

11/4 University Council meeting

Brent Dunn updates

- Assistant director search failed, will reorganize after homecoming and redo the search (or searches)
- This will be the latest homecoming ever; previous was Nov. 2, 1996
- Homecoming will likely be late going forward because of CUSA's Wednesday October games – lots of events Thursday - Saturday, tours, alumni meetings, Ozark Mountain Daredevils + Springfield Symphony, parade at 9, with an extended parade route (past Glass Hall), Golden Bears reunion, Bearfest Village, football game, etc.
- Really good month for Foundation giving – over \$10 million in new gifts in the last ~6 weeks

Terry Weber updates

- Sunday, 11/9 – Homecoming kickoff event mixing area alumni and students; Rock and Chalk event, window painting
- Tuesday, 11/11 – Rockstar talent competition
- Thursday, 11/13 – MoState Live talent event
- Questions or offers to help – homecoming@missouristate.edu

Dr. Andrea Weber – Student Death Policy

- Info in the slides; if you ever have to deal with this, Dr. Weber's team is the key contact for working with it
- Policy for addressing a student's death is relatively new; designed to provide coordinated care for all affected ([OP 5.26](#))
- 1 reported this year; 4 last year (including 1 suicide); 3 in 2023 (2 by suicide)
- The policy addresses both current and former students
- If it occurs on campus, University Safety will notify the Dean of Students; if off campus, whoever learns of it should notify the Dean of Students office
- Dean of Students office works with a variety of offices and university processes to ease the burden on support partners, but especially the Counseling Center, Magers, and parts of their own office
- There are also resources to address faculty and staff deaths, including Human Resources, Magers
- There is a reporting form (included in the slides)
- There is an annual University Memorial Service in April that honors faculty, staff, and students lost in the past year – April 23rd in the Union Club

- Federal student loans (and often private lending) are often forgiven after a student's death; Financial Aid sends this out

Kelly Wood, Ross Hawkins, Beth Perine – ATLAS demonstration

- Works for both West Plains and SGF campus
- “Holistic student support system” sharing information across campus (advising, ed. abroad, vet student services, success coaches, int'l student services, etc.)
- Things of note for non-advisors using it to look up a student: on left, it has a badge for key features (international, athletics, first gen, etc.); the “support team” tab gives key contacts for the student
- Other offices/personnel can add notes for the student, as well
- Use the Help and comments feature to report bugs, suggestions, questions, etc.
- If you or your office need ATLAS, but don't have access (or if you were a former student who is only getting the student view with no search, sharing your own information), send in a help ticket to get access (if multiple people, you can send in a list of names of people who need it)
- There is a student view for this that will launch by the end of the semester where they can view their own information

Brad Bodenhausen, Abe Hammar, Rob Moore, student employment reminders

- Over 2000 students employed on campus
- Connection with experiential learning and talent development
- Lots of detail in the slides for processes and policies; should be put in dynamic forms by the end of the year
- Key policy points
 - Must adhere to the rolling 1000-hour annual limit
 - Recommended guideline is 20 hours/week (for international students, this isn't a recommendation, but a strict rule based on their immigration status)
 - Students can have multiple jobs on campus – communication and tracking is key in this situation
 - Useful things in the Hiring and Employment card
 - Abe Hammer – international finance and payroll – in the current environment, it's especially important to stick to the rules w/ potential consequences for both the individual and the university. For int'l students, this is 20 hours/work week (12:00am Monday – 11:59pm Sunday), not an average across pay periods.

- When classes are not in session (Thanksgiving week, spring break, summer/winter vacations), international students can work up to 40 hours/week; however the 1000-hour annual rule still applies
- Upon hiring, international students acknowledge and sign that they understand this information; currently, supervisors don't
- International payroll works with payroll to monitor this (via Argos); first-time offenders are notified, along with their supervisors, by email; repeat offenders are required to meet with International Services to discuss potential immigration impact
- International graduate students also work with HR
- Pay extra attention if international students work multiple jobs (Chartwells + other campus job) – it's not 20 hours per employer, it's 20 hours total
- Questions – internationalpayroll@missouristate.edu, ahammar@missouristate.edu
- Work study points
 - We have 256 federal work study students
 - There are 78 students still looking for positions for work study; if there are student worker needs in your area, consider reaching out for this
 - Students have to have financial need to qualify for work study
 - The grant/aid money is paid out as wages (at pay rates corresponding to those set out by university policy)
 - Total work and wages paid can't exceed the student's awarded amount; this requires coordination among payroll, financial aid, and the supervisor
 - Work study cannot displace regular employees
 - Work study is preferably experiential learning, development of soft skills, etc.
 - Lots of complexities among student employment, financial aid, federal requirements, etc.
 - Students have to be enrolled at least half-time (though summer can be an exception to this) and should generally be considered part-time employee – this can be adjusted for short times, but can be a big risk – be careful with total hours/award, recordkeeping with time sheets, hour violations, and coordination with other financial aid, since receiving additional aid can mean they are no longer eligible for work study
- Overall – with international and work study students, set and enforce hour limits, coordinate with everyone involved, educate supervisors, monitor concurrent jobs

Jamie Birch – legislative update

- Session starts in early January
- Priorities

- Increase to the university's core operating budget funding from the state to cover increased costs
 - Moser's contribution rate increase (\$2.2 million over FY'26)
 - General inflation on operating costs (4%)
- Funding in support of a capital improvement project for McDonald Arena (\$23 million) to beef up programming for ROTC and Defense and Strategic Studies, as well as some training and locker room spaces
 - Jamie was skeptical of whether or not this would be funded
 - Putting it on the radar for future asks
- MOExcels – increased doctorates of Psychology/Mental Health Professionals (\$2.1 million) and adjustments to Kings Street Annex to facilitate this (with additional \$900k matching funds)
- Increased income eligibility for fast track scholarships (for returning students)
- Notes
 - Please coordinate all substantive, official legislative interactions through Assistant to the President for Gov't Relations (Jamie Birch)
 - Outreach to legislators should be marked as personal/not representing the university unless it is cleared
 - Tamia Schiele, Ryan DeBoeuf are contacts while Jamie is out for maternity leave
 - An update/preview on legislative session will be scheduled/shared out next week

GradGuard program - Cindy Schull + Derrick Shy

- GradGuard will launch in spring semester;
- It is an insurance program for students, including renter's insurance, withdrawal tuition insurance (covering tuition loss for students who may need to leave mid-semester due to illness, loss of employment/income, etc.)
- Tuition insurance is seen as both a way to recover tuition, but also help with retention and recruitment
- More details in the slides
- No cost to the university; students can voluntarily opt in to the program; tuition insurance is 1.2% of tuition cost and renter's insurance is ~\$15/month, based on coverage
- This is currently integrated with transact and starrez systems for sign up

President Williams and other notes –

- Request for agenda items for University Council to discuss (share w/ UC rep and/or Stephanie Wingo)
- Upcoming town hall meeting on budget
- Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority is coming back to campus
- Tour of the Globe is Friday, 11/7 from 5:30 – 8ish at Jim D. Morris Center