Dear Colleagues:

I write today to provide an additional update on the Vice President for Academic Affairs search and a report on last Saturday’s Board of Governors meeting.

In regard to the VPAA search, it is our hope to announce by mid-week the individuals who have been invited to the Truman campus for on-campus interviews. Until that time, we ask that you continue to keep your calendars as free as possible for the dates of April 23 thru April 28.

On Saturday, the Truman Board of Governors held their annual April meeting, in conjunction with the annual Foundation Banquet and the Holman Family Distinguished Speaker Series. Under the leadership of Susan Plassmeyer, Board chair, the Board welcomed Kelly Kochanski, the newly appointed student representative to the Board. Kelly, who was appointed in March, is a freshman exercise science major with a biology and psychology double minor from St. Louis. Michal Bushur, the previous student representative, served on the Board from 2012 to 2014. The members of the Board officially expressed their appreciation to Michael for his outstanding service on the Board.

Mark Gambaiana, vice president for university advancement, provided an update on advancement activities and a report on the Foundation Board meeting held earlier that morning. I provided my regular President’s Report, which included updates on recent campus activities and accolades, the VPAA search, enrollment projections, and various legislative issues. In addition, reports were shared from the four Board committee meetings held earlier in the week, which included a review of financial reports, updates on various on-campus construction projects, a report on diversity initiatives, an update on the upcoming Higher Learning Commission (HLC) reaccreditation, and a report on faculty salaries. The Board then took action on a number of items which had been previewed through their four committees.

Within the area of academic and student affairs, the Board approved the Academic Calendar for August Interim 2015 through Summer Session 2016. In addition, it was noted that I would soon be appointing a committee to allow further study on future academic calendars.

Within the area of finance and auditing, the Board appointed the Bank of Kirksville as depository for the University’s checking accounts for the next two fiscal years. The Board also took action to amend a portion of their Code of Policies in the area of investments in order to provide further diversification and increase the return potential of the portfolio.

Within the area of budget and capital projects, the Board took action on a numbers of items.

- The Board approved an Ophelia Parrish Acoustical Improvements Project, a project to help correct some acoustical issues which in the past have made it difficult for musical groups to prepare for performances.
- A Kirk Memorial Interior Project was approved, a project which will expand upon the exterior renovations already made to the facility by adding a new heating and air conditioning system, lighting and other interior renovations, as well as the addition of new public restrooms and an elevator to meet accessibility requirements.
- The third construction project approved, the 2014 Roofing, Masonry and Windows Project, will address several maintenance and repair issues at three major campus buildings (Pickler Memorial Library and McClain and Magruder Halls).
• The Board accepted a proposal to provide architectural/engineering services for a Softball/Baseball Field ADA Access Project, a project that will provide sidewalks and ramps needed to make the two venues accessible.
• The Board approved the request of Information Technology Services to purchase a network hardware device.
• And finally, the Board approved enrollment fees for the 2014-15 academic year. The Board voted to not increase tuition for Missouri undergraduates. Tuition for non-resident undergraduates, Missouri graduates and for non-resident graduates will increase by 1.5 percent.

The Board also took action to update their Code of Policies by correcting erroneous and outdated references in the policies.

A copy of the complete open session agenda can be found on the Board of Governors website located at http://www.truman.edu/about/our-people/board-of-governors/board-of-governors-agendas/. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Saturday, June 14.

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