

Missouri State
UNIVERSITY

University Council

May 5, 2026

Welcome

Campus Infrastructure Upgrades

May 5th, 2026



Mark S. Wheeler – AIA, LEED AP
University Architect and Director of Planning, Design and Construction



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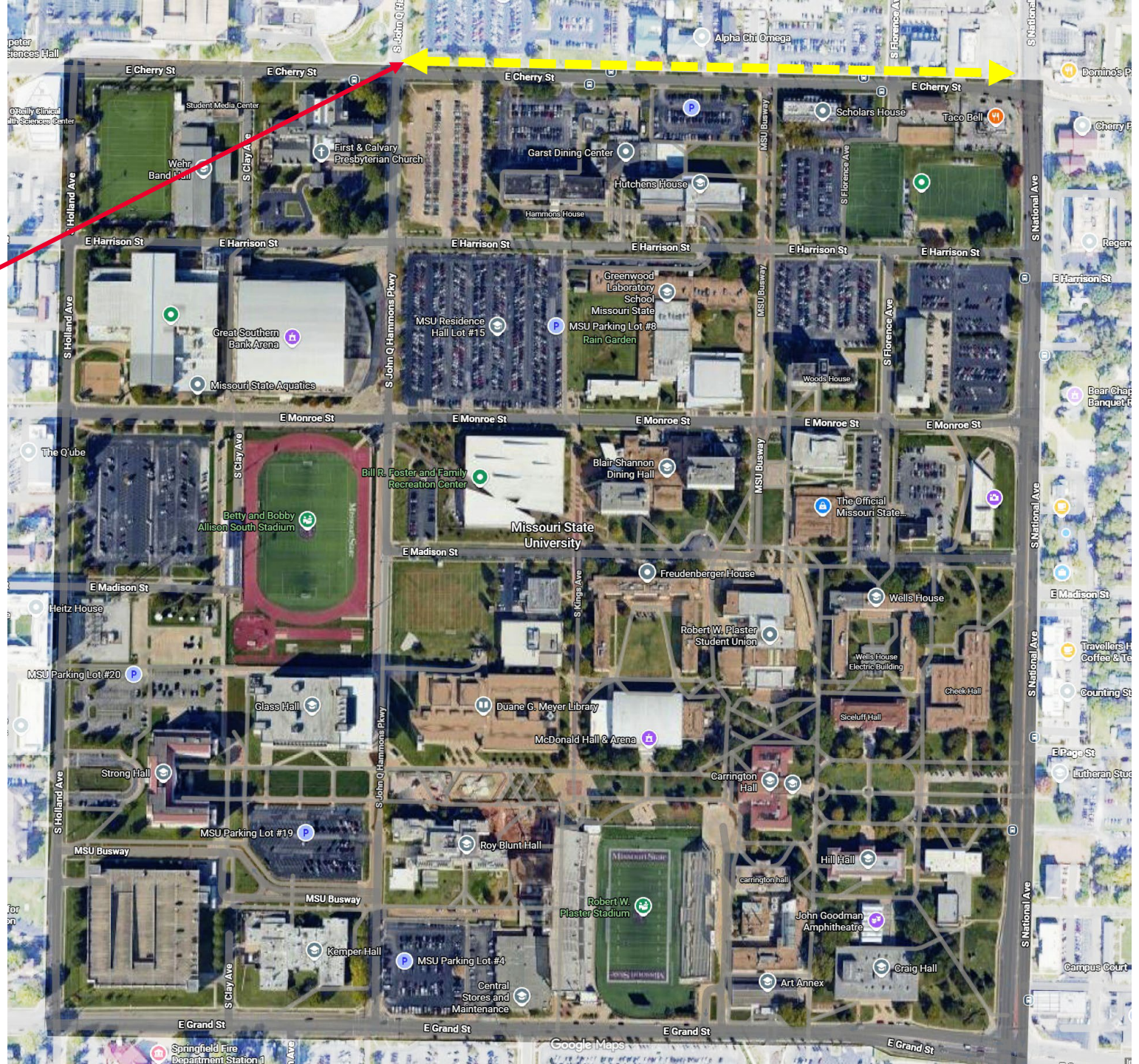
CU water/gas replacement
JQH + National Ave.
CU Start July 1st
Construction Timeline: 4-5 months

MSU Property Impacts:

- Hammons House
- Garst Dinning Center
- Hutchens House
- Scholars House

Non-MSU Property Impacts:

- Greek Row
- Private Apartments



FY26 Parking

Carrington Drive Circle Replacement

May 9th – June 1st

MSU Property Impacts:

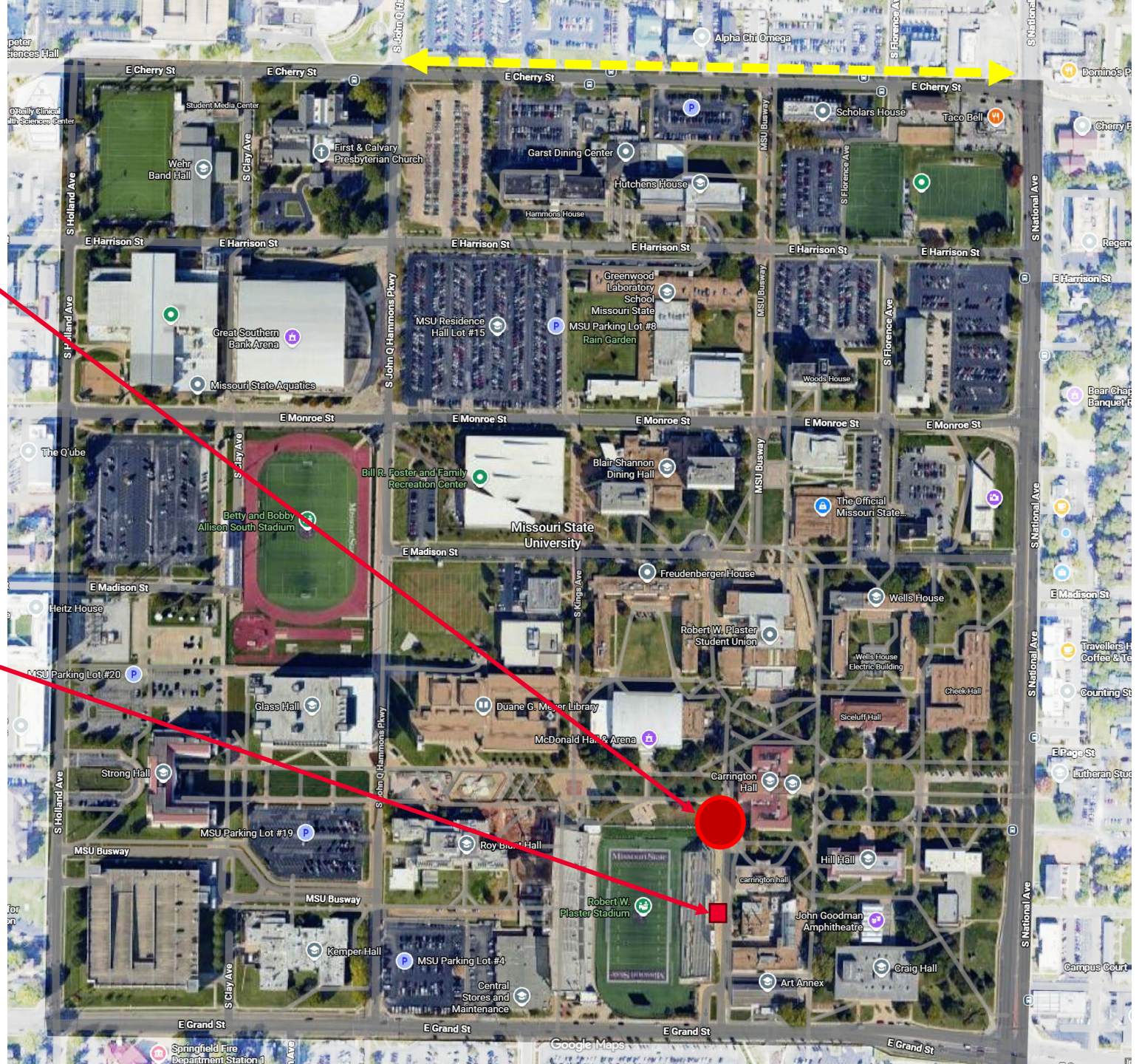
- Transit Way / Bus Route

East Bleacher Railing

May 9th

MSU Property Impacts:

- Transit Way / Bus Route



FY26 Parking



FY26 Parking

FY26 Parking Lot Maintenance

- Lot 21 (Res Life-North Hutchens)
- Lot 35 (Commuter)
- Lot 44 (Reserved)
- Bear Park North 43
- Bear Park South 38

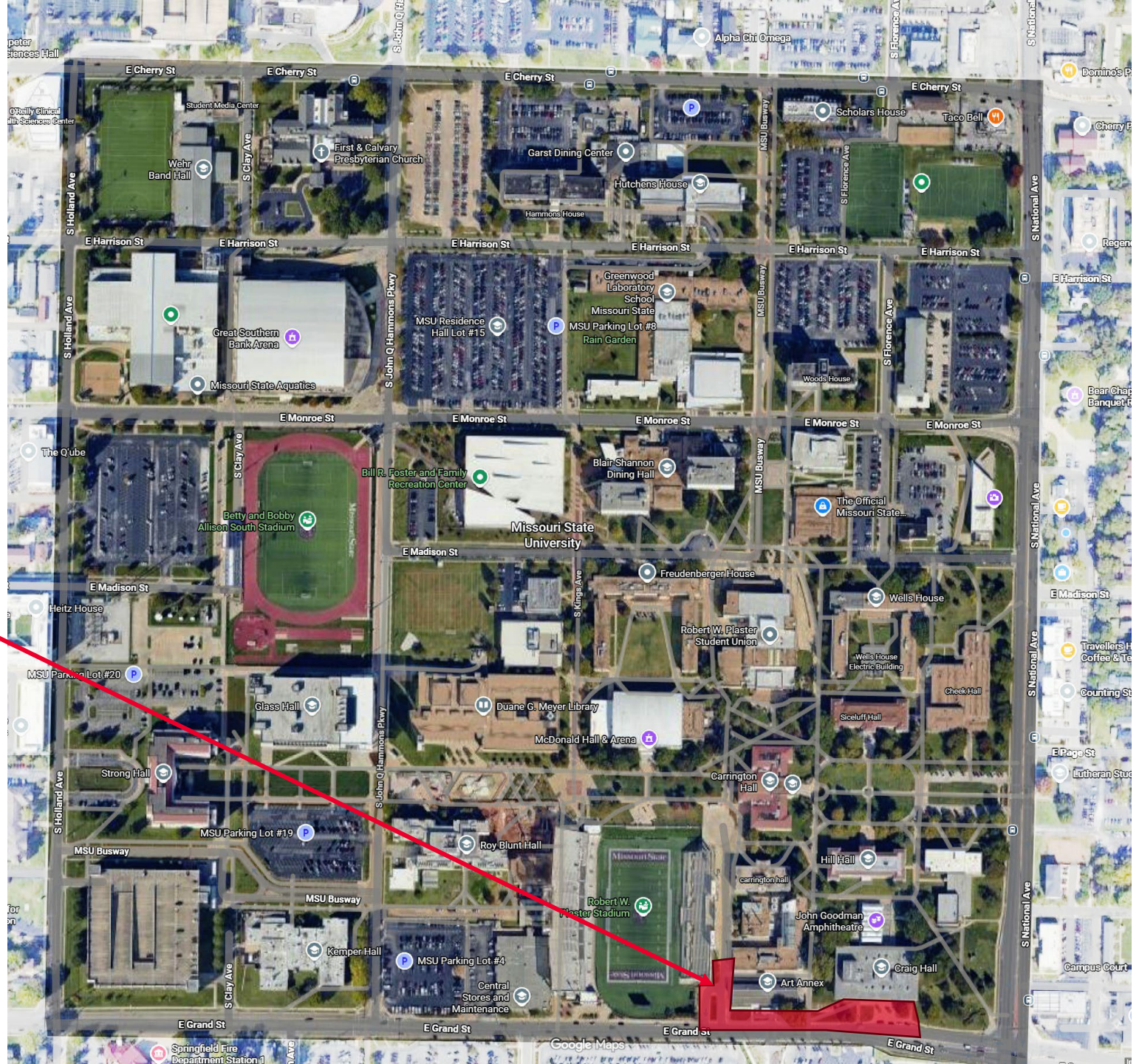
Roy Blunt Hall

- Briggs St
- Parking Lot 18A (Commuter)



Judith Enyeart Reynolds Complex

Grand Street



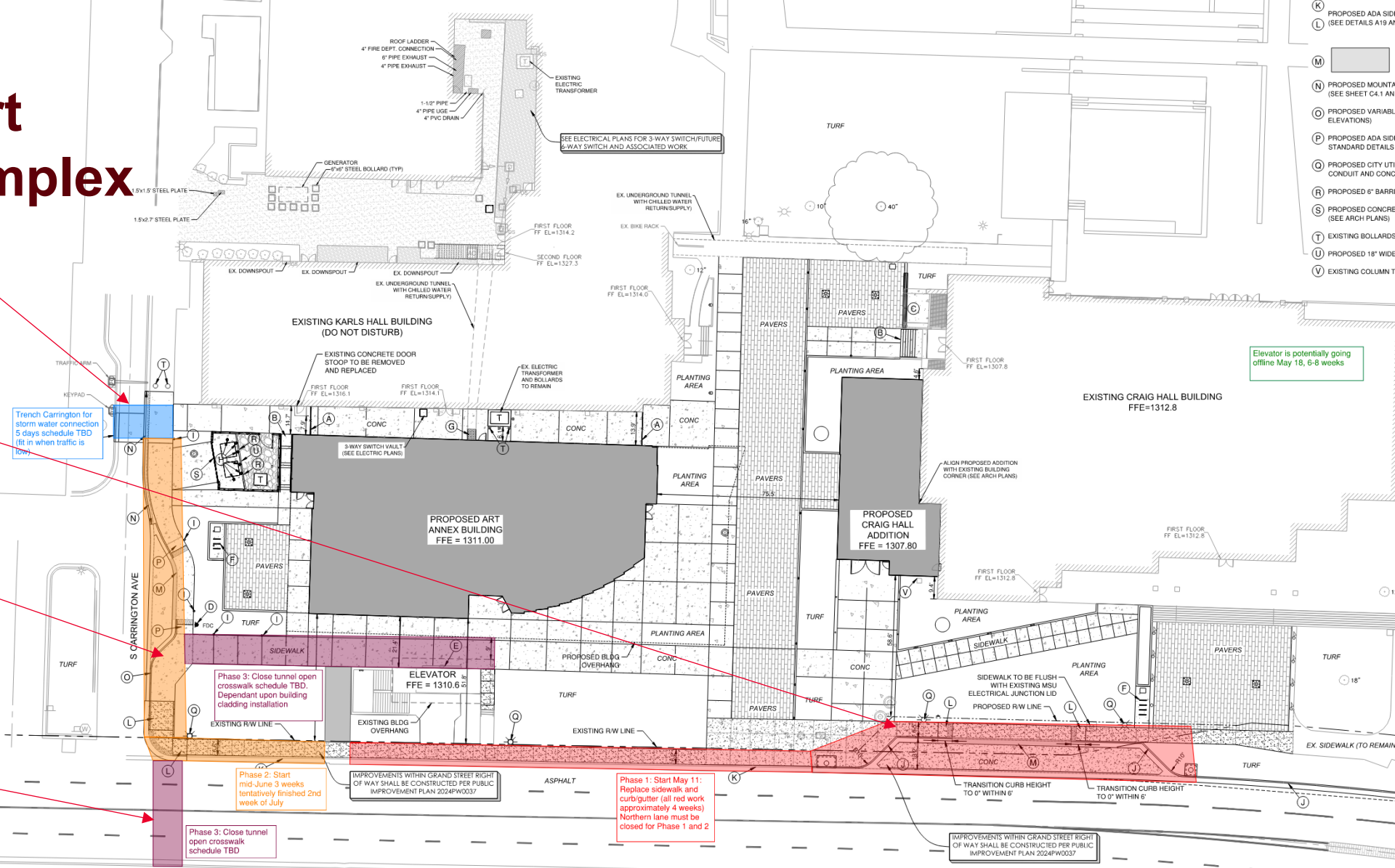
Judith Enyeart Reynolds Complex

Phase I: Storm Water Connection
Start: First of June

Phase II: Sidewalk
Start May 11th
4-5 weeks
North lane closed (II&III)

Phase III:
Start: Mid June
Complete: 2nd week July

Phase IV:
Close Tunnel
Open Crosswalk
After Phase III
Start: Mid July



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SPRING COMMENCEMENT

MAY 8, 2026

**9 A.M.: COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, DARR COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

**1 P.M.: COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES AND
MCQUEARY COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**5 P.M.: COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND
REYNOLDS COLLEGE OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES**



NOTEWORTHY

9 A.M.

MADLYNN JARED, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing (marketing management track) and an undergraduate certificate in food and beverage operations, will speak

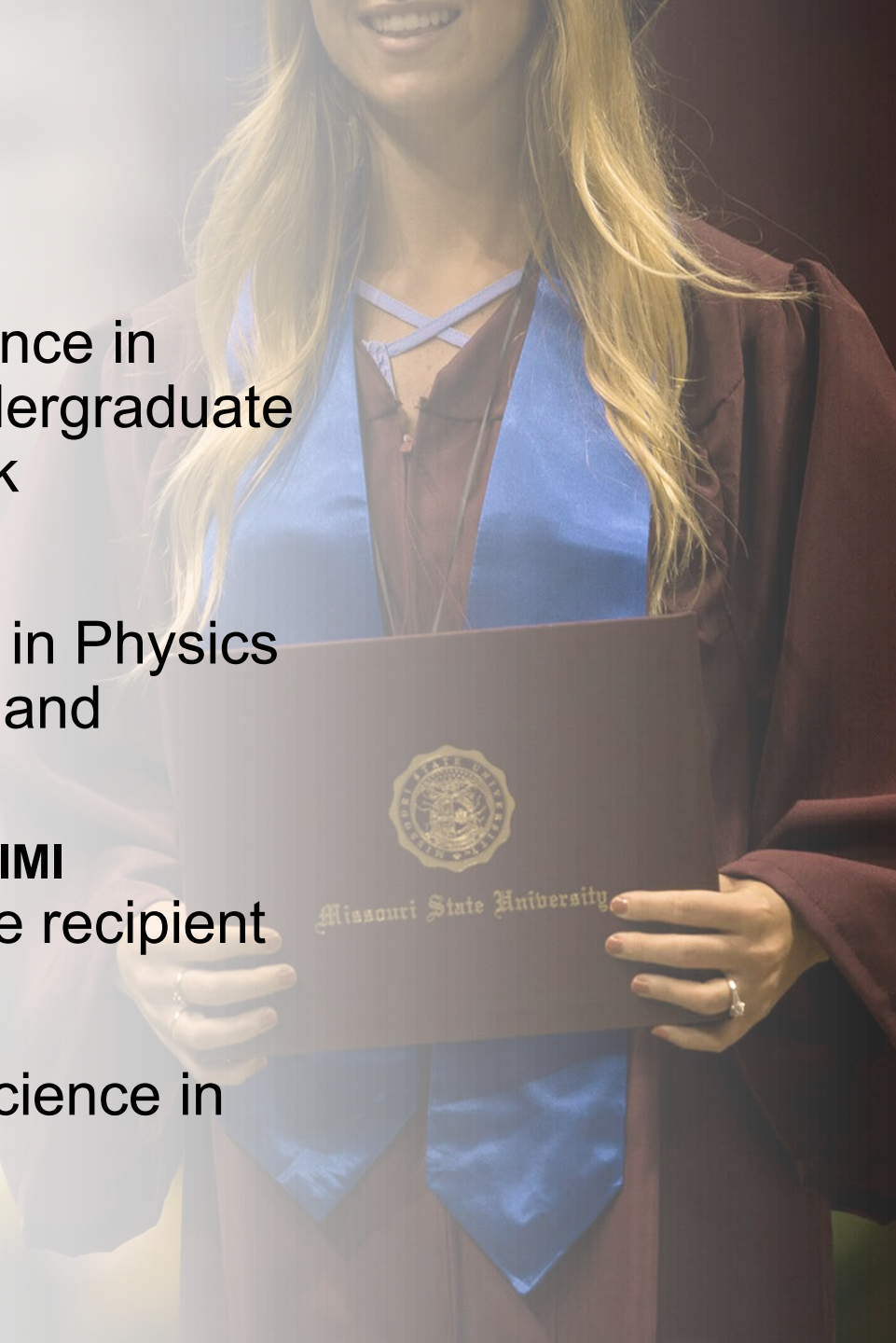
1 P.M.

LANA JANSON, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Physics and undergraduate certificates in biomedical physics and computational science, will speak

Honorary Doctor of Public Affairs will be granted to **MIMI GARSTANG** — Missouri State's 25th honorary doctorate recipient

5 P.M.

MADDUX RADOSEVIC, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Journalism and a minor in communication, will speak



BY THE NUMBERS

In Spring 2026, we will award the following:

- 1,881 bachelor's degrees
- 631 master's degrees
- 9 specialist degrees
- 104 doctoral degrees
- 2,625 total degrees





West Plains Update



UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Zora Mulligan
Chancellor

May 5, 2026



2025-26 Goals



2025-26 Goals

- 1. Complete onboarding plan**
- 2. Lead successful preparation for HLC comprehensive evaluation**
- 3. Lead planning efforts, including a strategic plan, enrollment plan, and preparation for a campus master plan**
- 4. Ensure state-funded projects are completed on time**
- 5. Develop a plan to address budget challenges**
- 6. Increase Fall 2026 enrollment**

- 
1. Onboarding
 - 2. HLC**
 3. Planning
 4. Projects
 5. Budget
 6. Enrollment

Institutional Actions Council recommends:

- All criteria met; ~~two~~ one core components met with concern:
 - ~~4.B. Resource Base and Sustainability; focus is on processes and alignment with strategic priorities~~
 - 4.C. Planning for Quality Improvement; focus is on strategic planning and alignment with budget/assessment
- Probation lifted
- No focused visit; instead asking for embedded monitoring report on 4.C. during next regular reaffirmation of accreditation (2029-2030)

- 
1. Onboarding
 2. HLC
 - 3. Planning**
 4. Projects
 5. Budget
 6. Enrollment

THEMES

- Expand awareness of Missouri State University-West Plains
- Grow and maintain enrollment
- Ensure institution offerings align with the needs of the communities we serve
- Strengthen fiscal and organizational resources
- Enhance partnership with Missouri State University in Springfield

- 
1. Onboarding
 2. HLC
 - 3. Planning**
 4. Projects
 5. Budget
 6. Enrollment

BHAGS

- **Increase degree-seeking enrollment by 30%**
- **Increase E&G reserves by at least 1% annually**
- **Reduce the number of projects on our deferred maintenance list by 20%**
- **Increase athletic event attendance by 20%**

1. Onboarding
2. HLC
3. Planning
- 4. Projects**
5. Budget
6. Enrollment


VET TECH

- **Drago Hall punchlist walkthrough Thursday 5/7**
- **Do you know anyone who has money?**



- 
1. Onboarding
 2. HLC
 3. Planning
 4. Projects
 - 5. Budget**
 6. Enrollment

Tough announcements Friday 5/1

- 
1. Onboarding
 2. HLC
 3. Planning
 4. Projects
 5. Budget
 - 6. Enrollment**

SUMMER

- **Headcount up 26%**
- **Credit hours up 20%**

FALL

- **Too early to predict with confidence**
- **Info available at this time points to flat overall enrollment (increase in new students + this year's small first-year class will carry forward to next year = flat)**



Update on Self





Update on Team



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W E S T P L A I N S



Missouri State University

STUDENT RETENTION TEAM

Student Engagement Intervention
Evaluation



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STUDENT RETENTION TEAM

- Jeff Foster
- Tom Kane

Sponsors: 2025 MCHHS; 2024 Office of
MSU President

Partners: SOAR; PSY 121; GEP; MCHHS;
Looking for more

- Chloe Thostenson*
- Sam Carstens*
- Eryn Fanning *
- Hope Cabral
- Olivia Jenson
- Maggie Murphy
- Carlos Abrams
- Molly Spencer



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PURPOSE OF STUDY



- 1.The Retention Project
- 2.Measures & Results
- 3.Uses of data
- 4.Discussion: What can we do for you?

Essentially: We want to help MSU increase retention rates.



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BACKGROUND: MULTIYEAR RETENTION PROJECT

2010

Student Success Project: Why are students leaving MSU?

2022

Long-Form Project: What factors best predict retention?

2023

Short-Form Project: What is the shortest valid assessment?

2024

Feedback System: How can we provide meaningful feedback?

2024-5

SOAR/GEP Pilot: How can assessment, feedback, & data use improve?

2026

MSU Extension: How can we use test results?



GOAL 1: SHORT, POTENT, SURVEY THAT PREDICTS RETENTION

Long-Form Survey

- 91 questions
- 30 personality items
- 40 minutes
- Less students complete the survey

Short-Form Survey

- 64 questions
- 15 personality items
- 5-10 minutes
- Higher completion rate
- Predictability retained



GEP SHORT- FORM DATA COLLECTED

● Academic Relevant Factors

- GPA goals
- Academic confidence
- College-career goal alignment

● Emotionally Relevant Factors

- Commitment to MSU
- Career goal excitement
- Social integration
- Academic integration
- Homesickness

● Individual Factors

- Declared/Undeclared
- Distance from home
- Working/Hours worked
- On scholarship
- Financial concerns

● Qualitative

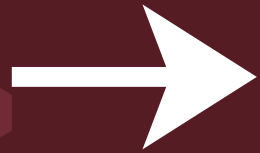
- Looking forward to
- Worried about



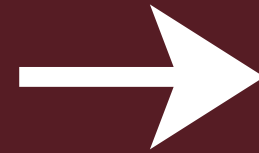
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OUR RETENTION MODEL

ACADEMIC
FACTORS

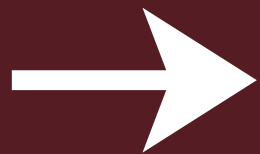


GPA
(34%)



RETENTION

EMOTIONAL
FACTORS

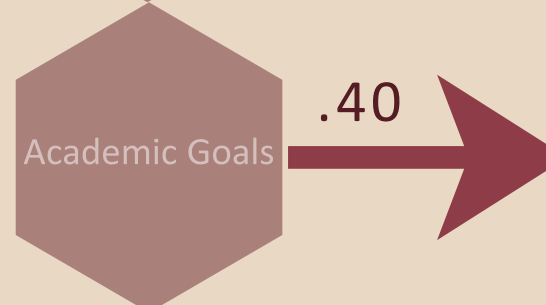


INTENT
TO QUIT
(35%)



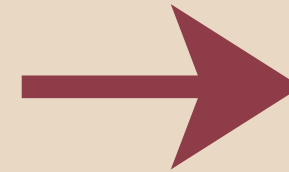


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ACHIEVEMENT PATH

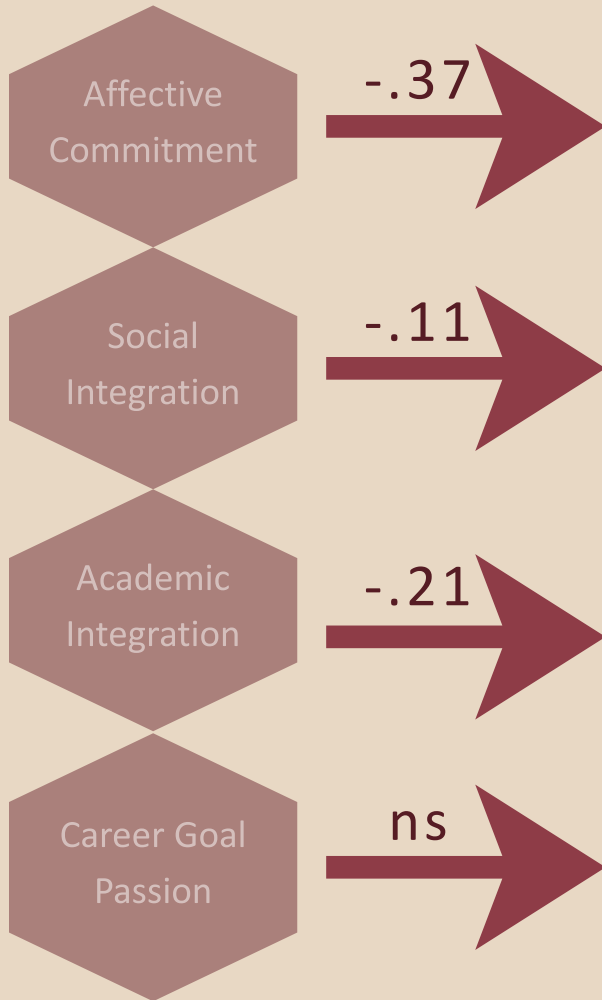
GRADES
(34%)



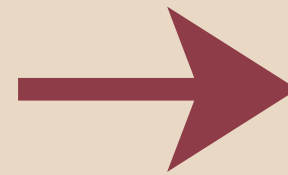
RETENTION



EMOTIONAL PATH



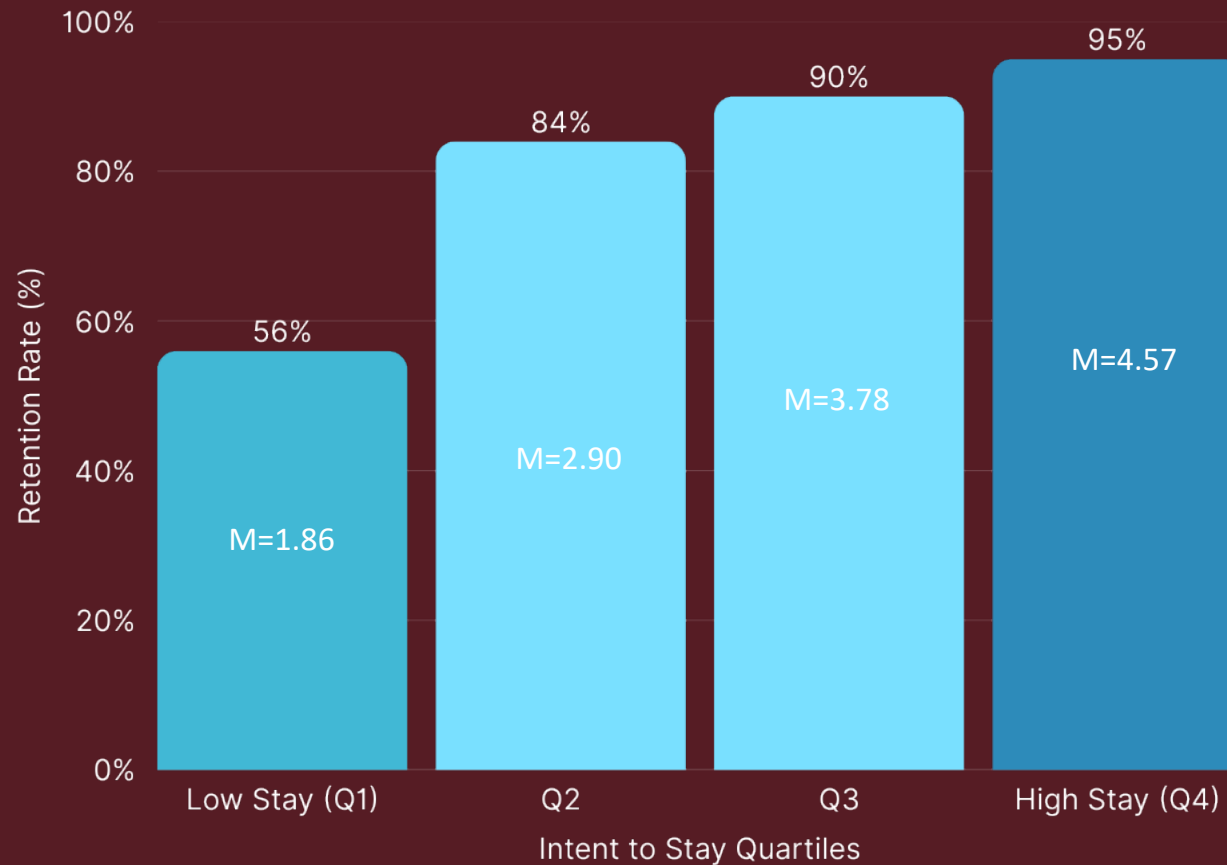
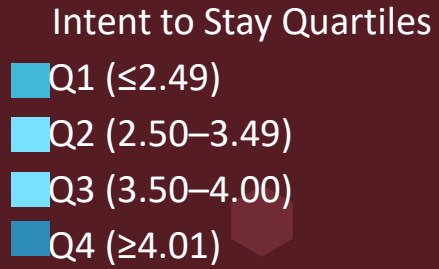
INTENT
TO QUIT
(35%)



RETENTION



SF-INTENT TO STAY & RETENTION





SOAR: I'M EXCITED ABOUT...

Mental: Overall well-being, enjoyment, positive self-identity; campus support of well-being

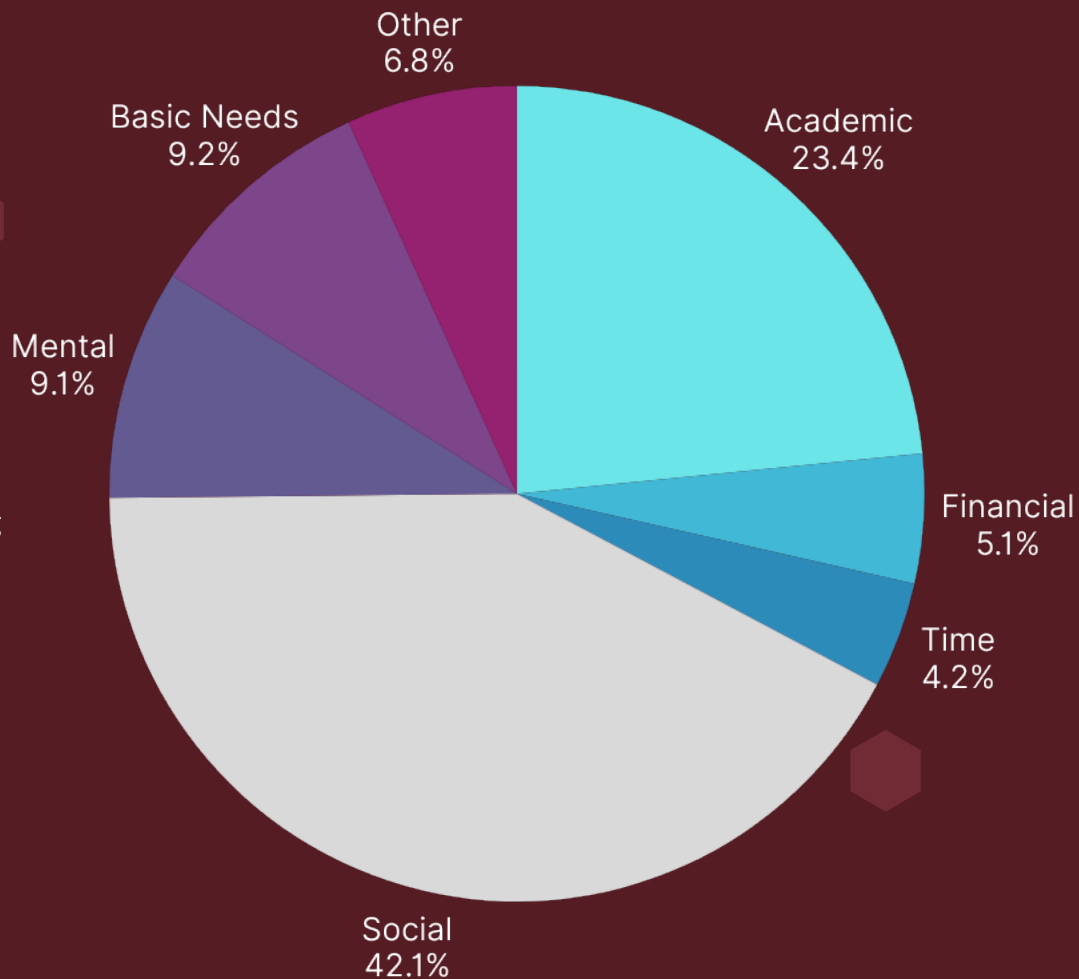
Basic Needs: Food, living situation, fitness, wi-fi

Academic: Excitement about learning, courses, anticipated achievement, faculty mentors

Financial: Scholarship, affordability, financial aid, working opportunities.

Time: Free time, new routine, added autonomy, independence.

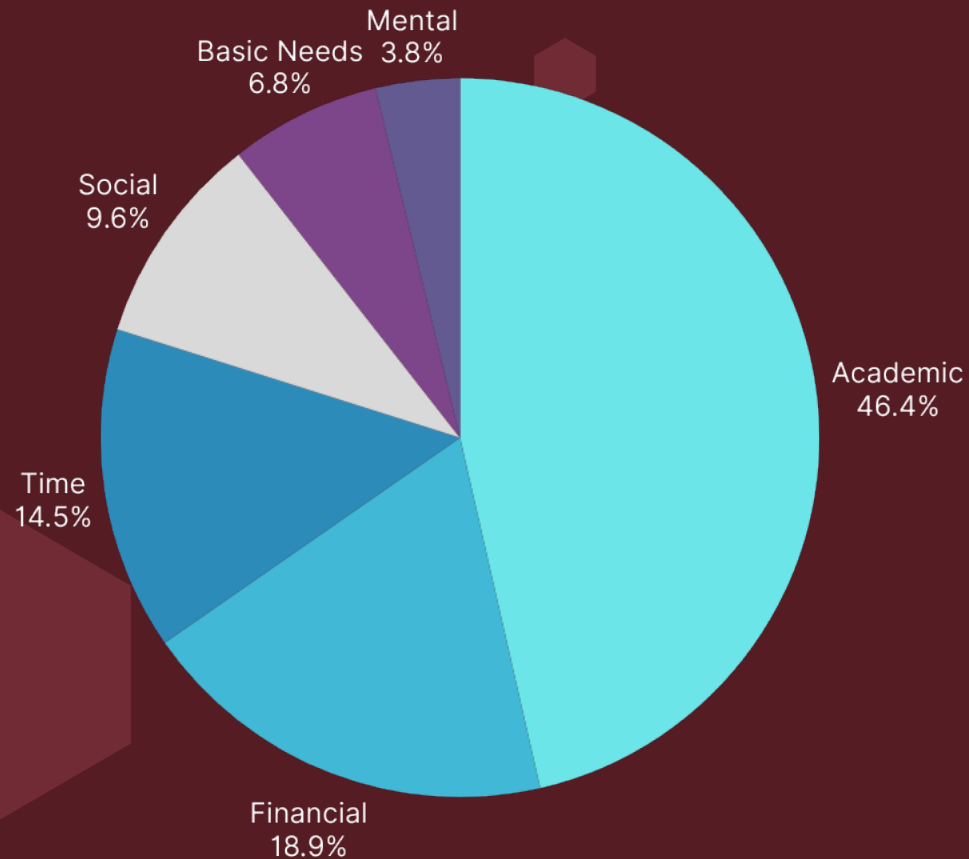
Social: Friends, roommates, close relations, getting along with peers, faculty, and others.



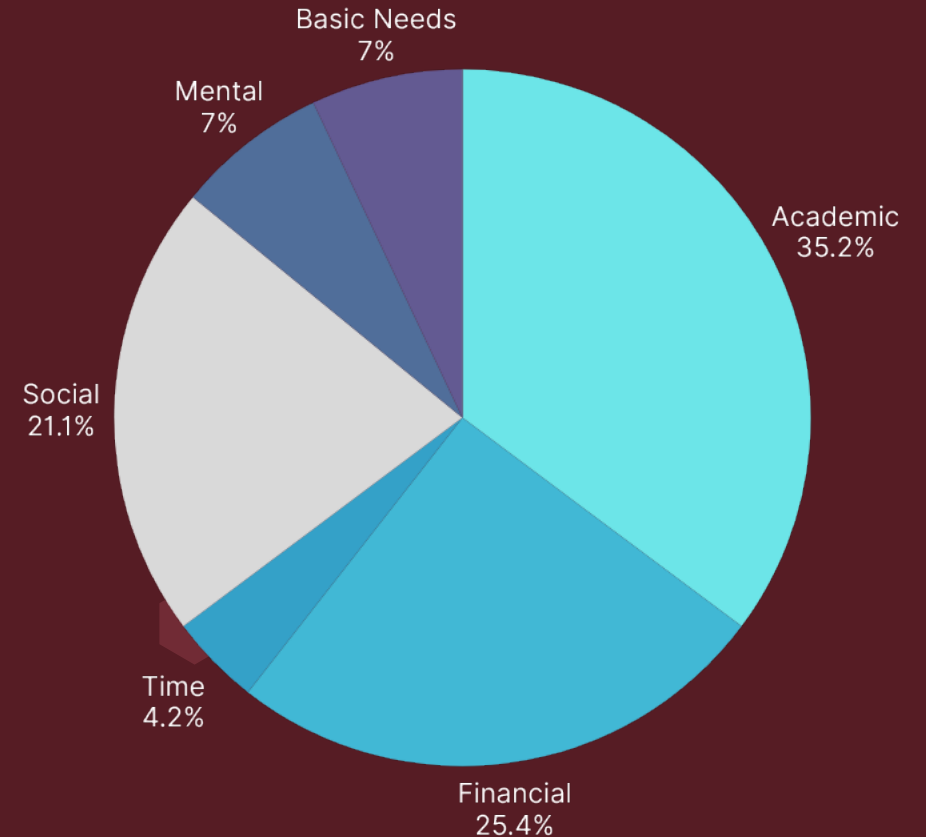


SOAR: I'M WORRIED ABOUT...

LOW-RISK STUDENTS



HIGH-RISK STUDENTS





BEAR TRACKS TO SUCCESS

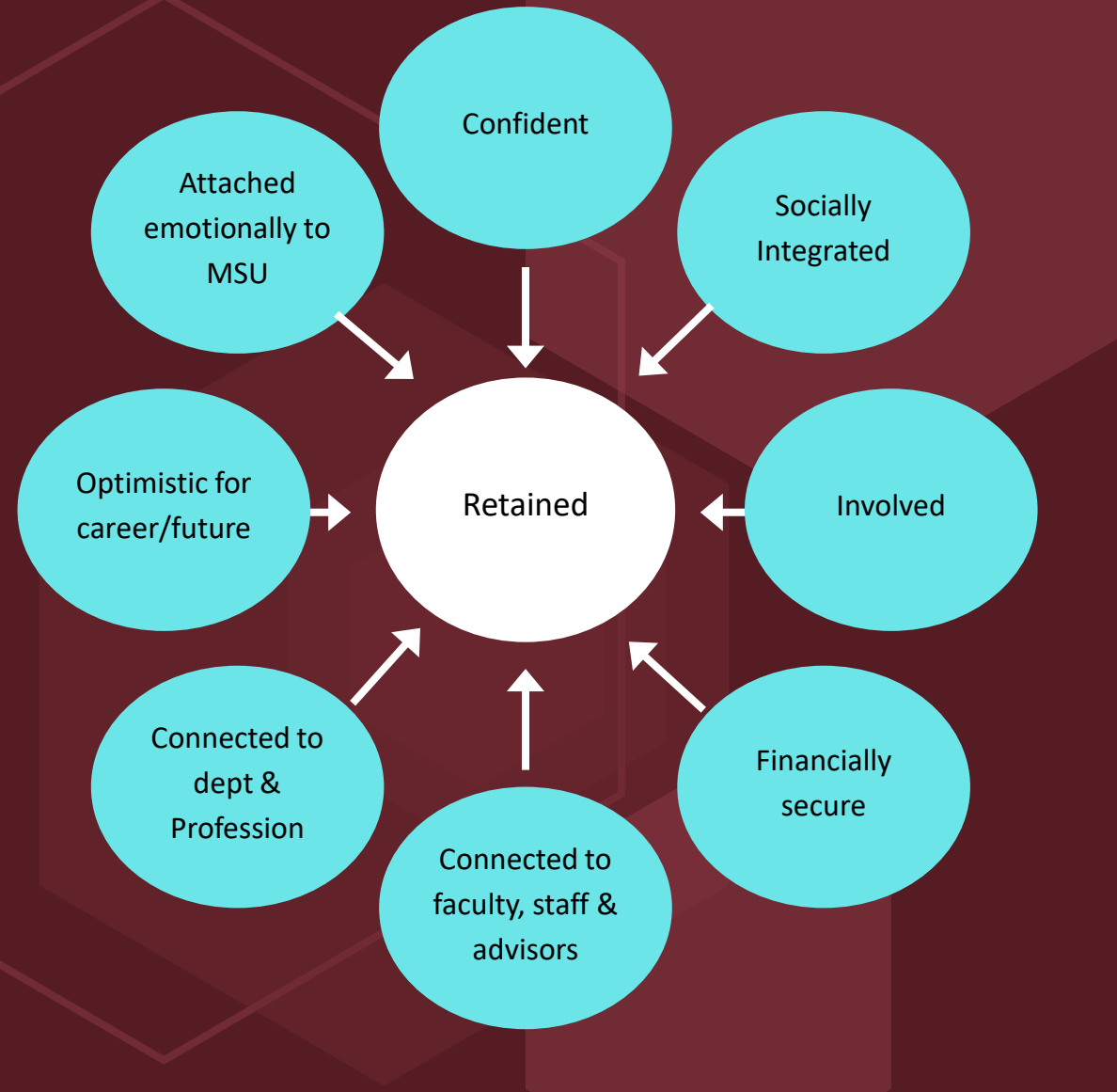
John

Fall 2025

In this report, the information that you provided is used to help you strengthen the three pillars of an ideal, positive college experience-- 1) Social: connections to others, 2) Academic: engagement toward future classroom and career success, and 3) Attachments: emotional connections to MSU, your major, and profession. Your responses are compared to other students in your class to provide best recommendations for improving your Total MSU Experience. Your success is the priority of your advisor, faculty, and MSU staff, who are here to support you every step of the way, so don't hesitate to reach out and use MSU resources to take control of your future.

SHARING OF DATA

- Personalized report emailed to each freshman
- Summary data produced for, potentially:
 - Advisors
 - GEP instructors
 - Student affairs
 - Faculty
 - Other relevant units



DISCUSSION

- Review what is currently assessed
- Circle the information you would find useful for your unit
- What other information would you like from this project that would be useful to you?

What data is useful for your unit?



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THANK YOU



Changes to summer financial aid enrollment requirements



Rob Moore, Director

Matthew Brizzi, Associate Director for Compliance

Office of Student Financial Aid

Timing of the changes

- Recent acts of Congress transformed many aspects of the Federal Student Aid programs
 - FAFSA Simplification Act of 2021
 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 (OBBBA or OB3)
- Opportunity to revisit our institutional policies to remain compliant with changes
- Swift implementation necessary to avoid non-compliance with laws and regulations
- Changes affect undergraduate students only

Summer Pell Grant enrollment

- Summer Pell awards now mirror fall and spring Pell awards
- Amounts are prorated based on enrollment intensity for anyone enrolled less than full-time.
- This means students are not required to be full-time to receive a Pell award.

	Full-time	Half-time
Prior to summer 2026	6 or more credit hours	3 credit hours
Summer 2026 and after	12 or more credit hours	6 credit hours

Summer federal loan enrollment

- Summer federal loan enrollment now mirrors fall and spring requirements for undergraduates
- Statute mandates federal loan recipients must be enrolled at least half-time.
- Six hours is the required minimum established by statute for undergraduates.
- Prior to summer 2026, half-time was 3 credit hours
- Summer 2026 onward, half-time is 6 credit hours

Campus outreach

- Operating policy updates
 - President's Cabinet
 - Registrar and other Academic Affairs leaders
- Direct email communication
 - Academic advising center directors
 - Academic advisors
 - Affected students
- Presentations
 - Athletic head coaches
 - University Council
- Blog and My Missouri State portal

In conclusion

- Changes impact undergraduate students only
- Graduate students are half-time at 3 hours and full-time at 6 hours in the summer semester.
- Changes are mandated by federal law, not optional institutional policies.
- Implementation must take place in summer 2026
- Questions?

Wrap-Up