

***University of Central Missouri***  
***Board of Governors***  
***Plenary Session***  
***September 15, 2011***

The University of Central (UCM) Missouri's Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on Thursday, September 15, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in Union 237B on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Presiding over the meeting was Board President Walter Hicklin. Other Board members present included Governors Mary Long, Marvin E. Wright, Mary Dandurand, Weldon Brady, Richard Phillips, and Darren Doherty. Governor Edward Baker was unable to attend and was excused. Also in attendance were University President Charles Ambrose; General Counsel Henry Setser; and Assistant Secretary to the Board Monica Huffman.

**Call to Order** – Agenda Item No. 1

Mr. Hicklin 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. Hicklin remarked that he attended the Emeriti dinner earlier in the week. He encouraged the campus to engage the talents of these individuals when there are opportunities to do so.

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

President Ambrose said that he continues to be impressed by how recognizable UCM is around the U.S. He gave an example from his recent travels where he encountered an alum who was very excited to see the red mule on his clothing and who immediately identified it as UCM. President Ambrose said this individual's energy is representative of the energy the entire campus community has demonstrated with the start of the fall semester. He expressed deep appreciation to faculty, staff and students for their positive contributions to the beginning of a new academic year.

President Ambrose addressed many positive initiatives of the new academic year including a showcase of faculty and student talents that took place earlier in the week; a campus-wide involvement and initiative in enrollment; academic leadership that provides portals for ensuring student success; administrative leadership that ensures campus-wide efficiencies; and initiatives to keep momentum going and maintain growth strategy as we look to the university's future.

Moving forward into the future, President Ambrose said it remains important to let people know the value of the institution. One way of accomplishing this is through the "Choose Red" campaign. He asked Robin Krause to share some of the recent tools that have been prepared as part of the campaign. Mr. Krause demonstrated a new mobile application that

promotes the university to prospective students and their parents, alumni, current students, faculty and staff, and others. He then introduced Heather Hickerson, a marketing writer in the University Relations Office, whose creativity has been very influential in the “Choose Red” campaign. A “Choose Red” pamphlet was distributed to the Board that is provided to prospective students and their parents when they visit the campus (Attachment 1).

Mr. Krause explained that the “Choose Red” commercials that are shown today are geared to students and parents within the Kansas City Latino community. The commercials were done in Spanish and are now playing on KUKC-TV, a Univision affiliate in Kansas City. The individuals in the commercial are UCM students from the Modern Language Department. President Ambrose and the Board commended the University Relations staff for their good work.

### **General Session**

#### **Approval of the Minutes for August 17, 2011, Work Session and August 18, 2011, Plenary Session** – Agenda Item No. 4

*Mr. Phillips moved that the minutes of the August 17, 2011, Work Session and the August 18, 2011, Plenary Session be approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried unanimously.*

### **Reports**

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

Mr. Hicklin noted that written governance groups reports were included under Tab 8 of the meeting materials (Attachment 2).

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

Mr. Hicklin introduced Senator David Pearce who distributed and reviewed a legislative update for the 2011 Legislative Session (Attachment 3). He reported that the Legislature is currently in the middle of a Special Session and is adjourned until the middle of next week.

Senator Pearce said the Governor called the Legislature back into a special session on September 6 primarily to review a jobs bill. There are two components of the bill that pertain to UCM and Senator Pearce is working very hard for them to remain in the bill. He stated his appreciation to Dr. Ambrose who on a moment’s notice traveled to Jefferson City last week to talk with the local delegation about the importance of the bill to UCM.

Senator Pearce gave the status of the jobs bill and said that one component of the bill is *Compete Missouri*, a program that the Department of Economic Development can use at its discretion to recruit and retain large employers such as Exergonix, a partner for the *Missouri Innovation Campus* that is discussed later in the meeting. Additionally, there is job training language that would provide funding to select Missouri universities, including UCM, for job training programs. Senator Pearce said there is great support from the Governor's Office and the Department of Revenue, and that the community colleges have also been supportive.

Senator Pearce provided an update on the status of higher education within the Legislature. He continues to serve as Chair of the Senate Education Committee and is one of 11 Senators that serve on the Appropriations Committee. He noted that several weeks ago he and Dr. Ambrose, as well as several other individuals attended the Governor's Summit on Higher Education in Jefferson City. He commended Governor Nixon for making higher education a priority. Senator Pearce said he believes there will be a great amount of effort placed on degree completion and funding for higher education. He does not believe the funding situation will be any better in the next fiscal year. The 7-percent reduction in state appropriations for FY 2012 will likely be the starting point for FY 2013 funding. Senator Pearce suggested that as the University plans for the next budget year, that it start from where it is now.

Senator Pearce reviewed other factors impacting the budget including Medicaid, a 2-percent increase for State employees, funding for Veterans Homes in Missouri, and funding for K-12. These factors could result in a budget shortfall of \$500 million to \$700 million that would have to be addressed. On a positive note, state revenues have increased. Senator Pearce said that three-fourths of the State's budget is based on state income tax. Revenues for the first two months of the fiscal year have been good and Missouri is one of only seven states with AAA-rated bonds.

One issue that is expected to rise next year is the Fair Tax that proposes the elimination of state income tax. It proposes that instead a consumption tax or a sales tax be assessed. Senator Pearce does not believe the Legislature will endorse this concept, but anticipates it will be on the ballot in November. He encouraged UCM's Board of Governors and other Boards to weigh in on this proposal, which if passed would result in a tax increase for UCM.

Senator Pearce said another issue that is expected to rise is Charter Schools. A lot of time was spent during the last session discussing expansion and increased accountability of the Charter Schools to make them more like traditional public schools.

Senator Pearce concluded his update by saying that six delegates from the State of Missouri including President Ambrose and Senator Pearce were selected to join other leaders at *Completion Academy* in Houston, Texas, next month to discuss degree completion.

Mr. Hicklin thanked Senator Pearce for his report. President Ambrose added his appreciation for Senator Pearce and his readiness to assist on all issues impacting public education.

**Strategic Governance for Student Success Model Update** – Agenda Item No. 7

President Ambrose presented a Power Point that provided an overview of the Strategic Governance for Student Success Model and summarized initiatives of the past year. It also included an overview of 2011-2012 strategic processes (Attachment 4). Strategic processes for the 2011-2012 academic year include institutional effectiveness metrics; an extended academic review; a strategic positioning platform; and consideration of Central Summit Center's future. This same information was provided in greater detail during the Board of Governor's Work Session on September 14, and the Board had the opportunity for extensive discussion.

President Ambrose stated that AGB consultant Rick Staisloff will visit UCM in November and hold a work session that will assist the University in developing institutional effectiveness metrics.

**Central Summit Center Update** – Agenda Item No. 8

In follow-up to the previous presentation, President Ambrose expanded on the future of Central Summit Center. He expressed appreciation for a number of growing public/private partnerships including those with the City of Lee's Summit, Metropolitan Community Colleges, the R-7 Lee's Summit School District, the Department of Economic Development, the Governor's office, and Exergonix, Inc., for the potential vision of what not only the University of Central Missouri can become, but also for a major economic initiative titled *Missouri Innovation Campus*.

President Ambrose introduced Don Nissanka, owner of Exergonix, Inc. and staff member Vince Ardito. Mr. Nissanka received undergraduate and graduate degrees from UCM and is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. Mr. Ardito also received an undergraduate degree from UCM. President Ambrose invited Mr. Nissanka to share the background of how this initiative began. Following Mr. Nissanka's remarks, President Ambrose and Mr. Nissanka presented a PowerPoint that provided additional information about the *Missouri Innovation Campus* (Attachment 5).

President Ambrose discussed a second initiative that is occurring simultaneously with the effort to establish a *Missouri Innovation Campus*. UCM is in discussions with the Governor's Office about implementing a pilot program with the Summit Technology Academy using existing Summit Center business and industry partners that could serve as the educational foundation for this campus. If implemented, this initiative would help reduce college debt and reduce the time for degree completion for participating students.

Following the presentation, the Board expressed appreciation of Mr. Nissanka's efforts, and excitement for the future possibilities that exists for UCM's Central Summit Center. Mr. Hicklin noted that the Board received this presentation during its Work Session on September 14 and discussed the matter at length. The Board concluded its Work Session by stating its support to move forward with the initiative.

*Note: The Board took a short recess from 9:45 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.*

### **Board Committee on Student Experience & Engagement and Alumni Relations**

Ms. Dandurand, Chair of the Board Committee on Student Experience & Engagement and Alumni Relations, reported that the Committee met the preceding afternoon. The Committee received updates related to Homecoming (Attachment 6); the establishment of a Tobacco Policy Committee to formalize the implementation of the policy on campus; and housing occupancy. Ms. Dandurand said the Committee is planning a work session sometime after Homecoming to discuss and establish goals for the coming year.

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

Mr. Wright, Chair of the Board Committee on Academic Affairs, reported that the Committee met the preceding afternoon. The Committee received a report on the five-year academic program review and was presented information about the following agenda items, which Mr. Wright asked Provost Wilson to present:

#### **Emeritus Status for Retiring Faculty** – Agenda Item No. 9

Provost Wilson referred the Board to Tab 9 of the meeting materials, which contained a briefing paper recommending Emeritus Status be granted to Edward Davenport, Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (Attachment 7).

*Mr. Wright moved that the Board of Governors approve the award of emeritus status to Edward Davenport, Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. The motion was seconded by Dr. Long and carried unanimously.*

#### **Charter Schools Update** – Agenda Item No. 10

Provost Wilson referred the Board to Tab 10 of the meeting materials, which contained a Charter Schools update in the form of a briefing paper (Attachment 8). Provost Wilson asked Dr. Vici Hughes to provide new data that was not contained in the briefing paper.

Dr. Hughes reported that the Charter Schools have a record enrollment as recorded on the first day of schools – over 3,300 students. Eight of UCM sponsored Charter Schools are at

capacity. Preliminary state assessment data shows that Alta Vista High School met the annual yearly progress criteria as set forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in both communication arts, math, and also in its graduation rates. Alta Vista is the highest scoring charter school in the state for math. Dr. Hughes noted that Alta Vista is in the second year of a Missouri School Improvement Grant, meaning it was targeted as a lower performing school.

Dr. Hughes advised that four of UCM sponsored Charter Schools scored above the district and/or state average. Academie Lafayette scored above the state average in students proficient in math and communication arts; Alta Vista did so as well. Hogan Preparatory Academy scored above the state average for communication arts and above the district in math; and Scuola Vita Nuova scored above the district in both math and communication arts. Other UCM-sponsored Charter Schools still need improvement and UCM is working with them and has increased its expectations as the sponsor for both curriculum and instructional practices.

Dr. Hughes said the Board will be asked at future meetings to approve the renewal/extension of charters for Alta Vista High School, Gordon Parks Elementary, and UCLA. Additionally, the Board will be asked at a future date to consider actions related to Seton High School, Crossroads Academy, and Educational Achievement Sustains Our Nation (formerly Niles Preparatory).

A short discussion followed regarding the ratio of students enrolled in Charter Schools to those enrolled in the Kansas City, Missouri School District and the financial implications for this.

### **Campus Technology Update** – Agenda Item No. 11

Dr. Jim Graham distributed and reviewed highlights of the annual Campus Technology Report (Attachment 9).

Following Dr. Graham's report, Dr. Rick Sluder was asked to give a preliminary Enrollment Update for the Fall Semester. A handout containing the information was provided to the Board (Attachment 10).

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

### **Annual Investment Report** – Agenda Item No. 12

Mr. John Merrigan reviewed the Annual Investment Report included under Tab 11 of the meeting materials (Attachment 11).

**Debt Service Report** – Agenda Item No. 13

Mr. Merrigan reviewed the Debt Service Report included under Tab 12 of the meeting materials (Attachment 12). He also distributed a handout that benchmarks long-term debt (Attachment 13).

**Tuition Update** – Agenda Item No. 14

Mr. Merrigan distributed and reviewed a Tuition Update (Attachment 14).

**Adjournment** – Agenda Item No. 15

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Phillips moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.*

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**Attachments Listing**

<u><b>Attachment No.</b></u>	<u><b>Attachment Description</b></u>
1	<i>“Choose Red” Brochure</i>
2	<i>Governance Groups Written Reports</i>
3	<i>2011 Legislative Session Accomplishments – prepared by David Pearce</i>
4	<i>PPT – Strategic Governance for Student Success Model Update</i>
5	<i>PPT - Missouri Innovation Campus</i>
6	<i>Homecoming 2011 Schedule</i>
7	<i>Briefing Paper – Emeritus Status for Retiring Faculty</i>
8	<i>Briefing Paper – Charter Schools Update</i>
9	<i>Campus Technology Report</i>
10	<i>PPT – Enrollment Update and International Enrollment Report</i>
11	<i>Annual Investment Report</i>
12	<i>Annual Debt Service Report</i>
13	<i>Long-term Debt Benchmarking</i>
14	<i>Tuition Update</i>