



# Board of Governors' Meeting

October 24, 2024

Blum Student Union Room 220



AGENDA

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

October 24, 2024 - 1:30 P.M. BLUM STUDENT UNION ROOM 220

Notice is hereby given that Missouri Western State University's Board of Governors will convene a Board meeting beginning with its Public Session at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 24, 2024. The meeting will originate from Blum Student Union Room 220 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Missouri. The meeting will also be livestreamed at [griff.vn/BOG1024](https://griff.vn/BOG1024).

I. PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Approval of Minutes
  - 1. August 15, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Board of Governors' Committee Report
  - 1. Personnel, Finance & Operations
    - a. FY24 Audit Report
    - b. October 20224 Financial Report
    - c. FB25-021 Hearnes Center Renovation
    - d. FB25-023 Potter Hall Renovation
    - e. Informational Items
- C. Division Reports
  - 1. Administration (Daniel Holt)
  - 2. Academic Affairs (Joel Hyer)
  - 3. University Advancement & MWSU Foundation (Marc Archambault)
  - 4. Admissions/Enrollment Management (Jeffrey Foot)
  - 5. Student Affairs (Robert Goltra III)
  - 6. Marketing & Communication (Tama Wagner)
  - 7. Athletics (Andy Carter)
- D. Report of the Student-Governor
- E. Report of the President
- F. Report of the Chair
- G. Old Business
- H. New Business

A vote will be held to close the meeting pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (1), (2), (3) & (13) to consider matters as protected by law. This meeting in closed session will also originate from Blum Student Union Room 214 on the main campus of Missouri Western State University.

II. CLOSED SESSION

III. PUBLIC SESSION

Adjournment

MINUTES, BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY  
August 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Chair Lee Tieman in Blum Student Union Hall Room 220.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES

**Board Members Present**

Lee Tieman – Chair

Bill Grimwood – Vice Chair

Al Landes

Lisa Norton

Garrett Jackson – Student-Governor

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board of Governor Chair Lee Tieman asked for a motion to approve the June 27, 2024 Board meeting minutes. Governor Landes made a motion to approve the minutes; Governor Grimwood seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Personnel, Finance, & Operations

- Vice President of Finance & Administration Daniel Holt briefed the Board in terms of the Personnel, Finance & Operations Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting where the Committee recommended to the Board of Governors that they approve the June 30, 2024 financial report. VP Holt briefly advised the Board that he provided the Committee with updates in regard to human resources, Purchasing policy update and a Capital Assets policy update. VP Holt advised the Board that he provided the Committee with a Hearnes Center Library renovation and Potter Hall renovation update.
- Additionally, VP Holt updated the Board in terms of FY24 operating revenue, operating expenses, state appropriations and cash position.
- Board Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the June 30, 2024 financial report as presented. Governor Grimwood made a motion to approve the financial report; Governor Norton seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absententions. Motion passed.
- Board Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve RFP25-003 Budgeting Software. Governor Landes made a motion to approve RFP25-003; Governor Norton seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absententions. Motion passed.

**DIVISION REPORTS**

Daniel Holt, Vice President of Finance & Administration

- Human Resources update in terms of new hires and recruitment

- 2025 benefit renewal from CBIZ, 15% increase for the same benefits from Blue Cross Blue Shield, by making some adjustments to formularies they were able to get that down to 12.8%
- FLSA update
- Physical Plant is preparing for two capital projects, Hearnese Center Library and Potter Hall

Joel Hyer, Interim Provost & Dean, College of Liberal Arts

- College of Business and Professional Studies Dean Search
- Interim Vice Provost search update
- New hires and new faculty orientation
- Retention efforts provided
- Kickstart program to reduce summer enrollment melt

Marc Archambault, Vice President of Advancement/Executive Director of the MWSU Foundation

- Update on Provost search, aiming for candidates on campus visits as early as October
- Fundraising performance continues to be strong
- The Houlne Center fundraising updates
- Kudos to Foundation Board for their volunteer contributions
- Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy has graciously donated her salary increases in her new contract to the Foundation as a gift which equates to \$40,000 over the next three years which establishes the Foundation Vision fund

Robert Goltra III, Vice President and Dean of Students

- Student-led evaluations
- Event management and student engagement
- Military-friendly campus status achieved, Gold standard
- 3D Institute completion
- Griffon Gold Standard

Andy Carter, Director of Athletics

- Chiefs camp has just ended and it's a huge lift for Athletics as they move back in their facility
- Staffing update
- MIAA conversation with a TV station in KC airing one conference game a week

Tama Wagner, Chiefs Assistant for Strategic Initiatives

- Yoodle analysis and information provided

## **STUDENT-GOVERNOR REPORT**

Student-Governor Garrett Jackson reported to the Board that he attended Griffon Orientation. Student-Governor Jackson gave kudos to the Griffon Orientation staff and students who provide a stellar experience for incoming students.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Kennedy focused her remarks to the Board with a second installment of the Moving Forward series addressing the Board that Missouri Western State University is focusing on identifying who we are as an institution. MWSU is dedicated to applied learning, being approachable and affordable. MWSU is a career-focused university for everyone. MWSU is producing graduates prepared for professional success without a ton of student debt. MWSU is responding to community and industry needs to enhance education and workforce training in manufacturing, construction and engineering technology and cybersecurity.

President Kennedy highlighted the Nursing program and students success rate in passing the NCLEX exam on the first attempt. There have been three cohorts that have passed the NCLEX exam at 100% on the first attempt.

President Kennedy highlighted the Education program and that many students have been hired in teaching positions before graduation. MWSU is working to find pathways in Education that fulfill regional needs.

President Kennedy highlight success in Social Work and Law Enforcement.

President Kennedy stated to the Board the challenges the University faces in terms of enrollment and gave a historical background to the enrollment demographics. Enrollment challenges are not unique to MWSU, but is also a challenge to Saint Joseph School District and the community high schools.

President Kennedy ended her remarks to the Board that she is proud of the MWSU team of faculty, staff, and Administrators.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Tieman provided the date of the next Board meeting, which will be Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Blum Student Union Room 220.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

*(no old business at this time)*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Tieman stated to the Board that this is the annual Board of Governors' appointments to the Incubator Board and Foundation Board. Chair Tieman appointed Governor Al Landes to the Incubator Board and Governor Bill Grimwood to the Foundation Board.

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to renew and resubmit a Board Ethics Resolution that complies with the Missouri Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Ordinance. Governor Norton made a motion to approve the Board Ethics Resolution; Governor Landes seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absentations. Motion passed.

There being no further business or additional Board comments or questions, Chair Tieman asked for a motion to meet in executive session, pursuant to Missouri Statutes 610.021 (3) and (13) to consider personnel matters. Governor Grimwood moved to meet in closed session; Governor Norton seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**REGULAR SESSION RE-CONVENED**

Chair Tieman asked for a motion to approve the personnel business as discussed in closed session. Governor Landes made a motion to approve the personnel business; Governor Norton seconded the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

There being no further business, Chair Tieman adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Betsy Wright, Secretary

APPROVED:

---

Lee Tieman, Chair  
Board of Governors



Missouri Western State University  
Daniel Holt  
Vice President  
Finance and Administration  
Popplewell 217  
4525 Downs Drive  
St. Joseph, MO 64507

October 16, 2024

To: Missouri Western State University Board of Governors  
From: Daniel Holt, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Subject: Financial Information – Board Meeting, October 24, 2024

Please find the following financial documents for the period ending September 30, 2024, pertaining to the fiscal year 2025 for your review:

- Attachment #1 – Statement of Activities, Budget to Actual
- Attachment #2 – Statement of Cash Position September 30, 2024
- Attachment #3 – Statement of Funds Invested September 30, 2024
- Attachment #4 – Statement of Accounts Receivable Aging Prior 24 Months
- Attachment #5 – Hearnest Renovation Bid
- Attachment #6 – Potter Renovation Bid
- Attachment #7 – Informational Items

The fiscal year 2024 audited financial statements are also enclosed. The draft statements will require Board approval before the “draft” watermark is removed.

Thank you for your attention to these documents. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



**Missouri Western State University**  
**Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual**  
**For the Year Ending June 30, 2025**  
**(As of September 30, 2024)**

**Educational & General (Undesignated)**

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>					
Student Tuition and Fees	29,872,985	(0)	29,872,985	14,913,731	49.9%
Less: Institutional scholarships					
Less: Other scholarship allowances					
Federal grants and contracts					
State grants and contracts					
Non-governmental grants and contracts	-	-	-	-	
Sales and service of educational departments	209,107	-	209,107	35,752	17.1%
Auxiliary enterprises:					
Athletics					
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Housing					
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Food service					
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Bookstore					
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Other auxiliary enterprises					
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Other operating revenues	106,000	-	106,000	3,776	3.6%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>30,188,092</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>30,188,092</b>	<b>14,953,259</b>	<b>49.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>					
Salaries and compensation	23,146,720	1,300	23,148,020	4,798,327	20.7%
Fringe benefits	9,111,605	24	9,111,629	2,017,054	22.1%
Supplies and services	5,886,791	(31,536)	5,855,255	3,080,536	52.6%
Travel	280,510	(500)	280,010	34,256	12.2%
Utilities	1,370,275	(4,174)	1,366,101	285,504	20.9%
Insurance	565,556	-	565,556	445,612	78.8%
Scholarships	7,512,754	(13,000)	7,499,754	3,920,532	52.3%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>47,874,211</b>	<b>(47,886)</b>	<b>47,826,325</b>	<b>14,581,821</b>	<b>30.5%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(17,686,119)</b>	<b>47,886</b>	<b>(17,638,233)</b>	<b>371,438</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>					
State appropriations	23,734,719	(62,877)	23,671,842	5,917,962	25.0%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-	2,322,497	580,623	25.0%
State appropriations - capital	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Grants					
Gifts	1,317,275	-	1,317,275	118,822	9.0%
Investment income	356,545	-	356,545	54,218	15.2%
Interest on capital related debt					
Capital	(577,614)	(1,610)	(579,224)	(2,637)	0.5%
Debt Service Principal					
Other					
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>27,153,422</b>	<b>(64,487)</b>	<b>27,088,935</b>	<b>6,668,988</b>	<b>24.6%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>9,467,303</b>	<b>(16,601)</b>	<b>9,450,702</b>	<b>7,040,426</b>	<b>74.5%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>					
Debt service	(497,736)	-	(497,736)	(145,071)	29.1%
Other	(104,232)	1,857,014	1,752,782	356,656	20.3%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>(601,968)</b>	<b>1,857,014</b>	<b>1,255,046</b>	<b>211,585</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>8,865,335</b>	<b>1,840,413</b>	<b>10,705,748</b>	<b>7,252,011</b>	<b>67.7%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>					
Prior year funds	8,865,335	1,840,413	10,705,748	7,252,011	

Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual  
For the Year Ending June 30, 2025  
(As of September 30, 2024)

Educational & General (Designated)						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees	1,457,470	155,900	-	1,613,370	895,357	55.5%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Sales and service of educational departments	137,350	26,191	-	163,541	48,158	29.4%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics	-	308,089	-	308,089		
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	182,043	(69,862)	-	112,181	35,726	31.8%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>1,776,863</b>	<b>420,318</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,197,181</b>	<b>979,242</b>	<b>44.6%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	572,159	3,771	1,000	576,930	118,035	20.5%
Fringe benefits	150,140	-	-	150,140	39,680	26.4%
Supplies and services	1,417,889	84,888	14,551	1,516,328	349,923	23.1%
Travel	130,970	8,775	5,200	144,945	18,493	12.8%
Utilities	769	-	-	769	-	0.0%
Insurance	4,653	312	-	4,965	4,162	83.8%
Scholarships	40,455	-	-	40,455	28,450	70.3%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,317,035</b>	<b>97,746</b>	<b>20,751</b>	<b>2,434,532</b>	<b>558,743</b>	<b>23.0%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(540,172)</b>	<b>322,572</b>	<b>(20,751)</b>	<b>(237,351)</b>	<b>420,499</b>	<b>-177.2%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations					-	
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	482,507	-	-	482,507	176,371	36.6%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(46,567)	(11,305)	(11,500)	(69,372)	-	0.0%
Debt Service Principal						
Other						
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>435,940</b>	<b>(11,305)</b>	<b>(11,500)</b>	<b>413,135</b>	<b>176,371</b>	<b>42.7%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(104,232)</b>	<b>311,267</b>	<b>(32,251)</b>	<b>175,784</b>	<b>596,870</b>	<b>339.5%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service						
Other	104,232	(3,178)	-	101,054	(2,177)	-2.2%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>104,232</b>	<b>(3,178)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,054</b>	<b>(2,177)</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>308,089</b>	<b>(32,251)</b>	<b>276,838</b>	<b>594,692</b>	<b>215%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	-	-	32,251	32,251	-	
	<b>-</b>	<b>308,089</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>309,089</b>	<b>594,692</b>	

Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual  
For the Year Ending June 30, 2025  
(As of September 30, 2024)

Attachment 1

	Auxiliary				
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>					
Student Tuition and Fees					
Less: Institutional scholarships					
Less: Other scholarship allowances					
Federal grants and contracts					
State grants and contracts					
Non-governmental grants and contracts					
Sales and service of educational departments					
Auxiliary enterprises:					
Athletics	2,334,825	(269,846)	2,064,979	236,890	11.5%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Housing	4,521,593	-	4,521,593	2,348,174	51.9%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Food service	3,392,616	-	3,392,616	1,630,141	48.0%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Bookstore	125,900	-	125,900	126	0.1%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Other auxiliary enterprises	111,000	-	111,000	15,777	14.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances					
Other operating revenues					
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>10,485,934</b>	<b>(269,846)</b>	<b>10,216,088</b>	<b>4,231,108</b>	<b>41.4%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>					
Salaries and compensation	3,424,783	3,760	3,428,543	891,970	26.0%
Fringe benefits	1,264,011	560	1,264,571	425,788	33.7%
Supplies and services	5,249,517	234,729	5,484,246	1,885,397	34.4%
Travel	1,025,904	7,000	1,032,904	185,986	18.0%
Utilities	1,073,637	4,400	1,078,037	171,740	15.9%
Insurance	615,512	-	615,512	523,529	85.1%
Scholarships	3,855,604	(81,697)	3,773,907	1,820,717	48.2%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>16,508,968</b>	<b>168,752</b>	<b>16,677,720</b>	<b>5,905,127</b>	<b>35.4%</b>
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(6,023,034)</b>	<b>(438,598)</b>	<b>(6,461,632)</b>	<b>(1,674,019)</b>	<b>25.9%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>					
State appropriations					
State appropriations - capital					
Grants					
Gifts	17,000	-	17,000	14,075	82.8%
Investment income	250,000	-	250,000	17,854	7.1%
Interest on capital related debt					
Capital	(105,225)	(43,963)	(149,188)	(12,560)	8.4%
Debt Service Principal					
Other					
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>161,775</b>	<b>(43,963)</b>	<b>117,812</b>	<b>19,369</b>	<b>16.4%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(5,861,259)</b>	<b>(482,561)</b>	<b>(6,343,820)</b>	<b>(1,654,651)</b>	<b>26.1%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>					
Debt service	(3,985,222)	-	(3,985,222)	(367,925)	9.2%
Other	-	(1,855,241)	(1,855,241)	(355,880)	19.2%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>(3,985,222)</b>	<b>(1,855,241)</b>	<b>(5,840,463)</b>	<b>(723,805)</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>(9,846,481)</b>	<b>(2,337,802)</b>	<b>(12,184,283)</b>	<b>(2,378,455)</b>	<b>19.5%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>					
Prior year funds	(9,846,481)	(2,337,802)	(12,184,283)	(2,378,455)	

**Missouri Western State University**  
**Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual**  
**For the Year Ending June 30, 2025**  
**(As of September 30, 2024)**

Restricted						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	752,955	336,872	-	1,089,827	102,625	9.4%
State grants and contracts	431,561	4,132,664	-	4,564,225	512,270	11.2%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	15,000	(5,408)	-	9,592	9,593	100.0%
Sales and service of educational departments						
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	1,199,516	4,464,128	-	5,663,644	624,488	11.0%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	443,383	(3,067)	-	440,316	41,031	9.3%
Fringe benefits	13,521	1,405	-	14,926	6,776	45.4%
Supplies and services	1,015,378	105,897	-	1,121,275	108,784	9.7%
Travel	29,800	1,200	-	31,000	2,147	6.9%
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	
Scholarships	6,159,086	583,435	-	6,742,521	3,452,500	51.2%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	7,661,168	688,870	-	8,350,038	3,611,238	43.2%
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	(6,461,652)	3,775,258	-	(2,686,394)	(2,986,750)	111.2%
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants	6,562,652	217,462	-	6,780,114	3,225,092	47.6%
Gifts						
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt						
Capital	(101,000)	(3,709,139)	-	(3,810,139)	(76,979)	2.0%
Debt Service Principal						
Other						
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	6,461,652	(3,491,677)	-	2,969,975	3,148,113	106.0%
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	-	283,581	-	283,581	161,363	56.9%
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service						
Other	-	(283,581)	-	(283,581)	(100,933)	35.6%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	-	(283,581)	-	(283,581)	(100,933)	35.6%
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	-	-	-	-	60,430	
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	-	-	-	-	60,430	

Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual  
For the Year Ending June 30, 2025  
(As of September 30, 2024)

Attachment 1

Plant						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees						
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts						
State grants and contracts						
Non-governmental grants and contracts						
Sales and service of educational departments						
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises						
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation						
Fringe benefits						
Supplies and services	4,800	100,000		104,800	28,307	27.0%
Travel						
Utilities						-
Insurance						
Scholarships						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	4,800	100,000	-	104,800	28,307	27.0%
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	(4,800)	(100,000)	-	(104,800)	(28,307)	27.0%
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations						
State appropriations - capital						
Grants						
Gifts	-	715,014		715,014	-	0.0%
Investment income						
Interest on capital related debt	(1,454,259)			(1,454,259)	(381,401)	26.2%
Capital	-	(900,000)		(900,000)	(215,323)	23.9%
Debt Service Principal	(3,023,899)			(3,023,899)	-	0.0%
Other						-
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	(4,478,158)	(184,986)	-	(4,663,144)	(596,724)	12.8%
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	(4,482,958)	(284,986)	-	(4,767,944)	(625,031)	13.1%
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	4,482,958			4,482,958	512,996	11.4%
Other	-	284,986		284,986	102,334	35.9%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	4,482,958	284,986	-	4,767,944	615,330	12.9%
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	-	-	-	-	(9,701)	#DIV/0!
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	981,146	(981,146)				
	981,146	(981,146)	-	-	(9,701)	

Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Budget Changes and Comparison of Budget to Actual  
For the Year Ending June 30, 2025  
(As of September 30, 2024)

TOTAL - ALL FUNDS						
	Original Budget	Adjustments	Adjustments for Prior Year Funds	Revised Budget	Actual	Percentage of Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>						
Student Tuition and Fees	31,330,455	155,900	-	31,486,355	15,809,088	50.2%
Less: Institutional scholarships						
Less: Other scholarship allowances						
Federal grants and contracts	752,955	336,872	-	1,089,827	102,625	9.4%
State grants and contracts	431,561	4,132,664	-	4,564,225	512,270	11.2%
Non-governmental grants and contracts	15,000	(5,408)	-	9,592	9,593	100.0%
Sales and service of educational departments	346,457	26,191	-	372,648	83,910	22.5%
Auxiliary enterprises:						
Athletics	2,334,825	38,243	-	2,373,068	236,890	10.0%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Housing	4,521,593	-	-	4,521,593	2,348,174	51.9%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Food service	3,392,616	-	-	3,392,616	1,630,141	48.0%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Bookstore	125,900	-	-	125,900	126	0.1%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other auxiliary enterprises	111,000	-	-	111,000	15,777	14.2%
Less: Scholarship allowances						
Other operating revenues	288,043	(69,862)	-	218,181	39,502	18.1%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>43,650,405</b>	<b>4,614,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,265,005</b>	<b>20,788,096</b>	<b>43.1%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Salaries and compensation	27,587,045	5,764	1,000	27,593,809	5,849,363	21.2%
Fringe benefits	10,539,277	1,989	-	10,541,266	2,489,298	23.6%
Supplies and services	13,574,375	492,978	14,551	14,081,904	5,452,947	38.7%
Travel	1,467,184	16,475	5,200	1,488,859	240,882	16.2%
Utilities	2,444,681	226	-	2,444,907	457,244	18.7%
Insurance	1,185,721	312	-	1,186,033	973,302	82.1%
Scholarships	17,567,899	488,738	-	18,056,637	9,222,199	51.1%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>74,366,182</b>	<b>1,006,482</b>	<b>20,751</b>	<b>75,393,415</b>	<b>24,685,235</b>	<b>32.7%</b>
				-	-	
<b>OPERATING GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>(30,715,777)</b>	<b>3,608,118</b>	<b>(20,751)</b>	<b>(27,128,410)</b>	<b>(3,897,139)</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>						
State appropriations	23,734,719	(62,877)	-	23,671,842	5,917,962	25.0%
State appropriations - lottery	2,322,497	-	-	2,322,497	580,623	25.0%
State appropriations - capital	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants	6,562,652	217,462	-	6,780,114	3,225,092	47.6%
Gifts	1,816,782	715,014	-	2,531,796	309,267	12.2%
Investment income	606,545	-	-	606,545	72,072	11.9%
Interest on capital related debt	(1,454,259)	-	-	(1,454,259)	(381,401)	26.2%
Capital	(830,406)	(4,666,017)	(11,500)	(5,507,923)	(307,499)	5.6%
Debt service principal	(3,023,899)	-	-	(3,023,899)	(2,555,000)	84.5%
Other	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
<b>NET NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>29,734,631</b>	<b>(3,796,418)</b>	<b>(11,500)</b>	<b>25,926,713</b>	<b>6,861,116</b>	<b>26.5%</b>
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(981,146)</b>	<b>(188,300)</b>	<b>(32,251)</b>	<b>(1,201,697)</b>	<b>2,963,976</b>	
<b>TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>						
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	0	
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN (OUT)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>(981,146)</b>	<b>(188,300)</b>	<b>(32,251)</b>	<b>(1,201,697)</b>	<b>2,963,977</b>	
<b>OTHER</b>						
Prior year funds	981,146	188,300	32,251	1,201,697	-	
	<b>0</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,963,977</b>	

**Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Cash Position  
September 30, 2024**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>09/30/2024 Available Balance</b>	<b>09/30/2023 Available Balance</b>	<b>09/30/2022 Available Balance</b>
<b>Operating, Auxiliary, Agency, Payroll &amp; Petty Cash</b>	\$ 7,494,308	\$ 4,441,801	\$ 13,310,277
<b>Investments</b>	\$ -	5,816,697	-
<b>Auxiliary System Revenue Bond Funds</b>	300,000	300,000	300,000
<b>Loan Funds</b>	82,483	82,483	82,483
<b>TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED</b>	<b>\$ 7,876,791</b>	<b>\$ 10,640,981</b>	<b>\$ 13,692,760</b>

**Statement of Cash Position**

Missouri Western State University  
Schedule of Funds Invested  
9/30/2024

<b>OPERATING FUND</b>	<b>YIELD</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>BANK</b>
Checking Account-Operating	3.04%	250,562	Southern Bank
Checking Account-Other	3.00%	7,233,995	Southern Bank
Miscellaneous Petty Cash/Change Funds	0.00%	<u>9,750</u>	Campus Locations
<b>TOTAL OPERATING, AUXILIARY &amp; AGENCY FUNDS</b>		<u><u>7,494,308</u></u>	
 <b>AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS</b>			
Repair & Replacement Reserve	3.04%	<u>300,000</u>	Southern Bank
<b>TOTAL AUXILIARY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND FUNDS</b>		<u><u>300,000</u></u>	
 <b>INSTITUTIONAL LOAN FUND</b>			
Checking Account	3.04%	<u>82,483</u>	Southern Bank
<b>TOTAL LOAN FUNDS</b>		<u><u>82,483</u></u>	
 <b>TOTAL FUNDS INVESTED</b>		 <u><u>\$ 7,876,791</u></u>	



**Missouri Western State University  
Statement of Accounts Receivable Aging  
Prior 24 Months**

Month/Yr	Aging by Days					Total
	0-30	31-60	61-90	90+	Future	
Nov-22	59,836	84,819	739,530	4,347,755	9,656,875	14,888,814
Dec-22	15,264,941	42,584	62,818	4,380,679	2,610	19,753,633
Jan-23	15,299,214	17,128	35,968	4,192,769	-	19,545,079
Feb-23	816,414	537,418	1,620,766	3,718,369	50	6,693,017
Mar-23	69,148	568,389	343,109	4,660,899	3,200	5,644,745
Apr-23	14,467	38,948	392,749	3,766,834	754,638	4,967,635
May-23	1,153,275	8,703	10,765	3,520,046	3,500	4,696,288
Jun-23	9,802,262	240,349	2,102	3,406,406	8,400	13,459,519
Jul-23	16,619,356	244,186	3,798	3,339,164	9,187	20,215,691
Aug-23	3,014,745	6,405,248	8,215,690	3,298,330	12,836	20,946,848
Sep-23	3,591,807	2,064,238	5,276,228	9,053,745	12,911	19,998,930
Oct-23	119,665	1,002,710	387,577	4,123,554	-	5,633,506
Nov-23	51,636	43,393	617,002	3,808,441	8,768,166	13,288,639
Dec-23	14,462,464	44,073	39,432	3,745,121	2,258	18,293,348
Jan-24	14,451,518	51,876	46,558	3,514,136	765	18,064,853
Feb-24	621,967	462,025	1,828,549	3,159,612	-	6,072,153
Mar-24	59,562	563,150	230,805	4,291,308	-	5,144,824
Apr-24	33,550	44,157	413,071	3,953,160	936,566	5,380,504
May-24	1,184,659	21,964	18,126	3,741,379	-	4,966,128
Jun-24	218,354	287,030	19,761	3,557,230	3,531,016	7,613,392
Jul-24	3,952,440	307,948	4,691	3,483,905	13,194,471	20,943,455
Aug-24	3,067,120	12,783,538	2,805,112	3,481,057	-	22,136,828
Sep-24	3,481,825	2,245,902	12,000,546	3,017,870	-	20,746,144
Oct-24	181,551	1,061,409	568,552	4,566,617	-	6,378,129

**FB25-021 HEARNES CENTER REMODEL**

The University is proposing to accept the bid from Lehr Construction in the amount of \$1,937,422 for the remodel of Hearnnes Center.

A 10% contingency is recommended as well to cover any unforeseen costs (\$193,742.20). The total cost will be \$2,131,164.20 and will be paid from State Grant money.

Request a motion to approve.

**FB25-023 POTTER HALL VARIOUS ROOMS REMODEL**

The University is proposing to accept the bid from Lee Grover Construction Company in the amount of \$516,988 for the remodel of various rooms in Potter Hall.

A 10% contingency is recommended as well to cover any unforeseen costs (\$51,698.80). The total cost will be \$568,686.80 and will be paid from State Grant money.

Request a motion to approve.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT**

The University will select Enterprise Fleet Management, under State Contract (CC232905001), in an amount up to \$149,134 in year one for the replacement of up to 14 vehicles in the MWSU fleet in fiscal year 2025.

Only one other vendor responded to RFP25-004, proposing only one vehicle type. Therefore, the State Contract will be selected.

**EAB NAVIGATE 360**

The University will select EAB, as a member of the cooperative purchasing group, TIPS-USA, bid process #240101 for Technology Solutions, Products and Services. The cooperative agreement will be used to purchase EAB Navigate 360, a software to assist in retention and student engagement, in the amount of \$120,347, including \$34,989 in setup implementation and \$84,358 in annual subscription fees (subject to annual escalation).

The typical return for Navigate 360 partners is 5:1 ROI with 3-15% graduation rate improvement and 2-12% retention rate improvement.

**Division or Office Name:** Finance and Administration

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Mr. Daniel Holt, Vice President

**Date:** October 16, 2024

## **Finance**

The Finance Division completed the audit fieldwork and report preparation the first week of October. A new reporting software called TRS (The Reporting Software) was successfully implemented for the preparation of the Independent Audit Report and Financial Statements and has already created significant efficiencies. The annual financial report including financial statements is set to be reported to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors at the October 2024 meeting.

The Accounting Services Office is implementing a new Capital Asset policy, which increases the dollar threshold for capitalization of assets to \$5,000 or above. These changes were communicated at the August Board of Governors meeting. Communication and training is in process and will be scheduled at the end of this month to stakeholders.

The Student Accounts Office is working with students to ensure Fall semester balances are taken care of timely. The office is planning for the Spring semester to ensure students receive appropriate communication regarding their financial obligations.

The Purchasing Office is planning training sessions to explain the new purchasing policy to faculty and staff (this policy was also communicated at the August Board of Governors meeting). In addition to the purchasing policy training, there will also be training available for the transition of purchase cards to paperless electronic processing for card holders and approvers.

## **Human Resources**

Staff Performance Reviews are being completed and submitted to HR. Faculty and Coach evaluations are completed on a different schedule.

New Fair Labor Standards Act, FLSA overtime regulation, continues to be monitored for a January 1, 2025 salary increase.

Human Resources has recently completed onboarding for 2 new full time exempt staff and 10 non exempt staff. Offboarding occurred for 5 staff separations (resignation, retirement, termination).

Recruitment continues for one faculty position for Spring 2025 (Computer Science). Provost search is underway with Search Firm. The Dean, College of Business and Professional Studies recruitment process is underway with Search Firm. The Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing search has completed virtual interviews and will be scheduling on campus interviews for November. Many staff searches continue for a variety of departments.

These interviews are on- campus interviews and through zoom. Student positions continue to be posted; of the students hired 50% of them are receiving Federal Work Study funds.

A community wide career fair was held on September 17th at Stoney Creek Hotel. Audrey Cravatt and Bryan Adkins (AVP/Facilities) attended.

Renewal of insurance plans has been finalized with CBIZ Benefits Consultants.

- o Medical – continued with BCBS; a portion of the rate increase is being passed onto the employees
- o Dental – continued with carrier; no rate increase
- o Vision – moved to a new carrier; decrease in premiums over previous year
- o Life products – moved to a new carrier; decrease in university provided Life/AD&D Insurance rates
- o Voluntary products – continued with Amerilife Benefits

Open Enrollment meetings – conducted on October 9; 105 employees in attendance

Health Risk Assessments – held the mornings of October 10 and 11; 168 employees attended

- o Employees received an incentive gift for participating
- o Flu Shots were made available
- o MOSAIC was available onsite during the HRA event to schedule mammograms

Professional Development

- o Active Shooter Training on campus; everyone in HR attended one of the sessions
- o CUPA-HR KS/MO Conference held at Johnson County Community College  
Sara Freemyer, Audrey Cravatt and Suzanne Webb attended
- o HRMA Half-Day Employment and Compliance Seminar held at Stoney Creek Hotel on October 8, 2024. Sara Freemyer and Audrey Cravatt attended

## **Financial Aid**

The Financial Aid Office (FAO) has been working diligently with the Foundation to implement the new Scholarship Management System for 2025-26. The scholarship application for 25-26 is set to open on December 1st and will close on April 1st, 2025.

2025-2026 FAFSA is set to open to the public on December 1st. The U.S. Department of Education has conducted beta testing with several different populations to avoid issues from the past year. As of October 8, 680 students successfully submitted a 2025-2026 FAFSA during Beta 1 phase (MWSU has not received any of the beta records at this time). 60 of those submissions were initially rejected. Additionally, students have requested that their information, known as Institutional Student Information Records or ISIRs, be sent to 565 unique institutions of higher education (IHEs), generating a total of 5,770 ISIRs.

The FAO is implementing a new Black & Gold Scholarship for the 2025-2026 admissions application cycle. This scholarship will be replacing the Griffon Guarantee for 2025-26. The most noteworthy change to the new scholarship model is the elimination of annual escalators as students progress in their educational careers. This will allow the University to have improved financial awareness and forecasting of scholarship expenditures.

The FAO, in partnership with MASFAP, hosted High School Counselors on October 11 that are from Northwest Missouri. 27 Counselors, TRiO Advisors, Career & Scholarship Counselors, and Early College Counselors were in attendance. Topics at this workshop included a FAFSA Simplification Debrief & What to Expect in 2025-2026, What happens after filing the FAFSA, FAFSA Scenarios, Decoding Financial Aid Offers and Covering the Cost, and Recommendations and Support.

The FAO began high school FAFSA presentations the week of October 14 and will continue throughout the fall.

- o 10/15 – Stewartsville
- o 10/17 – East Buchanan
- o 10/24 – St. Joseph Christian
- o 10/30 – West Platte
- o 11/13 – North Platte

The FAO is scheduling FAFSA Completion events for the Spring 2026 semester (more high schools will be scheduled once we get closer to next semester.)

- o 2/6 – East Buchanan
- o 2/13 – Smithville

### **University Police**

The University Police Department continues to register vehicles. This is an important safety measure to ensure we know who is on campus.

University PD has been working with Athletics to staff football games.

Campus Police have been working with Technology Services on camera placement to get the most effective views needed for each location.

Sgt. Tonn with the St. Joseph Police Department presented Active Shooter presentations to staff and faculty this past month. There were 5 sessions with approximately 60 plus in attendance. We have also been working with Dr. Chevalier, Dr. Goltra, and Michael Crutchfield, along with Sgt. James Tonn, SJPD, to host an Active Shooter presentation in November for the MWSU student body. This event will be promoted throughout the campus community to engage students in attending.

### **Technology Services**

Technology Services successfully rolled out Multi Factor Authentication to students in September and enforcement of the MFA requirement went into effect the first week of October. Early College Academy students are not included in the MFA requirement at this time.

Technology Services continues to support work efforts in the Houlne Center. Digital signage hardware has been installed in each of the bays and laptops have been deployed. RS Technologies has completed the on-site work for the network cabling system and is preparing documentation to close out the project.

Several new software implementation projects are underway at the University and multiple Technology Services team members are involved in numerous ways. These implementations include a housing software replacement (StarRez), scholarship management software (Scholarship Manager - powered by NextGen), and contract management software (JAGGAER)

An internal project to update legacy code in the Ellucian Banner system has been initiated by Technology Services. This is required to maintain the update cycle of the Ellucian Banner system.

Classroom technology upgrades in Remington are complete and we've received positive feedback from faculty. The remaining rooms in Agenstein are currently being updated.

### **Physical Plant**

The Houlne Center for Convergent Technology is wrapping up the remaining construction items that were delayed by the supply chain. Equipment placement has been completed in industrial, manufacturing, and construction technology. Equipment training is ongoing with faculty and staff. Cybersecurity lab construction has also been completed and is now ready for the technology to be placed and training to begin.

Workforce Development with external partners is in the very early stages. Attention is focused on understanding local manufacturers' most urgent needs and how the Houlne Center can assist in meeting those most critical areas of concern. Both the university and local manufacturers are very excited about developing a solid pathway to meet some of the areas most dire needs. A few meetings have been scheduled to understand the foundation needed to move the Workforce Develop program successfully forward and ensure the university delivers on meeting the community needs.

Both Potter Hall and Hearnes Center renovations will start within the next few weeks with anticipation of complete construction to ramp up as soon as the fall semester concludes. These renovations will transform Potter Hall and Hearnes Center into a more modern learning environment with 24-hour spaces, welcoming gathering areas, simulated classrooms, tutoring, and much more. Both spaces will be completed mid to late May and funded by state grants. The physical plant has also begun touching up a few areas with fresh paint, including Potter Hall, Murphy Hall, and Leah Spratt Hall. The needed fresh look has received numerous compliments. Plans are to pick up where we left off next spring and completely address all non-brick surfaces on all interior campus buildings.



**Division or Office Name:** Academic Affairs

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Dr. Joel Hyer, Interim Provost

**Date:** October 16, 2024

***HIGHLIGHTS***

**JALHE (Journal of Applied Learning in Higher Education) Volume 10** was published on October 8, 2024. This volume includes 9 peer-reviewed articles (the highest in the history of this journal), involving various aspects of applied learning. Contributors/authors include Missouri Western faculty members as well as faculty from other universities. One article has a MWSU Wildlife Conservation and Management major, and honors student, Tyson Cook as the lead author, co-authored with Dr. Tilo Roy.

JALHE, from MWSU, is the only peer-reviewed journal published annually, entirely in-house, by a PUI in the state of Missouri.

**HLC 10 Year Site Visit Preparations:** The university has begun to make preparations for our Year Ten site visit by peer reviewers of the Higher Learning Commission. The visit will take place during academic 2026-2027. A team of some twenty employees, representing a variety of units across campus, are beginning to compose the Year Ten report.

**Early College Academy:** The following includes recent data regarding Early College Academy.

- Total distinct headcount for fall 2024 was 1,266, up 4.4% from last fall
- Total individual course enrollments for fall 2024 was 1,832, up 8.9% from last fall
- Total credit hours for fall 2024 was 6,070, up 7.9% from last fall
- ECA is working with 41 different high schools this fall, not including various homeschooled students
- Due to very late enrollments there may be some minor fluctuations in these numbers but the overall positive trends are clear.
- Courses with more than ten sections being offered this fall: BIO 101, CHE 111, COM 104, ENG 104, HIS 140, MAT 116, PSY 101, SOC 110
- One brand new course offering: GBA 110: Introduction to Business

**Faculty and Staff Activity Update: Academic Affairs Offices and Colleges**

	Student Applied Learning Experiences				Faculty Scholarly Activities		Student/Alumni Accomplishments		Faculty/Staff Accomplishments	
	August 8 thru October 15, 2024				August 8 thru October 15, 2024		August 8 thru October 15, 2024		August 8 thru October 15, 2024	
	Events	YTD	Students	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD
Bus. & Prof Studies	4	5	96	99	1	5	0	1	1	2
Liberal Arts	5	11	43	53	5	13	3	8	5	22
Science & Health	42	47	220	251	26	44	3	5	25	47

Total	51	63	359	403	32	62	6	14	31	71
-------	----	----	-----	-----	----	----	---	----	----	----

**Library**

Sally Gibson, Director

	Fall 2024	Fall 2023
Average Weekly Gate Count	*	2472
Reference Questions	305	325
Reference Consultations	27	31
Physical Circulation	574	644
Course Reserves	39	34
eBook Downloads	316	390
Article Downloads	5685	6444
Large Group Study Room Reservations	161	137

\*Gate counter is no longer functioning. A new one will be installed. Gate count statistics are not available at this time.

**Student Success & Academic Advising Center**

Derek Evans, Director

We filled our empty administrative assistant position and are now fully staffed for the first time in over a year.

Student Success advised new freshmen at one last Online Griffon Orientation program on August 8th and a Walk-In Registration program on August 21st

Student Success staff organized the assignment of advisors to more than 575 new freshmen (along with secondary advisors for students in all but two departments who opted out of assigning secondary advisors) and about 210 transfer and returning students since the last full report. In addition, during this time nearly 100 additional advisor change requests from faculty (made through the Change of Advisor form) were processed, as were dozens of direct requests (not using the Change of Advisor form) as needed.

Student Success advisors have had about 508 one-on-one visits with about 360 students since the last Board report on 4/2

Student Success advisors volunteered to assist with the following additional programming across campus in an effort to highlight the resources available through our office.

Stress Less Fest

Residence Life “Grub Crawl”

New Student Move-IN

**EdSights** - EdSights is a retention system that uses an AI chatbot (“Max The Griffon”) to collect aggregate data on a weekly basis about students and student groups. It also directs them to resources we have on campus and helps them find solutions for other issues they may have based on their responses. An in-depth report of each campaign was delivered to staff, including our CARES team, who performed

outreach, when necessary, after reviewing all reports. Below are the results of the campaigns carried out since the last board report.

**Summer Melt campaign**

These campaigns allowed us to reach hundreds of students who applied to MWSU before they enrolled and began classes. This was the first summer we utilized EdSights to have any impact on summer melt.

- 8/1 - Online GO Nudge - outreach to committed students who had not RSVP'd for any MWSU Go programs (about 1,039 students)
- 8/7 - Academic Resource Awareness -Max shared different academic resources offered on campus
- 8/14 - Max asked committed students to confirm their intent to attend this fall (1,610 students)
- 8/21 - Max shared information about events happening during their first week at MWSU (1604 students)

**Retention Campaigns**

Retention ramp up as the fall semester begins and we move away from Summer Melt campaigns.

- 8/7 - Kickstart Success - Motivational nudge to all students about the upcoming semester (1,736 students)
- 9/5 - Intro to *new* students - Welcome and reminder that Max The Griffon is a resource students can utilize
- 9/11 - Temperature Check - Checked in to see 1) how students are feeling about the semester and 2) whether they need any help meeting their academic, financial, social, or wellness needs/goals.
- 9/19 - Belonging Check-in - Check in with new students to measure their sense of belonging and connect them to resources as needed
- 9/24 - Academic Engagement - checked in with students to see if they are enjoying classes and if not, identify why

**Center for Academic Support**

Susan Garrison, Director

The Center for Academic Support offers tutoring by trained peer tutors, in math, writing, and specific courses to MWSU students. In addition to these services, we provide Supplemental Instruction, workshops and presentations.

This year, with the financial support of the Foundation through the Strategic Initiatives Fund, we are holding events and other outreach to boost student engagement and retention. While we cannot attribute numbers just to these events, our numbers are up compared to last fall.

As of October 7, 2024, 250 students have attended 886 visits totaling 876 hours.

This is an increase from the Fall 2023 semester. From the beginning of Fall 2023 through October 7, 2023, 210 students had 596 visits for 577 hours.

**CAS Usage:** Start of semester – October 7, Fall 2023 and Fall 2024

Semester	Students	Students increase	Visits	Visits increased	Hours	Hours increased
----------	----------	-------------------	--------	------------------	-------	-----------------

Fall 2024 (start-Oct. 7)	251	+41 students	893	+297 visits	881	+304 hours
Fall 2023 (start- Oct. 7)	210		596		577	

New engagement events sponsored by the CAS this semester include:

**CAS Carnival** August 27-28 to get students into our physical space. Plenty of carnival games, movie theater popcorn, cotton candy, and prizes.

**GriffUNO** for freshmen enrolled in UNV 101 on Sept. 6. Twenty-three participated in an UNO tournament and approximately 20 others came to watch. The day included pizza, prizes, and double-elimination. In a post-survey, everyone who answered said that they would attend a similar event. The top two answers as to why they participated included: “It sounded fun” and “I wanted to meet other new students.”

**Monthly drawings** for a prize (Oct. 1, Nov. 1, and Dec. 1). Students do not have to enter; we randomize everyone who has worked at the CAS during the month and draw a name.

**Texting reminders** for Supplemental Instruction courses CHE 101 and PHY 110. Note: we already offer texting reminders of tutoring appointments. These texting reminders go to students directly from the SI Leader and include reminders of homework due dates, when SI study sessions are being held, and general study tips.

### **Student Profiles:**

Top three declared student majors who have been in this fall:

1. Nursing
2. Biology
3. Exercise Science

Top three visit subjects this fall:

1. Biology
2. Math
3. Chemistry

### **Supplemental Instruction**

This fall the CAS offers Supplemental Instruction for the following courses: Biology 105 – Principles of Organismal Biology; BIO 250 – Anatomy and Physiology; BIO 375 – Pathophysiology; Chemistry 101-Introductory Chemistry; CHE 310 – Organic Chemistry 1; and PHY 110- College Physics 1. Supplemental Instruction is led by a peer who has had the course in the past and excelled. The leader goes through extensive SI training then leads three focused, active review sessions per week.

## College Level Reports

### College of Business and Professional Studies (CBPS)

Dr. Suzanne Kissock, Interim Dean

#### *Faculty/Staff*

**Dibooglu, Dr. Sel.** Quantile Connectedness between VIX and Global Stock Markets. *Borsa Istanbul Review*.

New members have been added to the Legal Studies Advisory Board to include community members in the field who will offer helpful suggestions on how the program can best prepare students to be strong members of the legal profession. These members include paralegals and attorneys from two separate firms in St. Joseph, specifically Taylor, Siemens et al and Briles Law Office. Both firms employ graduates of our program.

**Dr. Boong Ryoo, Dennis Merritt, and Dr. Goksu Avdan** participated in the Black & Veatch's College Night in Kansas City, Kansas on September 10th. The faculty had the opportunity to speak with approximately 33 students and their parents who expressed interest in construction (civil) engineering. Additionally, three students showed interest in the dual degree program (MWSU-UMKC).

**Boong Ryoo** has been appointed to the program committee for the 2025 e-Society conference, scheduled for March 2025 on Madeira Island, Portugal. As the largest information technology conference in Europe, the 2025 event will focus on the non-technical dimensions of the Information Society. Key topics include cybersecurity, e-Government and e-Governance, e-Business and e-Commerce, technology and society, e-Learning, new media and e-Social, e-Health, information systems, information management, and the impact of COVID-19 on digital transformation.

#### *Students*

At MINK Law Day on September 11, students and the program director were able to meet with law schools from all over the country. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and receive admission contact information so they may begin their pursuit of law school. Program director made contact with a Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) Ambassador who has offered to engage with the program and offer services to the students to help prepare them for their LSAT. This council explained that they offer financial assistance to those students who cannot afford the LSAC preparation courses.

Sixty-three Law Enforcement Academy students went to Pickett Elementary School to welcome students as they exited the bus. The students were encouraged and excited to see the cadets welcoming them in the morning.

The Legal Studies Association began the semester with two members and it has grown to fifteen within a few weeks. The Association is excited and has ideas in mind such as studying together for LSAT, implementing a MOCK trial on campus and other things to improve their educational experience.

The Legal Studies Program applied for and received approval from the Foundation Applied Learning Allocation – Provost's Strategic Initiative Allocation fund for a field trip to allow students to attend Wrongful Conviction Day on October 2, 2024, at the World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri.

The event is sponsored by the Midwest Innocence Project for which the Spring 2025 Advanced Legal Research, LAT 400-01 course will be in collaboration with to research an actual case submission.

### **College of Liberal Arts (CLA)**

Dr. Ed Taylor, Interim Assistant Dean

#### *Faculty/Staff*

**Huang, Dr. Luling.** (August 8-11, 2024). The Field of Communication is Becoming Less Disruptive: A Citation Analysis from 1976 to 2017. *2024 Annual AEJMC Conference.*

**Dr. Kelly Henry** attended Swope Health's Community Celebration and is working with their Executive VP of Behavioral Health in order to build a partnership.

**Dr. Jennifer Oliverio** volunteered as a guest presenter on Academics 101, How to be Successful in the College Classroom, for the 2024 Griffon Edge students.

**Dr. Jennifer Oliverio** and **Dr. Lee Harrelson** volunteered as faculty for the Fountain City Youth Brass Band's 2024 Expo. This event hosted 25 middle and high school students from the Kansas City area and culminated in a joint performance at the Folly Theater on September 22, 2024.

**Dr. Jennifer Oliverio** is continuing to serve on the Board of Directors for the Athena Brass Band.

**Dr. Jennifer Oliverio** and **Dr. Lee Harrelson** and the MWSU/Fountain City Brass Band, hosted the first-ever MWSU Instrumental Impressions educational event. Students from area middle and high schools joined forces with the MWSU Wind Symphony and the Fountain City Brass Band for a concert in the Missouri Theater on September 21, 2024. They also performed at the Scottish-Irish Highland Festival in Estes Park, CO. Student **Caleb Niehoff** performed as well.

**Matt Hepworth**, in a continued effort to create a shared vision of multidisciplinary, redesigned labs for a \$2.46 million MoExcels grant and designed and created 3D models, video "fly-throughs," and image renderings of Potter 204 and 202. In coordination with **Lance Winkel** and **Bona Bonadona**, Assistant Professors of Digital Animation, we assessed the multidisciplinary space allocated for Potter 208. We redesigned a computer lab and audio/video production suite for Cinema and Digital Animation.

**Dr. Holly Rubalcava** serves on the board of the Allied Arts Council. The AAC is an important leader in supporting and promoting the arts in St. Joseph and Buchanan County.

**Dr. Jennifer Oliverio** is writing and editing published articles for the *International Trumpet Guild Journal* on the topics of cornet playing, equipment, brass band, and musician interviews.

**Matt Hepworth** was awarded Advisor of the Year for 2024 and nominated for the Missouri Academic Advising Association (MACADA) Outstanding Academic Advising Award. From 2023 to 2024, Matt was assigned 61 advisees in the B.F.A. Graphic Design and Digital Animation degrees, or 53% of all Art students (116 total).

#### *Students*

Department of Communication students, **Montana Frakes**, **Zach Blanke** and **Andruw Hamilton**, participated in Griffs Give Back as part of their affiliation as elected officers for the MWSU Chapter of the Society for Collegiate Journalists. The students joined a total of 177 of their colleagues to

collectively pick up 80 bags of trash and two tires covering a span of nine miles of city streets in Saint Joseph.

**Stacey Uthe** took two MWSU Vocal Music Education students, **Dein Gentry** and **Dawson McCarter**, to attend the Kansas City Symphony's performance of *The Brightness of Light* at the Kauffman Performing Arts Center in Kansas City. They heard American Soprano, Renee Fleming and American Baritone Rod Gilfry in the major work. This was the first operatic event they experienced and an excellent learning opportunity.

**Dr. Holly Rubalcava** took fourteen students enrolled in Art 371, Topics in Ancient/Medieval Art History course, to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City on September 23, 2024, to study medieval art objects in person.

**Matt Hepworth** contacted Frank Luzsica, CEO of Blue INK Security and MWSU alum, to discuss a virtual job opportunity. **Matt Hepworth** recommended **Gigi Ingargiola** and corresponded with Gigi to discuss preparation for the interview process, an overview of the job description and responsibilities, and establishing an immediate connection between Frank and Gigi during the hiring process. On Sept. 18, 2024, Gigi was hired as a Graphic Design/Marketing Coordinator.

Trumpet student **Caleb Niehoff** was named to the Shires Rising Artist Roster. This initiative recognizes young talent and provides career support and mentorship.

### **College of Science and Health (CSH)**

Dr. Joan Brewer, Dean

#### *Faculty/Staff*

Biology Faculty and Staff, **Dr. Michael Grantham, Dr. Mark Mills, Dr. Carissa Ganong, Dr. Aracely Newton, Dr. Csengele Barta and Michelle Wolfe**, along with student **Connor Jameson** staffed the Department of Biology tent at the *Sound of Speed Airshow STEM* pavilion. On display were the ever popular snakes, native plants of Missouri, and pond water under a magnifying glass. More than 200 people visited the tent.

Fifty to sixty students and family members came to the monarch tagging event during Family Day. They saw some monarch adults, a caterpillar, and a chrysalis. The monarch tagging event was sponsored by the Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

**Barta, Dr. Csengele Barta, Dr. Szekely, Gyongyi.** Halophytes and proline: a promising possibility for the remediation of heavy metal contamination for agricultural restoration. *Hungarian Journal of Industry and Chemistry*.

**Dr. Cary Chevalier** was recognized as the International Student Chapter Advisor of the Year for 2024, by The Wildlife Society.

**Dr. Brian Bucklein** presented a public planetarium showing of Africa: the Serengeti.

**Jerry Wilkerson** presented private planetarium showings for the Noyes Home, NCMC's Talent Search Program, and the Brookdale Presbyterian Church.

**Dr. Jennifer Elder** was a consulting faculty mentor for the undergraduate *REU Combinatorics and Coding Theory in the Tropics* at University of Puerto Rico in Ponce.

**Elder, Dr. Jennifer.** Picture a Research Mathematician. *2024 MathPath program.*

**Elder, Dr. Jennifer.** Finding Needles in Haystacks. *2024 American Mathematics Association Fall Central Sectional Meeting.*

**McCune, Dr. Lori.** Using Markov Chains to Count Your Chickens. *2024 MathPath 2024 program.*

**Elder, Dr. Jennifer** and McNicholas, Dr. Erin. Cyclic Sieving and Homomesy on Permutations: An Analysis of Maps and Statistics in the Findstat Database. *Permutation Patterns 2024.*

**Dr. Pam Clary** presented Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) to the Sisters of Solace. Presentations included "The Secret to Relationships" and "The 6 F's and the 5 Love Languages".

**Jana Frye** provided a presentation on self-care to 12 staff members of Head Start.

**Dr. Pam Clary** volunteered with the Military and Family Readiness Board in the Lost Child Tent for the *Sound of Speed AirShow.*

**Dr. Pam Clary** presented at *Saint Joseph Christian School's Career Day* about the field of Social Work and the programs at MWSU. Dr. Clary spoke to 44 students from two classes.

**Jana Frye, Whitlea Castillo,** and **Dr. Pam Clary** spoke to six sections of UNV 101 classes about the Social Work major.

**Professor David Northrop** attended the *Sound Of Speed Airshow* to educate visitors about MWSU and the fields of Respiratory Therapy, Population Health and Physical Therapy Assistants. Approximately 60 people attended the applied learning station where Professor Northrop used a manikin to demonstrate resuscitation of a newborn using a resuscitation bag and mask. He also demonstrated how to auscultate, take an oxygen level, and perform lung studies.

**Dr. Fiona Sansone** spoke to two sections of UNV101 courses about Health Professions programs. Dr. Sansone also provided students with a tour of the labs in Murphy Hall.

**David Northrop, Sarah McDaris, Dr. Joan Brewer** and **Dr. Fiona Sansone** announced a \$10,000 National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) scholarship award. The scholarship award will be utilized by Junior and Senior Respiratory Therapy students,

**Dr. Tammie Conley** received the Missouri Western State University 2024 Distinguished Faculty Award recognizing her dedication and contributions to the Department of Nursing and MWSU Students.

The College of Science and Health welcomed their student majors back to classes with an Ice Cream Festival. CSH faculty and staff participated in the event.

#### *Students*

**Drs. Cary Chevalier, Carissa Ganong, and Aracely Newton,** members of the student chapter of The Wildlife Society **Grace Allen, Angel Justus, Michael Moore, Amber Spradley, Autumn Shull, Sonja Weber, and Shelton Wilhelmsen** and two Master Naturalists participated in the second of two Bumble Bee Atlas Surveys on the John Rushin Teaching and Research Prairie. Five different species were identified, including one endangered and one vulnerable species as determined by the International



Union for the Conservation of Nature. In total, 96 individual bees were captured, documented, and released during this survey. Bumble Bee Atlas is a conservation initiative organized by the Xerces Society to track and conserve bumble bee species across 20 U.S. states.

**Dr. Mark Mills, Dr. Carissa Ganong,** and 21 students from aquatic ecology and invertebrate biology classes spent a weekend at Reis Biological Station (Steelville, MO) surveying bioindicator organisms in Ozark ecosystems. The group sampled the Huzzah Creek and other aquatic ecosystems and also visited boulder habitat at *Elephant Rocks State Park* and an Ozark glade at Hughes Mountain Natural Area.

**Dr. Mark Mills, Dr. Carissa Ganong,** and 17 students from aquatic ecology, invertebrate biology, and an Honors colloquium focused on extinction, spent a weekend at the Ozark Underground Lab (Protem, MO) learning about cave/karst ecology and endangered species and habitats. Students took a guided tour through Tumbling Creek Cave (a national natural landmark) and learned about its endangered aquatic snail, watched an evening flight of 30,000 endangered gray bats, and practiced techniques for surveying invertebrates in Ozark stream and glade habitats.

The **PTA Club**, under the direction of **Dr. Maureen Holtz**, hosted a Disco Dash 5K at Missouri Western State University. Twenty-five runners participated. The 5K serves as the primary fundraiser for the PTA Club, supporting its 21 student members. Proceeds are used by the club to help cover costs of board exam materials, club activities throughout the year (eg. reception for pinning ceremony, welcome picnic), and community outreach projects.

Eleven 2nd-year PTA students, under the advisement of **Dr. Maureen Holtz** and **Amy Hallquist**, participated in the Annual Falls Free event at Word of Life Church in St. Joseph, MO. The PTA students provided balance screenings for over 100 senior citizens attending the event.

Seven PTA students volunteered to help with Special Olympics Missouri's Young Athletes Program, led by PTA program alumni **Casey Samples, PTA**. This program ran once a week for four weeks, and provided children ages 2-7 an opportunity to engage in sports and gross motor skill development, working one-on-one with student volunteers. This program was hosted by local organization, InterServ.

**Dr. Pam Clary** accompanied 20 Social Work students to Meirehoffer's Funeral Home for a tour.

Eleven 2nd-year PTA students hosted a Baby Lab as part of the pediatric unit in PTA 260: Clinical Neurology, a course taught by **Dr. Maureen Holtz**. Children ages 3 months to 3 years visited the PTA Lab to participate in activities related to gross motor skill development.

Five PTA students, led by PTA Instructor **Amy Hallquist, PTA, MS**, participated in an interprofessional event at Rockhurst University in Kansas City with Doctor of Physical Therapy and Physical Therapy Assistant students. Students collaborated to complete case studies around role delegation in the clinical setting.

The **Organization of Student Social Workers** and the Social Work Program hosted a Brown Bag Lunch Seminar titled Narcan: Myths and Facts. The Social Work Program provided continuing education units (CEUs) to area professionals. Forty students, alumni, and community professionals were in attendance. KQ2 News covered the event.

The Nursing Department held a career fair for clinical partners. Clinical partners in attendance included St. Lukes, Liberty Hospital, Mosaic Life Care, University of Kansas Health, University Health, North Kansas City Hospital, and Children's Mercy KC. Thirty one fourth semester and thirty six third semester nursing students attended the career fair.

The Nursing Department created two Student Resource rooms designed to provide students a dedicated space to study. A Lactation Room has also been created and is accessible campus wide.

Nineteen nursing students attended Youth Mental Health First Aid Training this September. In this training they learned to assess and treat adolescents and teens experiencing mental health crises.

Twenty four first semester nursing students attend fit boxing classes at Freudenthal Center for Parkinson's Disease to help participants with exercises.

Third semester nursing students are providing health teaching presentations at local schools. Presentations include topics such as handwashing, CPR, dangers of vaping, energy drinks/nutrition, mental health, how to use an AED and dangers of fentanyl/narcotics use.

The **Organization of Student Social Workers (OSSW)** volunteered at the Sound of Speed AirShow. Also volunteering were 11 faculty and family members.

The **Organization of Student Social Workers (OSSW)** hosted the annual Change for Change Event. The proceeds help fund the Walk for the Homeless.

**Whitlea Castillo** and **Dr. Pam Clary** accompanied two Social Work classes to the YWCA to participate in the applied learning, In Her Shoes Simulation.

### **Griffon Office of Applied Learning**

Dr. Tilo Roy, Interim Director

**JALHE (Journal of Applied Learning in Higher Education) Volume 10** was published on October 8, 2024. This volume includes 9 peer-reviewed articles (the highest in the history of this journal), involving various aspects of applied learning. Contributors/authors include Missouri Western faculty members as well as faculty from other universities. One article has MWSU WildLife Conservation and Management major, Tyson Cook as the lead author, co-authored with Dr. Tilo Roy.

JALHE, from MWSU, is the only peer-reviewed journal published annually, entirely in-house, by a PUI in the state of Missouri.

**Dr. Roy** attended the **Society of Experiential Education (SEE) Annual Conference** in New Orleans, LA (Sep 23-25), and was involved in multiple round table discussions, as well as participated in a workshop on *The Fundamentals of Experiential Education*.

**Division or Office Name:** Advancement and the MWSU Foundation

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Mr. Marc Archambault, Vice President and Executive Director

**Date:** October 16, 2024

## **ADVANCEMENT**

With the Foundation's audit concluded, the final fiscal year 2024 fundraising numbers have been confirmed. We recorded a total of more than \$3.73 million in gift receipts, an increase of 230% year over year. Another \$4.3 million in new pledges were booked that will continue to generate future cash as those pledges are paid. This represents a 226% year over year increase. Gifts of \$10,000 or more grew by 27%.

Another especially promising trend has been our team's improving ability to attract more alumni donors. Building from 100 alumni donors in FY22, we attracted 118 in FY23 and 993 in FY24, an almost ten-fold increase over previous years. This success has largely been made possible by the University's restoration of our Director of Alumni Relations position as well as the team's adoption of fresh communication and solicitation strategies backed by increased emphasis on expanding the scope, audiences, and frequency of digital marketing communications

This fiscal year's strong start continues. As cited previously, the Foundation is expecting the realization of almost \$1.3 million in deferred gifts this fall for scholarships in education, business, and music. We are booking another \$650,000 in new gifts: Two gifts for the Houlne Center and a new planned gift for the Craig School of Business.

With figures compiled through the end of August, the number of donors for this fiscal year is nearly double last year's figure at this time, and gifted dollars are up by 65%. Especially encouraging, the number of gifts from first time donors is three times higher than this time last year and the number of dollars they gifted is five times higher.

The Houlne Center Ribbon Cutting event has been scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, November 15th. With the Governor unavailable, an invitation has been extended to the Lt. Governor of Missouri to attend and be our featured speaker. The Advancement office is organizing the event. The donor wall and bay signage will be installed by October 11th and additional recognition plaques have been ordered.

The Foundation and Alumni Boards, along with members of the KC Griffons Going Places program have been invited to a private tour of the Houlne Center on Saturday, October 19th. Tours were recently provided to the Admissions recruiting staff to better equip them to fulfill their roles. Additional tours will be scheduled for the broad campus community, coaches (who are also involved in recruiting), the University's Marketing Department, the Chamber of Commerce, and the MWSU University Council, which comprises all top volunteers and top donors.

A request will be submitted to the Board of Governors soon to name a portion of the atrium in the Houlne Center in recognition of a donation of \$100,000 to the Center's general fund. This space is south of the lobby area, across from the conference room. Another gift has been closed to name the Conference Room (for \$250,000), so an additional request will be made soon. These gifts will propel our private fundraising total for the Center to \$6.1 million to date. Another company, whose equipment we purchased, has looked at the signage opportunities and invited a proposal.

Donor Drew Brown was honored at a wonderful unveiling event on August 20th. Drew's daughter and granddaughter from Atlanta, GA were able to attend. A bronze bust and plaque were unveiled in recognition of his \$1 million gift given in 2019. As a surprise to Drew, President Kennedy announced the naming of the Drew Brown Art Gallery in his honor. Thank you to the Board of Governors for having previously approved this naming: he was very touched and surprised.

The Ambassadors Luncheon was held on September 18th with 63 guests attending. Dr. Adrienne Johnson gave a wonderful report about the Education Department and their efforts to train our students to become effective teachers. The Trivia Night event raised over \$600 for nontraditional student scholarships. The event was a collaboration between the Alumni Office and the Ambassadors. President Kennedy's team came out on top, which was not surprising! Buoyed by a handwritten letter campaign to renew members, the Ambassadors are on a pace to match or even exceed last year's all-time record membership. They are ahead of their calendar year 2024 fundraising targets. The next luncheon will be November 14 and will feature students who were recipients of Ambassador scholarships who will share stories about their educational journey.

Fall Phonathon efforts are underway. One dynamic student caller is engaging alumni to update records and ask for donations to the annual fund. He has received \$700 in pledges from 10 donors after only a few hours of calling.

The Fall Direct Mail solicitation was sent at the end of September and featured a student who will graduate from the Master's in Forensic Investigations who currently works as a Deputy in the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office. \$2,195 has been received from 29 donors to date.

## ALUMNI RELATIONS

As of August 2024, the Alumni Board now boasts 24 members eager to serve their alma mater. With their enthusiasm and support we look forward to engaging our alumni this year. Our retreat kicked off with goals to Inform, Involve and Invest with our over 30,000 alumni. The Alumni Office held a Meet & Greet with Military Service alumni with a Watch Party to follow for the first football game of the year on August 29. We had a great turnout and enjoyed watching the Griffons win! The Alumni Office also coordinated with Student Affairs and External Relations to welcome alumni at Family Day and the Sound of Speed Airshow.

Homecoming is almost here and our office has been planning and celebrating all of the wonderful alumni that we will be featuring over Homecoming weekend. We hope you can attend our Alumni Awards Banquet on the evening of Friday, October 18th. After the parade the following day please stop by our Tailgate in front of the Baker Fitness Center for a free lunch before the game.

## MWSU FOUNDATION

The Advancement and Foundation team continue to work with generous and visionary donors to streamline and energize the impact of existing funds at the Foundation. Two donors have agreed to realign their existing funds to support high impact institutional opportunities. One donor will realign \$200,000 from a nonessential program to the Houlne Center general fund, while another is moving \$200,000 to become an endowment for the Department of Education, where it can have even more impact.

The Missouri Western State University Foundation was proud to serve as a Silver Sponsor for the 2024 Sound of Speed Airshow on September 14-15 at Rosecrans Memorial Airport. The university had a strong presence, with representatives from Admissions, Nursing, and Alumni Relations engaging with the community. A highlight was the new STEM Pavilion, where MWSU's Biology and Chemistry faculty provided hands-on experiential displays. The event offered an excellent opportunity to showcase MWSU's academic strengths and connect with future students and alumni.

The Foundation continues to partner with the Financial Aid Office and Technology Services to implement a new scholarship management software. The new platform will allow greater flexibility, more strategic allocation of resources to achieve enrollment goals, an improved student experience, and superior scholarship donor engagement.

The Foundation Board of Directors approved the 2024 Foundation accounting audit which was conducted by CliftonLarsonAllen LLC. The audit process went very smoothly and produced an unmodified result.

Marc Archambault and Michele Chambers along with Board members Pat Modlin and Nick Robb will attend the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Foundation Leadership Conference in Washington D. C. in January. This conference has been very beneficial to previous attendees in learning more about how other institutions both in similar size and larger than the MWSU Foundation, conduct their business and discuss other opportunities that we might be able to implement here.

**Division or Office Name:** Enrollment Management (Office of Admissions)

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Jeffrey Foot, AVP Enrollment Management

**Date:** October 16, 2024

**Summary**

Fall 2024 freshman enrollment was 4% lower than the previous year. While new first-time students met expectations, transfer student enrollment saw a 23% increase. Overall, transfers from all 2 and 4-year schools rose by 9%.

Campus visits are healthy and getting busier for November with 700+ students booked into the end of the fall semester. Recruitment efforts include a new direct marketing campaign and recruiter travel starting.

**Enrollment**

At the end of week one of classes, Fall 2024 new freshman enrollment (includes new first time, returning, transfers from 2 and 4 year schools, and visiting students) was down 4% compared to the previous year. First time new students hit predictions with 563 (down from 598). However, freshmen transfer student enrollment is up 8 students to 35. Overall, transfers from all 2 and 4 year schools to all years (freshmen through senior) were up 9% to 195 new transfers compared to 179 last year.

**Campus Visits**

Overall, campus tours and visits have seen strong performance. Athletic tours had over 100 guests a piece each (135 guest for the Homecoming football tour). The Fall Griffon Experience had 77 students plus family members on October 12. Down slightly from last year, we are investigating timing and communications to improve this number for the following year. The campus tour is doing well.

**Table 1 – Campus tours and events from August 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024**

Type of Visit	Group Tours	Campus Tour Attendance	Total
Who	Four tours: 46	Students: 129 Guests: 103	Students: 175 Guests: 103
Total	46	232	<b>278</b>

**Operations**

**Spring 2025 Freshmen and Transfer:** Equal to numbers from last year for committed students, we are now getting January GO registrations comms out.

**Fall 2025 Freshmen:** Prospects and inquiries are up year over year currently and we have refined and focused on conversions of inquiries to applications with mailings, email, and SMS campaigns.

**Recruitment**

As of October 17, our team completed the bulk of their travel for the fall during students recruitment fair season. We attended 136 fairs with 55 high school visits. Our focus turns to FAFSA and application nights into the end of October and November in the local schools. Our recruiters and financial aid staff have been and will be hitting the local schools.

**Division or Office Name:** Division of Student Affairs

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Dr. Robert Goltra III, Vice President and Dean of Students

**October 24, 2024**

The Vice President and Dean of Students supports the University's mission of student-centered learning through advocacy, services, and programs. The office's goal is to provide personal development, encourage wellness, protect student rights, and promote ethical behavior. We strive to enhance student wellness and promote ethical behavior through data-driven and strategic programming. Our Griffon Gold Community Standards is one such program that has improved student recognition and the residential life climate at MWSU.

### *Career Development Center*

The Career Development Center (CDC) onboarded a new Director. Kristen Neeley, an MWSU alumnus, started on September 16, 2024. She has 19 years of higher education experience. The CDC is also in the process of hiring two student employees who will serve 10 hours each. These student positions focus on increasing engagement with students and employer services.

Missouri Western State University utilizes Handshake as our career platform. Employers can post job or internship opportunities and sign up to attend a career fair. Students use their Missouri Western credentials to create an account and upload their resume. Employers can reach out to students, and the CDC can provide feedback on resumes through Handshake. To learn more, you may visit <https://missouriwestern.joinhandshake.com/login>.

The Griffon Interview Suite provides students with a quiet and professional space on campus with a stable landline and internet to call employers or engage in telephone and online interviews. Students also are offered interview prep through an online tool called Big Interview. Big Interview is a free online system that combines expert training and practice available 24/7 to help improve interview techniques and build student confidence. To learn more, you may visit <https://www.biginterview.com/>. As students transition from preparing for their interview to an actual interview opportunity, the CDC offers a Career Closet with over 200 pieces of professional clothing, shoes, and accessories for students at no cost. There is a garment steamer for students to utilize. Students who may be undecided regarding their career choice have several free to students options through our CDC. Our career exploration supports include online tools such as Traitfy, the Strong Interest Survey, or Clifton Strengths Assessment as part of their career exploration. To learn more, you may visit: <https://www.traitify.com/>

Upcoming CDC events include Criminal Justice, Legal Studies, Public Service & Non-Profit Career Fair on October 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Blum Union 218/219. 26 employers have RSVPed to attend this event. 24 employers attended last fall. We expect 30-40 students to attend. The CDC is partnering with the Department of Criminal Justice & Legal Studies and the Law Enforcement Academy. A Teacher Recruitment Fair is scheduled for November 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fulkerson Center. The Teacher Education Advisory Board (TEAB) meeting will be in the morning and the Teacher Recruitment Fair will follow the



meeting. Approximately 26 school districts and employers attended last fall. We expect 35-45 students to attend. This event is open to students within the Education field and students who are interested in learning more about teacher certifications. The CDC is partnering with the Department of Education and the TEAB. The 5th Annual Communications Career Night is on November 13th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Blum Union 218/219. Approximately 19 Missouri Western alumni within the communications workforce attended the event last fall. Currently, 17 Missouri Western alum employers have RSVPed to attend this event. We are expecting 50-60 students to attend. The CDC is partnering with the Department of Communications and Alumni Services.

Over the past three weeks, the CDC director has hosted introduction meetings with several employers and Missouri Western campus partners. Employers include Altec, Boehringer Ingelheim, St. Joseph Police Department, Missouri Department of Revenue, 12Twenty, Enterprise, and ScribeAmerica. Kristen completed a Resume Workshop for 80+ students in GBA 110 sections, conducted 15 campus partner/stakeholder meetings, and met individually with over 10 students to discuss career exploration/resume building.

#### *Center for Military & Veterans Services*

The Center for Military and Veterans Services (CMVS) director for military and veteran services took 12-month military leave effective July 16th, 2024. However, the center remains open and is staffed by an administrative assistant to serve our qualifying students and support prospective students' inquiries. Multiple offices have combined resources to provide supports to our military student population during this time of leave.

The CMVS hosted a 911 Memorial Stair Climb, which brought together local emergency responders and community members to pay tribute to the 343 firefighters who gave their lives during the tragic events at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The climb replicates the distance to the equivalent of the 78th floor of the World Trade Center towers, which is the highest floor firefighters reached on 9/11

Link to 911 Memorial Stair Climb photos:

<https://missouriwestern.smugmug.com/2024-2025/MWSU-911-Memorial-Stair-Climb-Fall-2024>

CMVS was represented by MWSU employee Angie Osbourn at the recent NAVPA Conference, which brings together SCOs and top officials from the US Department of Education, VA Central Office, House and Senate VA Committees, and others across the US. NAVPA provides testimony at congressional hearings and helps provide input to lawmakers and the Department of VA regarding VA education benefits. Additionally, sessions at this conference can count toward our annual SCO training requirements.

MWSU's CMVS will also be represented at the Missouri National Guard University Day on November 7th in Jefferson City, MO. This event will include briefs from our State & Federal Tuition Assistance specialists, presentations from our MOVES (MO Veteran Education Specialists) group, and information regarding the proposed changes to the Missouri Returning Heroes Act. These are all things that are not covered in any of our other training.

## *Center for Diversity & Inclusion*

MWSU's Western Warmup, a first week of the fall semester event, connects students with on-campus and local community resources to support their journey as students at MWSU. The Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) hosted a table to connect with new students, answer questions, and highlight the importance of inclusivity and support on our campus. At the table, students received valuable insights into the various programs offered by the CDI, including initiatives aimed at fostering inclusivity and community engagement. Additionally, resource information was provided about our campus cupboard and our interfaith and meditation room, a dedicated space for reflection and spiritual practice.

A safe space for our students who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community is provided through the CDC. A meeting space and group identified as the Lavender Lounge provides a welcoming and affirming environment where students may connect, express themselves, and find support. This inclusive community hub fosters understanding, encourages collaboration, and promotes mental well-being. By offering resources, events, and a sense of belonging, the Lavender Lounge plays a crucial role in empowering students to embrace their identities and thrive during their college experience.

The St. Joseph community recently held its 28th annual Day of Commitment to Eliminate Racism breakfast at the YWCA. This event is hosted as a collaborative, uniting the YWCA, NAACP, and Missouri Western State University's CDI. The gathering emphasized the community's dedication to promoting racial equity and understanding. Attendees witnessed the mayor's proclamation, reinforcing the city's commitment to these vital values. The Kelsy Beshears Award honored multiple reporters of color from Newspress and KQ2 for their impactful journalism, highlighting the importance of diverse voices in media. Additionally, MWSU recognized Abigayle Lykins as the Kelsy Beshears Scholarship recipient for her outstanding community service, showcasing the next generation of leaders dedicated to fostering positive change.

In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, MWSU's CDI, in collaboration with the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS-student organization), hosted the Hispanic Heritage Banquet on October 2nd. The event featured guest speaker Lisandra Guerra Rodriguez, a World Champion and Olympic Cyclist, who shared her inspiring journey. Attendees enjoyed live music from the Kansas City Latin Jazz Orchestra. CDI and ALAS also partnered to participate in the Hispanic Heritage Festival in St. Joseph. A booth was set up where attendees learned more about the university's commitment to diversity. As a fundraiser for ALAS, delicious Horchata donated by Aramark were sold to the community at this event.

Upcoming CDI activities include participating in and supporting this year's Homecoming Alumni Choir and the Student Wellness Fair, as well as assisting at the Criminal Justice, Legal Studies, Public Service & Non-Profit Fair. Contemporary student recognition week, mindfulness and meditation session, a tour of the Native American Museum, and an international student fair are just a few of the opportunities the CDI is engaging our student body in the coming months.

### *Center for Service*

The Center for Service and SGA hosted the 4th Annual Griffs Give Back Day of Service on Friday, September 13. This year's theme was 9 Miles in 90 Minutes, and the challenge was exceeded because of our tremendous turnout of volunteers. 177 students, faculty, and staff turned out to beautify St. Joseph from the entrance of Krug Park, down St. Joseph Avenue, through downtown and down 12th Street to Atchison Street and down King Hill over to Hyde Park and down to Green Hills Shopping Plaza. Because of our large number of participants, we added a bus on the day of the event, and they were able to cover the area of 22nd Street from Frederick to 36 Highway. Third graders from Lindbergh Elementary School came out to their playground. They were able to meet Griffon Lacrosse players and learn about the importance of keeping their neighborhood free of litter. Participants went to Bartlett Park for a picnic lunch courtesy of Aramark. Special thanks to Buchanan County Commissioner Ron Hook for picking up the 80 trash bags of litter and two tires we collected and to the City of St. Joseph for letting us borrow litter grabbers and other supplies for our event. This event encourages teamwork, communication, a sense of community, and pride in giving back to the community. Olivia, a freshman from Stewartsville, said, "It felt nice to be in the community and be able to make a difference." Montana, a Junior from St. Joseph, said of the day, "I hope people can see how important it is to have a heart of service and be able to help out the community."

G.I.V.E. Gold Friday events for September and October have included events at Second Harvest Community Food Bank, Open Door Food Kitchen, Mount Mora Cemetery, the Fill the Van Food Drive at Hy-Vee, and the Robidoux Row Museum. Our annual Campus Beautification Day, part of Homecoming Week, will take place next Wednesday.

### *Center for Student Involvement*

The Center for Student Involvement (CSI) has implemented numerous activities and initiatives throughout the Fall 2024 semester for our MWSU students and their families. The semester began with more than 1400 students participating in our 2024 Fall Welcome Week, which included Back 2 School Bingo, a movie night, our annual Splash Blash, Western Warm Up, College Colors Day, and a new event titled Sweet and Spicy Nigh which provide students a chance to participate in a buffalo wings eating contest as well as students being able to create unique recipes in which to flavor their wings.

The CSI partnered with the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Liberal Arts faculty to host a non-partisan Constitution Day event called "The Path to 270- President Politics and the Electoral College." This event focused on how the presidential election works and allowed students to see what a solid collaboration between staff and faculty can be. A large gathering of students, faculty, and staff filled Blum 218 for this event, meeting the federal requirement to recognize Constitution Day and highlighting the significance of voting as our nation nears the next presidential election. This year's Family Day was held on September 14th, with over 500 attendees participating in a range of activities from campus tours to Esports Lab activities to a monarch butterfly tagging experience to a hypnotist show; there was truly something for everyone.

The CSI also houses our student-led Griffon Activity Programming (GAP), whose efforts were on full display throughout our 2024 Homecoming Week. The chosen theme, “Haunted Homecoming,” produced numerous events designed to help students uniquely engage with peers. The activities included; Boo Bingo, Fear Factor Food Challenge, Campus Beautification Day, Fearful and Formal Homecoming Dance, Griffon Graveyard Scavenger Hunt, a Drive-In Movie Night, and our homecoming parade.

The opportunity for students to put on these activities and engage in our events were captured through one student sharing the following: “Working with GAP and the CSI has helped me connect with my peers, faculty, and staff. As a marketing student, I am participating in applied learning while president of the Griffon Activity Programming board. It is enriching to connect with so many others and bring smiles to people's faces on campus. If not for these co-curricular experiences, I would not be in such a great position as a student leader and an individual who is about to enter the workforce”. - Calin London, MWSU GAP leader

### *Counseling Center*

Missouri Western State University implemented the Year 1 College Behavior Profile for all students who attended Griffon Edge (new MWSU students event) this year.

The Year 1 CBP is a training program for pre-matriculated freshmen students aimed at educating them about alcohol and cannabis use. The online training takes about 20 minutes and includes a questionnaire to assess the student’s current use of both alcohol and cannabis. Specific education about campus policies and resources are provided. Additionally, students are given feedback about their current use as it relates to other first-year students at our campus. This data is taken from the Missouri Assessment of Collegiate Health Behaviors that MWSU students participate in on a yearly basis in the spring semester. MWSU received a report of the substance use and abuse behaviors reported by our students, which allows for the implementation of more effective prevention strategies in the first several months students are on campus.

For National Suicide Prevention Month in September, the Counseling Center hosted Stress Less Fest on September 24th. Stress Less Fest was an interactive opportunity for various offices throughout campus to host stress reduction activities. This event marked the 4th week of a new semester when stress typically begins to show up in our students who are learning to balance school, work, and life in general for the first time on their own. Twelve offices and organizations across campus took part in this year’s event. The Counseling Center was able to hand out almost 200 bags of “Stress Less” goodies. Each “Stress Less” bag contained a variety of items to promote mental health and to help our students cope with stress in a healthy way. In addition to these items, each bag also included a handout with information on various resources to show our students where to seek help for themselves or for a friend during a mental health crisis. Link to Stress Less photos:<https://missouriwestern.smugmug.com/2024-2025/Stress-Less-Fest-Fall-2024>

### *Housing and Residential Life*

The student-led Residence Hall Association (RHA) surveyed students this time last year to determine potential opportunities to improve the residential experience. An item identified was students' concerns related to the cost of on-campus laundry services. Specifically their

dissatisfaction with having to manually load money to a laundry app and/or the difficulty with using quarters in our laundry machines. Housing and Residence Life in partnership with the RHA and university administration, were able to provide a more efficient and quality approach to our laundry services by building in laundry costs into the cost of housing while providing students with a service that allows them to access laundry machines by swiping their student ID; hence, dissolving the need for spending money on a laundry app and locating and using quarters. Our students have identified this as an upgrade to their residential life experience. Housing and Residence also acted upon the student demand for additional single room requests by designating the fourth floor of Scanlon Hall as a location to house more single occupancy space. This proved a popular option as the university added 43 single-room requests, providing additional revenues and satisfying occupants.

Housing and Residence Life has been meeting weekly over the past four months with an approved vendor to implement a new room management system. StarRez, a well-known best-in-class residence life management system, will greatly enhance the room and roommate selection experience for prospective and current students and provide numerous additional customer-friendly features.

The Griffon Gold Community Standards (GGCS) have been in place since students returned to campus this past September. In partnership with the Missouri Western Foundation, Housing and Residence Life recognized four GGCS Students of the Month and two Resident Assistants of the Month at a recent MWSU volleyball game. The partnership with MWSU athletics to recognize students at a home athletics event brought students' immediate and extended families to campus to enjoy a volleyball match and see their students recognized by the university. One student's parents even shared the recognition in their local newspaper on its social media (Bates County Newswire-MidAmerican Live).

Housing applications for the Spring 2025 semester will open on StarRez on November 1, 2024.

### *Esry Health Center*

In the first three weeks of the semester, the Esry Health Center (EHC) assessed and treated 84 patients, with half of them being new to MWSU students for the Fall '24 semester. Many of the new students were scheduled earlier in the month via EHCs involvement in residential life's freshman move-in day. Students who had not yet met the vaccination requirements were rerouted to EHC staff to discuss the necessary medical requirements before moving in on August 21st. Blum Union's tabling successfully collected 65 immunization records, 26 ShowMeVax (Mo Immunization database) records were retrieved, four meningitis vaccinations were given in the Health Center, and one tuberculosis lab test was performed. The EHCs electronic health record provides a secure pathway to track housing/residential life immunization compliance for health services. At the beginning of the Fall '24 semester, meningitis compliance was at 89.1% for new housing students, and tuberculosis screening/testing compliance for all students was at 93.2%. The EHC continues to support our nursing department with their community health capstone clinical; this partnership will see two nursing students completing their community health clinical this fall semester. The student wellness fair is scheduled for Oct. 23rd with the SWF committee providing free flu vaccines, swag, t-shirts, education, games/activities, music, and food to our student body.

**Division or Office Name:** Marketing and Communication

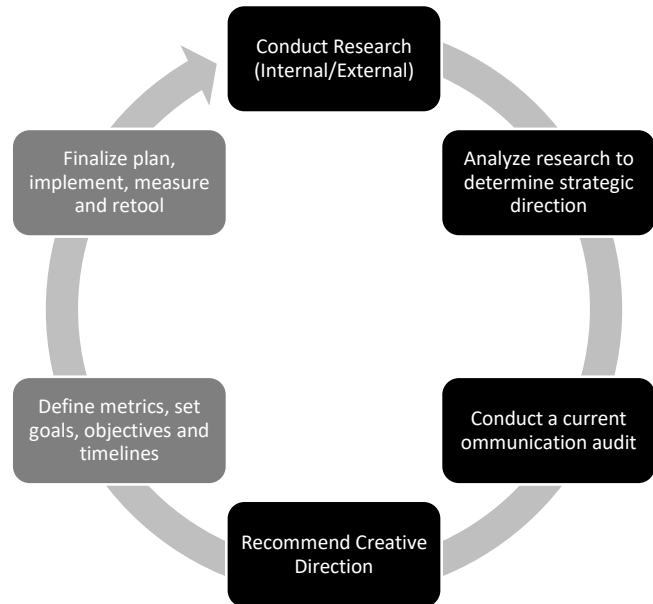
**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Tama Wagner, Chief Assistant for Strategic Initiatives

**Date:** October 16, 2024

### Yoodle Creative Direction

We have completed reviewing the Creative Direction recommended by Yoodle. The creative options went through a four-round internal approval process, which included President Kennedy, The President’s Cabinet, Marketing/Communications, Admissions and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Governors.

As a reminder, Yoodle used the voice of the customer, collected through discovery sessions (focus groups) and surveys, to develop brand position and brand rules to reach the creative direction.



Moving forward our public facing creative will be: **More at MO West**. The rationale for this direction is it will easily adapt to many contexts, points and phrases. It will communicate there is more the Missouri Western than people may have thought and there’re more available – more programs and more opportunities. It will also subtly counter concerns about the refocused direction.

Here are some variations of the creative hook: Experience More, Be More, Do More and Learn More.

The next step for Yoodle is to develop the creative treatments, templates and a brand guide. They’ll pass that work onto our Marketing/Communications and Admissions staff for implementation.

Our next step is to define metrics, set goals, objectives and timelines. Then finally to implement an organizational marketing strategy, measure and retool.

### **New! Proactive focus in Marketing/Communications**

We’re developing a priority list for Marketing/Communications to help organize our work. The goal is to operate as an in-house advertising agency and to proactively meet with “clients” – programs and departments to create marketing plans. Then set budgets reflecting the priority

status which may include, but not limited to new programs, existing programs with significant marketing potential, or something unique which differentiates Missouri Western from its competitors. I want to thank Kent Heier and Samantha Fowler for being flexible and embracing this new direction.

## **Marketing data**

### **August 1 – September 30, 2024**

A total of 324 projects requested including 63 design requests (about 1 per day) and 206 web requests (almost 3.5 per day). Thanks to Graphic Design Coordinator Ian Wilson and Web Design Coordinator Jace Guyer for the work they do.

### **Social media metrics**

- Followers: Facebook up 72, Instagram up 164, LinkedIn up 244, TikTok up 80
- Engagement: Facebook up 2.7%, Instagram up 39.1%, LinkedIn down 3.3%
- Impressions: Facebook up 13.3%, IG up 38.6%, LinkedIn down 18.3%
  - The content that got the most engagement on social media during that period:
    - Facebook: Alum opens new Auntie Anne's, final day of Chiefs camp
    - Instagram: Move-in Day, Griffon Edge, First day of classes
    - LinkedIn: Move-in Day, final day of Chiefs camp
    - TikTok: Chiefs camp

**Division or Office Name:** Athletics

**Name and Title of Person Submitting:** Andy Carter; Director of Athletics

**Date:** October 16, 2024

The 2024 Rogers Pharmacy Missouri Western State University Hall of Fame will be held Friday, November 1, 2024 with a private reception for the inductees followed by dinner and the induction ceremony at 7 p.m.

The 2024 Hall of Fame class includes six individuals and two trailblazing teams. It will be an exciting evening of celebrating past Griffons and their achievements.

Our students continue to serve our community in various ways. A few examples...Men's & Women's Golf have done greetings at local schools, the Football team served at a luncheon at the Word of Life Church, and our SAAC will be hosting a Trick or Treat Event on October 27<sup>th</sup> following the Women's Soccer match. The match starts at 1pm and the Trick or Treat event will be held in the old gym in the Looney Complex starting at 4pm.

I am very proud of our student-athletes and coaching staffs for their hard work, preparation and production on the fields, courts and fairways. Our falls team sports have set a tremendous pace of success with our Women's Soccer program earning a program best start (11-0-1, 6-0) after a statement win (1-0) over #5 nationally-ranked University of Central Missouri. Our ladies currently sit atop the standings in the ever-difficult MIAA conference and are now nationally-ranked at #20.

Women's Volleyball is also off to a tremendous start to their season (14-4, 5-2) after defeating #11 nationally-ranked University of Central Oklahoma. They are starting to receive votes at the national level, So I expect us to crash the top 25 soon.

Football overcame a few weeks of inconsistent performances to defeat the University of Central Missouri 38-28 to get us back on track. After playing five of their first seven games on the road, our football team now closes their season with four consecutive home games with the University of Nebraska-Kearney (Homecoming), the University of Central Oklahoma (Hall of Fame), Northwest Missouri State University and Quincy University (Senior Day).

Men's & Women's Cross-Country will host the MIAA Championships on our home course on October 26, 2024. Our Men are currently ranked #10 in most recent Midwest Regional ranking.

Basketball season is upon us as our Women's Basketball program will open the Ashton Feldhaus era with an exhibition game at the University of Iowa on October 30, 2024. Their official opening games will be in a cross-over tournament hosted by the St. Joseph Sports Commission at Civic Arena on November 8 & 9. The Men's Basketball program will open their season at the NCAA D2 Tip-off Classic in Canyon, TX on November 1 & 2 and will play at home in the Hilyard Classic on November 8 & 10.

It is a very exciting time to be part of MWSU and a great time to be a Griffon!



Report of the Student Governor, Garrett Jackson  
24 October, 2024

### Student Government Association

- Israel Lovins stepped down as president of SGA.
- Sara Yarbrough is the new president of SGA.
- Grace Allen is the new vice-president of SGA.
- New SGA RSO requirements for RSOs. RSOs must obtain a set amount of volunteer service hours every month in order to receive SGA funding.
- New Respiratory Therapy club (RSO) approved by SGA Congress.

### Student Governor Business

- Continued meeting with students regarding their positives and negatives.
- I changed offices. I have made myself comfortable in Blum 228D. My office hours are 1-3 P.M. on Mondays and Thursdays.

### *Conferences/Meetings/Events Attended*

- Board of Governors Meeting
- PFOC Meeting
- Met with Robert Goltra, Vice President of Student Affairs
- MWSU Splash Bash
- Renewal 9-Square Night x2
- AGC Meeting/meeting with Dr. Boong Ryoo
- SGA Congress Meetings x3



---

**Report of the President  
to the Board of Governors**

---

## **Report to the Board of Governors**

**October 24, 2024**

### Introduction

At this writing, the MWSU Fall 2024 semester is nearly two-thirds completed, with roughly four weeks until our fall break and, following that, only one week of instruction and one week of final exams before our campus settles down for our winter break. We have enjoyed a vibrant, exciting, and engaging semester, as evident in the division reports herein. As always, fall commencement serves as our capstone event, and we are all looking forward to celebrating with our graduating students their many successes and achievements.

### Status of the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Search

Vice President Archambault has been working diligently with Isaacson, Miller and search committee members to finalize this search. At this point, a list of semi-finalists has been drafted, with on-campus interviews being scheduled. Ideally, we hope to be able to fill this position with a January 2025 start, however, that possibility will be determined when the finalist is determined. More information will be shared with Governors as it becomes available.

### Status of the Search for the Dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies (CBPS)

Interim Provost Hyer has been working closely with Academic Search and members of this search committee to move this search forward. To remind Governors, members include Dr. Monty Smith (Criminal Justice & Legal Studies) Dr. Boong Yeol Ryoo, the chair of the Department of Engineering Technology, Ms. Jessica Searcy (Craig School of Business), Dr. Amit Verma (Craig School of Business) and Dr. Haruka Konishi (Education). Vice President Archambault is serving as the business/industry/alumni liaison to ensure that external viewpoints from relevant individuals are collected. Additionally, I continue my conversations with a variety of stakeholders regarding the next Dean of CBPS, most notably with Mr. Steve Craig, Mr. Tom Payne, and others. Additionally, Mrs. Suzanne Kissock has been serving as Interim Dean in order to fulfill the administrative duties required to manage the college. More information about the status of this search will be shared with Governors as it becomes available.

### Status of the Search for the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing

As has been reported to and discussed with Governors, MWSU is searching for a Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing. Vice President Holt is leading this search, along with search committee members: Haley Lindsey (Financial Aid); Kent Heier (Marketing and Communications); John Vanderpool (Residence Life); Katie Jenkins (Admissions); Roberta Foster (Admissions); Jamie Sweiger (Admissions); and Jean Foster (Campus Events). At this point, first-round candidates are being interviewed in order to create a list of semi-finalists, who will be invited to campus for interviews. As this process moves forward, the status of the search will be shared with Governors.

### Ribbon Cutting for the Houlne Center for Convergent Technology

As Governors are aware, the name of our new technology center is that of alum Mr. Tim Houlne, class of 1986, who very generously donated \$3M in support of this project. I would be remiss if I

did not remind all that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Houlne Center for Convergent Technology will be held on November 15, 2024. This event represents both the culmination of efforts from so many individuals who helped bring this project to fruition, as well as tangible evidence of the University's intentional shift toward meeting our regions' workforce needs through technology-based, professional degree programs. Clearly, the level of project funding secured from both the public and private sectors illustrates how strongly our local, regional, and state-wide partners support this. Additionally, growth in our programs such as Nursing, Cybersecurity, Respiratory Therapy, Biology and Chemistry, and Social Work reflect increasing student demand for these career paths. Governors should note that, as of fall 2024 semester, slightly over 50% of our current students are enrolled in a STEM program.

Further, I was invited by DHEWD Commissioner Ben Boggs to present at the *50 Years of Forging Futures with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education* celebration in Saint Louis on October 1-2. Commissioner Boggs requested that I share the story of our Houlne Center for Convergent Technology; those in attendance included state representatives and senators, congressmen, former CBHE Chairs (including Mr. Lowell Kruse, who traveled to Saint Louis with me), several former DHEWD commissioners, university presidents and other cabinet members (e.g., Truman State, UM, UCM, Harris Stowe, UMKC), and leaders from community colleges including the president/CEO of the Missouri Community College Association. Dr. Klaver of NCMC joined me on stage as well. My presentation was well received, and I was very pleased by the feedback I received.

#### House Special Interim Committee on Higher Education Performance Funding – Institutional Workgroup

As reported to Governors in earlier communications, the House Special Interim Committee on Higher Education Performance Funding Committee, chaired by Representative Brenda Shields and with Representatives John Black, Ed Lewis, Kevin Windham, and Mark Sharp, has been working with the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD) and the state's higher education institutions to develop a performance funding model that could be utilized to determine budget appropriations by our legislature state. Vice President Holt and I continue our work with the House Special Committee as part of its Institutional Workgroup. Governors should note that implementation of any performance funding model approved at the state level will not be done until pilot testing (without budget implications) has been performed and discussed with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE), DHEWD, and institutional workgroup members, most likely not until FY28.

#### Community Engagement and Relations

I continue my efforts to connect MWSU with the City of Saint Joseph and the Northwest Missouri region. My time is devoted toward developing key relationships and sharing the true story about MWSU's good works as broadly as possible with our community.

I was proud to represent MWSU at the YWCA's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Commitment to Eliminate Racism Breakfast. Several other MWSU staff attended and one of our own students, a leader in the MWSU student RSO /chapter of the NCAAP, authored an original poem and read it to the gathering to commemorate the occasion.

One of our new traditions in the President's Office is to hold, "Cookies with the President," which are informal, come-and-go receptions for employees new to MWSU, which are held in our front office reception area. Held quarterly, these gatherings have been wonderful venues for me to interact with new folks in a friendly, casual environment. Additionally, new employees get to meet others who are new to our University, learn more about other departments, and expand their network of colleagues. Our last event was on September 26<sup>th</sup>. If Governors are interested in attending a "cookie" reception, please reach out to Betsy; she'll share specific dates/times and make sure that you are included.

I was asked by Mayor John Josendale to participate in the City's search for a new City Manager. As such, I was interviewed on September 27<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Jeff Tyne, Sr. Vice President of SGR, an executive recruitment firm that assists local governments in their leadership searches. The City Manager is a very important position not only for Saint Joseph but also for MWSU, as the relationship our two entities have built together is critical for the community's prosperity and the University's ability to continue moving forward.

Speaking of the departure of former City Manager Bryan Carter, I have been asked to step into his vacated role as Co-Chair of the Community Alliance. I am pleased to do so and look forward to working with Community Alliance Director Tom Brand for the benefit of our community, of which MWSU plays an important role in promoting the City of Saint Joseph.

### Summary

MWSU is moving forward with clear direction and sure purpose. The strong and abundant evidence provided in the reports herein unequivocally reinforce this statement.

I greatly appreciate the time, assistance, and positive support that the Governors routinely provide to ensure that the University continues on this trajectory. Your positive promotion of MWSU and your service as University ambassadors to share our good story is an invaluable component of our continued success.

To all those individuals who truly support MWSU, I am incredibly grateful.