

University of Central Missouri
Board of Governors
Plenary Session
January 25, 2024

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on January 25, 2024, at 12:45 p.m. in Union 237B on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Presiding over the meeting was Board President Kenneth Weymuth. Others participating in the meeting from Union 237B were Governors Stephen Abney, Gus Wetzel II, John Collier, Mary Dandurand, Phyllis Chase, Stu Rogers and Hadley Oden, as well as University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; and Assistant Board Secretary Monica Huffman.

Call to Order - Agenda Item No. 1

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

Remarks by the Board President – Agenda Item No. 2

Mr. Weymuth welcomed everyone to the Board's first meeting of the New Year. He expressed excitement for the opportunities that await the University as it continues to be recognized by several rankings' organizations including *U.S. News and World Report* and the *Princeton Review*. Mr. Weymuth commended UCM faculty and staff for their hard work and commitment to helping our students succeed.

Remarks by the University President – Agenda Item No. 3

President Best remarked on the start of a new semester which has included two days of school closures due to inclement weather. He acknowledged the passing of Governor Emeritus Walter Hicklin who committed 30 years of service as a UCM employee and 12 years as a Board member. Mr. Hicklin impacted the lives of many students throughout his many years of service.

Emeritus Status Requests and Recognitions – Agenda Item No. 4

President Best said the following individuals qualify for emeritus status in accordance with the revised BOG Policy 2.1.070 – *Privileges Extended to Emeriti and Retired Employees* (Attachment 1).

- James Mullen (December 17, 2001 – November 30, 2018), General Maintenance/
Carpenter I
- Joy Mistele (June 16, 2005 – March 31, 2019), Director of Planned Giving

Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors approve emeritus status for James Mullen and Joy Mistele. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.

Mr. Mullen and Ms. Mistele were unable to attend the meeting and will each receive a Certificate of Recognition for their years of service.

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Consent Agenda – Agenda Item No. 5

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

Action

- December 8, 2023, Finance & Administration Committee of the Whole and Plenary Session Minutes;
- A five-year contract with Desire2Learn (D2L) to provide D2L Brightspace as the new official Learning Management System for UCM for a total cost of \$974,883(Attachment 2);
- Award of contract to Centric Projects in the amount of \$23,195,519.73 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary for the renovation construction of the Humphreys Building; and a separate 10% reserve fund in the amount of \$2,319,551.97 for the Humphreys Building Renovation Project for a total approval amount of \$25,515,071.70 (Attachment 3);
- Contract renewal from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024, with Air Design Heating and Cooling of Warrensburg, MO; Pro-Mechanical LLC of Oak Grove, MO; The Fagan Company of Kansas City, MO; and US Engineering Service LLC of Kansas City, MO, with an estimated expenditure amount of \$1,500,000 (Attachment 4); and
- Contract Renewal from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024, with Carlos Cleaning Company not to exceed \$850,000 (Attachment 5)

Information

- FY 2024 Second Quarter Investment Report (Attachment 6)
- FY 2024 Second Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Attachment 7)

Mr. Collier 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. Weymuth noted that Written Governance Groups Reports were included in the meeting packet under Tab 11 (Attachment 8)

Legislative Update – Agenda Item No. 7

Mr. David Pearce, Executive Director for Governmental Relations, provided a legislative update (Attachment 9) that included the following information –

State

- Missouri’s legislative session began January 3, 2024, and is now in its fourth week
- To date 1,174 House bills and 669 Senate bills have been filed
- Missouri’s Governor unveiled his FY 2025 budget during the State of the State address on January 24. The proposed \$51.8 billion budget, which maintains a AAA rating for Missouri, includes --
 - A 3% increase in core funding for four-year public institutions, amounting to a \$1,941,603 increase in appropriations for UCM.
 - Continued funding for transformational projects which includes \$9,950,000 for the Humphreys Building renovation project.
 - Full funding (\$54 million) for the MoExcels Program, which would fund UCM’s “Capacity Building XR and Simulation” (\$1.5 million). Provost Bridgman provided an overview of the project which utilizes UCM resources both on its main campus and at the Missouri Innovation Campus.
 - The House will begin a review of the Governor’s proposed budget next week and attempt to have it approved by Spring break. It will then go to the Senate for review. The final version of the budget must be approved by May 10.
- The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development is currently tracking 68 bills that could potentially impact higher education. Two of these bills have been heard are –
 - HB 2166 - provides benefits to Missouri National Guard members and their dependents. It would eliminate certain fees when attending public institutions. However, the bill needs additional work to define “fees.”
 - HB 2310 - expands the Higher Education Core Curriculum Transfer Act to increase the number of credit hours that should be approved for transfer, from community colleges to public four-year institutions from 42 credit hours to 60 credit hours.
- Governors Chase, Rogers and Oden are currently experiencing the Senate confirmation process. Governors Chase and Oden appeared before the Senate Gubernatorial Committee on January 17 and were approved. The appointments were to be presented to the Senate on January 18 for approval; however, due to a 10-hour filibuster related to another matter no approvals were given. Gubernatorial appointments must be approved by the Senate within 30 days (February 2) of when the Legislature’s 2024 session started. Governor Rogers will appear before the Senate Gubernatorial Committee on January 31.

Federal

- House Resolution (HR) 6363 passed on January 19, avoiding a government shutdown; 12 spending bills must be approved by March 1 or March 8 to avoid a shutdown.
- There are differences in the House and Senate Education bill HR 5894.

Mr. Pearce ended his report by sharing events he and others participated in since the last meeting, as well as some future events.

University Update – Agenda Item No. 8

President Best reported enrollment on the first day of classes for Spring 2024 was 11% higher than Spring 2023, and credit hours were 5% more. The official Spring Census date is February 5. President Best noted the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Integrity’s Annual Report was distributed to the Board prior to the meetings and asked if Board members had any questions. There were none.

Dr. Best provided an update on issues related to the revised FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the delay of data being delivered to colleges and universities that will impact when students receive their student financial aid award letters. Dr. Best said it would likely be April before UCM is able to issue students their award letters.

In closing, Dr. Best provided a brief update about KMOS that included the station provides \$1.3 million in promotional value through sponsorship ads across all channels and spends approximately \$150,000 in student employee wages. He also shared that one of KMOS’s student workers received an Emmy award for their work on one of the station’s productions.

Board Committee on Student Engagement & University Advancement

Ms. Dandurand, Chair of the Board Committee on Student Engagement and University Advancement said the Committee met earlier in the day. After addressing a couple of business items the Committee moved to the Military and Veterans Service Center where they met and heard from a group of Center staff and military-affiliated students about their experiences with the Center.

Board Committee on Academic Affairs

The Board Committee on Academic Affairs did not meet this month.

Board Committee on Finance & Administration

Mr. Collier, Chair of the Board Committee on Finance & Administration, reported the Committee met earlier in the day and had a productive meeting. He asked Mr. Hawley to present the following agenda item.

Student Health Insurance Administrative Fee – Agenda Item No. 9

Mr. Hawley referred the Board to Tab 12 of the meeting packet which contained background information on management’s recommendation to add an administrative fee to UCM’s student health insurance plan’s premium (Attachment 10). The proposed administrative fee of \$10 would help pay for the increased administrative support that is needed to implement the health insurance plan and to support students enrolled in the plan.

Mr. Collier moved that the Board of Governors approve a \$10 administrative fee, to be imposed separately in the fall semester and spring/summer semester, effective for Student Health Insurance Program enrollees beginning in Fiscal Year 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Abney and carried unanimously.

Board Business

Other Business – Agenda Item No. 10

There was no other business to discuss.

Request for Closed Session – January 25, 2024 – 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 Mr. Collier and carried with the following roll call vote:

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

Adjourn – Agenda Item No. 13

The Board concluded Plenary Session at 1:45 p.m. Following the conclusion of Closed Session, the Board returned to Plenary Session at 3:00 p.m. and *Ms. Dandurand made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and carried unanimously.* The Board adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

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Attachments Listing

<u>Attachment No.</u>	<u>Attachment Description</u>
1	Emeritus Status Requests & Recognitions
2	Learning Management System
3	Humphreys Building Renovation Construction
4	Unit Price HVAC Services
5	Custodial Services
6	FY 2024 Second Quarter Investment Report
7	FY 2024 Second Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses
8	Written Governance Groups Reports
9	Legislative Update
10	Student Health Insurance Administrative Fee