

**University of Central Missouri
Board of Governors
Plenary Session
January 22, 2026**

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in Plenary Session on January 22, 2026, at 11:05 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; University President Roger Best; Assistant General Counsel and Policy Director Holly Weiss; 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 noted that it is an exciting time on campus, with many great things happening, including the renovations to the meeting room.

Remarks by the University President – Agenda Item No. 3

President Best added his thanks to the Union and Facilities Planning and Operations staff who led the effort to refresh the meeting space. President Best stated that following the meeting, the Board will tour the UCM Division of Music technology studios in the Wood Building, for which the Board approved the renovation funding for a few years back. He noted that this tour is an opportunity for the Board to see the outcomes of the work they do in terms of oversight and approval of major university projects. The Humphreys Building renovation is another example of this, which he reported is still on track. Over the last calendar year, more than 4,300 individual degrees were awarded, another important outcome of the Board's work. President Best expressed his thanks to the Board members for their work and participation.

Emeritus Status Requests and Recognitions – Agenda Item No. 4

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

- Ms. Frances Greene (August 1, 2006 – December 31, 2025), Fixed Asset Manager – Accountant III
- Ms. Claudia Welhoff (February 5, 2001 – January 31, 2026), Administrative Assistant
- Dr. Richard Cole (June 18, 2007 – June 30, 2020), Assistant Director, Clinical Services and Certification

Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors approve emeritus status for Ms. Greene, Ms. Welhoff, and Dr. Cole. Mr. Weymuth seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Board President Collier and President Best were joined by Doug Thomas, President of the Emeriti and Retiree Association, to photograph the presentation of certificates to Ms. Greene and Dr. Cole. A certificate will be mailed to Ms. Welhoff, who 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

- December 11, 2025, Work and Plenary Session minutes;
- A new graduate certificate in Lean and Project Management, effective Fall 2026, pending approval by the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development/Coordinating Board for Higher Education (Attachment 2); and
- Award of contract to MAS Construction Services, LLC for \$570,683.10 to provide all labor, materials, supplies, insurance, permits fees, and all other items necessary to remodel space at The Crossing to a fully functional Dunkin' Donuts for Sodexo to operate on location for the UCM campus at 114 West South Street, Warrensburg, Missouri (Attachment 3).

Information Items

- FY 2026 Second Quarter Investment Report (Attachment 4); and
- FY 2026 Second Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Attachment 5).

Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda. Dr. Wetzel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

REPORTS/UPDATES

Written Governance Groups Reports – Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. Collier noted that the Staff Council report was included in the meeting packet under Tab 9 (Attachment 6). There were no reports from the Faculty Senate or Student Government Association.

Legislative Update – Agenda Item No. 7

President Best provided the legislative update in place of Mr. David Pearce, Executive Director for Governmental Relations, who was attending a conference in Washington, D.C. President Best stated that he had spent the day before in Jefferson City meeting with Representatives, Senators, and the Secretary of State. He reported that the university is paying close attention to and weighing in on several important pieces of legislation related to higher education in Missouri, including degree authorizations and who can offer them, as well as the funding formula for higher education.

Governor Kehoe gave the State of the State Address earlier in January, during which he announced \$600 million in budget reductions. The governor recommended holding the higher education budget at the same level as fiscal year 2026, and President Best expressed appreciation that there were no cuts. While in Jefferson City, President Best visited with the House Budget Chair and the Senate Appropriations Chair to get their takes on the state budget and the process. The university will closely monitor the state budget as it moves forward.

In planning the university's FY 2027 budget, President Best stated that the next few months will be critical for gathering as much information as possible at the state level and forecasting our enrollment. Proposals for tuition, fees, and housing rates will be presented to the Board in March, and the formal budget will be presented in April. President Best provided an overview of communications distributed to the Board since the last meeting. There were no questions regarding those materials.

University Update – Agenda Item No. 8

President Best included the University Update with the Legislative Update.

BOARD COMMITTEE ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Ms. Mary Dandurand, Chair of the Board Committee on Student Engagement and University Advancement, stated that the committee did not meet. A calendar with the Spring 2026 student activities was distributed to the Board (Attachment 7).

BOARD COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Gus Wetzel, Chair of the Board Committee on Academic Affairs, reported that the committee met and discussed the new graduate certificate in Lean and Project Management, which was approved on the consent agenda, and received an update on enrollment.

BOARD COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Stu Rogers, Chair of the Board Committee on Finance and Administration, invited Mr. Bill Hawley, Vice President for Finance and Operations, forward to present the following agenda item. Mr. Rogers stated he was proud of the quality work the team did on the audit and thanked both Mr. Hawley and Mr. Rex Vanatta, University Controller, and their staff.

Single Audit – Agenda Item No. 9

Mr. Hawley referred the Board to the Single Audit report on Tab 10 of the meeting materials, which was presented in detail during the committee meeting (Attachment 8). **Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors accept the single audit report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and carried unanimously.**

BOARD BUSINESS

KMOS Bridge Funding - Agenda Item No. 10

President Best provided a brief overview of the proposal to the Board for the external KMOS Bridge Funding as found on Tab 11 of the meeting materials (Attachment 9), which was discussed in length in the committee meeting. **Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors accept the external bridge funding proffered by the Public Media Company in the amount of \$567,943 for the continued operation of KMOS-TV and authorize Board Secretary Mary Dandurand to sign the required board resolution. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried unanimously.**

Other Business – Agenda Item No. 11

There was no other business.

Request for Closed Session – January 22, 2026 – 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. Rogers and carried with the following roll call vote:

Stephen Abney	aye
Mary Dandurand	aye
Stu Rogers	aye
Gus Wetzel	aye
Ken Weymuth	aye
John Collier	aye

Adjournment – Agenda Item No. 13

The Board concluded Plenary Session at 11:25 a.m. The Board recessed for lunch, followed by a tour of the UCM Division of Music recording studios and labs in the Wood Building, Rooms 001-006, on the UCM campus in Warrensburg, Missouri.

Following the conclusion of Closed Session, the Board returned to Plenary Session at 2:50 p.m., and **Mr. Abney made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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Attachments Listing**

<u>Attachment No.</u>	<u>Attachment Description</u>
1	Emeritus Status Requests and Recognitions
2	New Graduate Certificate - Lean and Project Management
3	Retail Food Service Remodel Contract - Dunkin' Donuts
4	FY 2026 Second Quarter Investment Report
5	FY 2026 Second Quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses
6	Written Governance Groups Reports
7	Spring 2026 Student Activities Calendar
8	Single Audit
9	KMOS Bridge Funding