

University of Central Missouri
Board of Governors
Plenary Session
September 21, 2012

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on Friday, September 21, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in Union 237B on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Presiding over the meeting was Board President Marvin E. Wright. Other Board members present included Governors Gus Wetzel II, Mary Long, Walter Hicklin, Edward Baker, and Kyle Shell. Governors Mary Dandurand and Weldon Brady were unable to attend the meeting and were excused. Also present was University President Charles Ambrose; General Counsel Henry Setser; and Assistant Secretary to the Board Monica Huffman.

Plenary Session

Call to Order – Agenda Item No. 1

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

Remarks by the Board President – Agenda Item No. 2

Mr. Wright gave a special welcome to graduate students in attendance from the Governance and Finance in Higher Education class. He also gave special recognition to the Mules Football team whose game was nationally televised last evening, and expressed appreciation on the Board's behalf for the numerous invitations Board members receive from the campus community. He closed by saying what a great institution UCM is and that it's on a strong path for becoming greater.

Remarks by the University President – Agenda Item No. 3

President Ambrose also commented on what a great game the Mules played last evening and acknowledged what a great partnership UCM has had with Truman State University, who committed to playing one last season before leaving the Conference. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Hughes and his staff who put a lot of energy and time into preparing for last night's nationally televised game. President Ambrose commented on a number of other past and upcoming events including the recent Air Force Ball that was held on campus last week; the *Get the Red Out* event; Homecoming and the Provost's Music Showcase that will highlight UCM's very talented faculty musicians.

President Ambrose welcomed Mr. Mike Racy, NCAA Vice President for Division II Athletics and former ACE fellow, who was on campus for the televised game. Mr. Racy expressed appreciation for the semester he spent at UCM as part of his ACE fellowship and reflected on the positive experiences and opportunities that this year-long experience provided him.

President Ambrose highlighted reports that would be included in today's meeting including a Census Data Report by Dr. Rick Sluder. He noted that the Board requested that we highlight University programs as part of its monthly meetings that reflect UCM's strategic positioning platform of *The Reasons to Believe*. With this, he introduced Dr. Joyce Downing to share information about one such program – THRIVE.

THRIVE Program – Agenda Item No. 4

Dr. Downing reported that the THRIVE Program is now in its third year. She shared a YouTube video and distributed a brochure that provides information about the program (Attachment 1). Of particular note is that there are various programs across the nation that serve this special group of individuals; however, UCM's program is unique in that it has a residential component. She added that there are a small number of the students who are able to earn college credit with the potential staying on following the two-years to work towards a degree. Unfortunately, while some continuation grants exist and select students may become eligible for a Pell grant, federal funding in the form of student loans is not currently available for program participants. The Board congratulated and thanked Dr. Downing and her staff for the work they do with this unique and special program.

General Session

Approval of the Minutes – August 22, 2012, Work Session and August 23, 2012, Plenary Session – Agenda Item No. 5

Mr. Hicklin moved that the Board of Governors approve the minutes of the August 22, 2012, Work Session and August 23, 2012, Plenary Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried with a unanimous vote.

Reports

Written Governance Groups Reports – Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. Wright noted that written governance groups reports were included with the meeting materials (Attachment 2), and thanked the governance groups' leadership for providing these updates.

Missouri Innovation Campus – Agenda Item No. 7

President Ambrose reported that there has been a lot activity and work with the first cohort of students participating in the Missouri Innovation Campus Student-Centered Program. Stan Elliott, Program Coordinator, is reviewing the next degree stream and pursuing business partnerships for it. President Ambrose said there will be more time to develop and establish the second program.

Legislative Update – Agenda Item No. 8

Senator David Pearce attended the meeting and provided a legislative update to the Board centered on three important topics. The first pertained to developing a formula that ensures the fair distribution of funding to higher education institutions for their students. The Joint Committee on Education will hold hearings around the State in October to receive testimony from colleges and universities on this matter.

A second topic of importance continues to be the budget. Senator Pearce stated the possibility exists for another round of withholdings after December; he encouraged UCM to keep this in mind when planning for its own budget. He also noted the possibility of a 5% budget reduction for FY 2014.

The last topic Senator Pearce reported on was the passing of HB 1402 that established 25 lower level courses that would transfer from community colleges to four-year institutions. This bill, which includes a provision for reverse transfer credits, went into effect August 28, 2012.

In closing, Senator Pearce noted there is, of course, a great deal of focus on the upcoming November 6 election. President Ambrose and the Board expressed appreciation to Senator Pearce for his outstanding leadership for K-12 and higher education and thanked him for taking time to attend the meeting.

Board Committee on Student Engagement & University Advancement

The Board Committee on Student Engagement and University Advancement did not meet in September.

Board Committee on Academic Affairs

Dr. Gus Wetzels, Chair of the Board Committee on Academic Affairs, reported the Committee met the preceding afternoon. He invited Provost Deborah Curtis to give the report on the following agenda items.

Charter Schools Updates – Agenda Item No. 9

Dr. Curtis asked Dr. Vici Hughes to provide an update on UCM-sponsored Charter Schools. Dr. Hughes reviewed information contained in a briefing paper included with the Board meeting materials (Attachment 3). She provided additional information about the schools that was not included in the paper:

- Academie Lafayette opened the K-2 campus earlier this year on Cherry Street in Kansas City, Missouri. The campus on Oak Street continues to house grades 3-8.

- Alta Vista High School continues to excel. It opened the Academie Los Niño, the Kindergarten campus located on Metropolitan Community Colleges – Penn Valley campus. Enrollment is currently at 52 students. Additionally, Alta Vista High School students scored well above the state in math and are very close to the state average in communication arts. Alta Vista Middle School, with two years of test data are showing similar positive trends.
- Crossroads Academy opened this year and continues to receive support from the Kansas City community. They will use the downtown Kansas City Library as their library and the former Kansas City Athletic Club is allowing the students to use its gym on days that the weather does not permit outside activity.
- Della Lamb is serving mainly refugee students. There are 19 languages spoken by the families and students in this school. These students come without experience in a school setting. Additionally, one family's dialect is from such a remote area that it's not even in print, which creates a real challenge for teaching.
- Gordon Parks Elementary was given the Missouri School Improvement Grant due to its low test scores. The school will implement curriculum development and offer staff development to further help the students.
- Scuola Vita Nuova was in the same position as Gordon Parks Elementary two years ago. At that time, UCM's Charter Schools Office and the Scuola Vita Nuova Board collaboratively developed a remedial plan to improve the scores. Today, students in grades 3-8 are far above or at the state level in math and communication arts.

Mr. Wright asked how many of the 3,550 Charter Schools students are high school students. Dr. Hughes answered approximately 700. He congratulated Dr. Hughes and her staff on their good work with the Charter Schools.

Census Data Enrollment Report – Agenda Item No. 10

Dr. Rick Sluder gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Census Data Enrollment. Of particular note was a 2.3% increase in undergraduate enrollment (Attachment 4). Following the report Mr. Wright commended Dr. Sluder and his staff for their good work in enrollment management. He also thanked him for the comprehensive report. Dr. Joy Stevenson then provided an update on international student enrollment. She distributed and reviewed a Fall 2012 international enrollment report (Attachment 5).

B.S. Systems Engineering Technology Degree

Dr. Curtis referred the Board to a briefing paper that was distributed to members under separate cover from the Board meeting materials (Attachment 6). This proposed degree would be offered through UCM's consortium with the R-7 Lee's Summit School District, Metropolitan Community Colleges, and various business partners. *Dr. Wetzel moved that the Board of Governors approve the establishment of a B.S. degree in Systems Engineering Technology contingent upon approval of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and approved unanimously.*

Note: The Board took a five-minute recess from 9:55 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the conclusion of the Academic Affairs Committee report.

Board Committee on Finance and Administration

Mr. Baker, a member of the Board Committee on Finance and Administration, reported that the Committee met the preceding afternoon. He asked Mr. Merrigan to present the following agenda items.

Purchase of Enhanced Search Services – Agenda Item No. 11

Mr. Merrigan invited Dr. Rick Sluder to provide the Board with background information on the purchase of enhanced search services. Dr. Sluder referred the Board to a briefing paper that was included with the Board meeting materials (Attachment 7). He noted that for the past three years, the inquiry pool for information about UCM has remained flat at 14,000, and that by purchasing enhanced search services, the pool will increase. Mr. Baker added that this purchase will place UCM ahead of its competition with regard to enrollment. *Mr. Baker moved that the Board of Governors authorize UCM to enter into a three-year contract with RuffaloCODY for enhanced search services at a total cost of \$265,612. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wetzel and carried unanimously.*

Annual Debt Service Report – Agenda Item No. 12

Mr. Merrigan reviewed the content of the Annual Debt Service Report that was included with the Board's meeting materials (Attachment 8).

Annual Investment Report – Agenda Item No. 13

Mr. Merrigan reviewed the content of the Annual Investment Report that was included with the Board's meeting materials (Attachment 9).

Tuition Update

Mr. Merrigan distributed and reviewed a spreadsheet that reflected tuition results for the Fall semester (Attachment 10).

Board Business

Adjournment – Agenda Item No. 14

There being no further business to discuss, *Mr. Hicklin moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wetzel and carried unanimously.* The meeting concluded at 10:35 a.m.

**University of Central Missouri
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Attachments Listing**

<u>Attachment No</u>	<u>Attachment Description</u>
1	<i>Brochure – THRIVE Program</i>
2	<i>Governance Groups Reports</i>
3	<i>Charter Schools Update</i>
4	<i>PPT – Fall 2012 Census Data Update</i>
5	<i>International Student Enrollment – Fall 2012 Report</i>
6	<i>Briefing Paper – B.S. Systems Engineering Technology</i>
7	<i>Briefing Paper – Purchase of Enhanced Search Services</i>
8	<i>Annual Debt Service Report</i>
9	<i>Annual Investment Report</i>
10	<i>Tuition Results – Fall Semester</i>