation	720,940	16,423	57,760	795,123	448,726	56.4%
Fringe benefits	184,662	(10,035)	5,978	180,605	133,833	74.1%
Supplies and services	1,752,562	(442,442)	291,950	1,602,070	823,293	51.4%
Travel	134,425	11,987	31,902	178,314	53,184	29.8%
Utilities	7,474	540	-	8,014	3,399	42.4%
Insurance	4,794	-	-	4,794	3,660	76.3%
Scholarships	50,000	-	-	50,000	28,800	57.6%
Depreciation						
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,854,857	(423,527)	387,590	2,818,920	1,494,895	53.0%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(714,600)	423,334	(387,590)	(678,856)	354,750	-52.3%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations					-	
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	809,756	(228,329)	-	581,427	53,149	9.1%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(80,712)	2,447	(9,000)	(87,265)	(14,392)	16.5%
Other						
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	729,044	(225,882)	(9,000)	494,162	38,757	7.8%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	14,444	197,452	(396,590)	(184,694)	393,507	-213.1%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service						
Other	(14,444)	(197,452)	(46,789)	(258,685)	(252,927)	97.8%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	(14,444)	(197,452)	(46,789)	(258,685)	(252,927)	97.8%
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	-	-	(443,379)	(443,379)	140,580	-32%
OTHER						
Prior year funds	-	-	443,379	443,379	-	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,580	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

	Auxiliary				Percentage of	
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Total
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts						
Sales and service of educational departments						
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics	\$ 1,639,226	\$ 307,050		\$ 1,946,276	\$ 1,044,923	53.7%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing	5,487,923	(774,514)		4,713,409	4,407,053	93.5%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service	3,102,712	140,000		3,242,712	3,207,485	98.9%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore	158,900	-		158,900	51,109	32.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises	102,247	(18,488)		83,759	88,076	105.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	10,491,008	(345,952)		10,145,056	8,798,646	86.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation	2,995,119	93,840		3,088,959	1,829,423	59.2%
Fringe benefits	1,002,631	34,423		1,037,054	776,654	74.9%
Supplies and services	4,384,050	294,752		4,678,802	2,945,428	63.0%
Travel	459,600	120,624		580,224	458,976	79.1%
Utilities	1,187,353	(16,454)		1,170,899	534,514	45.6%
Insurance	526,028	-		526,028	403,522	76.7%
Scholarships	4,090,514	(454,109)		3,636,405	3,498,786	96.2%
Depreciation						
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	14,645,295	73,076		14,718,371	10,447,303	71.0%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(4,154,287)	(419,028)		(4,573,315)	(1,648,657)	36.0%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	29,500	(12,500)		17,000	7,500	
Investment income	237,500	-		237,500	55,647	23.4%
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(1,000)	(110,895)		(111,895)	(103,562)	92.6%
Other						
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	266,000	(123,395)		142,605	(40,415)	-28.3%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(3,888,287)	(542,423)		(4,430,710)	(1,689,072)	38.1%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service	(4,012,404)	-		(4,012,404)	(3,213,892)	80.1%
Other	(1,839,493)	252,338	(300,000)	(1,887,155)	(963,299)	51.0%
Transfer to Aux from E&G	6,000,000	-		6,000,000	-	0.0%
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	148,103	252,338	(300,000)	100,441	(4,177,191)	-4158.9%
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	(3,740,184)	(290,085)	(300,000)	(4,330,269)	(5,866,263)	135.5%
OTHER						
Prior year funds			1,275,000	1,275,000		
	\$ (3,740,184)	\$ (290,085)	\$ 975,000	\$ (3,055,269)	\$ (5,866,263)	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

	Restricted					
	Original		Adjustments			Percentage of
	Budget	Adjustments	for Prior Year	Revised Budget	Actual	Total
			Funds			
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	\$ 88,100	\$ 164,853	\$ -	\$ 252,953	\$ 61,816	24.4%
State grants and contracts	43,738	340,664	-	384,402	278,799	72.5%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	500,695	19,805	-	520,500	117,693	22.6%
Sales and service of educational departments						
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	632,533	525,322	-	1,157,855	458,308	39.6%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation	15,455	55,341	-	70,796	27,472	38.8%
Fringe benefits	5,951	4,572	-	10,523	8,119	77.2%
Supplies and services	204,392	283,875	-	488,267	94,069	19.3%
Travel	495	45,920	-	46,415	3,150	6.8%
Utilities	540	(540)	-	-	-	
Insurance						
Scholarships	7,157,771	253,248	-	7,411,019	5,412,559	73.0%
Depreciation						
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	7,384,604	642,416	-	8,027,020	5,545,369	69.1%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(6,752,071)	(117,094)	-	(6,869,165)	(5,087,061)	74.1%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants	7,390,685	450,000	-	7,840,685	5,441,749	69.4%
Gifts						
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(265,000)	(414,406)	\$ (74,275)	(753,681)	(261,530)	34.7%
Other						
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	7,125,685	35,594	(74,275)	7,087,004	5,180,219	73.1%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	373,614	(81,500)	(74,275)	217,839	93,158	42.8%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service						
Other	(373,614)	81,500	-	(292,114)	(18,500)	6.3%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	(373,614)	81,500	-	(292,114)	(18,500)	6.3%
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	-	-	(74,275)	(74,275)	74,658	
OTHER						
Prior year funds			74,275	74,275		
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74,658	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

	Plant					Percentage of Total
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts						
Sales and service of educational departments						
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	-	-	-	-	-	-
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation					1,454	#DIV/0!
Fringe benefits					895	#DIV/0!
Supplies and services	\$ 4,800	\$ 316,260	\$ 65,332	\$ 386,392	\$ 258,988	67.0%
Travel						
Utilities		\$ 1,704		1,704	1,314	77.1%
Insurance						
Scholarships						
Depreciation	1,395,505			1,395,505	4,657	0.3%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,400,305	317,964	65,332	1,783,601	267,308	15.0%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(1,400,305)	(317,964)	(65,332)	(1,783,601)	(267,308)	15.0%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	250,000	958,468		1,208,468	-	0.0%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt	(1,647,847)			(1,647,847)	(834,087)	50.6%
Capital	(250,000)	(1,441,675)	\$ (828,543)	(2,520,218)	(1,360,163)	54.0%
Other						-
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	(1,647,847)	(483,207)	(828,543)	(2,959,597)	(2,194,250)	74.1%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(3,048,152)	(801,171)	(893,875)	(4,743,198)	(2,461,558)	51.9%
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service	4,512,381			4,512,381	3,509,791	77.8%
Other	300,000	827,795		1,127,795	271,948	24.1%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	4,812,381	827,795	-	5,640,176	3,781,739	67.1%
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	1,764,229	26,624	(893,875)	896,978	1,320,181	147.2%
OTHER						
Prior year funds			893,875	893,875		
	\$ 1,764,229	\$ 26,624	\$ -	\$ 1,790,853	\$ 1,320,181	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual
For the Year Ending June 30, 2023
(As of January 31, 2023)

Attachment #1

TOTAL - ALL FUNDS						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
OPERATING REVENUE						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 34,487,077	\$ (3,499,804)	\$ -	\$ 30,987,273	\$ 29,941,717	96.6%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	88,100	164,853	-	252,953	-	0.0%
State grants and contracts	43,738	340,664	-	384,402	278,799	72.5%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	582,295	19,805	-	602,100	142,693	23.7%
Sales and service of educational departments	331,285	1,463	-	332,748	203,323	61.1%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics	1,639,226	307,050	-	1,946,276	1,044,923	53.7%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing	5,487,923	(774,514)	-	4,713,409	4,407,053	93.5%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service	3,102,712	140,000	-	3,242,712	3,207,485	98.9%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore	158,900	-	-	158,900	51,109	32.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises	102,247	(18,488)	-	83,759	88,076	105.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	209,504	60,025	-	269,529	140,612	52.2%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	46,233,007	(3,258,946)	-	42,974,061	39,567,606	92.1%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Salaries and compensation	28,536,557	(1,081,321)	57,760	27,512,996	14,491,442	52.7%
Fringe benefits	10,103,350	(487,008)	5,978	9,622,320	5,721,397	59.5%
Supplies and services	11,554,900	1,171,773	360,493	13,087,166	8,194,505	62.6%
Travel	894,020	139,636	31,902	1,065,558	644,098	60.4%
Utilities	2,884,028	(293,018)	-	2,591,010	1,289,806	49.8%
Insurance	860,940	21,533	-	882,473	739,895	83.8%
Scholarships	20,997,566	(895,554)	-	20,102,012	17,721,816	88.2%
Depreciation	1,395,505	-	-	1,395,505	4,657	0.0%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	77,226,866	(1,423,959)	456,133	76,259,040	48,807,616	64.0%
OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)	(30,993,859)	(1,834,987)	(456,133)	(33,284,979)	(9,240,010)	27.8%
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)						
State appropriations	21,263,692	-	-	21,263,692	12,403,818	58.3%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-	-	2,322,497	1,354,787	58.3%
State appropriations - capital	-	541,623	-	541,623	113,956	21.0%
Grants	7,390,685	450,000	-	7,840,685	5,441,749	69.4%
Gifts	2,331,814	810,774	-	3,142,588	806,479	25.7%
Investment income	277,500	287,675	-	565,175	228,171	40.4%
Interest on capital related debt	(1,647,847)	-	-	(1,647,847)	(834,087)	50.6%
Capital	(936,247)	(2,035,876)	(911,818)	(3,883,941)	(1,858,903)	47.9%
Other	-	450,000	-	450,000	244,277	54.3%
NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES	31,002,094	504,196	(911,818)	30,594,472	17,900,247	58.5%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	8,235	(1,330,791)	(1,367,951)	(2,690,507)	8,660,237	
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)						
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	346,789	(346,789)	-	-	
Transfer to Aux from E&G	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)	-	346,789	(346,789)	-	-	
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	8,235	(984,002)	(1,714,740)	(2,690,507)	8,660,237	
OTHER						
Prior year funds	-	-	2,689,740	2,689,740	-	
	\$ 8,235	\$ (984,002)	\$ 975,000	\$ (767)	\$ 8,660,237	

Missouri Western State University
Statement of Cash Position
January 31, 2023

Fund	01/31/2023 Available Balance	01/31/2022 Available Balance	01/31/2021 Available Balance
Operating, Auxiliary, Agency, Payroll & Petty Cash	\$ 11,071,393	\$ 16,285,072	\$ 12,208,419
Auxiliary System Revenue Bond Funds	300,000	300,000	300,000
Loan Funds	82,483	82,483	82,483
TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED	\$ 11,453,876	\$ 16,667,555	\$ 12,590,902

Statement of Cash Position

Missouri Western State University
Schedule of Funds Invested
1/31/2023

OPERATING FUND	YIELD	AMOUNT	BANK
Checking Account-Operating	3.04%	250,568	Citizens Bank
Checking Account-Other	4.25%	10,816,026	Citizens Bank
Checking Account-Other	0.00%	-	Citizens Bank
Miscellaneous Petty Cash/Change Funds	0.00%	4,800	Campus Locations
<i>TOTAL OPERATING, AUXILIARY & AGENCY FUNDS</i>		<u>11,071,393</u>	
AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS			
Repair & Replacement Reserve	4.25%	300,000	Citizens Bank
<i>TOTAL AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND FUNDS</i>		<u>300,000</u>	
INSTITUTIONAL LOAN FUND			
Checking Account	4.25%	82,483	Citizens Bank
<i>TOTAL LOAN FUNDS</i>		<u>82,483</u>	
TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED		<u>\$ 11,453,876</u>	

Average Interest Rate

January 2023 - 3.04%

January 2022 - 0.06%

Division of Finance and Administration

Darrell R. Morrison, VP for Finance & Administration

February 17, 2023

The spring semester is in full swing for the finance and administration team. The university student accounts and financial aid offices have been working with our students over the past few weeks as they have enrolled for classes. This includes the awarding of federal, state and university aid and working with students on various payment plan options.

The budget office has begun work on the fiscal year 2024 budget process by meeting with departments and areas across campus. These meetings have included discussion on operating budgets for the coming year and training on university procedures. This process will continue over the next few weeks as proposals will be presented to the Board of Governors regarding potential tuition and fee increases and as other revenue projections are made. Missouri Governor Mike Parson has recommended as part of his state budget proposal a 7% increase for higher education core funding. This proposal, if approved, would provide new funding in the amount of \$1,651,033 to our university. Additionally, we will be working to provide another balanced operating budget for FY24. The budget office is also working on adjusting the fiscal year 2023 budget in order to make expenditures as revenues did not meet predications due to a downturn in enrollment.

The financial aid office participated in a Saint Joseph School District FAFSA Frenzy event on January 18, 2023. The event was well attended with several students and families completing the application. In early December the financial aid office took part in a Veteran's Administration Compliance Survey to ensure that we are processing VA payments in accordance with VA regulations and providing all required consumer information to veterans. The auditor reported no findings. To date the financial aid office has processed and paid over \$30,455,000 in Financial Aid (grants, scholarships, waivers and loans) for the award year 2022-2023. In addition, we have sent aid offers to over 1,800 incoming freshmen applicants for fall 2023.

The human resources department has been busy with the onboarding of new employees and held three different employee orientation sessions that were held on January 2nd, January 18th, and February 1st. A total of 14 new employees attended the onboarding sessions. Additionally, we have implemented compensation plan grades due to the minimum wage increase that recently occurred. Human resources area is also working with campus leaders on an employee evaluation system. The new evaluation process is scheduled to be instituted for fiscal year 2024.

The physical plant continues to work on various renovations across campus. They are nearing completion of the Department of Communications suite in Spratt Hall, the Film Room in the Looney Complex and office space in Murphy Hall that is adjacent to the new Interprofessional Lab.

As you are aware Vartabedian Hall was damaged over the winter break by a major water leak in the sprinkler system. The damage to the facility includes the sprinkler system, flooring, sheetrock and various mechanical items. The university continues to work with outside vendors on the repair of the residence hall. As of today's, date the cost of the loss is approximately \$750,000, however we continue to find additional items as we make repairs. The insurance deductible on this claim is \$300,000.

With the sunsetting of the Midwestern Higher Education Compac (MHEC) this year, a new organization for Missouri institutions of higher learning to be called the COPHE Insurance Group has been established to provide property insurance to those institutions who choose to join the group. The insurance is being marketed to domestic and foreign insurance companies including reinsurance. This new insurance pool will be for the 2023-2024 policy year beginning July1. The risk management and environmental safety department continues working with Marmic who is our fire and safety provider. Marmic tests and inspects all components (fire alarm panels, devises, water distribution gauges and controls) to ensure that are in operable condition.

Technology Services has been busy installing fiber to the softball fields to allow for Network/Wireless Access as mandated by the MIAA conference. Additionally, the team continues to development policies and procedures for technology standardizations across campus.

As you can ascertain from the above information, the finance and administration areas are extremely busy supporting the university's students, faculty and staff and we are fortunate to have some hardworking employees.

Academic Affairs

Dr. Laura Reynolds, Provost

February 13, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

Spring/Summer Courses and Efficiencies

The Office of Academic Affairs underwent an in-depth evaluation of course offerings, enrollments in courses, and faculty resources for the spring and summer 2023 semesters. This detailed approach involves considering course enrollment size in relation to predetermined course capacities, best practices in pedagogy, and current faculty resources. The courses offered are more responsive to student demands, reduce the needs for contingent faculty, and plan efficiently for student completion.

Strategic Faculty Hiring Process

The Office of Academic Affairs initiated the strategic hiring planning process for 2023-2024. Currently all search committees are completing bias training to comply with federal Equal Opportunity laws. Nine total searches are underway for tenure-track positions, all of which are vacancies.

Joint Chairs Meeting

The third Joint Chairs Meeting of the 2022-2023 academic year was held on Friday, February 17, and included all department chairs, deans, Provost Office staff, and was led by Provost Reynolds. Topics included best practices in faculty development and evaluation, Applied Learning, developing standard operating procedures to create continuity and efficiencies in department functions and processes, data driven decision-making, and common challenges faced by department leadership.

GriffCon

The Center for Teaching and Learning's Annual GriffCon mini-conference was held Friday, February 24 and featured keynote speaker Dr. Lindsay Doukopoulos from Auburn University's Biggio Center for Teaching and Learning. This event was open to all faculty and staff to address the current generation of learners and to gain best practices for increasing student retention and completion. 120 individuals in attendance.

Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education

The annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education was held March 9-11 on the campus of MWSU. This conference is one of the many ways Missouri Western lives its applied learning mission. Dr. Erin Dolan from the University of Georgia, and one of the foremost leaders of applied learning in the United States, was the conference keynote speaker. The corresponding conference Journal (the Journal on Applied Learning in Higher Education) will be published for the first time since 2019.

Colleges and Schools

	Student Applied Learning Experiences				Faculty Scholarly Activities		Student/Alumni Other Accomplishments		Faculty/Staff Other Accomplishments	
	Nov/Dec 2022, Jan 2023				Nov/Dec 2022, Jan 2023		Nov/Dec 2022, Jan 2023		Nov/Dec 2022, Jan 2023	
	Events	YTD	Students	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD
Bus. & Prof Studies	12	36	0	174	33	16	3	5	7	9
Liberal Arts	12	45	117	268	17	48	21	21	5	7
Science & Health	34	68	397	869	6	31	10	17	10	14
Total	58	149	514	1311	56	95	34	43	22	30

Library

Sally Gibson, Director

	Fall 2022	Fall 2021
Average Weekly Gate Count	2712	2789
Reference Questions	714	849
Reference Consultations	72	66
Physical Circulation	1802	734
Ebook Downloads	2392	3326
Article Downloads	24839	42528
Course Reserves	133	117
Large Group Study Room Reservations	571	809

College of Business and Professional Studies

Dr. Marc Manganaro, Interim Dean

Faculty

Dr. Tolga Ulusemre became a Quality Matters-Certified Peer Reviewer. He qualified to serve in this role because he has online teaching experience within the last 18 months in a college-credit bearing course. He completed the Quality Matters (QM) role application to be entered into the QM Peer Reviewer database and may be asked to participate in official QM Course Reviews for certification.

Griffons Serve

Students

In **Dr. Tolga Ulusemre's** MGT 419, students used gaming (Global Business Strategy Game) throughout the Fall semester as a way to simulate the global competitive market in assessing market conditions, forging a long-term direction for strategy, and forecasting upcoming sales volumes. 1,687 teams/companies from 93 colleges/universities participated in the simulation world-wide. Among these 1,687 teams/companies, five teams/companies from Missouri western earned a *Global Top 100 ranking* by outperforming most of their competitors around the world.

Alumnus Eric Bruder, Senior VP of Finance/Chief Financial Officer at Herzog Enterprises, Inc, visited campus twice this semester to speak to students. The Career Development Center and student organization, Collegiate FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), co-hosted an event with Bruder presenting – “Everything I wish I knew in college: Interviews & Attitude.”

Alumni Nathan Nold, Colton Saunders, Andrew Love, Miu Edlin, and Emily Punzo visited campus to engage with Collegiate FBLA and GBA 110.

Collegiate Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students **Jacob Ridens** and **Seth Hogue** attended and represented MWSU at the Career Connections Conference in Orlando.

Collegiate FBLA students experienced a behind-the-scenes tour of Belt Entertainment in November. They learned about the multiple businesses that operate within the company.

Craig School of Business hosted 65 FBLA students from West Platte High School. The group started the day at Cup of Joe, then headed to campus to tour and play in the Esports arena. They also sat in on a mock business law class and visited our local Auntie Anne's franchise.

Faculty

Petronilla Sylvester was appointed to the Human Rights Commission to serve for the term, expiring January 2026.

Dr. Ollie Bogdon's EDU 330 students collaborated in pairs with 9 of St. Joseph's Bessie Ellison first through sixth grade teachers to prepare and co-teach a lesson for each teacher's class. Approximately 20 of **Dr. Bogdon's** EDU 330 and EDU230 taught groups of 4th and 5th grade Girl Scouts as part of the Live Steam event in Science City, reaching nearly 350 girls from the Greater KC Region.

Griffons Discover

Students

Petranilla Sylvester and **Dr. Greg Lindsteadt** led nine students to tour the Chillicothe Women's Prison on October 21st.

Dr. Michael Birmingham and **Dr. Greg Lindsteadt** led ten students to tour the Division of Youth Services Riverbend Facility.

Dr. Michael Birmingham served as guest speaker to Missouri Western's social workers club regarding NAADAC (National Association for Addiction Professionals). This discussion was featured on the local news station KQ2.

Faculty

Dr. Ollie Bogdon served as a proposal reviewer for the Equity and Diversity Thread for the Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) international conference.

Dr. Adrienne Johnson completed a series of invited online guest speaker lectures for National Kaohsiung Normal University (NKNU) on English as a Medium of Instruction for in-service K-12 teachers, professors, and teacher trainers.

Griffons Create

Faculty Publications, Presentations, Workshops

Qiu, Dr. Bin. (10-21-22). Loan Covenant Violation and Corporate Pension Funding. *Financial Management Association annual meeting.*

Luthans, Dr. Brett.(10-14-22). The Relationship Between Business Students' Valor and Psychological Capital. *Mountain Plains Business Conference.*

Frank, Dr. Phillip. A Qualitative Investigation Into Multi-Sensory Package: Environmental Packaging, Visual and Haptic Packaging Appeal Among Consumers. *Journal of Marketing Development and Competitiveness.*

Chiao, Dr. Michael. The Impact of Post-trade Transparency on Investors. *Journal of Finance Issues.*

Sylvester, Petronilla. (10-15-22). Building Resilience and Strong Connections in Times of Global Challenge. *Global Alliance for Justice Education, International Journal of Clinical Legal Education, South African University Law Clinics Association (GAJE-IJCLE-SAULCA).* University of Stellenbosch in South Africa.

Bogon, Dr. Ollie Building a Virtual STEM Professional Learning Network for Rural Teachers in Theory and Practice. *Rural Education.*

Smilie, Dr. Kip and Adams, Dr. Benedict. American Schooling and the 1918 Pandemic: Lessons and Cautions for Today. *2022 Organization of Educational Historians.*

Potts, Dr. Beth. Rehearsal and HLP3: Getting over the fear of talking to parents and, with colleague Colleen Wilkinson, The Everyday role play. *Teacher Education Division Conference (a subset of the Council for Exceptional Children).*

Johnson, Dr. Adrienne. Hot Topics in English Language Teaching. *Colorado Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (COTESOL) and Dakota Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).*

Griffons Lead

Sandra Auxier-Gregory (Advisor **Dr. Benedict Adams**) completed a graduate capstone project, creating a resource guide for English learner educators in the Saint Joseph School District.

Faculty

Dr. Jen Botello and **Dr. Liz Thorne Wallington** founded the Northwest Missouri Literacy Association for the northwest Missouri region. This is one of 3 Missouri Literacy Association chapters in the state of Missouri, and also under the umbrella of the International Literacy Association. **Dr. Botello** and **Dr. Thorne Wallington** also accepted roles as co-editors of the Missouri Reader, a publication of the Missouri Literacy Association.

Dr. Jen Botello is the new and current treasurer for OTEL, the Organization of Teacher Educators, a special interest group of the International Literacy Association.

Dr. Elizabeth Potts completed a two-year term as secretary of the Small Special Education Program Caucus of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children.

Dr. Adrienne Johnson began a term as Co-chair of TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) International's Standards Professional Committee.

Dr. Zhao Zhang served as a steering co-chair for a technical committee member for the Fifth International conference on Image, Video, and Signal Processing (IVSP 2023). As a technical committee member, he reviewed several papers related to Pattern recognition, neural networks, and AI for the conference.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Joel Hyer, Dean

Griffons Work

Students

Abbie Giles and Becca Herz, majors in vocal music education, led students from Bode Middle School in a vocal assessment under the direction of **Dr. Chris Marple**.

Faculty

Dr. Chris M. Marple directed the Chamber Singers in a shared winter concert with the choirs from Benton High School and Bishop LeBlond High School in St. Joseph.

The Missouri Western Lambda chapter of **Alpha Chi National Honor Society** inducted sixteen new members for the Fall 2022 semester. Alpha Chi is a national college honor society that admits students from all academic disciplines. Membership is limited to the top 10 percent of an institution's juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

Griffons Serve

Faculty

Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart was selected to serve as an outside manuscript reviewer for the University of Missouri Press, the state's premier publisher of original and relevant peer-reviewed trade titles, textbooks, references, and monographs in disciplines served by the University of Missouri.

Griffons Discover

Students

Dr. Stacey Uthe attended the annual Kansas City National Association of Teachers of Singing Student Auditions in Lawrence, KS, where she registered five vocal music majors for the auditions. These students competed with other singers in the region for a chance to perform in the Winners Recital at the end of the competition. Students who participated: **Abbie Giles, Sara Poet, Cam Tate, Garrett Wasson and Dein Gentry.**

The Psychology Department hosted a recruiting event as part of their Psychology Research Day. Twelve guests attended, including six prospective students and their family members. Eight groups of student researchers presented their work.

Dr. Corey White traveled with a group of four student researchers to the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomics Society.

Faculty

Dr. Chris M. Marple attended the Missouri Music Educators Association conference in Osage Beach, MO. Ten student members from the Collegiate-National Association for Music Educators chapter at Missouri Western accompanied Dr. Marple to the conference.

Dr. Christine Ziemer was interviewed by the St. Joe Post Radio Station for a Thanksgiving feature. She discussed how "giving thanks" can have a positive impact on our lives.

Griffons Create

Faculty Publications, Presentations, Workshops

Teresa Harris. Nectar 2. *Merged: Third National Exhibition of Collage and Assemblage at the D'Art Center.*

Okapal, James. The Rise of Rey Skywalker: The Importance of Community and Friends in Star Wars. *Star Wars and Philosophy Strikes Back.*

Okapal, James. Moral Status and Moral Agency in Science Fiction. *American Philosophical Association Public Philosophy Blog.*

Okapal, James. Justice versus Care. *Tales of the Jedi.* Prindle Post.

Hart, Evan, What Does History Tell Us About How the Idaho Supreme Court Might Rule on Abortion? *Idaho Capital Sun* (interview).

Ziemer, Christine. (2022). Planting seeds: Teaching transpersonal and psychedelic science undergraduate classes at a small Missouri university. *Issue 3 of Entheoscope magazine*.

Ziemer, Christine. Psychedelic Educator Network. *Psychedelic Alpha newsletter*.

Griffons Lead

Students

The International Honor Society in Psychology (Psi Chi) inducted five new members.

Faculty

Dr. Corey White was awarded the Compass Award from the Alpha Chi society.

Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart won the 2023 MLK Drum Major for Justice Award for faculty/staff.

College of Science and Health

Dr. Crystal Harris, Dean

Griffons Work

Students

Dr. Pam Clary, with nine students and two alumni assisted the 139th Air National Guard with their Annual Children's Christmas Workshop. Over 350 service members and their families attended this event.

Faculty

MWSU's **Master of Social Work** application for Council on Social Work for Education candidacy was submitted and accepted by the CSWE. The CSWE now has 30 days to review the application.

Griffons Serve

Faculty

Biology faculty **Dr. Dawn Drake, Dr. Carissa Ganong, Dr. Karen Koy, Dr. Mark Mills, and Dr. Tilo Roy** and three MWSU students conducted an outreach event with 50 fifth-graders from John Glenn Elementary School. Students came to campus and visited hands-on learning stations focused on plant diversity, bones and fossils, and reptiles and amphibians.

Dr. Julie Jedlicka spoke at Rolling Hills Library, Savannah, MO about "Backyard Birdfeeding." The event was covered live by News-Press NOW for the nightly news.

Dr. Tilo Roy, published the January issue of The Vasculum (the bi-annual newsletter of the Society of Herbarium Curators). **Dr. Roy** is the Editor-in-Chief.

Dr. Jason Baker and Dr. Carissa Ganong conducted a "microbe scavenger hunt" science outreach event with two seventh-grade science classes at St. Joseph Christian School.

Dr. Grey Endres facilitated the first half of a 16 hour Continuing Education event for Children's Mercy Hospital titled *How to Provide Clinical Social Work Supervision*.

Dr. Grey Endres was part of a national accreditation audit team that completed an in person survey of Hawthorne's Children Psychiatric Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

Griffons Discover

Students

Masters of Science in Nursing student **Melissa Thornton** attended the Advocacy in Action Workshop in Jefferson City, Missouri during which she explored a role with MONA (Missouri Nursing Association) as a Nurse Liaison.

Faculty

The department of Nursing hosted an open house for high school students and guests. Twenty-eight prospective students and 25 guests attended. Attendees were provided an overview of the nursing program and admission process. They also participated in applied learning stations in the nursing simulation lab. **Dr. Heather Kendall, Mackenzie Evans, and Alyson Hill** represented the nursing faculty and 5 LTAs assisted with lab stations.

Griffons Create

Faculty Publications, Presentations, Workshops

Mills, Dr. Mark, Shelly Cox. It's Turtle Time - Native Turtles of Missouri. *Remington Nature Center*.

Clary, Dr. Pam. Building Healthy Relationships. *Pivotal Point Transitional Housing*.

Jedlicka, Dr. Julie, Nute, Laney (Hayward). Evidence for frequency-dependent selection in House Wrens, but not Eastern Bluebirds. *BIOS*

Griffons Lead

Faculty

Dr. Julie Baldwin won the advisor shoutout award. **Allison Anderson, Jessica Adkins, Dr. Elissa Zorn, and Dr. Becky Gregory** were also nominated.

Griffon Office of Applied Learning (GOAL)

Dr. Michael Ducey, Director

Griffons Serve

Faculty

The Applied Learning Steering Committee voted to adopt Student Learning Outcomes for applied learning activities. The outcomes are based on the premise that students engaged in an applied learning activity should engage in, reflect on, and communicate about their experience. These outcomes will serve as the standard for all applied learning activities and allow the institution to implement quality events.

1,035 guests attended the tenth annual ***Super Science Saturday*** hosted on the campus of Missouri Western. Faculty and students from the departments of Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics; Education; Engineering Technology; Nursing; and Psychology provided demonstrations or hands-on activities for children and adults to create excitement and interest in science and science education. Faculty volunteers included: **Dr. Mark Mills, Dr. Karen Koy, Dr. Carissa Ganong, Dr. Cary Chevalier, Dr. Aracely Newton, Dr. Dawn Drake, Dr. Csengele Barta, Dr. Ashley Elias, Dr. Mike Ducey, Dr. Natalie Mikita, Dr. Jeff Woodford, Dr. Shauna Hiley, Cindy Ruuskanen, Dr. Jonathan Rhoad, Dr. Lori McCune, Dr. Kevin Anderson, Dr. Brian Bucklein, Dr. Becky Gregory and former faculty Dr. Ben Caldwell (College of Science and Health), Dr. Ollie Bogdon, Dr. Kayla Waters, Dr. Teddi Deka, Dr. Corey White, Dr. Nuchelle Chance (College of Liberal Arts), Wes Moore (College of Business and Professional Studies).** Student Groups participating: MWSU TriBeta Biological Honors Society, MWSU Alchemist Club and ASBMB Student Chapter, MWSU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, MWSU Department of Nursing students, MWSU Associated General Contractors Chapter, MWSU Department of Education students and MWSU Department of Psychology students. Community Groups participating: Kansas City Chapter of the American Chemical Society, Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee, Remington Nature Center, News Press Now, American Water Works. MWSU Alumni participating: **Michael Rhoads and Christopher Holcomb.**

McCune, Dr. Lori. Wait, Who Wins? A Discussion of Preference Voting Methods and Perhaps the Most (Mathematically) Interesting Ranked Choice Election in US History. *Gold Friday.*

Dr. Jeff Poet hosted an Applied Probability Workshop for Gold Friday. Over 24 students were in attendance.

Twenty Biology students presented posters at the **Gold Friday PORTAL Showcase**. This showcase encompassed the work done on research during the fall Semester on Gold Fridays.

Mike Ducey and Alcinda Ruuskanen (Early College Academy Instructor) drove the MWSU Griffon Lab to Parkway Elementary School in Saint Joseph. Fifty students in the 6th grade class learned about rocks and minerals onboard the lab during the visit.

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Dr. Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

February 13, 2023

The Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management (SAEM) is comprised of several major areas: Academic Support; Admissions; Camps, Conferences, & Events; Career Development; Counseling; Dean of Students; Diversity & Inclusion; Global Engagement; Housing & Residential Life; Registrar; Student Development; and Student Success & Academic Advising. To that end, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management focuses on how we serve both prospective and current students to and through a successful collegiate career.

Admissions

New freshmen enrollment for spring 2023 experienced an increase of 92% over spring 2022 while new transfer students from two-year institutions experienced a decrease of 16% and new transfer students from four-year institutions experienced a decrease of 13%. Overall, new degree-seeking undergraduate student enrollment saw an increase of 19%.

Recruitment for traditional undergraduate freshmen for fall 2023 has been yeoman's work. Although the Admissions team was down two recruitment staff members the entire fall recruitment season, they were able to keep pace with the great work done during the fall 2022 recruitment cycle. The largest area of application and admission decline is currently in the state of Illinois. It is important to note, however, that while we saw significant applications and admits last year, the state only yielded 3% or 6 enrolled students. Because our recruiters were not able to cover Illinois in the fall, the overall funnel comparison to last year currently demonstrates a decline of 1% in domestic first-time full-time freshman applications and a decline of 2% in domestic first-time full-time freshman admitted students. However, if we consider the yield of each of the Griffon Rate states, including Missouri, the funnel indicates a current increase of 2% over the fall 2022 recruitment cycle.

Table 1

Fall 2023 Admissions Funnel

Metric	Applicants				Admits				Yield %			
	21	22	23	%	21	22	23	%	22	22	23	%
Domestic	1,650	2,277	2,254	-1%	1,606	2,220	2,172	-2%	22%	488.4	477.84	-2%
International	92	102	183	79%		1	4	300%	38%	0.38	1.52	300%
Total	1,742	2,379	2,437	2%	1,606	2,221	2,176	-2%	22%	488.62	478.72	-2%
Missouri Breakdown												
Buchanan Co	289	317	345	9%	278	302	326	8%	50%	151	163	8%
KC & Central MO	267	477	473	-1%	264	465	455	-2%	21%	97.65	95.55	-2%
North KC	166	224	201	-10%	165	219	194	-11%	18%	39.42	34.92	-11%
East MO	194	226	241	7%	187	222	236	6%	15%	33.3	35.4	6%
North MO	202	282	286	1%	197	274	278	1%	29%	79.46	80.62	1%
South MO	61	88	108	23%	59	85	105	24%	5%	4.25	5.25	24%
Total	1,182	1,619	1,659	2%	1,153	1,572	1,599	2%	26%	408.72	415.74	2%
Griffon Rate States												
AR	41	10	23	130%	39	9	22	144%	20%	1.8	4.4	144%
CA	9	5	7	40%	9	5	5	%	50%	2.5	2.5	0%
CO	16	11	9	-18%	16	11	8	-27%	64%	7.04	5.12	-27%
FL	3	5	4	-20%	3	5	4	-20%	0%	0	0	
IA	26	54	60	11%	26	54	59	9%	18%	9.72	10.62	9%
IL	84	157	55	-65%	80	153	55	-64%	3%	4.59	1.65	-64%
KS	126	182	236	30%	125	181	230	27%	13%	23.53	29.9	27%
KY	8	1	1	%	7	1	1	%	100%	1	1	0%
MO	1,182	1,619	1,659	2%	1,153	1,572	1,599	2%	26%	408.72	415.74	2%
MS			2				2		0%	0	0	
NE	59	112	105	-6%	57	110	103	-6%	12%	13.2	12.36	-6%
NM	1	1		-100%	1	1		-100%	0%	0	0	
OK	7	9	18	100%	7	9	17	89%	20%	1.8	3.4	89%
SD	3	2		-100%	3	2		-100%	50%	1	0	-100%
TN	11	3	5	67%	11	3	5	67%	0%	0	0	
TX	23	18	14	-22%	23	18	14	-22%	26%	4.68	3.64	-22%
WY		1	1	%		1	1	%	0%	0	0	
SUBTOTAL										479.58	490.33	2%

If we consider the funnel report with Illinois removed altogether, we see an increase of 2% in domestic admitted students and 3% overall when we factor in a more accurate yield rate per Griffon Rate State (see Table 2 below).

Table 2

Fall 2023 Admission Funnel: Illinois Removed

Metric	Applicants				Admits				Yield %			
	21	22	23	%	21	22	23	%	22	22	23	%
Domestic	1,566	2,120	2,199	4%	1,526	2,067	2,117	2%	22%	454.74	465.74	2%
International	92	102	183	79%		1	4	300%	38%	0.38	1.52	300%
Total	3,308	2,222	2,382	7%	1,526	2,068	2,121	3%	22%	454.96	466.62	3%
Missouri Breakdown												
Buchanan Co	289	317	345	9%	278	302	326	8%	50%	151	163	8%
KC & Central MO	267	477	473	-1%	264	465	455	-2%	21%	97.65	95.55	-2%
North KC	166	224	201	-10%	165	219	194	-11%	18%	39.42	34.92	-11%
East MO	194	226	241	7%	187	222	236	6%	15%	33.3	35.4	6%
North MO	202	282	286	1%	197	274	278	1%	29%	79.46	80.62	1%
South MO	61	88	108	23%	59	85	105	24%	5%	4.25	5.25	24%
Total	1,182	1,619	1,659	2%	1,153	1,572	1,599	2%	26%	408.72	415.74	2%
Griffon Rate States												
AR	41	10	23	130%	39	9	22	144%	20%	1.8	4.4	144%
CA	9	5	7	40%	9	5	5	%	50%	2.5	2.5	0%
CO	16	11	9	-18%	16	11	8	-27%	64%	7.04	5.12	-27%
FL	3	5	4	-20%	3	5	4	-20%	0%	0	0	
IA	26	54	60	11%	26	54	59	9%	18%	9.72	10.62	9%
KS	126	182	236	30%	125	181	230	27%	13%	23.53	29.9	27%
KY	8	1	1	%	7	1	1	%	100%	1	1	0%
MO	1,182	1,619	1,659	2%	1,153	1,572	1,599	2%	26%	408.72	415.74	2%
MS			2				2		0%	0	0	
NE	59	112	105	-6%	57	110	103	-6%	12%	13.2	12.36	-6%
NM	1	1		-100%	1	1		-100%	0%	0	0	
OK	7	9	18	100%	7	9	17	89%	20%	1.8	3.4	89%
SD	3	2		-100%	3	2		-100%	50%	1	0	-100%
TN	11	3	5	67%	11	3	5	67%	0%	0	0	
TX	23	18	14	-22%	23	18	14	-22%	26%	4.68	3.64	-22%
WY		1	1	%		1	1	%	0%	0	0	
SUBTOTAL										474.99	488.68	3%

The most popular areas of study for new freshmen applying for fall 2023 admission are (in order) Nursing, Business (*all BSBA majors combined*), Psychology, Education (*all BSE majors combined*), and Criminal Justice (BS).

The Admissions team utilizes a multimodal approach to reach prospective students. This includes print mail, email campaigns, text messaging, phone calls, social media, billboards, print advertising, radio, school marketing, campus visits, and events. In addition to reaching out to prospective students, in line with emerging trends, we are now reaching out to parents at key points in time such as when it is time to file the FAFSA and registering for Griffon Orientation. Since the last Board of Governors report, we have hosted 21 group visits with 781 visitors and 455 individual campus visits. The next on-campus recruitment event, Griffon Experience, will be held on March 11th. To date, 106 prospective students and 160 guests for a total of 266 are registered for the event.

Academic Advising – Student Success Center

The Student Success Center provides academic advising to all incoming freshmen, with the exception of high achieving nursing and business majors, through their first year of academic

study. Since the last Board of Governors report, Academic Advisors have managed 1028 visits from students, 173 of which were during the first days of the spring 2023 semester leading up to the end of add/drop.

In addition to meeting with students, the Student Success Center manages the Early Intervention (EI) system that is utilized by faculty to help identify students who are underperforming in a course. There were 1,525 Early Interventions reported for 579 students during the fall 2022 semester.

- Breakdown of students by academic level:
 - 53% Freshmen
 - 15% Sophomores
 - 12% Juniors
 - 19% Seniors
 - <1% Graduate students
- Students showing marked success in reported course:
 - 23% received passing grade (A, B, C or D)
 - 17% excluding D's (A, B or C only)
 - 25% grade improved from mid-term to final grade
 - 7% withdrew from course reported

The Student Success Center also manages EdSights. EdSights is a retention system that utilizes an AI chatbot ("Max the Griffon") to collect aggregate data on a weekly basis about students and student groups. It also directs students to resources we have on campus and helps them find solutions for other issues they may have based on their responses. An in-depth report of each campaign was delivered to staff, including our CARES team, who performed outreach, when necessary, after reviewing all reports. Below are the results of the campaigns since the last Board of Governors report.

10/12/22 Academic Check-in

- "Are you enjoying your classes this term?"
 - 2287 reached. 509 responded
 - Yes – 222
 - Kind of – 235
 - Not at all – 52
- "Do you think you'll do well in them?"
 - Yes – 244
 - Some – 172 – Referred to Advisor.
 - No – 39 – Referred to Advisor. Student Success (SS) followed up with contact information

10/20/22 First Generation Campaign (Adjustment Phase)

- "Do you identify as a 'first-generation college student?'"
 - 831 reached. 193 responding
 - Yes – 105 – Referred to Center for Student Involvement (CSI), the Director, and the First-Generation webpage

- No – 88

10/27/22 Financial Check-in

- “How stressed do you feel about your personal finances?”
 - 2290 reached. 604 responding
 - Low Stress – 104
 - Medium Stress – 223
 - High Stress – 277
- “What is making you feel stressed?”
 - Work/School Balance – 189 – Directed to Advisor
 - Food Insecurity – 33 – Directed to Campus Cupboard (CCup)
 - Tuition Payments – 122 – Directed to Financial Aid
 - Supporting Family – 33 – Directed to Financial Aid

11/2/22 Persistence Check-in

- “Do you plan on enrolling here at Mo West next semester?”
 - 2288 reached. 587 responding
 - Yes – 484
 - Unsure – 27 – Referred to Advisor
 - No – 18 – Referred to Advisor
 - Graduating – 58
- “Share a sentence or two about why.”
 - All data qualitative. A collection of responses can be viewed in the original report.

11/10/22 Support System Check-in

- “If you have an issue, do you have someone to reach out to at Mo West?”
 - 828 reached. 119 responding
 - Yes – 62
 - Sometimes – 31 – Directed to Counseling Center (CC)
 - No – 26 – Directed to CC

11/10/22 Career Search Preparedness

- “How confident do you feel about finding a job post-graduation?”
 - 649 reached. 101 responding
 - Confident – 16
 - Neutral – 31 – Directed to Career Development Center (CDC)
 - Nervous – 28 – Directed to CDC
 - Already have one – 20
 - Doing something else – 5

11/10/22 Internship Search Preparedness

- “How confident do you feel about finding an internship this year?”
 - 807 reached. 131 responding
 - Confident – 12 – Directed to CDC

- Neutral – 18 – Directed to CDC
- Nervous – 35 – Directed to CDC
- I have one – 8
- Not looking – 58

11/15/22 Perceived Course Relevance

- “Do you feel like your classes are relevant to your personal aspirations or interests?”
 - Yes – 210
 - Neutral – 134
 - Not at all – 56
- “Do you feel like your classes will be helpful to your future classes or career?”
 - Yes – 211
 - Neutral – 106 – Directed to Advisor
 - No – 38 – Directed to Advisor

11/30/22 Wellness Check-in

- “How would you rate your overall well-being?”
 - 2277 reached. 425 responding
 - Good – 147
 - Okay – 214
 - Poor – 64
- “Which areas below are you struggling with the most?”
 - Physical Health – 34 – Directed to ESRY Health Center (ESRY)
 - Mental Health – 129 – Directed to CC
 - Lifestyle – 74 – Directed to CC and ESRY

12/28/22 Winter Break Wellness

- “How has the break been so far?”
 - 2271 reached. 380 responding
 - No complaints – 233
 - Ups and downs – 115
 - Challenging – 32
- “Which of the below areas do you need the most support in?”
 - Mental Health – 36 – Directed to CC
 - Physical Health – 11 – Directed to web resources
 - Lack of Social Connection – 15 – Directed to web resources
 - Living Environment Change – 8 - Directed to web resources
 - I’m Bored – 20 - Directed to web resources

1/11/23 Break Pulse Check

- “How are you feeling about the Spring term?”
 - 2250 reached. 399 responding
 - Good/Excited – 124

- Neutral – 99
- Nervous/Overwhelmed – 119
- Not returning – 19
- I graduated – 38
- “Is anything preventing you from returning to Mo West?”
 - Yes – students were asked to describe their situation
 - Long form responses are available in the original report
 - No – Sent encouragement

1/27/23 Temperature Check

- “How are you feeling about the start of the Spring term?”
 - 1952 reached. 472 responding
 - Good/Excited – 246
 - Neutral – 129
 - Nervous/Overwhelmed – 97
- “What area would you like the most support in this Spring?”
 - Academics – 49 – Directed to the Center for Academic Support (CAS)
 - Finances – 64 – Directed to FA
 - Social Engagement – 26 – Directed to CSI
 - Wellness – 48 – Directed to Esry and/or CC

Academic Support

The Center for Academic Support continues to provide tutoring services through training peer tutors in math, writing and specific courses, as well as Supplemental Instruction (SI). During the fall 2022 semester, 319 students utilized services from the Center for Academic Support resulting in 1,632 visits and 1,654 hours of direct support.

Camps, Conferences, & Events

Internal and external entities continue to host meetings on the Missouri Western campus. Table 3 demonstrates the number of events held on campus in the months of November 2022 through January 2023.

Table 3

Event Reservations

Month	External events/meetings	Internal events/meetings	Tablings
November 2022	6	140	36
December 2022	5	72	12
January 2023	9	33	10
TOTAL	20	245	58

Examples of the external entities and that have held meetings and events on campus thus far this academic year include, but are not limited to, the Great Plains Growers Conference, Missouri Public Service Commission, Gray Manufacturing, Chamber of Commerce Small Business Summit, FFA Greenhands Motivational Conference, Edward Jones, and YWCA.

Campus Cupboard

The Campus Cupboard continues to experience higher levels of student traffic as compared to the previous academic year. This academic year, 305 unique students have received 2,327 pounds of food, 60% more than at the same time last year. The Campus Cupboard has increased its visibility on campus, which may be a direct cause of the increase in students receiving services. Marketing efforts include an increased presence on social media, tabling and participation in campus events, in addition to word-of-mouth.

Career Development Center

The Career Development Center has hosted or is planning three career fairs for the spring 2023 semester. On January 18th, the Nursing fair was held. Sixteen businesses and 54 students were in attendance. The All-Majors Career and Internship Fair was held on February 17th with over 50 business registered to be in attendance; and the Teacher Education Fair is scheduled for March 1. To date, 24 employers are scheduled to be on the Missouri Western campus for the fair.

In addition to the fairs, the Career Development Center is hosting a variety of professional development experiences:

- Extreme Makeover: Career Edition, in partnership with JC Penney
- Coffee & Careers with the Missouri Department of Social Services, in partnership with the MWSU Department of Criminal Justice & Legal Studies (February 8)
- Conquer the Career Fair (February 15)
- In-Person Mock Interview Day (March 7)
- Virtual Mock Interview Day (March 8)
- Missouri Regional Industrial Science & Engineering (MoRISE), in partnership with the MWSU Department of Chemistry (March 14)
- Job Search Bootcamp (Week of April 3)
- Etiquette Dinner (April 14)

Collecting First Destination data on new Missouri Western graduates has been a goal for the Career Development Center. First Destination data is collected through a variety of means including (but not limited to) through emails, at Grad Fest, at graduation, and through LinkedIn. Based on data collected, 90% of May and July graduates (associate, bachelor, and master) combined are employed, continuing their education, or serving in the military. Bachelor specific data is slightly higher than the overall data with a rate of 91.5% of graduates being employed, continuing their education, or serving in the military within six months of graduation. Average salary information is not available for May and July graduates. Data is based on a 59% survey response rate.

December First Destination data is still being collected, however, at this time 76% of students who completed the survey reported that they secured employment, were continuing their education, or serving in the military. In addition, the average salary of all December graduates completing the survey is \$51,332. Bachelor specific data indicates a 75% rate of graduates being employed, continuing their education, or serving in the military. Best practices on First Destination data collection dictates that we will continue to collect and evaluate information for six months following graduation. Data is based on a 60% survey response rate.

The Career Development Center continues to provide programs and free career advising to prospective Missouri adult learner students as they consider enrolling in a microcredential program at Missouri Western State University through management of the Find My Path Program grant awarded by the Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation. From July 2022 through January 2023, 10 participants have engaged in a Find My Path group or individual session.

A Digital Media microcredential student was awarded a \$250 book scholarship and a \$750 childcare voucher for the fall and spring semesters. An Applied Behavior Support Services microcredential student was awarded a \$250 book scholarship and a \$750 childcare voucher for the spring semester. The Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph will pay for her tuition and a part, if not all of the cost of her books.

The Career Development Center also worked with another Applied Behavior Support Services student who was enrolled during the fall semester and is currently enrolled and on track to complete this program. While she received free counseling services from the Career Development Center, because she is not a Missouri resident, she was not eligible for grant funds.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center continues to serve both our residential and commuter students at increasing rates over the last academic year. The Counseling Center has experienced a 39% increase in appointments attended with 759 attended appointments this academic year as compared to 545 attended appointments at the same time last year. Walk-in and crisis appointments have increased by 50% although, overall, the numbers are small: 24 walk-in and crisis appointments this year compared to 16 in the previous academic year. The Counseling Center has seen great success in reducing the number of no-shows this year by 26% due to increased efficiency measures taken through the use of text message appointment reminders for students who sign up.

Dean of Students

The Dean of Students Office continues to manage student support for students in crisis through the University CARE Team and disrupted attendance notifications. CARE Team referrals for students of concern are up 84% compared to the same time last year for a total of 339 referrals. Over 50% of referrals are for concerning behavior in class, followed by food or housing insecurity (16%), family issues (12%), injury or illness (10%), suicide ideation (3%), depression

or anxiety (2%), financial issues (2%), mental health hospitalization (2%), partner/romantic issues (1%), physical harm to others (1%), and self-injurious behaviors (1%).

Concerning Behavior in Class remains the primary referral for students to the CARE Team. Concerning behaviors may include, but are not limited to, disruptive classroom behavior, non-attendance in class, personal issues which impede students' academic success, etc. Food or housing insecurity issues constitute the second most common reason for referral to the CARE Team, and Family issues and injury/illness constitute the third most common reason for referral. Injury/illness is routinely reported when a student may be hospitalized for non-mental health reasons, while family issues are those reported by students when they are dealing with bereavement, family emergencies and crises, etc.

Center for Diversity & Inclusion

The Center for Diversity & Inclusion hosted the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Awards Banquet on Wednesday, January 18. These awards annually recognize one Missouri Western State University student, one Missouri Western State University employee, and one St. Joseph community member for their work in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion. Award recipients for 2023 were Ms. Loes Hedge (St. Joseph community member category); Mr. Artemii Udovenko, a junior Psychology major (student category); and Dr. Evan Hart, Assistant Professor of History (employee category).

Center for Global Engagement

The Center for Global Engagement hosted its annual International Fair on November 9, 2022 with nearly 500 students, employees, and guests in attendance. International and domestic students, faculty and staff hosted tables with food or activities from their home countries. The event was very well received throughout the campus and greater St. Joseph communities.

The Center also co-hosted the International and Multicultural Sash Ceremony to celebrate the graduation of Missouri Western's multicultural/international students. Students received sashes that either symbolized their home country, or their membership in a minority identifying group. Missouri Western's University President, Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, was on-hand to place the sashes around each student's neck during the ceremony as family, staff members, and friends c. Students then wore their sashes during the graduation ceremony the following day.

Housing & Residence Life

Housing and Residential Life is currently managing five residential halls with 611 residential students. Housing applications for the 2023-2024 academic year have now opened with contract renewals pacing 67 ahead of last year. New applications are currently behind by 6 resulting in an overall increase of 53% (61) over the previous year at this point in time.

Over the winter break and throughout January, Director John Vanderpool and his team in Residence Life & Housing worked tirelessly to manage, in tandem with Physical Plant staff, identifying relocation spaces and moving students out of the flooded Vartabedian Hall and into other residential accommodations.

Registrar's Office

The summer and fall schedules were posted online Wednesday, February 8th in preparation for advisement that begins on February 22nd and priority registration that begins on March 6th.

To date, we have 360 undergraduates and 27 graduate students who have applied to graduate in either spring or summer. Of those, 337 have indicated they will be attending the May 6th ceremony.

The Registrar's Office and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) have almost completed the first cycle utilizing the new curriculum management software system. This software has allowed for curriculum proposals to be submitted online, pulling course and program information from Banner and the course catalog. While there have been some growing pains with the new process, overall, it has been a success and faculty appear pleased.

Finally, the Registrar and Provost Offices are researching companies that will allow the university to outsource the printing and mailing of diplomas. This move will allow a faster, more efficient approach to distributing diplomas, as well as allowing the University to offer digital diplomas and verification links students can post on social media sites such as LinkedIn. This outsourcing move is a result of our current software being discontinued and no longer supported effective fall 2023.

Center for Student Involvement

The Center for Student Involvement coordinated Missouri Western State University's participation in National First-Generation Celebration Week on November 7-11, 2022. Campus partners in the Dean of Students Office, Career Development Center, and marketing & Communications assisted with events to celebrate first-generation college students. Missouri Western was selected to receive a \$500 grant from NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education – Center for First-generation Student Success for our #GriffsGoingFirst celebration activities.

The Center began the spring 2023 semester by hosting the inaugural Winter Welcome Week January 17th through the 20th. Students participated in Welcome Back Bingo (167 attendees), Winter Welcome Burrito Fest (175 attendees), Winter Welcome Movie Night (18 attendees), and the MWSU After Party (46 attendees). Since the beginning of the fall 2022 semester, the Center for Student Involvement has hosted 109 events with 1,460 unique student attendees.

February 2023 - Board of Governors Report

Division of Advancement and the MWSU Foundation:

Marc Archambault, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director, MWSU Foundation:

February 13, 2023:

ADVANCEMENT

Through the end of December 2022, a total of \$875,000 in cash has been received for this Fiscal Year. This is level with last year's progress at this time. The number of gifts from \$5,000 to \$9,999 are down almost 50%, however the dollars raised in that giving tier are up more than 40%. This is potentially reflective of the impact of strong inflation and negative sentiments about the economy that prevailed throughout the Fall of 2022, impacting smaller leadership level donors more significantly than wealthier donors giving in that level.

Fundraising efforts on behalf of the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC) project are fully underway. \$1.5 million in private support have so far been committed to the project. Numerous meetings with potential funders have already taken place and more are being organized each week, as solicitation accelerates.

To date direct mail campaigns have raised a total of \$29,135 from 147 donors. The spring solicitation featuring a first-generation student will be mailed in March. Griffs Giving Day was held on Nov. 29 and raised a total of \$24,618 from 66 donors.

We have begun a drive to grow membership in the Western League for Excellence, which provides the University with unrestricted private funds. Guided by the efforts of its Development Committee, the Foundation Board's members will be reaching out to lapsed Western League members and new prospects. Both the Foundation and Alumni boards are on track to achieve 100% membership in the Western League this fiscal year.

As promised at their inaugural meeting, the University Council will soon receive a communication from Chris Dunn and me, engaging them with our institution's legislative agenda. The Council will also be invited to an exclusive Council event during the University's Applied Learning Showcase on April 21.

Members of the Arts Society and other special guests will be invited to an event on March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in Potter Art Gallery in Potter Hall. Guests will hear from new faculty members and learn about our current Arts programs. An announcement of allocations and outcomes will be made so Arts Society members can see the positive impact their membership contributions have on students. The event will conclude with a performance of Marimba Madness, a student group.

The Ambassadors next luncheon is March 16 at 11:30 a.m. in the Hall of Fame Room at Spratt Stadium. The program will feature Dr. Mike Ducey who will speak about Applied Learning.

Planning has begun on a special by-invitation-only event for friends of the University to be held in Kansas City this May. Details will follow.

Jennifer Vanourney has been hired as a new Development Officer. She will be responsible for the annual fund and giving societies. Her first day was February. 1.

ALUMNI

A plaque unveiling ceremony was held on Saturday, February 4 during the half-time of the men's basketball game. The plaque honors Coach Gary Filbert who coached men's basketball from 1969-1982. A private reception for family and friends was held before the ceremony. Money for the plaque was donated by friends, family and former players.

Griffon Stories, an oral history project, ends its marketing phase at the end of February. To date 2,306 alumni have responded and over 1,500 stories have been collected. 511 new emails, 259 new home addresses, and 1,344 new cell phone numbers have been collected and updated in our database.

The Alumni Engagement Committee of the Alumni Board are inviting area alumni to attend a Music Bingo night at River Bluff Brewery on February 15.

Rallies will be planned around the MIAA Postseason Basketball Championship games in Kansas City the first week in March.

FOUNDATION

Dr. Davin Turner of Mosaic Life Care has joined the Foundation Board. The Board also appointed Pat Dillon, Tom Tewell, Gary Fraser, and Scott Hinde to one year-terms as community appointees to the Board. In 2023, the Board extended its outreach to talented leaders and prospective Directors by welcoming two members from out-of-state. The Foundation held an orientation for its new Board of Director members on January 11, 2023.

The MWSU Foundation and CliftonLarsonAllen have finalized the 990/990T tax filings for FY2022.

The Development Committee set forth its goals for the year, including (a) personally supporting a Western League for Excellence drive this spring; (b) approving three policies covering gift acceptance, naming provisions, and deferred giving; (c) setting in motion the establishment of Kansas City community of donors; (d) providing recommendations and networking aimed at supporting fundraising connected to CTAC, the Ambassadors program, and regional corporate and private foundation boards.

Applications for the Blake K. Scanlon Applied Learning Presentation Grant for the Spring semester are now being collected. This fund, established by former President James Scanlon and his wife, Lauren, was established in honor of their son Blake Scanlon. This fund provides grants to Missouri Western students presenting their refereed papers or exhibited juried works in

national and international professional venues. The deadline to submit applications is February 17, 2023.

The Foundation's Donor Appreciation Reception will be held on April 11, in the early evening. Details will follow. All Board of Governor's members are encouraged to attend and to help steward donors to Missouri Western.

The Foundation will collaborate with the University on identifying and standing up a digital Board portal to serve the Board of Governors and Foundation Board.

The Foundation's Investment Committee subcommittee will begin reviewing the first draft of the Foundation's RFP (request for proposal) for outside investment services. The target to issue the finalized document is July 1, 2023. This is a routine item for the Foundation: its bylaws call for an issuance no more than every five years.

Division or Office Name: Athletics

Name and Title of Person Submitting: Andy Carter; Director of Athletics

Date: February 13, 2023

All good things must come to an end. Head Baseball Coach Charles “Buzz” Verduzco announced this will be his last season as the leader of Griffon Baseball. Only the 2nd head coach in program history, Buzz spent 23 years leading the program and has surely built a great foundation for us to continue to build from moving forward. Look for announcements regarding a celebration during his last home series April 28-30, 2023.

Baseball has opened their season with an opening win in Arkadelphia, AR with a 10-6 victory over Ouachita Baptist University. They finished the weekend 2-1 versus good competition.

Luke Theis, Director of Esports, announced his resignation to take a similar position at Central Michigan University. The program is in good hands as we have found interim leadership on our own campus as we have added responsibilities to Riley Boyd, a graduate assistant in our Athletic Communications area. A full search will be underway soon.

February 1, 2023 represented a new direction in Griffon Football as Head Coach, Tyler Fenwick and staff landed their first recruiting class. The following day at a social held at River Bluff Brewery, the staff shared their thoughts with a full house of supporters. It was a great start to a new era of our football program.

We celebrated the impact Head Coach Gary Filburt made on Griffon Men’s Basketball. His players, his family and friends showed up and were very grateful for the recognition. A plaque will forever be displayed in the Looney Center for all to be reminded of who he was and the impact he made.

WBB continues to position themselves as one of the very best teams in the MIAA and the country, sporting a 22-5 overall record and 16-3 in conference play. They currently sit in 2nd place and are eyeing an opportunity to win the MIAA conference regular season title, the first time since 2015-16. Brianna Budgets earned MIAA player of the week for the second time this season.

MBB has dealt with injuries, illness and inconsistent play most of the season, but has caught fire as of late. Fighting to gain access to the MIAA tournament, they have won 3 of their last 4 games and currently sit tied for the last spot in the post-season tournament field.

MIAA Men’s & Women’s Basketball Tournament will be held March 1-5, 2023 at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, MO.

The NCAA DII Women’s Basketball Elite 8 will be held March 20-22, 2023 at Civic Arena in St. Joseph, MO.

Women's Tennis is off to a hot start winning all 3 matches this past weekend, only losing 1 point over the three matches.

Indoor Track & Field is off to a hot start with 3 top 5 finishes at the Bearcat Invite and multiple personal bests (PR), program records and NCAA provisional qualifications (PQ) at the Gorilla Classic.

Softball traveled to Mankato, MN February 3rd and 4th and played indoors against top competition. Although they played well, they finished 1-3 on the weekend. They traveled to Bentonville, AR for a strong tournament and enjoyed a 4-0 weekend. It appears they are already hitting their stride.

Division or Office Name: Marketing & Communications

Name and Title of Person Submitting: Becky Dunn, Chief Communications Officer

Date: February 23, 2023 (as of February 13, 2023)

Overall Summary

Our team provided promotional and photography support for several campus events over the last few months including the International Fair, Interprofessional Lab Ribbon Cutting, Small Business Summit, Veterans Day, Grad Fest, Multidisciplinary Research Day, Finals Feeding Frenzy, Biology PORTAL Session, International & Multicultural Sash Ceremony, Honors Program Medal Ceremony, Law Enforcement Academy Graduation, Nursing Pinning Ceremony, Winter Commencement, Drum Major for Justice Banquet, Coffee and Careers, Jazz Festival, and Food Bank Friday service days.

This semester we're planning individual academic department photo sessions to gather new photos for online and print content.

Our new Web Design Coordinator, Lucas Anderson, joined our team on February 1, 2023. His top priorities are onboarding, training, and assessing the current state of our website and subsites.

Strategic Plan

Since the Board of Governors approved the Pathways to Excellence Strategic Plan extension in October 2022, we have begun the process to operationalize the six prioritized strategies. We are also developing a regular communication plan to provide updates to our campus community on the status and progress of the strategic plan.

New Projects

We plan to issue an RFP to seek assistance with market research and brand development. Through this process, we will research and identify the current status of Missouri Western's brand position and competitive landscape to inform a new marketing and branding strategy. This will include both qualitative and quantitative studies to better understand existing perceptions, challenges, and opportunities for growth. The results of this important work will shape our future web content, recruitment materials, and marketing messages.

Marketing & Communications Data

The following information is a summary of data from our team's core functions of creative services, internal and external communications, website content management, social media, media relations, and marketing.

All data is from the **October 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023** time period.

Project Request Forms

Our team processed 601 project request forms during this time period in three categories: 134 design projects, 241 print projects, and 226 website edits. These numbers exclude Admissions projects and projects requested via email. The departments submitting the most requests are Admissions, Athletics, Housing & Residential Life, and the Foundation.

Earned Media Efforts

Media mentions are the number of times keywords appear on webpages, news articles, blogs, etc., via Google Alerts. During this time period in 2021, we had 702 media mentions. For this time period, our total is 1,035 which is an increase of 47.4%.

Social Media Analytics

Our social media reach continues to improve across the major platforms: Facebook (167 new followers), Instagram (407 new followers), Twitter (40 new followers), TikTok (147 new followers), and LinkedIn (989 new followers). We are also continuing to see increases in several engagement metrics including page views, content views, and likes/shares. Our performance on LinkedIn is especially strong with increases in new followers (22,723), clicks (1,479), and overall page views (90,230).

SmugMug Analytics

This is the new photo sharing site that we launched in September 2022. Photos taken by our team are published here and available for download. We distribute a business card to the subjects of our photos with a QR code directing them to our SmugMug site. In this reporting period, we've had 139,198 views. Our top performing galleries are Student Life, Campus Scenes, and Family Day. The highest month was November with 51,997 views and the top day was November 30, 2022 with 8,884 views - we held GradFest that day and took pictures of our graduating students in front of a pair of Griffon wings. Visit the site here:

<https://marketingandcommunications.smugmug.com/>.

Digital Advertising

Last fall, we launched several digital advertising campaigns to support admissions and recruiting on Google, Facebook and Instagram. The campaigns promoted the October Griffon Experience, the Biology Research Day, Psychology Research Day, and the Nursing Open House. We also launched ads that targeted certain geographic areas and highlighted our affordability. Those ads were placed in Andrew County, Buchanan County, the Kansas City metro area, and Kansas. The special departmental events performed the best on Google with 142,818 impressions and 2,260

link clicks. The October Griffon Experience performed the best on social media with a reach of 15,848 and the Nursing Open House ad had the most link clicks (242) on social media.

Custom Viewbook Analytics

This is a customizable digital viewbook for prospective students that allows them to select the majors, student services and campus life items they would like to learn more about through an interactive, mobile-friendly program. We collected 122 new leads during this time period with 151 return visits, which means students are going back to create additional custom viewbooks with different parameters. Admissions recruitment efforts (texts and emails with direct links to the Custom Viewbook) are still generating the most leads, however, most students are using the website link to access the Custom Viewbook. Nursing is still the top major and freshman housing, clubs and organizations, and student ID card use are the top three topics for student life.

Website Analytics

Google is in the process of transitioning from Universal Google Analytics to Google Analytics 4 (GA4). This change makes an impact on our ability to track web traffic data and make comparisons year-over-year. Rather than measuring performance using data from unique pageviews, the new system looks at new users per page. The top ten web pages based on new users includes the following: 1.) Homepage, 2.) Library, 3.) Academic Calendar, 4.) UG-GR Application Management, 5.) Scholarships and Grants, 6.) Tuition and Fees, 7.) Financial Aid, 8.) About MWSU, 9.) Major/Minor Declaration Forms, and 10.) Banner Systems/Tech Services.

Section C



**Report of the President
to the Board of Governors**

Report to the Board of Governors

February 23, 2023

Introduction

Welcome to our Spring 2023 semester! As of this writing, we are already more than one-third of the way through this academic session. Spring semester is always a busy time of year, and planning for a variety of events – career fairs, student poster presentations, alumni gatherings, commencement, etc. - is well underway.

With this as a backdrop, I am pleased to provide the following updates and highlights. Additional details may be found in the Vice Presidents' and/or unit reports provided herein.

Spring 2023 Enrollment

Week four of the 2023 spring semester's enrollment indicates a decrease in both Head Count (HC) and Student Credit Hours (SCH). Comparing the same time periods from 2022 to 2023, we are down 5.64% in HC and 8.74% in SCH. This is in contrast, however, to the spring enrollment comparison of 2021 versus 2022, which indicated a -10.31% in HC and -13.99% in SCH.

Given our enrollment challenges, I will repeat to Governors that reversing our overall enrollment declines, which began over ten years ago, will take time. Several varied but important factors have negatively impacted MW's enrollments, notwithstanding the COVID impact of a nearly - 27% on the 2020 freshmen class and the absorption of program eliminations which have reached the final stages of their teach-out plans.

Countering these effects requires strong and steady efforts, for which initial progress is being seen. For example, the Spring 2023 Griffon Orientation was held on January 10th with 60 freshmen and 23 transfer students in attendance. A Walk-in Registration was held two days later on the 12th of January with 18 students participating. As a result, MW enrolled 76 new freshmen students compared to 34 in Spring of 2022, an increase of 124%. Additionally, although our new transfer enrollment is currently experiencing a slight decline (i.e., 5 students), NWMSU continues to be the number one feeder school for our four-year transfers.

Status of the Search for the VP for Finance and Administration

As Governors are aware, VP Morrison will be departing our University as of March 17, 2023. As President, I am confident that I speak for everyone at MWSU when I express my sincere gratitude for VP Morrison's untiring efforts to steer us through some very difficult financial challenges and, most importantly, to put the University on a much stronger financial footing to ensure many years of stability.

To prepare for his departure, I have reached out to the Registry to secure an individual for the Interim position. I have asked VP Marc Archambault to serve as chair of the search committee; Mr. Chris Dunn, Mr. Bill Grimwood (MWSU Foundation Board), and Dr. Melissa Mace will serve as well. In the meantime, I have discussed with VP Morrison those priorities most pressing and which need to be completed while he is still with us. He will also provide of those next in line for completion. Further, I have met with his Direct Reports and will be continuing those lines of communication moving forward. At this point in time, I anticipate a 6-9-month interim

timeframe to complete our search for a permanent candidate. More information will be shared as it becomes available

Status of the Search for the Dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies (CBPS)

The second round of the search for the next dean of CBPS has been launched. I have worked with Dr. Richtmyer of Academic Search and Dean Joel Hyer, search committee chair, to revise the [CBPS Dean Position Profile](#). Search committee membership now includes: Dean Hyer (chair), Mrs. Pam Klaus, Director of the Center for Franchise Development, Mr. Chris Dunn, Chief of Staff, Dr. JinWen Zhu (Engineering Technology), Dr. Amit Verma (Craig School of Business), Dr. Michael Birmingham (Criminal Justice), and Dr. Ollie Bogdon (Education). The search timeline begins with the recruiting and selection of applicants/candidates; Academic Search has begun to advertise the position in print and online media and is sending the profile to relevant sources and individuals. Academic Search has set up a password-protected website containing all application materials, which is accessible to the Consultant and Search Committee members, and ensures confidentiality of applicants at this point in the process. March 20 is the deadline for full consideration of applications. The committee will then meet mid-March to begin reviewing applications on a rolling basis. It is anticipated that initial zoom interviews will be conducted with semi-finalists during the first week of April, with finalists to be brought to campus in the two weeks following that process. On-campus visits will include opportunities for campus stakeholders and key constituency groups to participate and provide input, as was done previously.

As has been the case since we began this process, I continue to have multiple conversations with Mr. Steve Craig about all aspects of the search. He has been incredibly gracious with his time and willingness to assist. As we continue down this path, I will provide Governors with more details as they become available.

Vartabedian Residence Hall

Repairs are underway at Vartabedian Residence Hall. At this writing, we continue to work with our insurance underwriters to determine coverages and costs to the University. It is anticipated that restoration costs will be around \$700K - \$800K, and our deductible nearly \$300K. VP Morrison and his staff are working on this; updates will be provided as they become available.

Update on the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC)

Progress continues on the development of our Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC). Our Executive Council has been formed, and our Technical Working group, which consists of industry experts alongside MWSU and NCMC teams, have been meeting regularly to develop equipment and lab space layouts. Academic and workforce programming is also being discussed and developed. Recent funding efforts include a \$1.5M ARPA request to the City of Saint Joseph. I was invited to present our request to the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council on January 23; we have since filed the necessary paperwork and signed a contract. My understanding is that the Council will vote on this request on March 6th. Funding secured thus far for the \$12.75M project totals approximately \$8M.

Posting for the Executive Director of CTAC position has been completed. Dr. Laura Reynolds will be chairing the search committee, membership of which is being finalized at this time. As

Governors will recall, this individual will manage CTAC, the Kit Bond Incubator, and our Center for Workforce Development (to be relocated to the Kit Bond Incubator). I will keep Governors apprised of this project as it continues to move forward.

University Initiatives

Center for Service

Since the start of the 2022-23 academic year, the Center for Service has been busy arranging opportunities for students to earn university credit through volunteer service as well as to assist in coordinating numerous service opportunities between MW students and our local community. Since late August of this year, 319 unique students, faculty, and staff performed 1,969 hours of volunteer work, with fifty-three (53) of those individuals volunteering through the Center for the first time. While that alone is worth celebrating, it also translates into more than 260 individuals who have volunteered more than once since the Center opened in 2020. This academic year alone, the Center has realized an economic impact for our Saint Joseph city and region of more than \$58,000.

On January 20th, the Center hosted a *Day of Service to Honor Martin Luther King, Jr.* Three separate events took place, during which volunteer service opportunities emphasized MWSU's mission of applied learning. Nine students processed nearly 2,500 donated books for use in the United Way of Greater Saint Joseph's reading programs at its downtown offices. In the afternoon, eight students sorted and bagged produce at the Second Harvest Community Food Bank for use in area food pantries. As part of this event, the MWSU Women's Volleyball and Softball teams helped clean and paint five vacant apartments at the YWCA transitional housing facility downtown on January 25. The student-athletes were excited to serve at the Y facility knowing it would help women in crisis situations. Collectively, they alone performed 74 hours of service in a single day.

esports

Luke Theis, director and head coach of Griffon Esports, has accepted a similar position at Central Michigan University. Coach Theis' last day at MW will be Feb. 17. Riley Boyd will provide interim leadership of Griffon esports while we search for a permanent successor. Riley is currently a graduate assistant in sports information and pursuing his Master of Business Administration. He served as lead commentator for Boise State *Call of Duty* esports team in 2020-2021, and was the graduate assistant for esports (2021) and then interim director (2022) at Ottawa University.

Community Engagement and Relations

My efforts to connect MWSU with the City of Saint Joseph and the NW Missouri region continue. Telling our story to promote the good work that the University is doing is critically important to forming key, foundational relationships with our community partners.

With this as my goal, I have been involved in numerous activities since my last writing. On January 20, I met with Altec's leadership team to discuss partnership opportunities between us related to the CTAC project. VP Archambault also attended. Our project was very well-

received, and I anticipate strong support from Altec to assist in the completion/ongoing support of CTAC.

Relatedly, my work on the Saint Joseph School District's (SJSD) Hillyard Technical Center Expansion - Advisory Council and on the Executive Board of that group continues. A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for March 2. I will keep you posted as more information about the Hillyard expansion project unfolds.

I began my service on the Mosaic Life Care (MLC) Board of Trustees on January 20th. I am very pleased to be part of this board and to have the opportunity to deepen the partnership between MWSU and MLC.

I attended the NCAA National Convention in San Antonio, Texas, along with Athletic Director Andy Carter, Deputy Director of Athletics and Senior Women's Administrator Theresa Grosbach and Faculty Athletic Representative Dr. Natalie Mikita. At the MIAA CEO Council meeting, I presented the Constitution Task Force's report and recommendations, which were unanimously approved for adoption in the upcoming year. Working to create the report with Commissioner Mike Racy, President John Mosely, and the task force members was a very long but educational process, and I am grateful for the experience.

I was invited by the Saint Joseph Chamber of Commerce to present an overview of MWSU at their January 25th Executive Immersion Workshop. Approximately 15 new executive leaders attended the day-long event.

I am also pleased to report that on February 7 – 9, a small contingent of students and staff traveled to Jefferson City to advocate for Missouri Western State University and our region at the annual Great Northwest Days. Over a three-day period, students met with local legislators to highlight the need for additional funds for higher education and state scholarship programs. Students and staff also volunteered to help the event run smoothly by checking participants into the Mardi Gras-themed showcase, helping secure speakers for a presentation at the final breakfast, and providing input on education issues at a roundtable for economic development topics that impact rural Missouri.

Summary

Spring semester brings another level of activity and excitement to our campus, as we all look forward to warmer days and the promise that this new season brings. As I reflect upon my third year as a Griffon, I am exceedingly happy to be at MWSU and very proud of the good work that collectively our Griffon Family has accomplished. While we still have challenges ahead of us, I am confident that the University has indeed emerged stronger from recent difficulties and is on a positive trajectory. As I always affirm, we are moving forward with clear direction and sure purpose. What a great time to be a Griffon!