

**University of Central Missouri**  
**Board of Governors**  
**Plenary Session**  
**October 27, 2023**

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on October 27, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. in Union 237B on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Presiding over the meeting was Board President Kenneth Weymuth. Others participating in the meeting from Union 237B were Governors Stephen Abney, Gus Wetzell II, John Collier, Phyllis Chase and Hadley Oden, as well as University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; and Assistant Board Secretary Monica Huffman. Governor Mary Dandurand participated in the meeting by phone; and Governor Stu Rogers was unable to attend the meeting and was excused.

**Call to Order** - Agenda Item No. 1

Mr. Weymuth called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present to conduct business.

**Remarks by the Board President** – Agenda Item No. 2

Mr. Weymuth welcomed everyone to the meeting and reflected on Homecoming events of the past week. He welcomed one of the newest members to the Board, Dr. Phyllis Chase, and noted that Stu Rogers who was also recently appointed was unable to attend the meeting due to a commitment made prior to his appointment. Mr. Rogers will be at the December meeting.

With the addition of two new board members, Mr. Weymuth announced he was appointing Dr. Chase to the Academic Affairs Committee and Mr. Rogers to the Finance and Administration Committee.

**Remarks by the University President** – Agenda Item No. 3

President Best also welcomed Dr. Chase to the Board. He reflected on the Census Enrollment Report presented in an earlier Work Session, noting enrollment is at its highest for the last 5-1/2 to 6 years and has continued to increase for five consecutive semesters. He added that last year UCM graduated nearly 4,000 students. President Best commended Admissions for its work and expressed appreciation for its work to personalize student recruitment efforts.

**Oath of Office** – Agenda Item No. 4

Associate Judge Brent Teichman of the Johnson County Circuit Court was in attendance and administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Phyllis Chase. Following the Oath of Office, Mr. Weymuth and President Best presented Dr. Chase with a bag for her Board work. Photographs were taken.

## **Emeritus Status Requests and Recognitions** – Agenda Item No 5

President Best said the following individuals qualify for emeritus status in accordance with BOG Policy 2.1.070 – *Privileges Extended to Emeriti and Retired Employees* (Attachment 1).

- Ms. Vicki Orcutt (August 27, 2007 – August 31, 2023), Director of Academic Outreach
- Ms. Sami Babrakzai (November 22, 2004 – September 30, 2023), Director of Academic Fiscal Affairs

*Mr. Collier moved that the Board of Governors approve emeritus status for Ms. Orcutt and Ms. Babrakzai. The motion was seconded by Mr. Abney and carried unanimously.*

Ms. Orcutt and Ms. Babrakzai were unable to attend the meeting to be recognized. Certificates of Recognition will be sent to both individuals.

## **Plenary Session**

### **Consent Agenda** – Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. Weymuth asked for a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

#### **Action**

- August 17, 2023, and September 1, 2023, Plenary Session Minutes; and
- Award of a two (2) year contract with an option for four (4) one-year contract renewals with KC Blueprint Company and Neal/Settle Printing, Inc. for printing, copying and related services (Attachment 2);

#### **Information**

- Census Date Enrollment Report (Attachment 3) ;
- FY 2024 First Quarter Investment Report (Attachment 4); and
- FY 2024 First Quarter Statement of Revenue and Expenses (Attachment 5)

*Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.*

### **Written Governance Groups Reports** – Agenda Item No. 7

Mr. Weymuth stated written governance groups reports were included under Tab 10 of the meeting packet (Attachment 6). Mr. Abney commented the Faculty Senate report included concerns over maintenance issues. President Best said this relates to HVAC systems in the different buildings and a question of whether they are appropriately maintained. He explained a power failure occurred over the Labor Day weekend that caused HVAC systems in nine (9) buildings to completely shut down. None of these systems are at the of end of life, which is 25-28

years. President Best acknowledged there is an HVAC system in another building that has reached its end of life and will be replaced. He added when a component of an HVAC system goes out, as there was in the Lovinger Building's HVAC system, the replacement component has to be built, which takes time. In this instance a chiller was rented to help cool the building until the new component could be installed.

### **Legislative Update** – Agenda Item No. 8

Mr. David Pearce, Executive Director for Governmental Relations, provided a legislative update that included participation in several meetings and events (Attachment 7). He reviewed an upcoming legislative timeline that included:

#### State

- Coordinating Board for Higher Education proposed a 5% increase to core funding for FY 2025
- Departmental requests are due in October
- The State of the State Address will be in late January
- Pre-filing of bills begins December 1, and the fiscal note process begins
- Legislative priorities are being developed for Missouri chamber, KC Chamber and Lee's Summit Chamber

#### Federal

- After three (3) weeks without a Speaker of the House, The U.S. House of Representatives has elected Representative Mike Johnson of Louisiana to serve in this role
- The Government shutdown deadline is November 17

### **University Update** – Agenda Item No. 9

President Best remarked on the level of engagement we are able to have when visitors come to campus. He noted the Director for the Missouri Department of Transportation, Patrick McKenna, was on campus earlier this morning. Other events that drew visitors to campus included the dedication of the Sharon L. Harper Locker Room, a Wind Ensemble Concert, the Big Pink Volleyball game, the State Farm Marketing competition, and sporting events.

President Best mentioned two events that will occur prior to the Boards December meeting – 1) On November 15, Olympic Gold Medalist and a Women's National Basketball Association Hall of Famer, Chamique Holdsclaw, will be a special guest speaker and talk about her role as an emotional health activist and athlete; 2) On November 30, UCM will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Jingle on the Quad at 5:00 p.m. Following the lighting, the First Lady's Holiday Concert will be held in the Highlander Theatre where the Wind Ensemble will play holiday music.

### **University Metrics Report** – Agenda Item No. 10

President Best said a University Metrics Report is presented to the Board twice each year. He reviewed the report (Attachment 8), highlighting that UCM has fewer faculty and staff today than it did five (5) years ago, however the number of students for this same period is nearly the same; the faculty-student ratio is comparable for each of the past five (5) years; and the number of student credit hours taught by adjunct faculty has steadily increased to 18% in 2023. Efforts will be made to lower this percentage.

**Board Committee on Student Engagement & University Advancement**

Mr. Abney, a member of the Board Committee on Student Engagement & University Advancement, reported the Committee met earlier in the day and received a great presentation from the Alumni Foundation that included both interesting and important information. He expressed appreciation for the work of the Alumni Foundation staff.

**Board Committee on Academic Affairs**

The Board Committee on Academic Affairs did not meet this month.

**Board Committee on Finance & Administration**

Mr. Collier, Chair of the Board Committee on Finance & Administration, reported the Committee met earlier in the day and had robust discussion surrounding the agenda.

**Other Business** – Agenda Item No. 11

There was no other business to discuss.

**Request for Closed Session – October 27, 2023** – Agenda Item No. 12

*Mr. Collier moved pursuant to the Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 610.021, that the UCM Board of Governors resume meeting in closed meeting, with closed record and closed vote, for the purpose of considering real estate matters, legal actions, contractual matters, personnel matters, and other matters included under Section 610.021 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Chase and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Phyllis Chase</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>

**Adjourn** – Agenda Item No. 13

The Board concluded Plenary Session at 1:15 p.m. Following the conclusion of Closed Session, the Board returned to Plenary Session at 3:15 p.m. and *Mr. Collier made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Abney and carried unanimously.* The Board adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

***University of Central Missouri  
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Attachments Listing***

<b><i>Attachment No.</i></b>	<b><i>Attachment Description</i></b>
1	Emeritus Status Requests & Recognitions
2	Print, copy and Related Services Contract
3	Census Date Enrollment Report
4	FY 2024 First Quarter Investment Report
5	FY 2024 First Quarter Statement of Revenue & Expenses
6	Written Governance Groups Reports
7	Legislative Update
8	University Metrics Report