

## 9/2/2025 University Council notes

### Introductions:

- Scott Brand – Emergency Preparedness Manager; Springfield native, MSU alum, former military, police, and FEMA;
- Johannes Strobel – Graduate College Dean; background in Info Tech Learning, has been at Mizzou and U of Texas El Paso; talked about excitement about new research doctorates and collaborating

### Updates:

- Bear Shield App (Director of Safety Rob Rowley)
  - There is a QR code to download and link to a training video on attached Bear Shield ppt
  - Can be used to share tips (submit a tip is anonymous, quick tip is not), to request a safe walk, access a parking map, set up a “virtual safe walk” to be tracked by chosen contacts, or to contact safety in an emergency
  - Recognizes downtown and Darr as campus locations; can quickly locate you on campus down to the floor and room
  - Help push download and use; advertisement with QR code are up around campus, will be displayed at sports events, etc.
  - If it’s a 911 incident, call 911 (though safety can divert you, too)
  - **FYI – emergency preparedness training is due by the end of September**
- ADP update (Director of HR Scot Scobee)
  - The updated system is live. Supervisors should have requirements to do training and update goals for those they supervise.
  - An email should go out today (9/2/2025) with information about it (also available on the HR blog and MyMissouriState). Scot’s advice is to play around with it before doing the training so you have questions and more awareness
  - If there are any questions or issues, email [HRPerformance@missouristate.edu](mailto:HRPerformance@missouristate.edu)
- West Plains update (West Plains Chancellor Zora Mulligan)
  - Opening day enrollment:
    - 1600 students (counting dual credit)
    - Headcount up 4%, credit hours down 4%, big decrease in first time freshmen, last year had a big bubble due to baseball – lots of work to do on enrollment
  - HLC site visit prep

- Separately accredited from MSU.
- They were put on probation in 2023, primarily because of issues with assessment (consistency from section to section being a major issue).
- They hired a director of assessment (internally) and academic leaders and others have worked with faculty. More and better data, clearer learning outcomes, increased communication with the China campus
- New assurance argument is being prepared, lots of work across the campus. This must be submitted by September 22 (this month). Visit is in mid-November, with results expected over the winter, with final notice in June.
- Strategic planning
  - West Plains is currently starting the strategic planning process. They have hired consultants, appointed co-chairs. They are shooting to complete the process by the June BoG's meeting and will implement the plan immediately.
  - It's difficult to stay on top of workforce demands because it often only last a couple years
- Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training offerings (Bill Sandel/Cody Brewington – Prof of Criminology and eFactory)
  - September 19 Lunch and Learn from 11:30 to 1:00 at the eFactory
  - Will be added to MyLearningConnection later today
  - Prof. Sandel works with active shooter training center and is the only non-FBI team member. Course goes over the data for active shooter events and best strategies
- Update from the Board of Governors retreat in August
  - Athletics update and discussion
    - Major financial differences from conference to conference due to NIL (Name, Image, Likeness) money. More lawsuits to come (likely over employment and Title IX)
    - Facilities – snowball plans as things gets upgraded (move football out of Forsythe, opening up more space) and making sure nice facilities don't grow old
    - Doing a better job generating revenue – need to fill up venues for football, men's and women's basketball
    - More events like Party in CUSA (it will happen next year, too)
  - Facilities master plan update (will be on the November agenda of University Council... more to come)

- Strategic Plan update (will be on October or November agenda after launch meeting on Sep. 22)
- Foundation
  - Advancement Center update – it's coming along
  - Giving is mostly at an all-time high (though cash gifts are down due to a \$12 million cash gift last year for the Advancement Center)
- Sponsored research (VP Brad Bodenhausen)
  - External research funding awarded was \$40.5 million
  - Down from last year, but two previous years were outliers
  - Research funding is facing many challenges; many things being done to try to bolster (proposal submissions up 6%, funds requested up 6%, faculty seeking to do research up 5%, number of grants awarded up 80%)
  - McQueary College brought in 10% of funding, College of Education brought in ~\$4 million, CNAS ~\$3 million, JVIC brings in about 25% of research funding, eFactory about \$5 million
  - Corporation for Public Broadcasting funding elimination and pullback = ~\$1 million lost
  - Lots of adapting happening due to uncertainty, changes in reporting requirements, push for R2 university level
  - Lots happening with Centers housed within the Colleges
- Next meeting is October 2 and 3
- Noteworthy policy changes
  - If there's a policy change, it first goes to the President's Cabinet and then the President
  - Changes
    - Tailgating policy – expanded tailgating into other parking areas south of Harrison
    - Updated language to the alcohol policy – more restrictive language on containers, removal for public drunkenness, variety of drinks, times
    - Student tailgating is at the lot west of Key Control and will have food trucks and other amenities and will try to funnel them towards the student section
- Citizen Scholar Nomination Process (VP Dee Siscoe)

- Highest recognition that a student can receive from the Board of Governors, since 2007
- Deadline for nominees is Friday, 9/5
- Six awarded (5 from SGF, 1 from WP)
- Submit nominations here:  
<https://studentaffairs.missouristate.edu/citizenscholaraward.htm>
- Ways to Promote the New Mission and Vision of the University (VP Suzanne Shaw)
  - Importance of promoting and learning the new vision and mission statements - <https://www.missouristate.edu/About/mission-statement.htm>
  - Consistent messaging with prospective students, current students, and alumni on what the university is about
  - How to have them around...
    - Posters for conference rooms (have mission and vision) – can be ordered
    - Stickers – can be ordered for ~\$0.50 each or ~\$0.34 each if over 5,000
    - Screensavers
    - Screens in public areas
    - Looking for other ideas. VP Shaw suggested tattoos. Personally, I think Pres. Williams should record a rap or something similar