

**University of Central Missouri**  
**Board of Governors**  
**Plenary Session**  
**December 10, 2021**

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on December 10, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. 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 were Governors Mary Long, Mary Dandurand, Gus Wetzel II, Kenneth Weymuth, and John Collier. Student Governor Zachary Racy participated via Zoom, and Governor Marvin E. Wright was unable to attend the meeting and was excused. Staff participating from Union 237B were University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; and Assistant Board Secretary Monica Huffman.

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

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

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

Mr. Abney thanked those viewing the meeting via the livestream, and those in attendance in Union 237B. He noted this is a special time of year when we recognize our students' achievements with fall Commencement. Mr. Abney said for the past 150 years, faculty and staff have devoted countless hours serving and mentoring students, leading to the award of their degrees. This weekend, we will celebrate more than 900 graduates. Mr. Abney closed his remarks by expressing the Board's appreciation to faculty and staff who have been a part of our students' journey leading to this day.

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

President Best also thanked those viewing and attending today's meeting. Commencement is a special time and this fall we will recognize 957 students receiving their degrees. President Best said UCM will close its year-long celebration of the University's Sesquicentennial with a special event at *The Carriage House* in Kansas City on December 15. In closing, President Best expressed appreciation to Board members for their work in moving the university forward.

## **Plenary Session**

### **Consent Agenda** –Agenda Item No. 4

Mr. Abney presented the following Consent Agenda items for the Board's approval –

#### **Action**

- Minutes of October 28, 2021, Work Session, and October 28-29, 2021 Plenary Session;
- Award of emeritus status to Mr. Perry Byler, Dr. Douglas Thomas, and Dr. Jose Mercado, effective December 31, 2021 (Attachment 1);
- A proposed Master of Library Science Degree Program, effective fall 2022, pending approval of the MDHEWD/Coordinating Board for Higher Education (Attachment 2);
- A proposed a Post Master's Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Certificate Program, effective August 2022, pending approval of the MDHEWD/Coordinating Board for Higher Education (Attachment 3);
- Award of contract for the timber harvest at Mitchell Street Farm to Mr. Stuart Collins to include all labor, materials, equipment, and resources for all phases of timber harvesting on the designated units (Attachment 4); and
- Agreements with Atalian UC Midwest, LLC of Jersey City, NJ; AtS Facility Services of Lincoln, NE; and Carlos Cleaning Company of Sedalia, MO, to provide temporary custodial services on an as-needed basis for one year, with four (4) one-year renewal options (Attachment 5)

#### **Information**

- Academic Calendar Update for 2025-26 through 2026-27 (Attachment 6)

*Mr. Collier moved that the Board of Governors approve all items presented as part of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried unanimously.*

## **Reports & Updates**

### **Verbal Governance Groups Reports** – Agenda Item No. 5

**Faculty Senate** – Dr. Rene Burress, President of the Faculty Senate (FS), reported the FS met six times this semester, and passed several motions. She said FS is currently without an office professional noting the position is shared with the Office of Sponsored Programs. The FS and Office of Sponsored Programs have submitted a request to restructure the position and await a response. Last month, FS held a General Faculty meeting where 33 members attended in person and 99 members participated virtually. Dr. Burress reported faculty morale is low. Concerns include a non-requirement of masks at fall Commencement; and implementation of a Computer Information Science (CIS) program that will start in January 2022. She relayed a specific concern she has heard about the CIS program is how the workload will cause burnout in faculty and staff, resulting in poor instruction. Dr. Burress stated faculty appreciate the 1% salary increase they will receive

in January 2022; the employee event at Powell Gardens next week; and the continued requirement for masks in university buildings. Mr. Weymuth asked how many faculty plan to participate in the fall Commencement. Dr. Burress did not have this information.

**Staff Council** – Ms. Beth Rutt, Staff Council President, expressed appreciation to the Board for livestreaming Board meetings to the campus. She thanked President Best for sponsoring the employee event at Powell Gardens next week, and for holding Q&A sessions with staff this semester. Ms. Rutt said Staff Council meetings have been well attended, with more than 80 staff participating via Zoom, and others participating in person. Each meeting, a scheduled guest speaker is invited to speak on a topic of interest to the Council. Last month, Dr. Toms presented information about the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the preparation that goes into preparing for HLC’s campus visit. Heather Jennings is the scheduled speaker for January and will talk about Title IX and the Maxient System.

Staff Council prepared welcome bags for new staff members and the effort was well received. Staff Council will soon meet to develop goals, timelines and solutions in response to concerns raised during Q&A sessions. In closing, Ms. Rutt referenced the faculty status report Provost Bridgmon presented at the October meeting, and said she and Dr. Bax, who serves as the administrative liaison to Staff Council, will work together to develop a similar type of scorecard for staff.

**Student Government Association** – Mr. Cade Tremain, Student Government Association (SGA) President, reviewed SGA activities for the semester. Activities included a newly reestablished constitution; outreach with the goal of growing student involvement to reflect a wider number of groups and representation; establishment of an Inclusivity Committee that involved working with the student organization ABC throughout the semester on a number of different matters; and a successful Homecoming election.

Mr. Tremain said it has been challenging to fill student vacancies on university committees. In addition to their studies, students are overinvolved in a number of areas and unable to commit time to serve on committees. The SGA will make another effort to fill some of the vacancies in spring 2022. The SGA Student Funding Committee, a collaborative effort of SGA and the Office of Student Activities, recently met to review goals and objectives for spring 2022. Some of the planned activities for spring semester include the Excellence in Governance award; a memorial service for those who have died this year; spring elections; and obtaining student input for what to do with the space following the demolition of Nattinger-Bradshaw and the Fraternity Complex.

## **Legislative Update** – Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. David Pearce provided state, federal, and local government legislative updates to the Board. He began his report with the State, noting the 2022 Legislative Session begins January 5. Pre-filing of legislation began on December 1, and to date, 796 bills have been filed in the House and 100 bills filed in the Senate. Much of the early discussion in the legislature will focus on redistricting, which occurs every 10 years based on the most recent census. The redistricting process requires the legislature to redraw eight (8) Missouri Congressional districts. Simultaneously, there are two State Commissions responsible for mapping the Missouri Senate and House districts. If the Commissions cannot agree on acceptable maps, the courts assume the responsibility of doing so. Mr. Pearce said Representative Dan Houx stated in a recent interview with KOKO that preliminary maps reflect Johnson County will go from four (4) state representatives down to two (2) representatives.

Mr. Pearce said two (2) issues will dominate the legislature during the 2022 session -- Critical Race Theory and COVID mandates. He added most Critical Race Theory bills do not include Higher Education. HB 1634 offered by Representative Brian Seitz prohibits the use of any curriculum implementation of critical race theory in public schools and institutions of higher learning in the state. Other bills filed that Mr. Pearce will be monitoring include:

- HB 1683 offered by Representative Chris Brown that requires Higher Education institutions to grant undergraduate credit for those students who score a 3 or higher on advanced placement examinations;
- SB 672 offered by Senator Lincoln Hough that makes changes in the Fast-Track program. It removes the five- (5) year sunset and expands the program to include apprenticeships. There is also movement to make the program a grant instead of a loan. We are working with the Missouri Chambers and local chambers in Lee's Summit and Kansas City to improve the program; and
- Bills filed related to Campus Carry and a requirement for all High School seniors to complete the FAFSA application.

With regard to the state budget, Mr. Pearce said revenue numbers remain strong this year, particularly with the additional federal funds the state has received. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will bring \$2.8 billion to the state over the next four (4) years. All ARPA funds must be appropriated by the Legislature with approval by the Governor. A General Consensus Revenue agreed upon by the Governor, House and Senate has not been decided yet. Generally, this is done by mid-December and serves as the base-line for establishing the budget. Mr. Pearce stated the MDHEWE submitted a budget request for a 5.4 percent increase to higher education's core budget, which was based on the Consumer Price Index. The Governor's response to the request will be made when he delivers the State of the State Address around the third week of January. At that time, we will also learn how much money will be allocated for MoExcels program. Mr. Pearce noted we are also awaiting news on capital improvement projects requiring a 50:50 match.

Other information provided by Mr. Pearce included The Governor's Prayer breakfast will be held January 6 and UCM representatives will be in attendance. Also, the Missouri Chamber of Commerce Tech Alliance Caucus will meet January 28 at the Missouri Innovation Campus.

On the Federal level, Mr. Pearce reported Congress is working on the Build Back Better legislation. From an original cost of \$3.5 trillion, negotiations are now less than \$2 trillion dollars. If an agreement among all Democratic senators is not reached in the next few days, it is not likely to occur until after the holidays. The Senate passed a continuing resolution to fund the government through February 18, 2022, to avoid a government shut-down. Last, the House passed a bill to extend the nation's borrowing limit.

Locally, Mr. Pearce has worked with the communities of St. Louis, Kansas City, Hermann and Warrensburg to request the Governor's support to use ARPA funds for the second daily round trip AMTRAK train from January-July. In closing, Mr. Pearce announced that Cade Tremain will be a Government Relations intern in his office next semester.

#### **University Update** – Agenda Item No. 7

In follow-up to Mr. Weymuth's earlier question regarding the number of faculty participating in the fall Commencement, President Best explained that faculty volunteer for certain roles at Commencement, and these are the individuals that are counted. From an official count 103 faculty are participating, and three faculty who had initially volunteered later chose not to participate. He extended his appreciation to everyone who is participating and for volunteering their time.

In regard to the "Powell Garden" event mentioned during the governance groups' reports, President Best credited Provost Bridgmon for wanting to do something nice for faculty and staff. President Best said SGA passed legislation to do a swap with the President for a day, and he agreed to participate. This will take place sometime this spring. President Best expressed appreciation for the governance groups and all the work they have done this semester. Although they are not always in agreement on matters, they always work together to make things better for students. President Best closed his remarks announcing the University is looking forward to having some high profile speakers visiting campus this spring.

#### **Board Committee on Student Engagement & University Advancement** ***Ms. Mary Dandurand, Committee Chair***

Ms. Dandurand, Chair of the Board Committee on Student Engagement and University Advancement, reported the Committee met earlier in the day. University Advancement provided an update to the Committee. This included the opportunity to meet four UCM Alumni Ambassadors who are participating in this student program focused on providing opportunities for students to engage with UCM's alumni and donors.

### **Board Committee on Academic Affairs**

***Dr. Mary Long, Committee Chair***

Dr. Long, Chair of the Board Committee on Academic Affairs, reported the Committee met earlier in the day. The Committee was excited to learn about the proposed Master of Library Science Program and Post Master's Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Certificate Program, both of which were approved under the Consent Agenda. The Committee also learned more about the alignment of the General Education Program, and the reorganization of program leadership to better serve our programs and increase their visibility. Dr. Long thanked Provost Bridgmon and his staff for their work on these matters.

### **Board Committee on Finance & Administration**

***Mr. John Collier, Committee Chair***

Mr. Collier, Chair of the Board Committee on Finance and Administration, said the Committee met this morning. Two agenda items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda, and Mr. Collier asked Mr. Hawley to present the remaining action items that were discussed earlier during the Committee meeting.

#### **Fees** – Agenda Item No. 8

Mr. Hawley reviewed information pertaining to fees under Tabs 10, 11, 12, and 13.

- **New Course Fees** – Four new course fees, effective August 2022 – 1) AVIA 5300 Airport Finance for \$510; 2) AVIA 5510 Aviation Safety Program Management for \$510 -- Note: The respective fees for AVIA 5300 and AVIA 5510 are used to register students for an American Association Airport Executives certification exam and for the associated text book; 3) NURS 5039 Nurse Educator, Direct Patient Care Clinical Practicum for \$20 – Note: This fee covers the cost per student to use Complio to provide the tracking of required documentation; and 4) NURS 5410 Advanced Health Appraisal for \$342 – Note: NUR 5410 replaced NURS 5310, which has existing course fees. This fee aligns fees from the old course to the new course. (Attachment 7) *Mr. Weymuth moved that the Board of Governors approve new course fees for AVIA 5300, AVIA 5510, NURS 5039 and NURS 5410, effective August 2022, as shown above. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried unanimously.*
- **“New Student” Fee Increase** – An increase of the “New Student” fee from \$50 to \$125, effective fall 2022. The current fee of \$50 is used to support activities exclusively related to new student programming, and does not adequately support the level of programming required for Orientation and Kickoff. Currently, no budget exists for Kickoff programming. Overall costs include Orientation for \$100,000, and Kickoff for

\$130,000. (Attachment 8) *Mr. Weymuth moved that the Board of Governors approve an increase to the “New Student” fee from \$50 to \$125, effective fall 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.*

- *Revised Course Fees – Revision of four course fees, effective August 2022 – 1) AVIA 2345 reduce from \$800 to \$496 – Note: The Cessna 172S aircraft is no longer used to provide necessary experience due to availability of a new Frasca flight simulator, which reduces students’ cost of training; 2) BIOL 3211 increase from \$50 to \$75—Note: The cost of supplies used in the laboratory for dissection have increased dramatically; 3) NURS 3516 increase from \$45 to \$65 – Note: Nursing is part of a collaborative group, MOKAN that helps schools of nursing and clinical sites, such as hospitals and clinics work together to reserve a certain number of clinical spots for students. Most of the clinical sites require the School of Nursing to use their tracking system for clinical compliance. The fee increase will cover the cost of using that system for each student; and 4) PE 2000 increase from \$189 to \$194 – Note: Because of regulations, the course must now supply two regulators per student instead of one per student. (Attachment 9) *Mr. Weymuth moved that the Board of Governors approve the revision of course fees for AVIA 2345, BIOL 3211, NURS 3516, and PE 2000, effective August 2022, as shown above. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously.**
- *Deleted Course Fees – Deletion of \$45 course fee for MS 2510 Cadet Basic Camp, effective August 2022. The Army funds students’ participation in the Cadet Basic Camp. (Attachment 10) *Mr. Collier moved that the Board of Governors approve the deletion of the course fee for MS 2510, effective August 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weymuth and carried unanimously.**

### **Single Audit** – Agenda Item No. 9

Mr. Hawley presented the Single Audit included under Tab 14 of the meeting materials (Attachment 11), which resulted in a clean audit. There was one minor finding related to the Pell disbursement date for a student, however, no penalty was assessed. *Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors accept the Single Audit report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.*

## **Board Business**

### **Naming Opportunities** – Agenda Item No. 10

President Best presented the following naming opportunities in accordance with BOG Policy 1.2.090 and Naming Requests General Guidelines.

**Wrestling Program Facility** – a proposal to name the state-of-the-art UCM Mules Wrestling program facility the “*Roger Denker Wrestling Facility.*” The request for philanthropic support for the UCM Mules Wrestling program was led with substantial gifts

from Dan Power, '73 and Gary Ervin, two UCM former wrestlers who competed under Coach Roger Denker's tutelage. These philanthropic alumni wish to honor their former coach for his leadership in transforming the lives of UCM wrestlers by naming the new facility the "Roger Denker Wrestling Facility."

*Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors approve naming the state-of-the-art UCM Mules Wrestling program facility the "Roger Denker Wrestling Facility." The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.*

**Wood Building – Classroom 107** – a proposal to name Wood Building Classroom 107 "University of Central Missouri Civic Engagement Experiential Classroom - Andrew Gelbach and Samuel Gonzalez Mock Trial Courtroom" to honor Mr. Andrew Gelbach, '74 and Mr. Samuel Gonzalez, '13 for their substantial financial contribution to the university project.

*Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors approve naming Wood Building Classroom 107, the "University of Central Missouri Civic Engagement Experiential Classroom - Andrew Gelbach and Samuel Gonzalez Mock Trial Courtroom" to honor Mr. Andrew Gelbach, '74 and Mr. Samuel Gonzalez, '13 for their substantial financial contribution to the university project. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried unanimously.*

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

There was no other business to discuss.

**Request for Closed Session – December 10, 2021** – Agenda Item No. 12

*Dr. Long moved 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 Mr. Collier and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Gus Wetzel II</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Kenneth Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Mary Long</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>

The meeting concluded at 11:15 a.m. Following the conclusion of the Closed Session the Board returned to Plenary Session and *Mr. Collier moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously. The Board adjourned meeting at 1:26 p.m.*

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***Attachments Listing***

<u><i>Attachment No.</i></u>	<u><i>Attachment Description</i></u>
<i>1</i>	<i>Requests for Emeritus Status</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>Master of Library Science Program</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>Post Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>Timber Harvest – Mitchell Street Farm</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>On-Call Supplemental Custodial Services</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>Academic Calendar Update</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>New Course Fees</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>“New Student” Fee Increase</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>Revised Course Fees</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>Deleted Course Fees</i>
<i>11</i>	<i>Single Audit Report</i>