

University of Central Missouri
Board of Governors
Work Session
October 22, 2020

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Work Session at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2020, in Union 237B on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Presiding over the meeting was Board President Stephen Abney. Others participating in the meeting from Union 237B included Governors Mary Dandurand, Mary Long, Kenneth Weymuth, Gus Wetzel, and Zachary Racy. Governor Marvin E. Wright participated in the meeting virtually. Governor John Collier was unavailable for the meeting and excused. Staff participating from Union 237B were University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; Assistant Board Secretary Monica Huffman; Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Phil Bridgmon; Vice President for Finance and Operations Bill Hawley; Executive Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Randall Langston; and RubinBrown, LLC representatives Kaleb Lilly, Graham Ryan and Brooke Miller.

Note: Due to the restriction on the number of people permitted in the meeting room, the Work Session was livestreamed.

Call to Order – Agenda Item No. 1

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

External Audit Report – Agenda Item No. 2

Mr. Lilly introduced RubinBrown team members Graham Ryan and Brooke Miller who helped conduct UCM's external audit. Mr. Lilly acknowledged this year has been different, noting that UCM received Cares Act funding for which the firm is still waiting for OMB Uniform Guidance on how to audit these funds. He is hopeful this guidance will be provided by mid-November.

Ms. Miller reviewed the General Introduction and Auditor Communications, reporting that UCM received (1) an unmodified/clean opinion for its financial statements for years ending June 30, 2020 and 2019; and (2) a report on compliance and on internal control over financial reporting based on an audit of the financial statements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. Upon completion of the audit for Cares Act funding, RubinBrown will provide an opinion on compliance and a report on internal controls over federal financial assistance in accordance with OMB Uniform Guidance.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit; Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices; Management Judgments and Accounting Estimates; Financial Statement Disclosures; and Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements (there was one uncorrected misstatement noted during the audit related to expenses incurred in FY 2021, but paid in 2020 that were improperly expensed in FY 2020 that was determined to be immaterial).

Mr. Lilly reviewed New Accounting Standards, including GASB 87 related to lease assets and liabilities for leases that was to be implemented in 2021, but has been delayed due to Covid-19; GASB 91 related to Conduit Debt; and GASB 96 related to Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements. Mr. Lilly stated once the federal audit is completed pending OMB Uniform Guidance, no follow-up will be required unless there are audit findings related to Cares Act funding.

Mr. Wright asked if there are any specific areas the Board should be concerned about or pay particular attention to. Mr. Lilly responded when new funds are received, there is always some risks of making mistakes when working to use the funds within a specified short period of time. He commended the Board for its due diligence and encouraged them to keep doing what they are doing in asking questions. Mr. Ryan said with furloughs and other turnover that may occur, it's important to have risk management controls in place. He recommended UCM review I-90 rules as there have been changes to the rules over the past two years.

Dr. Long asked if attention should be given to any student financial aid matters. Mr. Lilly responded past issues related to students adding or dropping classes seem to have been addressed, and stated there is nothing of any significance.

Mr. Abney thanked the auditors for their work and the staff for their efforts as well.

Enrollment Management Census Report – Agenda Item No. 3

Dr. Langston reviewed the data contained in the Enrollment Census Update included under Tab 2 of the meeting materials (Attachment). Following his presentation, Board members had an opportunity to ask questions.

Dr. Long asked 1) why there is a decrease in retention rates among American Indian students and African American students; 2) what Enrollment Management's protocol is to address decreasing retention rates; and 3) if there is a process in place to implement new measures when retention rates reach a certain number. Dr. Langston responded it is possible the numbers could be skewed given the national rates for attendance are down. He added his staff must work diligently to promote student achievement through check-in sessions, advisor meetings, and other initiatives to personalize contact. The Enrollment Management division is meeting to identify the reasons why retention rates are decreasing and reaching out to students. As for a process to implement new measures when rates reach a certain number, Dr. Langston stated he has been at UCM only a short time and the numbers have just become available. He intends to collect more data that will help identify the reason(s) for decreased retention and ways to address it.

Mr. Weymuth asked 1) what the prediction for higher education is post-Covid to stop a downward trend; and 2) what are individuals doing if they are not attending college. In response to question one, Dr. Langston said data analytics will be used in a process to recruit students with greater propensity to come to UCM and a better job must be done to segment marketing and targeting of different groups. In answer to question two, Dr. Langston said there is a lot of outmigration among families, and many students are choosing to attend two-year schools, technical/trade schools, or work.

Mr. Abney asked 1) if other schools are experiencing similar types of issues; and 2) if we are having difficulty accessing students, what can we do to reach them. Dr. Langston responded yes, other schools are experiencing similar types of issues, and UCM must identify other ways to reach and connect with students such as texting, calling and holding small group meetings, as well as do a better job of promoting the University.

Other Board questions pertained to high school graduation rates and how many students are choosing UCM; and budgeting for recruiting international students and specific initiatives, which Dr. Langston said he would gather information and share with the Board. Student Governor Racy noted Northwest Missouri State University was at an all-time high for student recruitment and asked if more information could be obtained about its initiatives and efforts that resulted in increased enrollment. He added he was disappointed to hear the *15-to-finish* Scholarship was being eliminated, as well as the Red-and-Black Scholarship. Dr. Randall responded the Red-and-Black Scholarship remains intact and in fact, more funds were added to it. He will provide additional information about scholarships to the Board.

Mr. Abney thanked Dr. Randall and said the Board will look forward to hearing more about UCM's initiatives to grow and retain student populations.

Other – Agenda Item No. 4

Mr. Abney noted there are 10 Commencement ceremonies scheduled for December 11-13. As such, he suggested moving the December 11 Board meetings to December 10 and to begin the day with Committee meetings at 10:00 a.m. The Board was in agreement.

Request for Closed Session – Agenda Item No. 5

Dr. Long move pursuant to the Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 610.021, that the UCM Board of Governors meet 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 Ms. Dandurand and carried with the following roll call vote:

<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Mary Long</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Kenneth Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Marvin E. Wright</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting concluded at 12:05 p.m.