



**April 27, 2023**  
**Blum Student Union Room 220**

**Personnel, Finance, & Operations**  
**Committee Meeting**  
**11:15 a.m.**

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



Missouri Western State University  
4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph MO 64507  
[www.missouriwestern.edu](http://www.missouriwestern.edu)

Office of the President

## AGENDA

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
PERSONNEL, FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 27, 2023  
Blum 220  
11:15 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 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, April 27, 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  
April 27, 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, April 27, 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/BOG42723](http://griff.vn/BOG42723).

I. PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Approval of February 23, 2023 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 (Ron Olinger)
  - 2. Academic Affairs (Laura Reynolds)
  - 3. University Advancement & MWSU Foundation (Marc Archambault)
  - 4. Enrollment Management (Becky Dunn)
  - 5. Marketing & Communication (Becky Dunn)
  - 6. Student Affairs (Chris Dunn)
  - 7. Intercollegiate Athletics (Andrew Carter)
- D. Report of the President (Board Book Section C)
- E. Report of the Chair
- F. Board of Governor's Nominating Committee
- G. Old Business
- H. New Business

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, and Real Estate

III. PUBLIC SESSION

Adjournment

# Section

# A

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
**PERSONNEL, FINANCE, & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY  
February 23, 2023

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

**Board Committee Members Present**

Al Landes – Chair  
Lisa Norton  
Bob Wollenman – virtually

**Other Board Members Present**

Rick Ebersold  
Kayla Schoonover

**Faculty/Staff Members Present**

Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement/Executive Director of the MWSU Foundation  
Andy Carter, Director of Athletics  
Michele Chambers, Assistant Director and Financial Officer, MWSU Foundation  
Kelli Douglas, General Counsel  
Becky Dunn, Chief Communications Officer  
Chris Dunn, Chief of Staff  
Sara Freemyer, Human Resource Director  
Kathy Gammon, Budget Director  
Kent Heier, Assistant Director, Marketing and Communications  
Elizabeth Kennedy, President  
Melissa Mace, Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management  
Kevin McQuirter, Instructional Designer  
Darrell Morrison, Vice President of Finance and Administration  
Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Kimberly Sherwood, Assistant Vice President & Controller, Finance  
Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President and Secretary to the Board of Governors

**Others Present**

Anastasia Harwood, Griffon Student Newspaper

Vice President Darrell Morrison briefed the Committee on Fiscal Year 23 budget-to-actual in all funds and updated the Committee with a budget summary for the University. Unbudgeted revenues related to MOSERS, deferred maintenance, and expense reductions. VP Morrison briefed the Committee in terms of revenue shortfalls as it relates to tuition and fees and the damages sustained to Vartabedian Hall and the waterfall effect that has on the budget. VP Morrison went into detail with the Committee on unexpected expenses. VP Morrison advised the Committee of the actions the Administration have taken to reduce expenses. VP Morrison

advised the Committee that the Administration recommends to that prior funds (reserves) be used to cover the \$2.2M deficit.

VP Morrison advised the Committee on Fiscal Year 24 and discussed tuition and fees, housing, state appropriations, compensation/fringe, utilities, insurance, and scholarships as they relate to the budget.

Personnel, Finance & Operations Committee Chair Governor Al Landes asked for a motion to approve the PFO Committee report as presented by VP Morrison and to move the report to the Board of Governors. Governor Lisa Norton made a motion to approve the financial report; Governor Wollenman seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote, 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Betsy Wright, Secretary  
Board of Governors

APPROVED:

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Al Landes, Chair  
Personnel, Finance, & Operations Committee

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY  
February 23, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:48 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 (Zoom) (Left meeting at 2:11)

**Faculty and Staff Members Present**

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  
Theresa Grosbach, Deputy Director of Athletics/Senior Woman Administrator  
Dana Hall-Gertner, Senior Finance and Administration Associate  
Amber Halsteadt, Staff Association President  
Elise Hepworth, Vice Provost  
Kent Heier, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communication  
Elizabeth Kennedy, President  
Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management  
Kevin McQuarter, Instructional Designer, Video  
Darrell Morrison, Vice President for Finance & Administration  
Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Kimberly Sherwood, Assistant Vice President & Controller, Finance  
Ed Taylor, Faculty Senate President  
Kim Weddle, Executive Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations  
Betsy Wright, Executive Associate to the President & Secretary to the Board

**Others Present**

Marcus Clem, News-Press NOW  
Nathan Scott, Student Government Association President



## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board of Governor Chair Rick Ebersold asked for a motion to approve the October 27, 2022 Board meeting minutes and December 1, 2022 Special Board meeting minutes. Governor Norton made a motion to approve the minutes; Governor Schoonover seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Personnel, Finance, & Operations

- Vice President Darrell Morrison briefed the Board in terms of the Personnel, Finance & Operations Committee meeting discussion prior to the Board meeting. VP Morrison briefed the Board in terms of FY23 operating revenue and adjustments.
- VP Morrison briefed the Board on FY23 operating expenses, non-operating revenues and expenses and cash position.
- VP Morrison briefed the Board in terms of fiscal year 2023-2024 budget and factors to consider, such as, tuition and fees, housing, state appropriations, compensation/fringe, utilities, insurance, scholarships and debt service payment.
- 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 Landes seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

## **DIVISION REPORTS**

Darrell Morrison, Vice President for Finance & Administration

- Financial Aid offices working with students as they enroll for classes.
- Budget office began working on the FY2024 budget process by meeting with departments and areas across campus. Additionally, the Budget office is working on adjusting the FY23 budget.
- Human Resources recently onboarded 14 new employees.
- Physical Plant continues work on various renovations across campus.
- Technology Services continues work on installing fiber to the softball fields.

Laura Reynolds, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Strategic Hiring Process
  - Update provided in terms of searches for tenure-track positions, all of which are vacancies.
- Board was briefed in terms of Academic Affairs evaluation of course offerings, enrollments in courses and faculty resources for the spring and summer 2023 semesters.
- Board was updated in terms of 2 accreditations in the last 2 weeks in the departments of Nursing and Social Work.
- Board was briefed on Education cohorts in terms of Dr. Adrienne Johnson's TESOL, Triumph's 8-week "Spanish in the Workplace" and CTAC.

Melissa Mace, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

- Enrollment Management
  - Update provided to the Board in terms of fall 2023 admissions funnel and comparison discussion among Griffon rate states and Missouri territories.
  - Updated provided in terms of admission among Buchanan County high schools.

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

- Advancement
  - At the end of December 2022, a total of \$875,000 in cash has been received for this Fiscal Year.
  - Fundraising efforts on behalf of Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC) project are fully underway. \$1.5M in private support have so far been committed to the project.
  - Mail campaigns have raised a total of \$29,135 from 147 donors.
  - Membership is growing in the Western League for Excellence.
  - Dates provided for future events on campus.
- Alumni
  - Griffon Stories ends its marketing phase at the end of February. To date, 2,306 alumni have responded and over 1,500 stories have been collected.
- Foundation
  - Dr. Davin Turner of Mosaic Life Care has joined the Foundation Board and the Board appointed Pat Dillon, Tom Tewell, Gary Fraser and Scott Hinde to one-year terms as community appointees to the Board.
  - Applications for the Blake K Scanlon Applied Learning Presentation Grant for the spring semester are being collected.
  - The Foundation Donor Appreciation Reception will be held on April 11.

Andy Carter, Director of Athletics

- Department Updates
  - Head Baseball Coach Charles “Buzz” Verduzco announced this will be his last season as the coach of Griffon Baseball.
  - Luke Theis, Director of Esports, announced his resignation to take a similar position at Central Michigan University. Riley Boyd, a graduate assistant in the Athletic Communications area will take on additional responsibilities as an interim leader.
  - Updates given in terms of women’s basketball and men’s basketball.

Becky Dunn, Chief Communications Officer

- Department Updates
  - Photo sessions are being planned to gather new photos for online and print content.
  - New Web Design Coordinator, Lucas Anderson, joined the Marketing & Communication team on February 1, 2023.

- A communication plan is being developed to provide the campus community with updates in terms of the status and progress of the strategic plan.
- Developing a plan to issue an RFP to seek assistance with market research and brand development.
- Updates provided in terms of the number of projects the Marketing & Communication team has processed.
- Updates provided in terms of social media analytics, SmugMug analytics, digital advertising, custom Viewbook analytics and website analytics.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Kennedy briefed the Board in terms of the status of the search for the VP for Finance and Administration. VP Marc Archambault will serve as chair of the search committee; Mr. Chris Dunn, Mr. Bill Grimwood (MWSU Foundation Board), and Dr. Melissa Mace will serve as well.

Dr. Kennedy updated the Board in terms of the status of the search for the dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies. The second round of the search has been launched. An anticipated timeline was shared with the Board as it relates to application consideration, semi-finalists and finalists.

The Board was briefed on the status of Vartabedian Residence Hall.

Dr. Kennedy updated the Board on the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC). The Executive Council has been formed and the Technical Working group have been meeting regularly to develop equipment and lab space layouts.

Dr. Kennedy concluded her report by briefing the Board in terms of the activities and applied learning experiences that have been happening on campus.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Ebersold provided the date of the next Board meeting, which will be Thursday, April 27, 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 Landes moved to meet in executive session; Governor Norton 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 personnel recommendations and other legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Norton made a motion to approve the

personnel recommendations and other legal matters as discussed in closed session. Governor Landes seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed 6-0.

**Faculty Retirement:**

Kenneth (Greg) Kriewitz, Advanced Instructor      Department of Health, Sport and Exercise  
Science (eff. 12/31/22)

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Betsy Wright, Secretary

APPROVED:

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Rick Ebersold, Chair  
Board of Governors

**Section**

**B**



**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**  
**Missouri Western State University**  
Popplewell 217  
4525 Downs Drive  
St. Joseph, MO 64507  
  
(816) 271-4226

April 17, 2023

To: Missouri Western State Board of Governors

From: Ron Olinger, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration

Subject: Financial Information - Board Meeting, April 27, 2023

Please find the following financial documents for the period ending March 31, 2023 pertaining to fiscal year 2023 for your review:

- Attachment #1 - "Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual"
- 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be the initials 'RO' or similar, written in a cursive style.

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

Attachment #1

	Educational & General (Undesignated)					Percentage of Total
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 32,754,644	\$ (3,473,891)		\$ 29,280,753	\$ 28,337,280	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	125,348	70.9%
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	44,059	90.9%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>32,969,209</b>	<b>(3,438,123)</b>		<b>29,531,086</b>	<b>28,531,687</b>	<b>96.6%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	24,805,043	(1,372,128)		23,432,915	16,044,288	68.5%
Fringe benefits	8,910,106	(600,996)		8,309,110	6,304,852	75.9%
Supplies and services	5,209,096	933,485	3,211	6,145,792	4,508,678	73.4%
Travel	299,500	(18,416)		281,084	163,324	58.1%
Utilities	1,688,661	(276,456)		1,412,205	1,006,232	71.3%
Insurance	330,118	21,533		351,651	332,666	94.6%
Scholarships	9,699,281	(694,693)		9,004,588	8,823,760	98.0%
Depreciation						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>50,941,805</b>	<b>(2,007,671)</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>48,937,345</b>	<b>37,183,800</b>	<b>76.0%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(17,972,596)</b>	<b>(1,430,452)</b>	<b>(3,211)</b>	<b>(19,406,259)</b>	<b>(8,652,113)</b>	<b>44.6%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations	21,263,692	-		21,263,692	15,947,766	75.0%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-		2,322,497	1,741,869	75.0%
State appropriations - capital	-	541,623		541,623	239,479	44.2%
Grants						
Gifts	1,242,558	94,135		1,336,693	845,235	63.2%
Investment income	40,000	287,675		327,675	244,946	74.8%
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(339,535)	(131,506)		(471,041)	(163,031)	34.6%
Other		450,000		450,000	329,956	73.3%
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>24,529,212</b>	<b>1,241,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,771,139</b>	<b>19,186,220</b>	<b>74.4%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>6,556,616</b>	<b>(188,525)</b>	<b>(3,211)</b>	<b>6,364,880</b>	<b>10,534,107</b>	<b>165.5%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	(499,977)	-		(499,977)	(377,530)	75.5%
Other	1,927,551	(531,249)		1,396,302	1,351,139	96.8%
Transfer to Aux from E&G	(6,000,000)	-		(6,000,000)		0.0%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>(4,572,426)</b>	<b>(531,249)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,103,675)</b>	<b>973,609</b>	<b>-19.1%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>1,984,190</b>	<b>(719,774)</b>	<b>(3,211)</b>	<b>1,261,205</b>	<b>11,507,716</b>	<b>912.4%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds			3,211	3,211		
	\$ 1,984,190	\$ (719,774)	\$ -	\$ 1,264,416	\$ 11,507,716	

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

Attachment #1

Educational & General (Designated)						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 1,732,433	\$ (25,913)	\$ -	\$ 1,706,520	\$ 1,627,407	95.4%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts	56,600	(18,500.00)	-	38,100	-	0.0%
Sales and service of educational departments	155,885	5,000.00	-	160,885	138,533	86.1%
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	33,059	-	228,398	228,507	100.0%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>2,140,257</b>	<b>(6,354)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,133,903</b>	<b>1,994,447</b>	<b>93.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	720,940	213	57,760	778,913	547,810	70.3%
Fringe benefits	184,662	(18,201)	5,978	172,439	156,017	90.5%
Supplies and services	1,752,562	(461,642)	385,678	1,676,598	1,008,410	60.1%
Travel	134,425	(30,743)	80,611	184,293	78,364	42.5%
Utilities	7,474	(60)	-	7,414	4,421	59.6%
Insurance	4,794	-	-	4,794	3,660	76.3%
Scholarships	50,000	-	5,000	55,000	29,800	54.2%
Depreciation						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,854,857</b>	<b>(510,433)</b>	<b>535,027</b>	<b>2,879,451</b>	<b>1,828,482</b>	<b>63.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(714,600)</b>	<b>504,079</b>	<b>(535,027)</b>	<b>(745,548)</b>	<b>165,965</b>	<b>-22.3%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations					-	
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	809,756	(299,036)	-	510,720	109,751	21.5%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(80,712)	64,873	(79,616)	(95,455)	(36,688)	38.4%
Other						
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>729,044</b>	<b>(234,163)</b>	<b>(79,616)</b>	<b>415,265</b>	<b>73,063</b>	<b>17.6%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>14,444</b>	<b>269,916</b>	<b>(614,643)</b>	<b>(330,283)</b>	<b>239,028</b>	<b>-72.4%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service						
Other	(14,444)	(269,916)	(46,789)	(331,149)	(478,391)	144.5%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>(14,444)</b>	<b>(269,916)</b>	<b>(46,789)</b>	<b>(331,149)</b>	<b>(478,391)</b>	<b>144.5%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(661,432)</b>	<b>(661,432)</b>	<b>(239,363)</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	-	-	661,432	661,432	-	
	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (239,363)</b>	



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

Attachment #1

	Auxiliary				Percentage of Total	
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget		Actual
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
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	\$ 518,446		\$ 2,157,672	\$ 1,349,955	62.6%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing	5,487,923	(774,514)		4,713,409	4,395,054	93.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service	3,102,712	140,000		3,242,712	3,213,193	99.1%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore	158,900	-		158,900	58,165	36.6%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises	102,247	(18,488)		83,759	123,348	147.3%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>10,491,008</b>	<b>(134,556)</b>		<b>10,356,452</b>	<b>9,139,715</b>	<b>88.3%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	2,995,119	83,707		3,078,826	2,353,870	76.5%
Fringe benefits	1,002,631	30,524		1,033,155	998,481	96.6%
Supplies and services	4,384,050	320,237		4,704,287	3,760,194	79.9%
Travel	459,600	301,877		761,477	703,329	92.4%
Utilities	1,187,353	(16,454)		1,170,899	703,442	60.1%
Insurance	526,028	-		526,028	403,522	76.7%
Scholarships	4,090,514	(459,044)		3,631,470	3,516,429	96.8%
Depreciation						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>14,645,295</b>	<b>260,847</b>		<b>14,906,142</b>	<b>12,439,267</b>	<b>83.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(4,154,287)</b>	<b>(395,403)</b>		<b>(4,549,690)</b>	<b>(3,299,552)</b>	<b>72.5%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	29,500	(22,000)		7,500	7,500	
Investment income	237,500	-		237,500	79,201	33.3%
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(1,000)	(129,841)		(130,841)	(106,762)	81.6%
Other						
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>266,000</b>	<b>(151,841)</b>		<b>114,159</b>	<b>(20,061)</b>	<b>-17.6%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(3,888,287)</b>	<b>(547,244)</b>		<b>(4,435,531)</b>	<b>(3,319,613)</b>	<b>74.8%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	(4,012,404)	-		(4,012,404)	(3,600,289)	89.7%
Other	(1,839,493)	257,159	(300,000)	(1,882,334)	(1,533,219)	81.5%
Transfer to Aux from E&G	6,000,000	-		6,000,000	-	0.0%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>148,103</b>	<b>257,159</b>	<b>(300,000)</b>	<b>105,262</b>	<b>(5,133,508)</b>	<b>-4876.9%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>(3,740,184)</b>	<b>(290,085)</b>	<b>(300,000)</b>	<b>(4,330,269)</b>	<b>(8,453,121)</b>	<b>195.2%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds			1,275,000	1,275,000		
	\$ (3,740,184)	\$ (290,085)	\$ 975,000	\$ (3,055,269)	\$ (8,453,121)	

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

Attachment #1

	Restricted					Percentage of Total
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	\$ 88,100	\$ 169,168	\$ -	\$ 257,268	\$ 66,528	25.9%
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	378,072	72.6%
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						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	632,533	529,637	-	1,162,170	723,399	62.2%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	15,455	54,591	-	70,046	30,941	44.2%
Fringe benefits	5,951	4,572	-	10,523	8,113	77.1%
Supplies and services	204,392	200,279	-	404,671	110,600	27.3%
Travel	495	41,932	-	42,427	7,719	18.2%
Utilities	540	(540)	-	-	-	
Insurance						
Scholarships	7,157,771	257,563	-	7,415,334	5,634,335	76.0%
Depreciation						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	7,384,604	558,397	-	7,943,001	5,791,708	72.9%
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	(6,752,071)	(28,760)	-	(6,780,831)	(5,068,309)	74.7%
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants	7,390,685	450,000	-	7,840,685	5,563,080	71.0%
Gifts						
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(265,000)	(484,240)	\$ (74,275)	(823,515)	(279,031)	33.9%
Other						
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	7,125,685	(34,240)	(74,275)	7,017,170	5,284,049	75.3%
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	373,614	(63,000)	(74,275)	236,339	215,740	91.3%
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service						
Other	(373,614)	63,000	-	(310,614)	(37,000)	11.9%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	(373,614)	63,000	-	(310,614)	(37,000)	11.9%
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	-	-	(74,275)	(74,275)	178,740	
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds			74,275	74,275		
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178,740	

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

Attachment #1

	Plant					Percentage of Total
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
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						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation						
Fringe benefits						
Supplies and services	\$ 4,800	\$ 311,460	\$ 65,332	\$ 381,592	\$ 386,691	101.3%
Travel						
Utilities		\$ 1,704		1,704	610	35.8%
Insurance						
Scholarships						
Depreciation	1,395,505			1,395,505	4,657	0.3%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	1,400,305	313,164	65,332	1,778,801	391,958	22.0%
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	(1,400,305)	(313,164)	(65,332)	(1,778,801)	(391,958)	22.0%
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	250,000	958,468		1,208,468	741,344	61.3%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt	(1,647,847)			(1,652,647)	(1,236,017)	74.8%
Capital	(250,000)	(1,441,675)	\$ (828,543)	(2,520,218)	(1,778,351)	70.6%
Other						-
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	(1,647,847)	(483,207)	(828,543)	(2,964,397)	(2,273,024)	76.7%
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	(3,048,152)	(796,371)	(893,875)	(4,743,198)	(2,664,982)	56.2%
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	4,512,381			4,512,381	3,977,819	88.2%
Other	300,000	827,795		1,127,795	697,471	61.8%
Transfer to Aux from E&G						
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	4,812,381	827,795	-	5,640,176	4,675,290	82.9%
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	1,764,229	31,424	(893,875)	896,978	2,010,308	224.1%
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds			893,875	893,875		
	\$ 1,764,229	\$ 31,424	\$ -	\$ 1,790,853	\$ 2,010,308	

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

Attachment #1

**TOTAL - ALL FUNDS**

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees	\$ 34,487,077	\$ (3,499,804)	\$ -	\$ 30,987,273	\$ 29,964,687	96.7%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	88,100	169,168	-	257,268	-	0.0%
State grants and contracts	43,738	340,664	-	384,402	278,799	72.5%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	582,295	1,305	-	583,600	403,072	69.1%
Sales and service of educational departments	331,285	6,463	-	337,748	263,881	78.1%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics	1,639,226	518,446	-	2,157,672	1,349,955	62.6%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing	5,487,923	(774,514)	-	4,713,409	4,395,054	93.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service	3,102,712	140,000	-	3,242,712	3,213,193	99.1%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore	158,900	-	-	158,900	58,165	36.6%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises	102,247	(18,488)	-	83,759	123,348	147.3%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	209,504	67,364	-	276,868	272,566	98.4%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>46,233,007</b>	<b>(3,049,396)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,183,611</b>	<b>40,389,248</b>	<b>93.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	28,536,557	(1,233,617)	57,760	27,360,700	18,976,909	69.4%
Fringe benefits	10,103,350	(584,101)	5,978	9,525,227	7,467,463	78.4%
Supplies and services	11,554,900	1,303,819	454,221	13,312,940	9,774,573	73.4%
Travel	894,020	294,650	80,611	1,269,281	952,736	75.1%
Utilities	2,884,028	(291,806)	-	2,592,222	1,714,705	66.1%
Insurance	860,940	21,533	-	882,473	739,848	83.8%
Scholarships	20,997,566	(896,174)	5,000	20,106,392	18,004,324	89.5%
Depreciation	1,395,505	-	-	1,395,505	4,657	0.0%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>77,226,866</b>	<b>(1,385,696)</b>	<b>603,570</b>	<b>76,444,740</b>	<b>57,635,215</b>	<b>75.4%</b>
				-	-	
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(30,993,859)</b>	<b>(1,663,700)</b>	<b>(603,570)</b>	<b>(33,261,129)</b>	<b>(17,245,967)</b>	<b>51.9%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations	21,263,692	-	-	21,263,692	15,947,766	75.0%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-	-	2,322,497	1,741,869	75.0%
State appropriations - capital	-	541,623	-	541,623	239,479	44.2%
Grants	7,390,685	450,000	-	7,840,685	5,563,080	71.0%
Gifts	2,331,814	731,567	-	3,063,381	1,703,830	55.6%
Investment income	277,500	287,675	-	565,175	324,147	57.4%
Interest on capital related debt	(1,647,847)	(4,800)	-	(1,652,647)	(1,236,017)	74.8%
Capital	(936,247)	(2,122,389)	(982,434)	(4,041,070)	(2,363,863)	58.5%
Other	-	450,000	-	450,000	329,956	73.3%
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>31,002,094</b>	<b>333,676</b>	<b>(982,434)</b>	<b>30,353,336</b>	<b>22,250,247</b>	<b>73.3%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>(1,330,024)</b>	<b>(1,586,004)</b>	<b>(2,907,793)</b>	<b>5,004,280</b>	
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	346,789	(346,789)	-	-	
Transfer to Aux from E&G	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>346,789</b>	<b>(346,789)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>(978,435)</b>	<b>(1,932,793)</b>	<b>(2,907,793)</b>	<b>5,004,280</b>	
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	-	-	2,907,793	2,907,793	-	
<b>\$ 8,235</b>	<b>\$ (978,435)</b>	<b>\$ 975,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 5,004,280</b>		

**Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Cash Position  
March 31, 2023**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>03/31/2023 Available Balance</b>	<b>03/31/2022 Available Balance</b>	<b>03/31/2021 Available Balance</b>
<b>Operating, Auxiliary, Agency, Payroll &amp; Petty Cash</b>	\$ 13,107,947	\$ 16,881,083	\$ 15,579,749
<b>Auxiliary System Revenue Bond Funds</b>	300,000	300,000	300,000
<b>Loan Funds</b>	82,483	82,483	82,483
<b>TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED</b>	<b>\$ 13,490,430</b>	<b>\$ 17,263,566</b>	<b>\$ 15,962,232</b>

**Statement of Cash Position**

**Missouri Western State University**  
**Schedule of Funds Invested**  
**3/31/2023**

<b>OPERATING FUND</b>	<b>YIELD</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>BANK</b>
Checking Account-Operating	4.64%	250,906	Southern Bank
Checking Account-Other	3.00%	12,852,241	Southern Bank
Checking Account-Other	0.00%	-	Southern Bank
Miscellaneous Petty Cash/Change Funds	0.00%	4,800	Campus Locations
<b>TOTAL OPERATING, AUXILIARY &amp; AGENCY FUNDS</b>		<u>13,107,947</u>	
<b>AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS</b>			
Repair & Replacement Reserve	3.00%	300,000	Southern Bank
<b>TOTAL AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND FUNDS</b>		<u>300,000</u>	
<b>INSTITUTIONAL LOAN FUND</b>			
Checking Account	3.00%	82,483	Southern Bank
<b>TOTAL LOAN FUNDS</b>		<u>82,483</u>	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED</b>		<u>\$ 13,490,430</u>	

**Average Interest Rate**

March 2023 - 4.64%

March 2022 - 0.33%

**Division or Office Name:** Finance & Administration

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Ron Olinger, Interim Vice President

**Date:** April 14, 2023

Accounting Services has finalized the annual Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) report. The Student Accounts Receivable Offices has implemented a registration hold process for past due student accounts. Issuance of 1098Ts, which are accessible through the GoldLink portal were also completed for IRS reporting.

The Budget Director and Human Resource Director have been highly engaged in preparing the FY24 Budget. This process began in late January meeting with each departmental unit on campus, and providing them with worksheets to fill out for budget needs that then moved up the chain for approvals.

Tuition and fee data along with housing revenue and other revenue data was pulled for projections purposes. A close look at open personnel lines and budget needs was scheduled with each Vice President to assist in addressing the needs to balance the budget.

The Budget Director held nine personalized budget training sessions for employees in March and April. These training sessions focus on policy and procedures as well as how to utilize the Banner Finance system to pull data and financial reports for individual areas. The training sessions stressed the need for ongoing culture change in regards to financial accountability.

State re-appropriated funds from House Bill 19 (HB19) in FY22 are continuing to be spent on classroom refurbishing and furniture. We currently sit at \$290,879.95 remaining to be spent in FY23. If these funds are not spent in FY23, we can re-appropriate them to FY24 to finish up the projects.

The Budget Director and Assistant Vice President/Controller for Finance and Administration participated in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Portal meeting to discuss and review how the Institute of Higher Education (IHE) will provide information in compliance with federal and state reporting requirements for projects and request reimbursement. This applies to MWSU in particular to the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC) project funding.

Currently the CTAC facility is in the final design phase. Drawings along with scope of work will be made available mid-May. Requests for project approval will then be presented to the MWSU Board of Governors.

Renovation of Spratt Hall Communications Office Suite has been completed. The space includes a glass front entrance, 12 office suites, large conference room, large reception area and work space.

Reconstruction of Vartabedian Hall continues. Plans for a mid-May opening are expected. The main lobby and commons areas on the 2nd and 3rd floors are receiving renovations, as well as staff from Physical Plant are painting and completing minor repairs to several rooms.

The Grounds Crew continue working to improve our campus with tree trimming, maintaining flower beds, and general landscaping.

Risk Management has been working closely with the St. Joseph Fire Department Station 8 personnel to complete building inspections. The focus has been on life safety and fire protection. Station 8 has been familiarizing themselves with the MWSU campus and buildings in the event of an emergency.

With the sunseting of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (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. Through the collaboration of Stephen Fourcart with Missouri State University at Springfield and Bill Rowe with Smith McGehee in St. Louis, the insurance is being marketed to domestic and foreign insurance companies including reinsurance. A recent conversation with Mr. Rowe indicated that participating carriers, rates and coverage details will be provided to the Group in March (updated: 1 st week of June). He also mentioned that rate increases will more than likely stay in place due to the frequency of natural disasters, weather related events and fire losses associated with educational risks nationwide. At this point, the members of the Group (9) should be able to some degree leverage our combined strength to have somewhat of a positive impact on premiums and services.

Fiber has been installed to the softball fields to allow for Network/Wireless Access as mandated by the MIAA Conference.

Blue Ink Security will soon begin testing the MWSU Network for security purposes. BIS works to prevent breaches to the system.

The MWSU Police Department Physical Plant, and Risk Management employees assisted in the April 1st controlled burn of the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie. The burning of the prairie helps to maintain the health of the prairie land.



The Human Resources Department continues to work with the onboarding of new employees and the offboarding of employees leaving MWSU either through resignation, retirement or termination.

HR is collaborating with our CBIZ Consultant on developing performance reviews for staff (administrative, exempt, non-exempt, and athletics). CBIZ will be conducting training for supervisors in the upcoming months.

All employees are expected to complete the annual Title IX mandatory training. Notification of the training was via email.

MOSERS was on campus Thursday, April 13, 2023 for those who registered for the pre-retirement seminar.

The HR department participated in several events during the months of March and April. Those events included the St. Joseph City-Wide Career Fair, All Majors Career & Internship Fair, National Student Employment Week, National Financial Aid week and Faculty & Staff Awards and Retirement Reception which was held on April 28th.

**Division or Office Name:** Academic Affairs

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Dr. Laura Reynolds, Provost

**Date:** April 17, 2023

### ***HIGHLIGHTS***

#### **NCLEX 100% Pass Rate for Nursing Cohort**

All forty-four (44) of the Missouri Western State University students who received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree last December passed their licensure exam on their first attempt. The NCLEX-RN is an exam by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing that nursing school graduates take to become registered nurses. It is a variable length, computerized, adaptive exam designed to test knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level.

Missouri Western nursing graduates typically outperform state and national average pass rates on the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. The University's 2022 first-time pass rate, for example, which included December 2021 and May 2022 graduates, was 85.87%, compared to the national average of 79.9%.

But a pass rate of 100% is rare. The last time all Missouri Western nursing graduates passed the exam on their first try was almost 15 years ago, in May, 2008.

In an effort to attract more high quality candidates, the Nursing program will hold an Open House event held on April 19 at 5:30pm in Eder Hall Lobby for prospective nursing candidates to tour labs and facilities and to learn more about the program.

#### **Fall 2023 Registration and Enrollment Campaign for Continuing Students**

The Office of Academic Affairs developed a comprehensive system for registering continuing students for the fall 2023 semester. In partnership with the Student Success and Academic Advising center, faculty and staff advisors, department chairs, and the Provost's Office contacts students via chat bot, cell phone, university email, and the institutional Learning Management System (Canvas) to ensure they are enrolled for the upcoming semester.

#### **Grants and Institutional Research Board**

Dr. Adrienne Johnson, associate professor and chair of the department of Education, was awarded \$254,900 for the MWSU Early Childhood Expansion Project from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Office of Childhood. These funds will be used to expand a Head Start program on the campus of Missouri Western and to provide applied learning opportunities for students in the education department.

The Office of Academic Affairs is preparing to launch a new Institutional Review Board (IRB) workflow system to meet federal regulations associated with research involving human subjects. This process will drastically improve the experience for both primary and secondary investigators (sponsoring faculty and students conducting research) as well as the IRB reviewers.

### **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.

### **Institutional Research Dashboards**

The Office of Academic Affairs and the Director of Institutional Research have launched internal dashboards for faculty and staff to access information related to student retention, persistence and completion. This information will assist departments in making data-informed decisions impacting accreditation, curriculum, programs, course rotations, and faculty resources.

### **Provost's Summer Fellowship**

The Summer Fellowship – Faculty Research Grant Program, a competitive research grant program generously funded through the MWSU Foundation, is designed to support the research programs of MWSU faculty which foster the University's mission of applied learning and enhance an educational environment that enriches both student growth and faculty professional development. Program funding will be available for two summer cycles, the first beginning in summer 2023, and the second in summer 2024. Each successful grant application will be awarded up to \$7,500; up to six grants will be funded per summer cycle. Faculty grant awardees will determine the distribution of their funding (e.g., summer salary, student assistants, travel, etc.).

The first recipients of the Provost's Summer Fellowship were notified on Friday, March 31 of their selection. Six projects were chosen by a faculty-led committee. The projects and recipients are as follows:

Ganong, C., & Baker, J. (2023). *Quantification of deer brainworm (*Parelaphostrongylus tenuis*) prevalence in snail hosts using a novel molecular technique* (**Department of Biology, College of Science and Health**)

Grantham, M. (2023). *Characterization of the virome of the Missouri Western State University campus ponds.* (**Department of Biology, College of Science and Health**)

Haas, A. (2023). *Miracles, medicine, and media in eighteenth-century France.* (**Department of Social Science and Humanities, College of Liberal Arts**)

Hart, E. (2023). *Abortion on trial: Missouri and abortion law pre-Roe.* (Digital Humanities Abortion Project). (**Department of Social Science and Humanities, College of Liberal Arts**)

Konishi, H. & Smilie, K. (2023). *The role of race and diversity in teacher education programs.* (**Department of Education, College of Business and Professional Studies**)

Newton, A. (2023). *Biodiversity and behavior of pollinator animals on a restored prairie.* (**Department of Biology, College of Science and Health**)

## Commencement and End-Of-Year Celebrations

Academic Affairs will be hosting nineteen (20) end-of-year celebrations and events between April 12 and commencement. These events range from honors society ceremonies, award luncheons and banquets, film festivals, and research exhibitions to celebrate student achievement and our mission of applied learning at Missouri Western. Commencement will be held Saturday May 6, 2023 at 1:00pm in the Civic Arena. We are looking forward to celebrating over 400 graduate and undergraduate students in what is, for many, one of the most significant achievements of their life.

## Colleges and Schools

	Student Applied Learning Experiences				Faculty Scholarly Activities		Student/Alumni Other Accomplishments		Faculty/Staff Other Accomplishments	
	Feb-April 2023				Feb-April 2023		Feb-April 2023		Feb-April 2023	
	Events	YTD	Students	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD
<b>Bus. &amp; Prof Studies</b>	7	43	23	197	12	61	0	5	2	9
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	12	57	99	367	22	70	1	22	7	14
<b>Science &amp; Health</b>	17	85	222	1091	8	39	12	29	16	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>1655</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>53</b>

## Library (updated 4-11-23)

Sally Gibson, Director

	2022-2023	2021-2022
Average Weekly Gate Count	2149	2359
Reference Questions	1069	1216
Reference Consultations	110	108
Physical Circulation	2780	1383
Ebook Downloads	3156	4463
Article Downloads	32925	54753
Course Reserves	170	244
Large Group Study Room Reservations	783	1123

## **Student Success & Academic Advising Center**

**Advising appointments** (since last BOG report): 491 visits by 406 individual students; traffic in SS&AAC during the five days of Spring 2023 add/drop was 167 student visits from 133 unique students

### **Academic Advising Surveys – Spring 2023 semester:**

All currently enrolled students enrolling in summer or fall 2023 courses were sent a satisfaction survey to gather feedback on individual advising experiences, the use of best practices in advising, questions relating to retention and persistence, and summer enrollment/desired class offerings. This data is then collected to make adjustments to future student advising experiences.

### **Advising Shout-Out Awards:**

Drs. Teddi Deka (Psychology) and Shauna Hiley (Chemistry) were selected by the Academic Advising Council as the recipients of the two Advising Shout-Out Awards for Spring 2023. They both received \$25 ARAMARK Gold Dollars and this spring's awards were sponsored by the Business and Registrar's offices. There were 40 nominations received; 37 nominations were from students and 3 nominations were from faculty.

### **Outstanding Academic Advisor Award:**

The Academic Advising Council will also choose the recipient of the 2022-2023 Outstanding Academic Advisor of the Year award.

**Early Interventions:** There have been 785 Early Interventions reported for 399 students this Spring 2023 semester.

The breakdown of students by academic level of those reported:

- 51% Freshmen
- 15% Sophomores
- 15% Juniors
- 18% Seniors
- 0% Graduate students

Additional reported data will be available once grades are posted for the semester

**EdSights** - EdSights is a retention system that uses an AI chatbot ("Max The Griffon") to collect aggregate data on a weekly basis about students and student groups. It also directs them 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.

### **Center for Academic Support**

The Center for Academic Support offers tutoring by trained peer tutors, in math, writing, and specific courses to MWSU students. In addition to these services, we provide Supplemental Instruction, workshops and presentations.

### **Finals Review Sessions for MAT 110 and MAT 111**

The CAS will offer four days of two-hour reviews for both MAT 110 – Contemporary Problem Solving and MAT 111 – Introductory Statistics. Both of these courses meet the general studies mathematics requirement. The review sessions will be April 24-27 with a different topic reviewed each day. The final exams in both courses are comprehensive.

### **Presentation at Conference**

Ben Moran, Tutor Coordinator at the Center for Academic Support, presented at the Heartland CRLA Regional Conference in Kansas City, MO, on April 13. The title of the concurrent session was “A Holistic Approach: Looking at Academic Support Through a Health Education Lens.

### **Applied Learning**

Dr. Mike Ducey, Director

The Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE) was held at MWSU March 9-11, 2023. A total of seventy six (76) attendees engaged in presentations, workshops, and roundtable discussions over the course of the event. The conference featured a keynote address by Dr. Erin Dolan, Georgia Athletic Association Professor of Innovative Science Education and a 3-part plenary lecture series by Dr. Patti Clayton, PHC Ventures. Dr. Dolan and Dr. Clayton are national leaders in the field of applied learning.

The Griffon Office of Applied Learning, in partnership with the Career Development Center, hosted the annual Missouri Regional Industrial Science and Engineering (MO-RISE) Networking and Employment Event on March 14, 2023. The event drew one hundred twenty five (125) attendees including forty (40) representatives from regional STEM employers, and 25 MWSU alumni.

The Journal of Applied Learning in Higher Education (JALHE) issued its call for submissions for the upcoming 2023 publication of Volume 10. JALHE is a peer-reviewed international and interdisciplinary journal serving the community of scholars engaged in applied learning at institutions of higher education. Its purpose is to advance scholarship on applied learning by providing an outlet for empirical, interpretive, and theoretical work related to this pedagogical practice. The Journal is hosted by Missouri Western State University with Dr. Mike Ducey as Editor-in-Chief.

### **College Reports**

#### **College of Business and Professional Studies**

**Dr. Marc Manganaro, Interim Dean**

#### ***Griffons Work***

##### *Faculty*

The **Craig School of Business** hosted 28 schools and approximately 400 students on campus for the high school FBLA District 1 competitive events.

**Dr. David Marble** presented a poster at the CALHE conference on campus. The poster was entitled, “An Applied Learning Approach to Teaching Crime Theories”.

**Dr. Benedict Adams** led a group of students to the Kansas City School District for an Experiential Learning trip.

**Dr. Jennifer Malone** was a guest speaker in EDU 308 on the topic of Special Education.

**Dr. Zhao Zhang** recently presented a paper at the International Conference on Industry Engineering and Management Engineering in Clearwater FL. His presentation was on Sensorless AC Motors Control.

### ***Griffons Serve***

#### *Faculty*

**Dr. Jennifer Malone** participated in Rush for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Rho Iota Chapter.

**Dr. Benedict Adams** participated with the Career Development Center hosted Teacher Recruitment Fair, where Students visited with participants from 22 public and private school districts, the Missouri State Teachers Association and the Greater Kansas City YMCA here at MWSU.

**Dr. Ollie Bogdon** led a group of students to serve as science educators at the Greater Kansas City Science and Engineering Fair "Science Fun Zone."

### ***Griffons Discover***

#### *Faculty*

Students in Management 417 have had the opportunity to engage with special guests and alumni including CSB benefactor, Steve Craig; VP of Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory franchising, Greg Pope; Don Tolly, Wayne Chatham, Ross Theesen, Nathan Nold, and Hayden Glaubius, They are also experiencing applied learning in the local Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory store. For the first time since 2018, A Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory franchise will be awarded.

Criminal Justice & Legal Studies and Social Work departments hosted a group of twenty-eight (28) students from the St. Joseph Public Schools to showcase opportunities in programs related to each department. Presentations were offered about the realities of college student life, applied learning experiences and activities, the legal system, and the helping professions. Students were given the opportunity to engage in hands-on experience and demonstrations in the forensic categories of fingerprinting and blood spatter analysis.

Criminal Justice & Legal Studies hosted students from North Central Missouri College and their director, Jenna Vandell, to learn more about the Criminal Justice program and the Law Enforcement Academy at MWSU.

**Petronilla Sylvester and Dr. Greg Lindsteadt** facilitated a field trip to the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, KS. Twelve (12) students spent time in the historic 'Hot House' and learned more about upcoming additions to the facility.

Craig School of Business hosted twenty-eight (28) schools and approximately four hundred (400) students on campus for the high school FBLA District 1 competitive event.

Judge Lisa Hardwick hosted Legal Studies students at the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Western District to show them how cases are processed through the court of appeals in Missouri. **Petronilla Sylvester** escorted the students to this event.

### ***Griffons Create***

### *Students*

Three Engineering Technology students, **Trenton Henderson**, **Anika Palmer**, and **Joseph Bui**, along with their research supervisor, **Dr. Jinwen Zhu** presented research projects/papers at the MOSGC annual conference, in Rolla, MO. This trip is sponsored by Dr. Zhu's NASA Missouri Space Grant Consortium grant.

**Dr. George Yang** and Engineering Technology undergraduate student **Liberty Holm** presented a paper "The State-of-the-art of Nano-Manufacturing in America" at the International Conference on Non-Traditional Machining and Intelligent Manufacturing. This was a virtual presentation.

Three student members of the Associated General Contractors attended the AGC National Convention and Construction Exposition in Las Vegas, NV.

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Cheryl McIntosh** received the Logan Summer Research Grant for 2023. Her paper was accepted to the Academy of Management conference in Boston, MA. This is the number one academic conference for Management.

**Dr. Zhao Zhang** served as Steering Co-Chair and Technical Committee member for *2023 International Conference on Image, Video, and Signal Processing (IVSP23)*, March 24-26, 2023, in Singapore. Dr. Zhang also served as a Conference Track Chair for *2023 International Conference for Industry, Engineering, and Management Systems (IEMS23)* and will present his paper "TI InstaSPIN Sensorless FOC" at the conference, March 5 - 7, 2023, Clearwater Beach, FL.

### **Griffons Lead**

#### *Faculty*

Congratulations to **Dr. Adrienne Johnson**. She was the recipient of the 2022-2023 *Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching*. She attended a banquet in Jefferson City on Wednesday, March 15 with **President Kennedy** to receive the honor.

The Education Department hosted a Gold Friday event for Education majors in partnership with our host, Kansas City Public Schools. **Dr. Benedict Adams** led a group of students to tour Kansas City Public School's *Global Academy* and an elementary school to learn about how the district meets the needs of students from diverse language and cultural backgrounds.

The Education Department hosted a *Teacher Recruitment Fair* with thirty-six potential employers and the representatives from the Missouri State Teaching Association.

### **College of Liberal Arts**

Dr. Joel Hyer, Dean



## ***Griffons Work***

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** was asked to referee a journal article for a special issue on “Regulating Reproduction in the History of Pharmacy and Drugs” for the *History of Pharmacy and Pharmaceuticals*.

## ***Griffons Serve***

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Christine Ziemer** was interviewed for the podcast *Discover More*. She discusses psychedelic and transpersonal psychology.

**Matt Hepworth** presented “Designing for Accessibility” for students enrolled in ART 372, Topics in Modern/Contemporary: Art Since 1945, Disability Arts. The presentation consisted of an interactive simulation, “invisible browsing,” to enable students to hear a screen reader interpret an accessible website without the ability to see the site.

## ***Griffons Discover***

### *Faculty*

**Matt Hepworth** and **Dr. Holly Rubalcava** led a student group to Dimensional Innovations in Overland Park, KS. Students were provided a tour of the facilities and interdisciplinary workplace areas: Design and Development, Engineering and Manufacturing, and large-scale 3D printing and 2D printing. The tour concluded with a 1.5-hour visit to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, MO. Twenty students attended the tour.

## ***Griffons Create***

### *Students*

Psychology student, **Gabriele King**, presented a poster at the Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education.

Psychology student, **Nyajouk Khan**, traveled with **Dr. Nuchelle Chance** and presented at the Southwestern Psychological Association.

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Jim Okapal** presented "The Language of Ethics for Accounting " to the St. Joseph Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

**Dr. Dominic DeBrincat** presented "The Many Colors of Justice: Black New Englanders in Connecticut's Colonial Courts," for the Connecticut Old State House, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxbZmUCywFk>.

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** presented "Tokens and Final Girls: How Horror Often Undermines Negative Tropes" for MWSU's Pop Culture Club

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** presented "Dying for Fashion: When Clothing Kills" for the Alexander Doniphan Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** presented "Dying for Fashion: When Clothing Kills" for Rolling Hills Library's Women's History Month Celebration

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** presented "Colonial Medicine: Keeping the Continental Army Healthy" for the William C. Corum chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

**Dr. Joachim Kibirige** presented a paper entitled "*Over-Use of Medicine in the US: A Socio-Historical Analysis*" at the Midwest Sociological Society Conference in Minneapolis.

**Dr. Angela Haas** attended the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies annual conference in St. Louis, MO where she presented on the topic of job market readiness for humanities' students as part of a panel on "Working at Regional Colleges."

**Dr. Teddi Deka** published an article with a Missouri Western alum in the *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*. **Dove, B., & Deka T. S.** (2023). Mask-wearing and emotional intensity perceptions. *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*, 28(1), 38–45. <https://doi.org/10.24839/2325-7342.JN28.1.38>.

The Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art has acquired **Teresa Harris's** mixed-media work entitled "*Allegory III*" for their permanent collection.

**Dr. Matt Halligan** led *Marimba Madness* after the Art Society meeting in the Art Gallery on March 7th, 2023.

**Dr. Jen Oliverio** organized a *Master Class & Performance* by George Goad & Ellen Sommers on March 27th, 2023 in the Art Gallery.

**Dr. Chris Marple** held the *MWSU Choral Festival* on March 28th, 2023 at Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church.

**Dr. Lee Harrelson** and Kelly Misko held a *Brass Studio Recital* in the Art Gallery on March 29, 2023.

### ***Griffons Lead***

#### *Faculty*

**Dr. Evan Elizabeth Hart** was invited to serve on the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship Committee for the Coordinating Council for Women in History.

**Dr. Nuchelle Chance** was re-elected as a professional representative for the Southwestern Psychological Association. She will serve a two-year term.

**Teresa Harris** was selected to serve on the MCC (Metropolitan Community College) Graphic Design Advisory Board. This board meets bi-annually to discuss curriculum, portfolio requirements, and

assessment outcomes. We also meet one-on-one with graduating MCC graphic design students to review and critique their final portfolios.

**Matt Hepworth** was awarded a co-curricular grant by the MWSU Arts Society to benefit students within the Department of Art and for courses in B.F.A. Illustration and B.F.A. Digital Animation. The grant proposal requested the purchase of three (3) Wacom Cintiq 22HD Interactive Pen Displays to provide relevant technology for the advantage of teaching and learning about a professional digital workflow, techniques, and execution.

### **College of Science and Health**

Dr. Crystal Harris, Dean

#### ***Griffons Work***

##### *Faculty*

**Dr.'s Cary Chevalier, Aracely Newton, and Mark Mills** planned and organized a controlled burn that was completed recently at the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie on the east side of the MWSU campus. The burn was carried out by 18 students, one alumni, and a member of the maintenance staff, **Jeremy Acton**, with support from the Physical Plant and Marketing & Communications. St. Joseph Fire Department Station 8 was present to observe and assist if needed. This controlled burn not only was necessary to manage the Rushin Prairie, it also provided essential Applied Learning opportunities for our students. Many of the students who assisted were wildlife majors who will use prescribed fire as a management tool in their future careers.

**Dr. Mark Mills** gave a presentation on native amphibians and reptiles, using live animals, to approximately 70 grade school students in Union Star Missouri. Two undergraduate MWSU students, **Ethan Bennie** and **Grace Allen**, assisted with this hour-long presentation.

**Dr. Cary Chevalier, Dr. Mark Mills, and Dr. Carissa Ganong**, along with 13 students from the MWSU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society traveled to the [Ozark Underground Laboratory](#) (OUL) near Protem, Missouri. They worked to clear invasive cedar trees and select hardwoods from the glade at OUL as part of habitat restoration for the Tumbling Creek Cave watershed.

**Dr. Pam Clary** spoke to Pivotal Point Transitional Housing residents from a presentation titled *Healthy Relationships*.

**Dr. Pam Clary** attended and facilitated Friday's sessions of the Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE). Following the conference, **Dr. Clary** and **Dr. Endres** assisted with the Griffin Experience recruiting event.

**Dr. Gregory** and students **Kenna Mavel** and **Jacob Curran** served as judges for the Health Knowledge Bowl at the SkillsUSA competition on the MWSU campus.

#### ***Griffons Serve***

##### *Students*

The Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society hosted their spring Chainsaw Safety and Maintenance Workshop. Co-taught by Jeremy Chambers, Regional Stihl Representative and Instructor, and **Dr. Cary Chevalier**. Twenty students participated.

Student **Braysen Miller** attended Griffon Experience to talk to high school students about his experience at MWSU and answer questions.

Health Information Management (HIM) students presented the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) to 36+ HIM professionals at the Pony Express Health Information Management Association virtual spring meeting.

Nine HIM students completed 36 Professional Practice Experience (PPE) hours with St. Luke's Health System. The PPE was completed virtually and exposed students to various departments and functions in an acute care setting.

#### *Faculty*

**Dr. Steve Lorimor** attended the Griffon Experience to talk to high school students, give them a tour of our labs, and answer questions.

**Dr. Jon Rhoad** met with a group of Highland Community College students to give them a tour of the labs and talk to them about a university chemistry experience. Eight HCC students participated.

**Dr. Natalie Mikita** led a group of students to visit Quest labs in Lenexa. Together with a group of three ECA chemistry students, they toured the clinical labs and learned what a career in medical lab science entails. Twenty-five students participated.

**Dr. Natalie Mikita** was a volunteer judge for an undergraduate poster competition at the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology national conference in Seattle, Washington.

**Dr. Clary** spoke on *Intimate Partner Violence* to LAT 492: Street Law students.

**Sarah Findley** visited Albany High School to speak to students about MWSU's Nursing Program.

**Dr. Elissa Zorn** and Nursing Admissions and Advisement Director **Chelsea Norton** visited North Kansas City Hospital to recruit for the LPN-BSN and RN-BSN programs.

**Chelsea Norton** visited Faith Christian Academy to speak to students about our Early Accept and Nursing Programs.

**Chelsea Norton** and **Alyson Hill** visited Lafayette High School to speak to students about our Early Accept and Nursing Programs..

**Dr. Elissa Zorn, Allison Anderson,** and students **Summer Fude, Hannah Huffman, and Jonathon Voga** participated in the Griffon Experience. Prospective students and their families visited the nursing simulation laboratory.

## ***Griffons Discover***

### *Students*

The Organization of Student Social Workers held a Game night. This provided an opportunity for students to have fun and develop friendships. **Dr. Pam Clary** and 8 students attended.

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Mark Mills** received a \$500 grant from the Missouri Prairie foundation (MPF) to purchase plants for the native plant garden on the south side of Agenstein Hall. After review of 43 proposals, MPF disbursed a total of \$3,134.55 to grant recipients.

**Jennifer Dorris and Dr. Natalie Mikita** co-presented a poster titled *Modification of a gene knock out cell line designed for improved analysis of DegQ, a bacterial analog to pregnancy related serine protease (HtrA3)* at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology national conference in Seattle, Washington.

Accompanied by **Dr. Jon Rhoad, Erin Ellington** presented her research titled *Creating education videos for chemistry: infrared spectroscopy* at the American Chemical Society national conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## ***Griffons Create***

### *Students*

**Noah Gibler** presented a poster, co-authored by **Konner Larkin** and **Dr. Dawn Drake**, titled *Modeling Bathymetry in Missouri Pond Ecosystems* at the Annual Meeting of American Association of Geographers.

**Dr. Csengele Barta** and undergraduate research students published a paper titled *The first evidence of gibberellic acid's ability to modulate target species' sensitivity to honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii) allelochemicals* in the international plant science journal, *Plants*, published by the Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI). The paper was co-authored by three MWSU biology undergraduates and one of Dr. Barta's external collaborators, Dr. Gyongyi Szekely. Student co-authors are MWSU senior, **Alyka Zahnd**, and MWSU alumni Brian Jenkins and Devon Lindstrom.

### *Faculty*

**Dr. Dawn Drake** presented a paper titled *Honoring the 2023 Rural Geography Specialty Group Faculty Award Winners* at the Annual Meeting of American Association of Geographers.

**Dr. Dawn Drake** presented a poster titled *The Importance of Geospatial Skills Training in Conservation Careers* at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting.

Student **Konner Larkin** presented a poster, co-authored by **Dr. Dawn Drake**, titled *Surveying Land Use and Land Cover for Campus Ponds* at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting.

Student **Rachel Mott** presented a poster, co-authored by **Noah Gibler, Konner Larkin, Dr. Carissa Ganong, and Dr. Dawn Drake**, titled *Evaluating Physicochemical Properties of Campus Ponds Using Spatiotemporal Analysis* at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting.

Student **Noah Gibler** presented a poster, co-authored by **Konner Larkin and Dr. Dawn Drake**, titled *Modeling Bathymetry in Missouri Pond Ecosystems* at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting.

**Dr. Carrisa Ganong, Dr. Mark Mills, Dr. Julie Jedlicka, Dr. Dawn Drake, Dr. Cary Chevalier and Professor Emeritus Dr. Dave Ashely** presented posters at CALHE.

**Dr. Tilo Roy** along with students Conner Root, Tyson Cook, and Shannon Buehre presented posters at CALHE.

**Dr. Kevin Anderson** gave a presentation titled *Happy Birthday* at the Missouri Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) Conference at Missouri State University.

**Dr. Stephanie Gerlach** presented 2 posters at the Missouri Kansas Association for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation conference in KC. The posters were titled *Functional Capacity improvements through 36 sessions of cardiac rehabilitation may predict changes in Dartmouth COOP survey score* and *Functional outcomes measures over 36 sessions of Cardiac Rehabilitation do not predict changes in PHQ9 depression scores in Coronary artery disease patients*.

**Dr. Becky Gregory** presented a poster at the 47th Annual MNRS Research conference in Des Moines, Iowa. The poster was titled *Quality of Life and Perceived Impact on Family Functioning in Parents of a Child with Congenital Heart Disease: The PinCHeD Study-Additional Findings*.

**Dr. Julie Baldwin, Latha Varghese and Sarah Findley** presented a poster titled *Global Table: Exploring Diversity, Culture and Health Equity Through a Patient-Centered Activity* at the Annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE).

**MacKenzie Evans and Dr. Elissa Zorn** presented *Exploring Contexts of Care through Nursing Simulation* at the Annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE). The paper was researched and written by **MacKenzie Evans, Dr. Elissa Zorn, Alyson Hill, Laura Nold, and Dr. Heather Kendall**.

**Laura Nold** presented at the Carol Carfang Nursing and Healthcare Ethics Conference in Clearwater, Florida. The presentation was titled *Incorporating Ethics Education Within Context*.

### ***Griffons Lead***

#### ***Students***

The Organization of Student Social Workers participated in the LoveLine Event held on campus. Four students participated and distributed resources.

The White Coat Ceremony for the BSN class of December 2024 was held. Thirty two students participated.

*Faculty*

**Dr. Csengele Barta** received a prestigious Conference Presentation Award from the American Society of Plant Biologists. The American Society of Plant Biologists selected Dr. Barta's submitted presentation abstract to be presented at the 2023 Plant Biology Conference, in August.

**Dr. Lori McCune** attended and chaired the Missouri Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) Conference at Missouri State University. She conducted the meeting of the Executive Committee and the Business Meeting of all Missouri MAA members.

**Dr. Pam Clary, Dr. Fiona Sansone and Jana Frye** participated in GriffCon.

**Dr. Fiona Sansone and Dr. Pam Clary** attended the Annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE).

**Dr. Pam Clary** presented on homelessness and veteran trauma at the Global Table event sponsored by the Department of Nursing.

**Dr. Pam Clary** represented the Social Work Program at the Criminal Justice/Legal Studies/Law Enforcement SJSD Collaboration Day recruiting event.

*Staff.*

**Division or Office Name:** Advancement and the MWSU Foundation

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement and Executive Director, MWSU Foundation

**Date:** April 17, 2023

## **ADVANCEMENT**

Through the end of February, fundraising outcomes to date for this fiscal year remain similar to last year's, despite severe headwinds from a turbulent stock market, high inflation, and banking anxieties. Private funding in the amount of nearly \$1 million has been booked.

Various efforts to secure annual gifts are underway. Supported by Advancement and Foundation staff members, Foundation Board members are tapping into their networks to grow the Western League for Excellence, a source of vital unrestricted funds to the University. A direct mail piece featuring student Marian Montiel was mailed in March to selected home addresses. Marian is a first-generation American and a first-generation college student. To learn more about her story visit [griff.vn/marian](http://griff.vn/marian).

The annual Arts Society meeting was held on March 7 in the Potter Hall Art Gallery. The meeting began with presentations by featured faculty, Jennifer Oliverio, Assistant Professor of Music; Holly Rubalcava, Assistant Professor of Arts History; and Thomas Brecheisen, Assistant Professor of Cinema. Arts Society Chair Drew Brown announced the names of seven Missouri Western Faculty members who were awarded grants totaling \$22,571 for projects and equipment to enhance student learning. To close out the meeting, a student performance of Marimba Madness directed by Dr. Matthew Halligan, Director of Athletic Bands and Instructor of Percussion, entertained the crowd with their engaging performance. Advancement wishes to express our deep gratitude to the leadership, faculty, and students of the School of Fine Arts for their participation at such a high level. To join the Arts Society and/or view a recording of the meeting and performance, go to [griff.vn/arts](http://griff.vn/arts).

The MWSU Ambassadors is a community group that supports nontraditional/contemporary students. We want to thank Connie Wollenman who has served as President of this organization for the past three years and has championed more effective ways to communicate and keep members engaged in the mission. Membership is on the rise, as the group increases their focus on recruiting new participants and members. Individual membership is currently 88 and the group has set a goal of reaching 100 this year. Supported by their new Scholarship Champions giving society, community fundraising, and the recruitment of event sponsors, the Ambassadors have thus far achieved 74% of their annual fundraising goal. The next Ambassadors luncheon will be held on May 18 and will feature a presentation about the College of Science and Health, with tours of the labs following the luncheon. To join the Ambassadors, become a Scholarship Champion or register for the luncheon, go to [griff.vn/bridge](http://griff.vn/bridge). A special thank you to Governors Ebersold and Schoonover for attending the March luncheon.



The University Council received its second e-newsletter, this one covering legislative affairs and priorities for the University. The next University Council gathering will be on April 21 from 8:30 to 9:30 am in the Spratt Hall Auditorium. Attendees will hear from President Kennedy on new developments at the University. Following the President's remarks, Mike Ducey, the University's Director of Applied Learning, will share insights into the importance of applied learning to students and employers, describe recent student and faculty successes, and provide an overview of how to get the most out of attending the Annual Applied Learning Showcase that runs on campus throughout the day. Attendees will also get to hear from two current students on their own experiences with applied learning. A brief set of student solo musical performances will cap off the one-hour University Council gathering.

Kim Weddle, Executive Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations, attended the funeral of former President Jim Scanlon, in San Jose, California on April 3. While there she also visited with an alum in the area.

## **ALUMNI**

The Alumni Board Retreat was held on April 15. New officers elected include President Brian Gray '90, Vice President Janice Wallace '98, and Immediate Past President Lai-Monte Hunter '99. New board members elected include Julie Calfee '98, and Connor Peters '22. Jacob Ridens was introduced as the new student representative to the Alumni Board. Appreciation was expressed for outgoing President Lai-Monte Hunter '99 and board members Natalie Redmond '00 and Tona Williams '00 who termed off the board after serving a total of three three-year (9) terms. This year's Alumni Award recipients were selected and will be celebrated at the Alumni Awards banquet on September 29.

The Scholarship Committee of the Alumni Board selected 18 recipients who will each receive a \$500 Alumni Association scholarship for a grand total of \$9,000.

The Alumni Engagement Committee of the Alumni Board gathered alumni and friends for a Music Bingo night at River Bluff Brewery on February 15. Thank you to Governors Ebersold and Landes who attended.

Throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, members of the MWSU Black Alumni Network Committee of the Alumni Board, led by Janice Wallace '98, have partnered with the University's Center for Diversity to deliver a formal mentorship program for current students that has included lectures and networking opportunities. Alumni participants included: Jordan Allford '20, Philana Blakely '01, Tynisa Collins '01, Brian Gray '90, Darius (Marc) Highsmith '97, Lai-Monte' Hunter '99, Tara Ponds '95, Eric Toliver '17, and Janice Wallace '98.

Grad Fest was held over two days for the May 2023 graduates. A total of 287 graduating students took a survey, collected Alumni giveaways and picked up their caps and gowns at this celebration.

The marketing phase of Griffon Stories, an oral history project, has ended and now is ready for review. All stories submitted will be reviewed and approved before being included in the oral and hardbound version. The final product is scheduled to be released in August.

Nearly 20 alumni participated in this year's Missouri Regional Industrial Science and Engineering (MO-RISE) career networking and employment events, connecting with some of the more than 60 students in attendance. Among the alumni attending were: Sachith Polpitiya Arachchige '15, Anthony Baruth '15, Jesse Campbell '08, Jacob Dovel '18, Bill Gall '93, Joel McDonald '01, Alexander Moore '15, Claire Pearson '13, Dan Pearson '75, Alaina Rickard '13, Gabe Saldana '14, Sara Shore '14. The visiting alumni variously brought expertise in biology, biochemistry and molecular biology, chemistry, engineering technology and other fields.

## **MWSU FOUNDATION**

The MWSU Foundation and the University are in the process of jointly acquiring a digital Board governance tool, commonly known as a "board portal" that will significantly streamline Board operations, reduce staff time for board book assembly, and empower the Board with new resources. We have identified a widely-used service called BoardEffect as our choice. A product from the line of Diligent brand of board solutions, BoardEffect is designed primarily with higher education and other nonprofits in mind.

With the help of this new tool, Board members will be able to log in from anywhere to the unique, secure MWSU Board website on their own or MWSU-provided computer or tablet during and between meetings.

BoardEffect provides a secure, private web space for Board and Cabinet members. The system will enable staff to compile Board books online, easily modifying or reorganizing them as needed, thus eliminating the long lead time required for assembly, printing, and delivery. This not only saves staff time and cost and reduces pressures on the bandwidth of Presidential staff, it also means that Board members may receive their books sooner.

The platform is very user-friendly, delivering 24/7 support for anyone experiencing difficulties accessing or using the system. Locally, Jenny Sherlock and Marc Archambault from the Foundation, as well as Betsy Wright from the President's Office will administer the system. BoardEffect allows email, text and Zoom communications; scheduling; surveys; document approvals; and even, as needed, electronic voting to take place within the portal, reducing the number of emails that the Board and staff must otherwise exchange. Automatic reminders and alerts help keep Board members connected and current. Within the system, users can easily scroll or hop back and forth through documents through automatically inserted tabs and pagination. Board members can even make notations unique to their book. Finally, the system stores bylaws, meeting minutes, and other archived Board documents, providing easy access to materials from anywhere.

If at any time the University elects to discontinue the portal, its documents can be easily removed and downloaded to our own systems. The Foundation Board will also adopt BoardEffect and, because the number of users will be larger than that of the Board of Governors and its supporting staff, the Foundation will cover most of the annual cost of the system.

The Foundation's Donor Appreciation Reception was held on Tuesday, April 11 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Fulkerson Center with over 30 students participating in various interactive student

presentations. Guests also enjoyed a splendid performance by the MWSU Jazz Trio. A special thank you to Governor Tieman for joining us that evening.

Due to the challenging market performance through the summer and fall, some Foundation endowed funds as well as resources received through third-party trusts, have been negatively impacted. As a result, the availability of funding from some recently created endowments must be delayed, as there are insufficient earnings to transfer to the University. While this is unfortunate, the Foundation is communicating these issues with affected University users and donors of those specific funds. The Foundation and especially its investment committee continue to actively monitor the situation and our fund managers are taking steps to mitigate these issues. Nevertheless, it will be a difficult year for the Foundation and for some who rely upon its funding.

**Division or Office Name:** Marketing & Communications

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

**Date:** April 17, 2023

### **Overall Summary**

On March 20, 2023, I began my role as interim supervisor for the Office of Admissions. Since that time, I've been meeting one-on-one with staff and learning more about the daily operations. The team is working hard to recruit students, process applications, and plan summer orientation sessions. Additionally, we're conducting searches to fill several critical vacancies in Admissions.

The Marketing & Communications team provided promotional and photography support for several campus events over the last few months including SkillsUSA, Art Society events, CAHLE, the Nurse's White Coat Ceremony, MO-RISE, the Ambassador's Luncheon, the Big Event, the Prairie Burn, Financial Aid Week, and the Foundation Donor Reception.

Our new Digital Marketing Coordinator, Elora Maxwell, joined our team on April 1, 2023. Her top priorities are onboarding, training, and developing content calendars for our main social media accounts.

### **Enrollment-focused Marketing Campaign**

Last month, we launched a short-term marketing campaign that focuses on persuading students and their key influencers to choose Missouri Western over the next few months. We are using a multi-channel approach including digital and print advertising, direct email marketing, special events, and giveaways. We will measure the effectiveness of digital strategies using tracked QR codes, link clicks, and website traffic.

### **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 **February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023** time period.

### **Project Request Forms**

Our team processed 386 project request forms during this time period - see the breakdown in Table 1. These numbers exclude projects requested via email.

The departments submitting the most requests were Admissions, Human Resources, the Dean of Students, and Nursing.

**Table 1 - Project Request Forms by Category from February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

<b>Design Projects</b>	<b>Print Projects</b>	<b>Website Edits</b>
104	159	123

**Earned Media Efforts**

Media mentions are the number of times keywords appear on webpages, news articles, blogs, etc., via Google Alerts. There was a 12% decrease in media mentions for this time period - see the data in Table 2.

**Table 2 - Media Mentions by Year from February to March**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Media Mentions</b>
2022	515
2023	453

**Social Media Analytics**

Our social media reach continues to improve across the major platforms - see the data in Table 3. Our Twitter followers remained flat for this time period.

We are also continuing to see increases in several engagement metrics including page views, content views, and likes/shares.

Our Facebook performance was particularly strong in this time period with 14,819 clicks, 662,259 page views and 518 mentions and shares.

**Table 3 - New Followers by Platform from February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

<b>Facebook</b>	<b>Instagram</b>	<b>TikTok</b>	<b>LinkedIn</b>
120	172	56	519

### SmugMug Analytics

This is the 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 106,567 total views. See Table 4 for data on the top performing galleries, months, and days. Visit the SmugMug site here: <https://marketingandcommunications.smugmug.com/>.

**Table 4 - SmugMug Performance from February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

Top Performing Galleries	Performance by Month	Top Performing Days
Student Life Griff Con 2023 Griffon Edge 2022	March - 78,829 February - 27,738	March 3 - 7,458 March 21 - 7,174 March 146,914

### 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 72 new leads during this time period - Table 5 shows more details about the top rated lead campaigns and sources as well as the top academics and student life selections.

**Table 5 - Custom Viewbook Analytics for February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

Top Leads by Campaign	Top Leads by Source	Top Academics	Top Student Life
Homepage Commit Gift	Website Texts, emails & postcards	Nursing Education Art Accounting Computer Science, Math & Physics	Clubs & Organizations Freshman Housing Student ID card use Griffon 360 University 101

### 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.) Banner System, 4.) Academic Calendar, 5.) UG-GR Application, 6.) Scholarships and Grants, 7.) Tuition and Fees, 8.) Human Resources, 9.) About MWSU, and 10.) MWSU News.

### Camps, Conferences, and Events

Internal and external entities continue to host meetings on the Missouri Western campus. Table 6 lists the number of events held on campus in the months of February and March.

**Table 6 - Internal and External Meetings/Events from February 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

Month	Internal Meetings/Events	External Meetings/Events	Tabling
February 2023	75	13	41
March 2023	80	16	57
TOTAL	155	29	98

### Admissions

The spring travel season is starting to wind down with just a few weeks of high school visits remaining. To date, new admitted freshmen for Fall 2023 are down 3% compared to this time last year. Despite the drop in admits, the number of students who have registered for a Griffon Orientation session is up 2%.

We have several special recruitment events this month including a financial aid week from April 10-13 to encourage current and admitted students to seek help securing financial aid and making plans to pay for college. On April 19, we're collaborating with Academic Affairs to host an open house for our Health Professions programs and on April 28 we're hosting a Psychology Research Day event.

### Recruitment Efforts

Table 7 provides data regarding the recruitment efforts between January 1, 2023 and March 31, 2023. Additionally, we held the Spring Griffon Experience campus open house event on March 11, 2023 attended by 268 people. Our spring communication campaigns include messages about financial aid and scholarships, residential life, Griffon Orientation, and attending special on-campus and virtual events.

**Table 7 - Recruitment Efforts from January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023**

High School Visits	College Fairs	Campus Tour Attendance	Large Group Tours
170	39	172 Students 230 Guests	7

**Division or Office Name:** Student Affairs

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Dr. Brett Bruner, Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students

**Date:** April 17, 2023

*Campus Cupboard*

The Campus Cupboard continues to see higher levels of student traffic during the 2022-2023 academic year compare to the 2021-2022 academic year. The following table shows the breakdown of visitors from February and March of the respective academic years. Thus far in the 2022-2023 academic year, 752 unique students have visited the Campus Cupboard receiving 4,193 total pounds of food. The increase in students visiting the Campus Cupboard has, in part, due to increased marketing of the Campus Cupboard through various mediums, including social media, presence at campus events, and word-of-mouth.

Table 1  
*Campus Cupboard Student Visits and Food Distributions*

	<b># OF STUDENT VISITORS</b>	<b>POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED</b>		<b># OF STUDENT VISITORS</b>	<b>POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED</b>
February 2022	51	476	February 2023	88	749
March 2022	19	239	March 2023	96	992
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>715</b>		<b>184</b>	<b>1,741</b>

*Center for Student Involvement*

The Center for Student Involvement continues to lead the campus through the utilization of MaxEngage as the co-curricular technology platform to track event attendance. For the year thus far (August 2022 through April 2023), there have been 143 unique events with more than 1500 students in attendance.

Examples of events with the highest student attendance include the Convocation on Critical Issues, International Fair, Western Warm-up, 80s Rock Band Bingo Night, Finals Feeding Frenzy, Back 2 School Bingo, Student Wellness Fair, and MWSU's Got Talent.

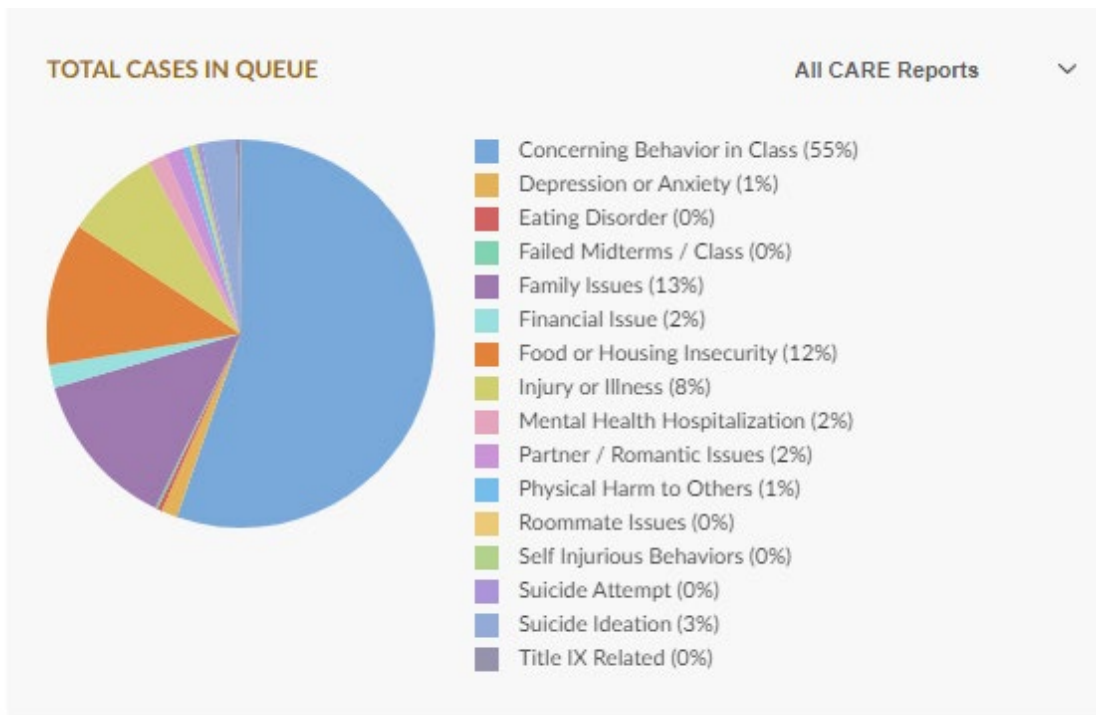
In March, the Center for Student Involvement took MWSU's team of five students to Topeka, Kansas to compete in the Leadership Challenge Event. The student team took third place out of fifteen participating teams in this intercollegiate leadership competition. Additionally, our team proudly won the Team Transformation Award.



*Dean of Students Office*

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 by 88.3% compared to the 2021-2022 academic year. The following chart identifies the CARE Team referrals by type ( $n = 501$ ) since the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Chart 1  
*Care Team Referrals*



Concerning behavior in class remains the primary referral for students to the CARE Team. Behaviors include, but are not limited to, disruptive classroom behavior, non-attendance in class, personal issues students may be experiencing that may impede their academic success, etc. Food or housing insecurity issues constitute the second most common reason for referral to the CARE Team. Family issues and injury/illness constitute the third most common reasons for referral to the CARE Team. 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.

### *Counseling Center*

The Counseling Center continues to provide services and resources for students. The table below outlines the number of students visiting the Counseling Center team this semester.

Table 2  
*Counseling Center Student Visits*

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>
Student Appointments	763
Student Attendees	493

### *Center for Diversity & Inclusion*

The Center hosted Women's History Month in March 2023 with events including International Woman's Day, a movie night (*The Woman King*), and the Celebrating Women in the Workplace Luncheon.

### *Department of Housing & Residence Life*

The Department of Housing & Residence Life continues to support students in the residence halls during the 2022-2023 academic year. Tables three and four, respectively, illustrate the current occupancy rates of residence halls as of April 17, 2023 as compared to April 17, 2022.

Table 3  
*Residence Hall Occupancy Spring 2023*

<b>Residence Hall Occupancy as of 04/17/23</b>				
<b>Hall</b>	<b>Beds Available</b>	<b>Beds Occupied</b>	<b>Beds Unoccupied</b>	<b>% Occupied</b>
Beshears	99	87	12	87.88%
Vaselakos	208	97	111	46.63%
Juda	97	73	24	75.26%
Leaverton	198	95	103	47.98%
Scanlon	397	241	156	60.71%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>59.36%</b>

Table 4  
*Residence Hall Occupancy Rates Spring 2022*

<b>Residence Hall Occupancy as of 04/17/2022</b>				
<b>Hall</b>	<b>Beds Available</b>	<b>Beds Occupied</b>	<b>Beds Unoccupied</b>	<b>% Occupied</b>
Beshears	99	64	35	64.65%
Vartabedian	240	191	49	79.58%
Juda	97	56	41	57.73%
Leaverton	198	129	69	65.15%
Scanlon	397	164	233	41.31%
Vaselakos	208	82	126	39.42%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1239</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>55.37%</b>

The Department of Housing & Residence Life continues to receive 2023-2024 first-time housing applications and contract renewals for current students. As compared to last year, there are 58 more housing applications and 92 more contract renewals on file in 2023-2024 than there were at this same time in 2022-2023. Table 5 illustrates year-to-date comparison for housing applications and contract renewals.

Table 5  
*2023-2024 v 2022-2023 Housing Applications & Contract Renewals*

<b>Housing Applications and Contract Renewals to Date</b>				<b>Total</b>
2023-2024 Applications	242	2023-2024 Contract Renewals	214	456
2022-2023 Applications	184	2022-2023 Contract Renewals	180	364
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+58</b>			<b>+92</b>

*Career Development Center*

The Career Development Center hosted two career fairs during the Spring 2023 semester. The Teacher Education Recruitment Fair was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, which had 35 employers attend, and the All Majors Career & Internship Fair was conducted on March 31<sup>st</sup>, which had 48 employers attend.

Contributions to this report provided by:

Dr. Jerri Arnold-Cook, Director of Career Development Center; Katie Miron, Director of Counseling Center; John Vanderpool, Director of Housing & Residence Life; Josh Clary, Director of Student Development; Leslie Stone, Director of Diversity & Inclusion Molly Swindler, Student Programming Coordinator  
 Chris Curtin, Administrative Coordinator for the Dean of Students Office

**Division or Office Name:** Athletics

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

**Date:** April 13, 2023

Being part of the hosting this year's NCAA DII WBB Elite 8 has been fun and special. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has done a masterful job in putting our city and our university in a great light. The participant's comments have been highly complementary. We look forward to next year as well as being in the radar for additional championship opportunities.

I might also add that the MIAA AD's just voted to return to St. Joseph for 2 more years for the MIAA Volleyball Championships.

**Personnel Updates:**

Paige Thompson, Director of Home Events, departed just after the Fall semester to pursue opportunities in professional soccer in the Kansas City area. We are excited to add Ashli Wicker as our new Director of Home Events and she will start work on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Scottie Moler, Assistant Director of Athletics for Compliance resigned his position to take a compliance staff position in athletic compliance at the University of Iowa. We are fortunate to have already found his replacement in Madeleine Simmons who joined us April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Matt Mandich, Director of Sports Performance, resigned to pursue other opportunities. This is a vital position in developing a culture of high expectations and accountability. Zach Fears started with us on March 20<sup>th</sup> and has already made a great impression with staff, coaches, and students. As our new Director, Zach is working toward completing his staff by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our search for our new Head Baseball Coach has produced a growing list of highly skilled and qualified applicants. This is an exciting time for new leadership in our Baseball program. We hope to have our new head coach named by the end of April, to coincide with our last home series of the season.

**Program Highlights:**

Football spring football has been going very well. Head Coach Tyler Fenwick, and staff, are working diligently to install new offensive and defensive schemes along with new language. The team is responding well and progress is being made.

Women's Tennis is currently 12-4, 5-2 in MIAA competition. They are currently in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the MIAA and have been nationally ranked as high as #25. Ranked #5 in the Central Region.

Men's & Women's Outdoor Track & Field are having a highly productive spring with students meeting provisional qualifying times in several events. Program records have been broken and many PR's have been attained as they prepare for conference and national meets.

Softball is currently 27-12, 9-7 in MIAA competition. They are in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the MIAA.

Men's & Women's Golf have both had significant individual and team success this spring. The Men are currently ranked just outside of the top 10 in the Central Region, while the Women are currently ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the Central Region. Having won 2 tournaments thus far, Marius Dosiere (FR, La Rochelle, France) should qualify for the Central region tournament even if our team does not.

Finally, we are excited about having the Kansas City Chiefs back for 2 more years! Time to get to work!

# **Section C**



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

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## **Report to the Board of Governors**

**April 27, 2023**

### Introduction

April is one of the most beautiful and most busy months of the academic year on our campus. With flowers and trees in brilliant full-bloom, there remain only two weeks left in the semester, which means that students and faculty are pressing for the last class days and final exams week, just as calendars are filling with receptions, award ceremonies, and recognition banquets. The ending of a semester is always somewhat bittersweet, as we are celebrating the successes of our continuing students while congratulating our departing graduates who will be leaving MWSU to begin the next phase in their life journeys.

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

### Former MWSU President Dr. James Scanlon

With sadness we learned that former MWSU President Dr. James Scanlon passed away on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Dr. Scanlon helped shape the mission of applied learning for our beloved University. One of his greatest achievements was securing for MW the statutory designation of university in 2005. Dr. Scanlon will be remembered for his warmth, his empathy, and his integrity by those who knew him.

### Fall 2023 Enrollment

Fall 2023 registration opened for currently enrolled undergraduate seniors and graduate students on March 6 and opened to all remaining undergraduate students on March 15. At this point in time, our retention efforts indicate early positive signs. For example, registration of continuing students is up approximately 6% over the same time last year (63% 2023 versus 57% 2022). Freshmen are showing the greatest increase in re-enrollment (i.e., +23%), with juniors (+12%), sophomores (+7%) and seniors (+1%) ranking in this order.

Registration rates for our Griffon Orientation (GO) sessions are slightly above (+1%) last year's number at this same point in time. As we continue to register incoming students for this, our focus will be to significantly reduce the 30% melt rate (i.e., students who register for GO but do not attend their orientation event) that was experienced last year.

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.

As always, I will keep Governors apprised of the fall 2023 enrollment as we proceed through this process.



### Status of the Search for the Vice President for Finance and Administration (VPFA)

As mentioned in previous communications, Vice President Marc Archambault (Chair), Chief of Staff Chris Dunn, and immediate past-president of the MWSU Foundation Board Bill Grimwood constitute the search committee. On April 14, search committee members and I met via zoom with the WittKieffer Consulting Team, which is led by Dr. Jen Meyers Pickard, along with Ms. Kimberly Migoya and Ms. Hannah Feagan. From our meeting, the WittKieffer team will develop the position prospectus and will refine the recruitment plan. Dr. Pickard seems fairly confident that filling the VPFA position will take approximately five months, which should result in a hire sometime in July – August.

In the meantime, I am pleased to report that Interim VPFA Ron Olinger has joined Cabinet and is already very closely engaged in the many areas under his supervision. Ron's presence has been very positive and steadying, and his transition to-date has been seamless.

### 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 is moving forward at a good pace. Dr. Richtmyer of Academic Search, Dean Joel Hyer, search committee chair, and the search committee members have narrowed the pool to semi-finalists to invite for in-person interviews. This phase of the search should be completed by end-of-April to early-May. Please note that on-campus visits will include opportunities for campus stakeholders and key constituency groups to participate and provide input, as has been done in previous searches of this stature. As we continue down this path, I will provide Governors with more details as they become available.

### Vartabedian Residence Hall

Reconstruction of Vartabedian Hall continues. Plans for a mid-May opening are expected. The main lobby and commons areas on the 2nd and 3rd floors are receiving renovations, as well as staff from Physical Plant are painting and completing minor repairs to several rooms.

### Update on the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC)

Progress continues on the development of our Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC). The CTAC Academic Team (i.e., MWSU + NCMC faculty and administrators) met with the Ellison-Auxier Architects' team on April 6<sup>th</sup> to conduct a full project review. The walk-through of the project went very well; RFPs should be issued within the next week or two.

Fundraising for the project is also moving forward. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, the City Council approved \$1.5M in ARPA funding. Through the good efforts of VP Archambault and his team, we have secured \$1.53M in grant and private funding, with another \$1.275M in private solicitations which are awaiting final approvals from respective boards /foundations.

Finally, we are pleased to bring Dr. Daniel Bumblauskas on board as the Executive Director for Workforce and Economic Development & Associate Dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies. Dr. Bumblauskas is coming to MWSU from the University of Northern Iowa, where he most recently served as the MBA Program Coordinator and was a tenured professor in the University's College of Business Administration. Dr. Bumblauskas will lead the establishment of CTAC, provide administrative support to the CBPS Dean as related to the

Department of Engineering Technology, and will provide management oversight and technical assistance on behalf of the University for the Kit Bond Science and Technology Incubator. Dr. Bumblauskas will begin his tenure at MWSU on May 15, 2023.

### University Initiatives

#### *Community to Classroom Program*

A key educational element in the Craig School of Business (CSB) is to provide applied learning opportunities for our business degree-seeking students. Our Community to Classroom Program is one vehicle through which CSB students acquire hands-on experiences by engaging in real-world projects for local businesses. Within the class curriculum, students engage with business owners on semester-long projects to help them solve a wide range of business challenges including marketing strategy, business plans, market research, web development, social media and digital marketing. For this past academic year, 185 students assisted 42 businesses in the City of Saint Joseph and surrounding area.

#### *Center for Service (CFS) and The Big Event*

Sixty-seven Griffon students and staff participated in *The Big Event* on Saturday, April 1. *The Big Event* is coordinated on a national level in order to create opportunities for college students to participate in a day of volunteer service. Our *The Big Event* project was sponsored by the MWSU Student Government Association (SGA) and the CFS as a way to thank the communities which support local schools. MWSU students assisted with cleanup and putting much needed mulch on the playground in and around YWCA's Bliss Apartments and Pivotal Point. Trash and refuse were collected in the area near Mark Twain Elementary School - between Mitchell Avenue and Messanie Street and South 28<sup>th</sup> Street to South Noyes Boulevard. The labor provided at *The Big Event* generated slightly more than \$5000 of economic impact to the St. Joseph community. The Center for Service is currently working with several students who are attempting to earn a total of twenty-nine hours of undergraduate credit (UNV 201) and six hours of graduate-level credit (UNV 301) to finish the spring semester.

#### *John Rushin Teaching & Research Prairie - Prescribed Burn*

On Saturday, April 1, three Biology faculty, one staff member, and 18 students from the MWSU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society successfully held a prescribed burn for the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie. The fire plan developed by the Biology Department faculty was executed to precision. I am grateful to the many other University members from Marketing and Communications, Physical Plant, Risk Management, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, the President's Office, and Athletics - who assisted in ensuring that safety, public awareness, and community communications were all handled so very well. Finally, we also are grateful to our local firefighters who provided on-site assistance. The prairie will continue to provide sustainable uses for biology research, conservation education, and other practical experiences, which will allow our region to enjoy native plants and wildlife for years to come.

## 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.

On March 7-9, I participated in the Saint Joseph delegation's Washington D.C. Fly-In. Over two full days, our 40+ member group met with the Honorable Sam Graves, Major General Duke Pirak, Deputy Director, Air National Guard, the Honorable Josh Hawley, and the Honorable Eric Schmitt. I was one of four from our group who was selected to speak and addressed the critical impact that education and skilled training opportunities have on workforce development in our region.

On behalf of the University, I made the trek to Jefferson City on March 15-16 for this month's Coordinating Board of Higher Education meeting and the Council on Public Higher Education, to which I serve as vice-chair. While there, Dr. Ben Boggs (Colorado), the new Commissioner for Higher Education and Workforce Development was introduced to the group. Dr. Boggs officially began his position with the state on April 1.

My work on local boards continues. I attended the following recent Board meetings: Chamber of Commerce Board, Mosaic Life Care Foundation Board, and Mosaic Life Care Board of Trustees, and Hillyard Technical Center Advisory Board.

Finally, I was honored to be invited to present at the Saint Joseph Chamber of Chamber's Small Business/Entrepreneur Resource Presentation on March 28. My presentation on MWSU's Center for Workforce Development and CTAC was very well-received.

## Summary

This has been an exciting academic year, filled with many positive experiences for our students, faculty, and staff. While we still have challenges ahead of us, I am more confident than ever that the University 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!