

***University of Central Missouri***  
***Board of Governors***  
***Plenary Session***  
***October 23, 2025***

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on October 23, 2025, at 11:15 a.m. in the Elliott Student Union, Room 237B, on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Board President John Collier presided over the meeting. Others participating in the meeting were Governors Stephen Abney, Mary Dandurand, Stu Rogers, Gus Wetzel II, and Ken Weymuth; Student Governor Hadley Oden; University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; and Assistant Board Secretary Kristen Plummer.

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

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

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

Mr. Collier welcomed attendees to the meeting and congratulated the university on the U.S. News and World Report rankings received for 2026, which ranked UCM among the top regional universities as #59 in the Midwest, #19 in Top Public Schools, #57 in Best Value, #27 for Best for Veterans, and #85 in Social Mobility, with national recognition in Nursing and Engineering. Mr. Collier acknowledged the extension of President Best's contract and expressed that the Board looks forward to his leadership of the university and the initiatives in place. Mr. Collier ended his remarks by encouraging attendees to join in Homecoming celebrations.

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

President Best thanked Mr. Collier for acknowledging his new contract. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to continue serving at UCM and for the Board's support. In follow-up to Mr. Collier's remarks, President Best stated the U.S. News and World Report rankings are not chased and are a reflection of the university's hard work based on the data supplied. President Best shared an overview of the meetings and events planned around Homecoming. He shared that it is a fun week for our students and that it is also impactful for the community through service provided by students.

**Emeritus Status Request and Recognition** – Agenda Item No. 4

President Best stated the following individual qualified for emeritus status in accordance with BOG Policy 2.1.070 – Privileges Extended to Emeriti and Retired Employees (Attachment 1):

- Ms. Tina Campbell (September 16, 2011 – October 31, 2025), Custodian, Facilities – Housing

*Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors approve emeritus status for Ms. Tina Campbell. Ms. Dandurand seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. A certificate will be mailed to Ms. Campbell, as she was unable to attend.*

### **Plenary Session**

#### **Consent Agenda** – Agenda Item No. 5

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

#### **Action Items**

- August 21, 2025, Plenary Session and Retreat Minutes;
- A new Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies degree, to be offered beginning Fall 2026, pending approval by the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development/Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission (Attachment 2);
- A name change from the Department of History to the Department of History and Social Studies, effective immediately, with full implementation no later than August 1, 2026 (Attachment 3);
- A three-year Enterprise Term License Agreement (ETLA) with Adobe Systems Incorporated for the licensing, support, and maintenance of the Adobe Creative Cloud suite of products at an annual cost of \$159,277 for the period of November 4, 2025, through November 3, 2028. The total three-year cost is \$477,831 (Attachment 4);
- Award of contract to Red Rock for \$1,525,000 to provide all labor, materials, equipment, supplies, insurance, permits fees, and all other items necessary to complete the asbestos abatement and related work necessary for the asbestos abatement of Hudson Hall and the University Conference Center and the demolition of both structures (Attachment 5);
- Award of contract to Harvest AV Solutions, LLC, for \$376,210 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary to design, install, and commission a new immersive audio system in Hendricks Hall (Attachment 6);
- Award of contracts for the Humphreys Building Renovation – Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) for Package A with Encompas (\$360,896.84), Package B with Modern Business Interiors (\$1,199,927.77), and Package C with Encompas (\$159,950.71) for a total amount of \$1,720,775.32 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary to supply and install all new furnishings in the Humphreys Building (Attachment 7);
- Award of contract to Sound Products by TSI Global for \$425,161.74 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary to supply and install an access control system in the Humphreys Building, plus an additional two-year extended warranty (Attachment 8); and
- Award of contract to Sound Products by TSI Global for \$1,315,231.17 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary to supply and install all audio and visual equipment in the Humphreys Building, plus camera monitoring and a two-year extended warranty (Attachment 9).

#### **Information Items**

- Fall 2025 Enrollment Census Report (Attachment 10);
- One- and Three-Year Previously Approved Programs Update (Attachment 11);
- FY 2026 First Quarter Investment Report (Attachment 12); and

- FY 2026 First Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Attachment 13).

*Dr. Wetzel moved that the Board of Governors approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously.*

### **Reports/Updates**

#### **Written Governance Groups Reports** – Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. Collier noted that the written reports from the governance groups were included in the meeting packet under Tab 17 (Attachment 14).

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

Mr. David Pearce, Executive Director for Governmental Relations, introduced his intern, Mr. Tristan Satterlee, who assisted in preparing the legislative update PowerPoint (Attachment 15). Mr. Pearce provided an overview of legislative activity at the state level since the close of the legislative session in May 2025, including two special sessions in June and September 2025. Mr. Pearce stated he did not anticipate another special session prior to the reconvening of the legislature in January 2026.

Regarding the state budget, Mr. Pearce stated that it will be a very tight budget year and reported that state revenue has been pretty flat for the first three months of the fiscal year. Mr. Pearce explained additional pressures on the state budget for this fiscal year, including increased funding for the foundation formula, vouchers for private schools, and the elimination of the capital gains tax. State departments are submitting their budget requests now, and the budget is anticipated to be announced during Governor Kehoe's State of the State address in January 2026.

Mr. Pearce provided an overview of campus visits and other events held during the interim period, which included the Governor's Ham Breakfast at the Missouri State Fair, recordings of *This Week in Missouri Politics* on campus, a visit to Warrensburg by Kena Lederle from the Missouri Department of Transportation, a campus visit from Chris Galloway from GovWatch, and hosting the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. Mr. Pearce shared that he was asked to testify, along with Kirkwood Mayor Liz Gibbons, before the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission on the importance of Amtrak. He also provided examples of initiatives in place with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, including discussions of CNA instructor requirements, consulting projects, and scholarship opportunities for state employees.

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

President Best stated that since the last Board meeting, he delivered the State of the University address to campus, which was followed by five 'Pastries with the President' events. Approximately 400 faculty and staff members attended these events, where they had the opportunity to ask him any questions. President Best provided an overview of the updates and reports sent to the Board since the last meeting, including the annual Status of Faculty Report

(Attachment 16) and the Office of Technology Report (Attachment 17). There were no questions from the Board regarding the reports they had received.

**University Metrics Report** – Agenda Item No. 9

President Best thanked the Office of University Analytics and Institutional Research (UAIR) for preparing the university metrics report (Attachment 18). President Best announced that Dr. Stephen Terry, Associate Vice President for UAIR, would be departing UCM for a position at another university, and thanked him for his efforts at UCM. In the report, President Best noted that the retention rate for first-time freshmen had declined to 71%, which is lower than preferred. He stated the university will take a deeper look at retention in the first-year class to try to understand students' concerns, the reasons they are leaving, and how to improve retention. He noted, however, that the retention rate among new transfer students increased to 80%. There were no questions from the Board regarding the report. Mr. Weymuth commended the university for achieving an A+ Standard & Poor's Global Rating.

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

Ms. Mary Dandurand, Chair of the Board Committee on Student Engagement and University Advancement, stated that they did not meet this month.

**Board Committee on Academic Affairs**

Dr. Gus Wetzel, Chair of the Board Committee on Academic Affairs, presented an overview of the Committee meeting held earlier in the day, during which the Fall 2025 Census Enrollment Report was discussed in detail. The Board approved a new master's degree and a department name change on the consent agenda, and Provost Crowley provided a report on programs in their first and third years.

**Board Committee on Finance and Administration**

Mr. Stu Rogers, Chair of the Board Committee on Finance and Administration, stated the Committee met earlier in the morning and discussed several items that were approved on the consent agenda.

**Internal Audit Charter** - Agenda Item No. 10

President Best presented the Internal Audit Charter found on Tab 19 of the meeting materials, which provides the internal auditor with the authority to perform the work that is requested of that area with standards in place as specified in the proposed charter (Attachment 19). *Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors accept the Internal Audit Charter as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously.*

**Board Business**

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

There was no other business.

**Request for Closed Session – October 23, 2025** – Agenda Item No. 12

*Ms. Dandurand 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. Wetzel and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

**Adjournment** – Agenda Item No. 13

The Board concluded Plenary Session at 11:48 a.m. The Board recessed for lunch and toured the Humphreys Building renovation project.

Following the conclusion of Closed Session, the Board returned to Plenary Session at 4:05 p.m., and *Mr. Rogers made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

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**Attachments Listing**

<b><u>Attachment No.</u></b>	<b><u>Attachment Description</u></b>
1	Emeritus Status Request and Recognition
2	New Master of Science – Interdisciplinary Studies
3	Department Name Change – History
4	Adobe Systems Incorporated Creative Cloud Suite
5	Hudson Hall and University Conference Center Asbestos Abatement and Demolition Project
6	Hendricks Hall Immersive Audio System
7	Humphreys Building Renovation – Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment
8	Humphreys Building Renovation – Access Control System
9	Humphreys Building Renovation – Audio and Visual Equipment
10	Fall 2025 Enrollment Census Report
11	One- and Three-Year Previously Approved Programs Update
12	FY 2026 First Quarter Investment Report
13	FY 2026 First Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses
14	Written Governance Groups Reports
15	Legislative Update PowerPoint
16	Status of Faculty Report
17	Office of Technology Report
18	University Metrics Report
19	Internal Audit Charter