

**Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Regents
Murray State University
February 24, 2023**

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Murray State University (MSU) Board of Regents met on Friday, February 24, 2023, in Quarterly and Committee Session in the Pogue Library Jesse Stuart Room on the Murray State University campus. Chair Don Tharpe called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed those joining the meeting in person and via livestream. Secretary Jill Hunt called roll and the following Board members were present: Brandon Edmiston, Jessica Evans, Robbie Fitch, Virginia Gray, Ellie McGowan, David Meinschein, Leon Owens, Emily Roark, Melony Shemberger and Don Tharpe. Absent: Tom Waldrop.

Participants in the meeting were: Robert L (Bob) Jackson, President; Jill Hunt, Senior Executive Coordinator for the President, Coordinator for Board Relations and Secretary to the Board; Tim Todd, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Jackie Dudley, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services and Treasurer to the Board; Don Robertson, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Bob Pervine, Senior Associate Provost; Renee Fister, Associate Provost; Ashley Ireland, Assistant Provost and Director for Online Learning; Roslyn White, Interim Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management; Robert Miller, General Counsel; Nico Yantko, Director of Athletics; Shawn Touney, Executive Director of Marketing and Communication; Cami Duffy, Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access/Title IX Coordinator; Jordan Smith, Executive Director of Governmental and Institutional Relations; Academic Deans; Information Technology staff and members of the general public and news media.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Chair Tharpe

Roll Call

Secretary Hunt

Swearing-In Ceremony – Brandon Lee Edmiston*

Judge-Executive Imes

Election of Officers – Vice Chair and Secretary*

Chair Tharpe

Public Participation

Chair Tharpe

Consent Agenda

Chair Tharpe/President Jackson

- A. Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting and Committee Meetings of the Board of Regents on December 2, 2022***
- B. Report of the Registrar (Winter 2022 Conferral of Degrees)***
- C. Audit and Compliance Committee (For Information Only)**
 - 1) Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Work Status Report**
 - 2) Office of Internal Audit – Summary of Presidential Travel Report**
- D. Finance Committee**
 - 1) Personal Services Contracts – Schedule of Expenditures (For Information Only)**

Report of the Chair

Chair Tharpe

Report of the President

President Jackson

**Report of the Treasurer*
(Quarterly Financial and Investment Reports)**

Vice President FAS Dudley

Board of Regents Self-Evaluation Results Update (For Information Only)

Sr. Assoc. Provost Pervine

Committee Reports/Recommendations

- A. Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Regent Shemberger
- 1) Department of Community Leadership and Human Services Name Change (For Information Only)
 - 2) Academic Administrative Appointments Update (For Information Only)
 - 3) Murray State University Regional Campuses Update (For Information Only)
- B. Athletics Chair Tharpe
- 1) Baseball Head Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – Dan Skirka*
 - 2) Resolution of Acknowledgement and Appreciation – Coach Alan Lollar and the Rifle Team*
- C. Audit and Compliance Regent Waldrop
- 1) Audited Financial Statement – Federal Funds*
 - a. Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022
 - 2) Audit Engagement Letter*
- D. Buildings and Grounds Regent Fitch
- 1) Facilities Management Projects Update (For Information Only)
- E. Enrollment Management and Student Success Regents Meinschein and McGowan
- 1) Retention and Enrollment Management Update (For Information Only)
 - 2) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report (For Information Only)

12 noon (approx.) Break for Lunch

1 p.m. (approx.) Reconvene

- F. Finance Regent Owens
- 1) Annual Lease Report*
 - 2) Personal Services Contracts*
 - 3) Projects Approval*
- G. Legislative and Economic Development Regent Gray
- 1) Legislative and Federal Delegation Update (For Information Only)
- H. Marketing and Community Engagement Regents Roark and Evans
- 1) Gifts-in-Kind
 - a. 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax – Department of Music*
 - b. Sorority Suites from Murray State University Foundation*

NOTE: Full Board action will follow Committee action.

Personnel Changes President Jackson

- 1) Personnel Changes
 - a. Faculty Sabbatical Leaves*
 - b. Salary Roster*

Resolution of Appreciation – Chief of Police Jeff Gentry* President Jackson

Supplemental Materials (For Information Only) President Jackson

- A. “Good News” Report (Winter 2023)
- B. Quarterly Branding, Marketing and Communication Report (October – December 2022)
- C. Sponsored Programs – Grants and Contracts Report

Other Business Chair Tharpe

Adjournment Chair Tharpe

(*Requires Board of Regents Action)

Swearing-In Ceremony – Brandon Edmiston, conducted

President Jackson welcomed Calloway County Judge-Executive Kenny Imes to the meeting and expressed appreciation for his willingness to serve the University in this capacity. On January 19, 2023, the Governor of the State of Kentucky Andy Beshear appointed Mr. Brandon Lee Edmiston to the Board of Regents of Murray State University. Judge Imes administered the Kentucky Constitutional Oath of Office, pursuant to Section 228, to Mr. Brandon Edmiston with his wife, Janet, by his side. Regent Edmiston received a round of applause.

Election of Board of Regents Officers – Vice Chair and Secretary, conducted

Chair Tharpe stated that in accordance with the *Bylaws* of the Board of Regents, all officers are elected annually at the Spring Quarterly Meeting and shall serve for one year, commencing July 1 following their election. A separate election shall be conducted by the Board for each of the officers: Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The Board elected these officers during its Quarterly Meeting on June 3, 2022. Also, according to the *Bylaws*, an election for Vice Chair and Secretary shall be held at the organizational meeting required within 30 days of the appointment of a new member, pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 154.430. An election was held on August 11, 2022, for Vice Chair and Secretary following the appointment of new Board members Emily Roark and David Meinschein. Due to the appointment of Regent Edmiston, another election for Vice Chair and Secretary must be held.

Procedural guidelines were outlined for the new Board members in that the Chair will declare nominations are in order and recognize each member for the purpose of making a nomination. Recognition of members shall be alphabetically and nominations require no second. Any member nominated for any office may withdraw their name from consideration. However, a member nominated will not be recognized for that purpose until all members have had an opportunity to make a nomination. If, after each member has had a roll call opportunity to make a nomination and only one name has been placed in nomination for that particular office, the Chair shall declare the person elected by unanimous consent. If more than one name is placed in nomination for any particular office, a vote shall be taken. Names shall be voted upon in the same manner in which the nomination occurred. The nominee first receiving an absolute majority shall be declared elected.

Chair Tharpe declared that nominations were in order for Vice Chair of the Board of Regents beginning now through June 30, 2023. The Secretary called the roll and Regent Edmiston nominated Leon Owens. All other members passed. Chair Tharpe indicated there being only one nomination, Leon Owens is unanimously elected Vice Chair, according to the *Bylaws* of the Murray State University Board of Regents.

Chair Tharpe declared that nominations were in order for Secretary of the Board of Regents beginning now through June 30, 2023. The Secretary called the roll and Regent Edmiston nominated Jill Hunt. All other members passed. Chair Tharpe indicated there being only one nomination, Jill Hunt is unanimously elected Secretary, according to the *Bylaws* of the Murray State University Board of Regents.

Public Participation

Chair Tharpe reported that no individuals signed up to address the Board during the Public Participation segment of the meeting.

Consent Agenda, approved

Chair Tharpe reported that the following action and “For Information Only” items were included on the Consent Agenda for approval/acceptance (action items denoted with an asterisk):

- Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting and Committee Meetings of the Board of Regents on December 2, 2022*
- Report of the Registrar (January 2023 Conferral of Degrees)* – See Attachment #1
- Audit and Compliance Committee (For Information Only)
 - 1) Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Work Status Report
 - 2) Office of Internal Audit – Summary of Presidential Travel Report

- Finance Committee (For Information Only)
 - 1) Personal Services Contracts – Schedule of Expenditures

Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Consent Agenda items as submitted. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

Report of the Chair, received

On behalf of the Board of Regents, Chair Tharpe expressed condolences to Regent Tom Waldrop on the passing of his father. Board members were asked to keep Regent Waldrop and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

Presidential Evaluation Process

Chair Tharpe reported that the Board of Regents portion of the 360° presidential evaluation process will be getting underway soon. The two most important functions of this Board are to 1) hire the President of the University and 2) evaluate the performance of the President of the University. This provides an opportunity for the Board to indicate to the President their observed successes as well as opportunities. Once the evaluation materials are released to the Board, Regents were asked to take time to complete the survey in a timely manner in order to keep the process moving forward on schedule. Much of the correspondence the Board will receive will be sent via email by Secretary Hunt on behalf of the Chair.

Chair Tharpe reminded everyone of the work the President and his team have undertaken since the Board last met. A lot is going on at Murray State and the President has spent a great deal of time identifying funding sources for those projects that will support the University. This includes hiring key individuals and bringing back the Presidential Lecture Series. Activities such as this provide a valuable opportunity not only for campus but also the Murray community. President Jackson has considered future funding sources and his work in Frankfort, Kentucky, has been beneficial to ensuring Murray State receives its fair share of available resources.

On behalf of the Board of Regents, Chair Tharpe thanked the administration, faculty, staff and students because they are the ones who run this University on a day-to-day basis. Their work is recognized by the Board and very much appreciated.

Chair Tharpe publicly thanked First Lady Mrs. Karen Jackson for her support and efforts to advance the University and support the Board.

Report of the President, received

President Jackson reported that he had an opportunity to know Regent Tom Waldrop's father – Ralph Waldrop – for a number of years, as did many others in this room. He was a wonderful man who lived an exciting and wonderful life. He had fun with everything he did and President Jackson has very fond memories of him. Ralph Waldrop is a 1950 alumnus and was a loyal supporter of Murray State, as was his late wife. They actually met in Lovett Auditorium and there was a wonderful story centered around that meeting that Mr. Waldrop was not shy about telling. He will be missed and the thoughts and prayers of all are with the Waldrop family.

President Jackson reported the following highlights:

- For the first time ever, Murray State received Fulbright recognition. This represents national recognition from the Department of State in Washington, DC. MSU was recognized as one of the top-producing Fulbright Scholarship universities in the country. Four Murray State students were recognized as Fulbright Scholars but those individuals could not be present today because they are either studying abroad, are on their Fulbright Scholarship or have graduated. Those students, with their travel countries denoted, are Victoria Benard from Goreville, Illinois (Spain); Jasmine Neal from Frontenac, Missouri (Indonesia); Jaden Estes from Paducah, Kentucky (South Korea) and Mallory Wooldridge from Murray, Kentucky (Germany). The opportunities provided for these students were based on the good work of the following individuals present today: Honors College Executive Director Dr. Warren Edminster; Professor, Department of English and Philosophy Dr. Jeffrey Osborne and Honors College Student Development Counselor Hannah Durbin. Drs. Edminster, Osborne and Durbin were present and were recognized with a round of applause from the Board.

- Collegiate Farm Bureau Students met in Frankfort last week and a photo of Murray State students who are part of that organization was shown. Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Kristie Guffey, Associate Professor/Graduate Coordinator in the Hutson School of Agriculture, who traveled to Frankfort with the students. As part of the Farm Bureau meeting, the group interacted with students from other universities and were also able to see the various operations of state government.
- This past week, Associate Professor of History Dr. Brian Clardy, was the Black Heritage Lecture Series Keynote Speaker. President Jackson attended both and Dr. Clardy's remarks were spot on. He talked about world, state and university affairs and all that is going on the world – both good and bad – and challenging students as the next generation of leaders. This represents a program Executive Director of the Office of Multicultural Initiatives Dr. SG Carthell, Vice President Robertson and their teams put in place and appreciation was expressed for the work of all in this regard. Dr. Clardy was congratulated for a job well done and appreciation was expressed to Drs. Carthell and Robertson for sponsoring the lecture series.
- This week the University signed an agreement with Dr. Carlos Cortés, President of Universidad International San Isidro Labrador in San Jose, Costa Rica. This represents the first relationship Murray State has established with a university in Costa Rica and all are looking forward to possibilities in this regard. Appreciation was expressed to Director of International Recruitment Dr. Ruben Ricardo and Assistant Vice President for International Studies Dr. Guangming Zou for their good work.
- Since the first of the year a great deal of time has been spent in Frankfort and Washington, DC, and the Board will be provided with a more detailed report later. Appreciation was expressed to Chair Tharpe and Vice Chair Owens for recently accompanying President Jackson on a trip to Washington to discuss appropriations, direct appropriations and grant opportunities with key legislators. It is believed good progress was made to advance Murray State University. One of the newest legislators in the General Assembly – Representative Wade Williams from Madisonville, Kentucky – is an alumnus and the group visited with him while in Washington.
- Dr. Robertson and his team will provide an in-depth recruiting and retention report. He believes the Board will be pleased with regard to Spring and Fall 2023. Appreciation was expressed to all for their good work in this regard. Appreciation was also expressed to Regent Meinschein who helped the University host regional Superintendents at a home basketball game.
- A presentation will be made to the Board with regard to academic excellence. Appreciation was expressed to Provost Todd, the Deans, Chairs and faculty and staff for their efforts to advance excellence, develop new programs and prepare for accreditation visits. It was also reported that a peer review/compensation study will be undertaken soon to study faculty and staff salaries, pending Board approval.
- Murray State's newest Racer – Gino Stephen Yantko – was welcomed to the Murray State family. Gino is the son of Director of Athletics Yantko and his wife Marnie. Over the last several weeks Director Yantko and his team have done an outstanding job raising private monies and securing new partnerships. Appreciation was expressed to alumni and friends who have assisted in this regard. Their good work makes a tremendous difference. Appreciation was expressed to Regent Fitch and his wife Mary for a recent gift to Murray State. More money is being raised in Athletics than ever before and many on this Board are helping to lead that charge.
- The MSU Rifle Team and Coach Alan Lollar were congratulated for their success this season. Only eight Rifle programs participate in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament and for over 50 years Murray State has been competitive in this arena. Dates for the Missouri Valley Conference men's and women's tournaments – Arch Madness and Hoops in the Heartland – were provided as a reminder.
- Appreciation was expressed to former Racer basketball player Ja Morant who now plays in the National Basketball Association (NBA). He loves this institution and one of his great quotes is as follows, "Murray felt like a second home from the minute I stepped on campus and became a part of the Murray State community." He is also one of the faces of the NBA and talks about Murray State University often and his commitment to this institution is appreciated.
- Appreciation was expressed to Regent McGowan for her work as part of the Board of Student Body Presidents in their meetings with Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) President Dr. Aaron Thompson. The respective state university student body Presidents also met with members of the CPE Board to discuss issues facing higher education and students. These represented beneficial discussions, followed by a nice dinner and their candor was appreciated. Regent McGowan was one of the leaders of the discussion and serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Student Body Presidents.
- The Board will receive an extensive Facilities Management report later today and that will include deferred maintenance, asset preservation and other campus enhancements. Appreciation was expressed to Vice President Dudley and Director of Facilities Management Jason Youngblood and their teams for work that has been completed, as well as for work that is in progress. Chair Tharpe encouraged Regents to visit the facilities that have been resurrected and expressed appreciation to Vice President Dudley. President Jackson thanked the Board for decisions made in 2018 which led to investments in facilities as significant progress has been made in this regard.
- One of the largest Facilities Management projects is the new School of Nursing and Health Professions facility that was funded in the last Legislative Session. Appreciation was expressed to all involved in this project, including the architecture/engineering selection team for their work in this

regard. An architect has been selected, as well as engineering firms, and work on the new building has started.

- The Centennial Campaign – *Be Bold: Forever Blue and Gold* – was announced during the Centennial Gala, with a goal of raising \$100 million. Of that amount, 50 percent will be dedicated for scholarships and need-based aid and 50 percent will be used for academic support/enhancements and campus improvements. To date, \$54.96 million has been raised and appreciation was expressed to all for their efforts in this regard. Executive Director of Development Dr. Tina Bernot and her team do excellent work and have done a fantastic job leading this charge.
- The Presidential Lecture will be held on February 28, 2023, in Lovett Auditorium. The Keynote Speaker is W. Earl Brown who is a Murray State alumnus and one of the most talented individuals to ever walk the MSU campus. He is a Hollywood star in every respect and has a couple hundred credits to his name. His wife Carrie is also a Murray State alumna and is an executive at Disney. All are looking forward to having them both back on campus.
- Appreciation was expressed to Faculty Senate President Dr. David Roach, Staff Congress President Trish Lofton and Student Government Association President Ellie McGowan. A number of Faculty/Staff Leadership Council meetings have been held since the first of the year. Appreciation was expressed to the Budget Advisory Committee that has also been meeting. These groups and individuals have dedicated a lot of time and hard work to advance recommendations to the administration to enhance campus life. The tentative date of April 25, 2023, has been set for the Campus Town Hall Meeting to discuss the University budget.
- An advertisement running on cable, television, in print and on social media produced by Executive Director Touney, Manager of Digital Media Services Jeremy McKeel and their teams was shown to the Board. This advertisement is being utilized from a recruiting perspective to help spread the word about Murray State throughout the multistate region. The initiative was started to run additional ads to tell the Murray State story more often and better in Fall 2018 and appreciation was expressed to all in the Office of Branding, Marketing and Communication for their efforts in this regard.

Treasurer's Report, accepted

Vice President Dudley reported the following with regard to the Report of the Treasurer – Quarterly Financial and Investment Reports for the period of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022 (six months into the year):

- Cash, accounts receivable, working capital, revenues and expenses have remained at very much the same levels over the last three years. The outlier is the University's net position which is up significantly from a financial reporting standpoint. At year end (June 30), the University recorded a pension adjustment which was a positive reduction of liabilities but inflated net assets and this is reflected in the graphic provided. Net position is relatively flat this year but appears to have increased due to required reporting of the pension adjustment.
- The overall balance sheet for the institution was provided and net position is \$185 million which is substantially greater than last year at this time. This is also due to a year-end closing where pension adjustments were booked. The balance sheet explanation reveals that \$48.1 million of the increase is for the pension adjustment. Several years ago, Murray State was required to start recording its share of the state pension liability. This represents an unfunded liability for the two pension systems in which Murray State participates – Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS) and Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). All schools in the state that participate in the state pension system were also required to start recording their share of the pension liability. The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville do not participate in the state pension system. Kentucky has experienced challenges with the liability and the amount of unfunded pension liabilities those systems have which is why universities in the state started having negative unrestricted net assets – due to having to report that large pension liability at one time. The University continues to have negative net assets or net position because the pension liability is still on the books although it is going down. As a result, the University's unrestricted net position is also going down and although it continues to be negative, it is becoming less so over time.
- With regard to the overall income statement for the institution, there is a change in net position of \$15.6, \$13.9 and \$18.1 million, respectively, over the past three years. The change in net position also includes the pension adjustment. Management estimates this for a fiscal year without pensions. This year the University will be \$3.5 million to the good. Last year this number was \$10.6 million and the previous year was \$17.6 million to the good.
- Expenditures are up this year and that is illustrated throughout the financial statements due to the cost-of-living adjustment provided (which was budgeted). Expenditures are also up when compared to the past two years due to COVID recovery. The University is incurring more travel and other expenses than in the two previous years but remains stable. These represent budgeted costs and were not a surprise to management.
- The balance sheets and income statements for the University's Education and General Fund were provided and represent the operating fund. Net position is negative on the balance sheet in the amount of \$55 million. Prior year net position balances were provided for comparison purposes and illustrate the amount is going down because the pension liability is also decreasing. The liability is

decreasing because last year all universities and quasi state agencies began paying a fixed portion of the liability and also due to prior market performance. At some point this balance will become positive once again but the timeframe in which this will occur is unknown.

- Auxiliaries, which include housing, dining and the University Bookstore, are relatively flat.
- The Schedule of Net Position was provided and is comprised of multiple components, including investment in capital assets such as buildings and infrastructure; restricted net assets such as endowments, grants, contracts and bond proceeds and unrestricted net assets which may be dedicated for a particular purpose. Unrestricted net assets include working capital, allocated project funds, self-insurance and reserve for general contingency. The reserve for general contingency are those funds which are not designated for a particular purpose. Although this comprises \$148 million of those assets, the reserve for general contingency is what is considered the University's true reserve.

Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the quarterly unaudited Financial and Investment Reports for the period of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, as presented. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #2)

Board of Regents Self-Evaluation Results Update, received

Senior Associate Provost Pervine provided an Executive Summary with regard to Murray State's accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), which requires the governing board self-evaluation in order to maintain institutional accreditation:

- This represents the third time this Board has undertaken a self-evaluation. There are essentially three sections to the self-evaluation. The first 15 questions cover the operation of the Board as a whole and how that is viewed by Regents. The next set of questions address how Board meetings operate. The final section requires each member to self-evaluate themselves and their performance and give opinions on how the Board functions.
- Overall with regard to the first section of the survey, a strong majority of the Board understands the policies and procedures in place at the University. There is very strong support for the University's mission and Strategic Plan which represent critical components utilized to operate this institution. There is understanding of the financial statements and it is believed the Board provides effective leadership.
- In terms of how Board meetings operate, there is unanimity that the Board should be holding quarterly meetings (also required statutorily). There is a feeling among the Board that meetings are efficient and conducted in a respectful manner. Collegiality was mentioned several times in Board member comments and this is positive.
- With regard to individual Regent opinions, nearly all members expressed strong support for the mission, vision and Strategic Plan for the University and there is the belief that being a member of this Board is a valuable and productive use of one's time.

Chair Tharpe indicated that he personally finds the Board self-evaluation process to be very beneficial, particularly being able to see how fellow Regents feel about the way the Board is operating. Appreciation was expressed to Senior Associate Provost Pervine for keeping the Board on track with regard to this process.

Regent Evans asked whether any recommendations could come from the results of the survey and Dr. Pervine indicated it would be up to the Chair and other Board members whether they wished to entertain discussing individual results. Chair Tharpe suggested that if any Board member has comments about the self-evaluation they should put those in an email and send them to Secretary Hunt for the Board Chair and administration to answer. Consensus was reached that this is how the Board will proceed.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Committee Reports/Recommendations

Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee

Melony Shemberger – Chair
Jessica Evans
Virginia Gray

David Meinschein
Emily Roark

Regent Shemberger called the Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee to order at 9:25 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

Department of Community Leadership and Human Services Name Change Update, received

Provost Todd complimented Interim Chair of the Department of Community Leadership and Human Services Dr. Katie Hancock and Dean of the College of Education and Human Services Dr. David Whaley for making this name change recommendation because it better reflects what the department offers. The name change will also be beneficial from a student recruitment perspective.

At the February 28, 2020, Quarterly Meeting, the Board of Regents approved moving the Nonprofit Leadership Studies Program to the Department of Organizational Communication and Leadership in the *Arthur J. Bauernfeind College of Business* from the Department of Community Leadership and Human Services in the College of Education and Human Services. That move left Criminal Justice and Social Work as the only remaining academic programs in that area. A name change from the Department of Community Leadership and Human Services to the Department of Criminal Justice and Social Work would accurately reflect the mission of the department and increase the recruitment exposure for these academic programs. The name change being requested has been reviewed and was approved by the Academic Council on October 13, 2022.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Academic Administrative Appointment Updates, received

Provost Todd reported that appointments for the following academic administrative positions have been approved for the 2023-24 fiscal year and have his support:

Center for Communication Disorders.....Dr. Stephanie Schaaf – Academic and Prog. Dir.
Dr. Schaaf has served as Interim Academic and Program Director for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Department of Community Leadership and Human Services.....Dr. Katy Hancock – Chair
Dr. Hancock has served as Interim Chair for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Department of Early Childhood and Elementary Education.....Dr. Stephanie Sullivan – Chair
Dr. Sullivan has served as Interim Chair for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Department of Occupational Safety and Health.....Dr. Traci Byrd – Chair
Dr. Byrd has served Interim Chair for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Department of Organizational Communication and Leadership.....Dr. David Gesler – Chair
Dr. Gesler has served as Interim Chair since January 2022.

School of Engineering.....Dr. James Rogers – Director
Dr. Rogers has served as Interim Director for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Murray State University Regional Campus Update, received

Provost Todd and Executive Director of the Center for Adult and Regional Education Dan Lavit provided an update on the Murray State University regional campuses as follows:

- Highlights and enrollment information for each of the regional campus sites were provided. The enrollment information provided is for students in the region taking classes in Murray State buildings, online or through distance learning technologies. The enrollment charts presented represent a holistic view of credit hour production at the regional campuses. There is growing demand for online classes and shrinking the supply of in-person classes. Regional campus staff have worked hard to recruit, retain and advise to meet the changing needs of regional campus students. Most regional campus students are age-defined, non-traditional students or non-traditional by another definition. They work full- or part-time, are married and have families or there are other factors which would prevent them from travelling to the main Murray State campus. The regional campuses serve a population of

students who are time, place or financially bound to their communities. Credit hour production at the regional campuses is mostly up and those campuses are thriving with activity.

- Coordinator of the *Henderson Regional Campus* Mary Steely has worked for Murray State for approximately four years and comes from an adult education background. She has expanded the recruitment area for the University and in the last couple of months has hosted specific recruitment events for Murray State programs on that campus. Alpha Gamma Epsilon is a non-traditional student organization and is very active in Henderson, Kentucky. The Henderson and Madisonville regional campuses are located on the community college campuses in those respective areas and there are associated benefits. Over the past couple of years, the University has been utilizing stopped-out campaigns and those were outlined. Similar initiatives are underway on the *Madisonville Regional Campus* under the direction of Director Heather Roy and those efforts have led to increased enrollment.
- All of the regional campuses are served by distance learning technologies. Credit hour production is up by 7 percent on the *Henderson Regional Campus* compared to Spring 2022. Over the course of an academic year, enrollment is up approximately 3.4 percent as of February 5 but is expected to continue to grow as the University's Bachelor of Integrated Studies program launches mid-semester.
- The *Hopkinsville/Ft. Campbell Regional Campus* is led by Director Dr. Slone Cansler and Mary-Elaine Horn serves as Coordinator of Student Services at Ft. Campbell. After 20 years at Murray State, Coordinator Horn will be retiring soon and this represents a significant loss for the University. Jared Roberts will help serve the Ft. Campbell site.
- Growth at the *Hopkinsville Regional Campus* is due to dual-credit enrollment of students from Trigg County high schools. Staff spend one or two days per week at Hopkinsville Community College where the University has recently been provided with new office space in a high-traffic area. Four Murray State students are part of the Hopkinsville Rotary Impact program which was outlined.
- The Academy for Nonprofit Development and Leadership that has been initiated at both the Madisonville and Paducah regional campuses was outlined. Discussions are currently underway regarding expanding in-person programming at the *Madisonville Community College* Muhlenberg campus. Director Roy serves as a member of the P-16 Council and, in coordination with Dean Whaley, will, for the first time, be giving a Distinguished Educator Award to a faculty member from one of the local school districts. Madisonville enrollment for Spring 2023 is down slightly from Spring 2022 but there was a spike in enrollment during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID. Enrollment is now beginning to normalize and over the past five years there has been positive enrollment growth trajectory in Madisonville.
- The new Director of the *Paducah Regional Campus* Karami Underwood hit the ground running and is doing an excellent job as a known entity in the community. Director Underwood learned a great deal as an undergraduate student worker under the direction of Secretary Hunt. Signature programs offered at the Paducah campus were outlined and recruitment is currently underway for the sixth cohort in that regard. The *Paducah Regional Campus* is used highly by community organizations and businesses on a daily basis. This is to be expected because that community made a significant investment in the facility. Such initiatives being held on that campus include the ACT Bootcamp, Healthcare Explorer Jamboree and National History Day, all geared toward the high school student audience. Enrollment at the *Paducah Regional Campus* for Spring 2023 is up over 2 percent from Spring 2022 in credit hour production and down slightly for the academic year at this point in time.
- During the second week in May each of the regional campuses will host graduation receptions and Regents were invited to attend.

Regent Shemberger indicated that, even though there is online enrollment growth, the need for facilities in these locations is essential which is evidenced by information provided on how they are being utilized by the communities in which they are located. Appreciation was expressed to Provost Todd and Executive Director Lavit for their efforts in this regard. Vice Chair Owens added that his company has used the Paducah facility multiple times and there are other businesses and companies that utilize the space on a recurring basis as well. Appreciation was expressed for making the facility available to these entities as all staff are very accommodating. Regent Evans added that the impact of the regional campuses cannot be stated enough. They provide a tremendous value not only to Murray State but also the region. Regent McGowan reported that the Student Government Association has been working with Mr. Lavit to host ZOOM calls for regional campus students so they can be tuned in for SGA meetings. The SGA is also having conversations about how it can expand on-campus programming to the regional campuses so those students can become more involved.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Adjournment

The Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee adjourned at 9:45 a.m.
The Board adjourned for a break at 9:45 a.m.

Reconvene

Chair Tharpe reconvened the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting and Committee meetings at 10 a.m.

Athletics Committee

Don Tharpe – Chair
Brandon Edmiston
Robbie Fitch
David Meinschein
Emily Roark

Chair Tharpe called the Athletics Committee to order at 10 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

Baseball Head Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – Dan Skirka, approved

Chair Tharpe reported that the employment agreement with Baseball Head Coach Dan Skirka expires on June 30, 2023. The University desires to continue to employ Coach for the period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025, at a salary of \$65,775. All were reminded that salary increases are funded privately and Coaches do not receive any additional cost-of-living increases approved for other faculty and staff.

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Director of Athletics, approve the successor agreement to the Contract of Employment for Baseball Head Coach Dan Skirka as outlined. Regent Meinschein seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Baseball Head Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – Dan Skirka, approved

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Chair Tharpe moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Director of Athletics, approve the successor agreement to the Contract of Employment for Baseball Head Coach Dan Skirka as presented. Regent Shemberger seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

(See Attachment #3)

Resolution of Acknowledgment and Appreciation – Coach Alan Lollar and the Rifle Team, approved

Director Yantko read aloud the following Resolution of Acknowledgment and Appreciation:

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS RESOLUTION OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND APPRECIATION

COACH ALAN LOLLAR AND THE RIFLE TEAM

2022-2023 Season

WHEREAS, Coach Alan Lollar has faithfully served since being named as the Head Rifle Coach at Murray State University (MSU) in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Rifle team finished the season as the champion of the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC); and

WHEREAS, this championship marked the 17th overall OVC Rifle championship in program history and the 9th championship for Coach Alan Lollar – placing him as the school's fourth winningest Coach by championship; and


WHEREAS, Coach Alan Lollar was named OVC Coach of the Year for the 8th time in his coaching career; and

WHEREAS, Matias Kiuru earned his 4th consecutive OVC Smallbore Athlete of the Year award, Allison Henry was named the OVC Air Rifle Athlete of the Year and Paola Paravati became MSU's 3rd consecutive student-athlete to be named OVC Freshman of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Scott Patterson, Matias Kiuru, John Blanton and Allison Henry were named all OVC First Team and Paola Paravati was named to the all OVC Second Team and all OVC Newcomer Team.

NOW, THEREFORE, ON THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-THREE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Murray State University Board of Regents unanimously express their appreciation for the achievements and service of Coach Lollar and the Rifle team;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Murray State University Board of Regents that this recognition of the contributions and dedication of Coach Lollar and the Rifle team be preserved in the minutes of the Board after having been read aloud and passed unanimously by the Board on this, the 24th day of February 2023.



Dr. Robert L. Jackson
President



Dr. Don I. Tharpe
Chair – Board of Regents

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, approve the Resolution of Appreciation and Acknowledgment as read aloud. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Resolution of Acknowledgment and Appreciation – Coach Alan Lollar and the Rifle Team, approved

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Chair Tharpe moved that the Board of Regents, approve the Resolution of Acknowledgement and Appreciation as read aloud. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

Adjournment

The Athletics Committee adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Audit and Compliance Committee

Tom Waldrop – Chair
Ellie McGowan
Leon Owens
Emily Roark
Don Tharpe

In Regent Waldrop's absence, Vice Chair Owens called the Audit and Compliance Committee to order at 10:10 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

Audited Financial Statement – Federal Funds, accepted

Vice President Dudley indicated that the report presented to the Board was prepared by an independent external auditing firm – Dean Dorton Allen Ford, PLLC (Dean Dorton) – and addresses the University's compliance with federal requirements as stipulated in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Compliance Supplement. This single audit report is the audit of federal expenditures for the University for June 30, 2022. The report has also been distributed as required to the Federal Audit Clearing House and to the State Auditor of Public Accounts.

On behalf of the Audit and Compliance Committee, Regent Roark moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the following report for 2021-22:

- a. Audited Financial Statement – Federal Funds – Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

Regent McGowan seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Audited Financial Statement – Federal Funds, accepted

On behalf of the Audit and Compliance Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the following report for 2021-22:

- a. Audited Financial Statement – Federal Funds – Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #4)

Audit Engagement Letter, approved

Vice President Dudley reported that at its February 24, 2017, meeting, the Board of Regents approved the issuance of a contract to Dean Dorton Allen Ford, PLLC (Dean Dorton) for the performance of the University's financial and compliance audits for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. At its meeting on December 2, 2022, the Board approved the extension of the auditing services contract for the 2022-23 fiscal year. The cost for the 2022-23 contract, which is the third and final year of the extension of the contract, is \$135,500 and includes up to four program audits. The Engagement Letter that outlines the scope of work and parameters of the June 30, 2023, audit by Dean Dorton was provided to the Board.

On behalf of the Audit and Compliance Committee, Regent McGowan moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Engagement Letter for the June 30, 2023, audit as presented by Dean Dorton. Regent Roark seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Audit Engagement Letter, approved

On behalf of the Audit and Compliance Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the attached Engagement Letter for the June 30, 2023, audit as presented by Dean Dorton. Regent Meinschein seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

(See Attachment #5)

Adjournment

The Audit and Compliance Committee adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Robbie Fitch – Chair
Jessica Evans
Leon Owens
Don Tharpe
Tom Waldrop

Regent Fitch called the Buildings and Grounds Committee to order at 10:20 a.m. and reported all members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

Facilities Management Projects Update, received

Vice President Dudley reported that with regard to the status of the Public-Private Partnership (P3) agreement, the University has been monitoring bond rates and although they are somewhat down right now, the University's financial advisor – Baird – has recommended waiting a bit longer. There is another public finance project in the region that will be going to bid and that is expected to occur over the next two months. As a result of that project, the University will learn a great deal regarding cost and the availability of labor and supplies and that will help define Murray State's timeline for the P3 project.

Director Youngblood and Associate Director of Facilities Design and Construction Angela Lampe provided an update on the state of current facilities projects with the following highlights:

- The Lovett Auditorium renovation project is on the cusp of being 100 percent complete.
- Phase II of the Waterfield Library HVAC project was bid last spring and was awarded to a contractor but, due to the long lead time for delivery of necessary equipment and supplies, that work is scheduled to begin this summer and fall.
- The programming phase for the new School of Nursing and Health Professions (SONHP) building has started. Work is still underway to complete the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Applied Science building renovations but will be issued once completed to select an architectural firm for the project. The Mason Hall renovations project is moving concurrently with the SONHP building project with the same design team.
- Work is underway to complete the RFP for Pogue Library HVAC upgrades and moving that facility off the central steam line. This work will also include needed electrical upgrades.
- Work is underway to complete the RFP for the old and new Fine Arts buildings HVAC upgrades project as well as interior stair repair in Price Doyle Fine Arts. This work will be undertaken as one project.
- Phase I work (roof repair) has been completed on the Cherry Livestock and Exposition Center and Phase II has started relative to renovations. Work is currently underway to complete the RFP to get that out to design consultants so the project can move forward.
- The Hancock Biological Station requires HVAC repairs and a temporary rental unit is currently being used in this facility.
- The CFSB Center Generator project is included on the University's asset preservation list and work is underway to complete the RFP.
- Photos were provided of projects in the Curris Center. The new Student Government Association and Center for Student Involvement offices have moved into their new space on the second floor, although some branding work remains. The lavatories on the second floor have also been completed and include a single-occupancy restroom. Demolition and abatement has started for the restrooms on the first floor and this work is well underway. Sodexo offices have now moved into their new space and locker and storage rooms have been completed. The flooring has been installed in the eSports area and the project is progressing nicely. The eSports area is located in the former SGA office space. Work is also underway on the lounge located across the hall from the eSports space. Slip-resistant flooring has been installed on the third floor of the Curris Center and looks fantastic. Third-floor projects are nearing completion but work is still underway on the restrooms. Flooring will be replaced on the first and second floors over the summer. Projects involving the new storefront for the University Bookstore on the second floor and the Welcome Center on the first floor will also be undertaken during the summer.
- Wrather Hall renovations should be completed by early March. All mechanical and electrical improvements and stage repairs have been completed.
- This week the final window and stage curtains were installed in Lovett Auditorium. New windows are expected to be installed in the next two weeks. This project was delayed due to supply delays.
- The Board was reminded that construction of the new School of Nursing and Health Professions facility will be undertaken at the same time as renovation and upgrade work in Mason Hall. The University received ten responses to the RFP for the SONHP building. The Selection Committee narrowed the choice to four companies that were brought in for interviews. Ross Tarrant Architects was chosen as the final design consultant. Ross Tarrant partnered with Ayers Saint Gross, a national nursing education design expert. They also partnered with Marcum Engineering for mechanical, electrical and plumbing projects and BFW Engineers for structural, civil and landscape work. The timeline for the SONHP facilities includes a meeting held in February 2023 to begin programming and schematic design work. The firms will alternate between virtual and in-person meetings and those will include SONHP Dean Dina Byers and her faculty. In July 2023, it is hoped that the first phase of work will be completed and money becomes available from the state. At that time building design will begin with construction targeted to start in March 2024. The new facility will be open for the first semester in January 2025. As part of overall SONHP facility construction, designs will be

developed for renovations in Mason Hall, although it has yet to be determined when this work can begin. The Ross Tarrant Architects team includes President Jeff Stivers, Principal-in-Charge Sarah Lamere and Project Manager Mike Neureither. Principal Design Architect Earl Purdue and Programming/Stimulation Designer Laura White with Ayers Saint Gross will be leading the main programming and design work relative to nursing components. Marcum Engineering staff include Project Manager and Principal Mechanical Engineer Baccus Oliver. BFW staff include co-Project Manager and Civil Engineer Bobby Dietz. The University has worked with this team of experts in the past, with the exception of Ayers Saint Gross, and it is believed they will be successful in moving the project forward.

- In terms of primary site selection for the new SONHP, an area north of Faculty Hall and south of the Central Plant along 16th Street has been identified and borders the Alexander Hall, Science Complex, Visual Fine Arts and Blackburn corridor. Work is currently taking place with the design team to determine how best to position the building to provide a proper balance of visibility and accessibility. There is currently a lot of parking in this area and work will be undertaken to offset lost spaces. President Jackson added that many students studying in the new facility will also be traveling across 16th Street for their classes on the Science Campus. There will also be an opportunity to improve the walkway space between Mason Hall and the new facility. Confirmation was provided that there is a desire to maintain the current Georgian architectural style of most buildings on campus – red brick, white trim and columns – so the facility looks like it belongs on campus. The footprint of the new SONHP building is expected to be the size of one of the Biology or Chemistry buildings. The Site Selection Study is underway to determine where utilities exist as part of the development process. All pros and cons of final site selection will be evaluated. It is expected the building will be at least two stories, maybe three.
- As a continuation of the window replacement project in Wells Hall, new exterior entrances are being installed and deferred maintenance needs are being addressed.
- A map showing where the Hancock Biological Station is located in the northeast corner of Calloway County on the lake was provided. That campus is approximately 62 acres with 34 buildings on the property, with a boat dock and lake access. There is 14,000 square feet of space in the main building which contains administrative offices and research laboratories. The HVAC unit needs to be replaced. A rental unit is currently on site until the HVAC system can be permanently replaced. This project is currently in the design phase.
- Woods Park is being developed on the former site of Woods and Ordway halls. As part of the Woods Park development, the National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) Plaza was dedicated along the far western edge. Chair Tharpe encouraged any Regents who have not seen the NPHC monument to do so as it is the most beautiful monument he has ever seen for this purpose. He applauds the University for its foresight in getting this done. There were well over 200 in attendance at the unveiling. Director Youngblood continued that this Spring the University will be starting to develop some of the site work at Woods Park such as grating and installing underground utilities for drainage and lighting. A rendering was provided showing where the initial phase sidewalks will be located, along with the NPHC monument on the corner. The other walkways on the rendering will be phased in at a later date as additional funding becomes available. President Jackson reported that when the Woods Park project was initially discussed there was a desire for it to resemble a mini Arboretum space with multi-use green space for not only campus but also the surrounding community.
- It is anticipated that work will begin over the summer on the Chestnut Street pedestrian bridge project. The bridge is structurally sound but the railing and entrance columns need to be replaced and there is a great deal of cosmetic deterioration that must be repaired to preserve the structure. The bridge ties the north and south sides of campus together and is heavily travelled every single day. Lettering will also be attached to the bridge that can be illuminated at night to replace the current MSU banner. Confirmation was provided that the bridge and Chestnut Street will have to be closed for a period of time in order to undertake the project. This work is scheduled to be undertaken over a two-month period but it is believed the bridge can be reopened after one month. Chestnut Street will need to remain closed for an additional month but this will allow for an alternate pedestrian route in at least two locations. The University has been working with the State Highway Department, the City of Murray and Calloway County to ensure all are in agreement with the road closure plan.
- A new cooling tower has been installed on Regents Hall and this is an example of projects which are continuously undertaken on campus.

A brief Facilities Management (FM) overview was provided. Facilities Management currently has 58 employees and three student workers. The unit provides maintenance and managed services for nearly four million square feet of campus facilities. FM manages the SSC Custodial and Grounds Contract and has maintenance staff in carpentry, plumbing, electric, painting and plaster repair and HVAC and these individuals cover campus 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days a year. Facilities Management receives an average of 1,250 work orders per month and tracks service and repairs on 109 University-owned vehicles. FM oversees over \$1 million in maintenance and repair parts in the warehouse. Facilities Management currently manages 103 renovation projects and 52 capital projects. FM also provides fire and life and

safety training, manages hazardous waste and chemical disposal and ensures compliance with state and federal Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

President Jackson expressed appreciation to Vice President Dudley, Director Youngblood and Associate Director Lampe for all their good work. They do a fantastic job with limited resources and time. The unit must also manage a large number of outside help and their efforts are truly appreciated. The Facilities Management team received a round of applause from the Board. Chair Tharpe added that maintaining campus facilities is significant for the University's future success.

This agenda item was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Adjournment

The Buildings and Grounds Committee adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Enrollment Management and Student Success Committee

David Meinschein and Ellie McGowan – Co-Chairs
Brandon Edmiston
Robbie Fitch
Melony Shemberger

Regent McGowan called the Enrollment Management and Student Success Committee to order at 10:50 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

Retention and Enrollment Management Update, received

Vice President Robertson and Interim Assistant Vice President White provided a report which highlighted 2022-23 enrollment, retention, recruitment and Student Affairs efforts, including the Recapture Campaign for Spring 2023; Admitted Student Kick-Off; Fall preliminary comparisons; Fall 2023 data with estimates and the collaborative effort for Career Pathways with the following highlights:

- Appreciation was expressed for the Facilities Management report just presented. This work is critical for student recruitment and retention and greatly assists the Enrollment Management team. The hard work of all is very much appreciated.
- The NPHC represented a significant addition to campus but there must be a champion for every project. Director of Student Life and the Curris Center Re’Nita Avery and Coordinator for Student Life and Student Leadership Programs Kim Newbern led the charge with regard to the NPHC Plaza. They were insistent on completing the project and making sure it was done right. This monument will have a significant impact on recruitment.
- Enrollment Management is not only responsible for recruitment on the main campus but also the regional campuses. Appreciation was expressed to Executive Director Lavit and the Regional Campus Coordinators. Work on the regional campuses is significant to overall recruitment and enrollment and their work is very much appreciated.
- The Recapture Campaign which ties into retention efforts was outlined. Appreciation was expressed to Director of Student Engagement and Success Peggy Whaley, Executive Director Carthell, the Deans and Chairs, faculty and other areas on campus for their efforts in this regard which allowed the University to recapture 72 percent of undergraduate students and 81 percent of graduate students. As a result of this work, in addition to the work of the Enrollment Management Team, Spring enrollment for 2023 compared to Spring 2022 is up in the number of students as well as credit hours.
- Key events that are critical to recruitment efforts were outlined, including Admitted Student Kick-Off with 420 students in attendance with their parents and other family members. This represents a significant increase in attendance over last year. *Presidential Fellows* interviews were also held during this period and there were 40 more students on campus interviewing than last year. Of this group, 18 were selected as *Presidential Fellows* for Fall 2023. Appreciation was expressed to Associate Director/Coordinator of New Student Programs Beth Acreman and the Office of Recruitment for their efforts in this regard.
- One of the major indicators for Fall enrollment is registration for Racer Nation Orientation. As of February 22, there have been 1,253 students who have registered (1,188 freshmen and 65 transfers). This is over 175 more students than last year at this time. As of this morning this number has increased to 1,277 students. The good work of Director of Recruitment Shawn Smee and Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Transfer Center Maria Rosa is very much appreciated. A weekly comprehensive communications plan has been developed geared toward these students.

- First-time freshmen campus visits are up 28 percent over last year. Housing applications continue to increase. Scholarship applications are increasing significantly, amounting to a 30 percent increase in freshmen students applying for scholarships. Racer Nation Orientation registrations are up almost 18 percent. In Kentucky and the 18-county service region, the numbers are up in the Fall 2023 applicant pool and the number of students who have registered for Racer Nation Orientation. Yield work will continue to ensure these students are admitted and registered for classes. In response to whether this increase in scholarships is due to Murray State requiring completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order for a student to be considered for scholarships, it was indicated that across the country there has been an increase in the number of FAFSA completers. An overhaul of the FAFSA is underway to reduce the number of questions completers must answer in order to simplify the process. The increase in scholarship applications can also be attributed to the aggressive recruiting efforts being undertaken by the University's recruiters and efforts in this regard were outlined. The excellent work being done in the Scholarship Office has also contributed to this increase. Regent Meinschein indicated that student visits and the personal touch of faculty and staff are crucial to success and Vice President Robertson concurred but added that the Yield Communication Plan implemented in 2018, the Road Scholars program and on-site admission are also valuable tools because students have a number of choices in terms of where they attend college. In response to a question by Regent Roark, confirmation was provided that additional early admission incentives can be considered. Much of this work occurs already with Racer Academy seniors who are automatically admitted to Murray State. This is a new program so matriculation rates from this population are unknown at this time. Chair Tharpe added that Recruitment staff are also dealing with reports in the media regarding the value of higher education and whether students actually need to attend college. To keep the University's numbers up despite this noise is significant and the work of all is to be applauded.
- Director of Web Management and Digital Advertising Charley Allen-Dunn, Associate Provost Fister and Assistant Provost and Director for Online Programs Ashley Ireland have developed a Career Pathways program which was outlined and a demonstration of how it works was provided. Director Allen-Dunn received a round of applause for her efforts in developing this online tool for potential students. Regent Shemberger reported that this also provides an opportunity for programs to reconsider the discipline language currently being used because that will affect certain searches for prospective students. Academic Council could receive a large influx of program name change proposals for this reason and the Board approved one such action earlier today. Chair Tharpe indicated that initiatives such as this keep elevating the University. President Jackson added that one of the top questions higher education faculty and staff receive is whether a student will be able to get a job in their chosen field and this tool answers that question immediately.
- Highlights occurring in the Student Affairs area were provided, including many from the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Career Services and Recruitment.
- The University is proud of its fraternities and sororities as the cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) for Greek students is higher than the overall GPA for the entire student body and that has been the case for the last 14 semesters.
- The Student Government Association, under the leadership of Regent McGowan, hosted multiple SGA activities throughout the Fall and into the Spring.
- This past Fall the residential colleges hosted over 270 programs for students across the eight colleges. A significant number of activities have been undertaken by the International Student Organization, a group Executive Director Carthell advises, as well as the Black Student Council.
- Throughout the semester a focus on mental health resources and programs has been maintained. Confirmation was provided that the pandemic had a significant effect in this regard but overall students were eager to interact with one another again and the University needed to ensure activities were provided accordingly. SGA has played a major role in this process. Regent McGowan indicated she works with the Racer Academy program within the Hutson School of Agriculture and serves as the assistant for all of those agriculture classes. This Spring the numbers were record setting with over 900 students participating in the Racer Academy. This included students not only from the 18-county service region but from schools across the state of Kentucky.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report, received

Provost Todd, Vice President Robertson, Executive Director Duffy, Executive Director Carthell and Interim Assistant Vice President White provided a report relative to diversity, equity and inclusive initiatives which highlighted minority faculty recruitment; the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access; programming and retention; recruitment and admission and low-income students. Information for Academic Year 2022-23 on minority faculty recruitment, *Regents Fellows*, multicultural programming and retention, minority student recruitment and admissions and initiatives directed toward low-income students was also provided. Highlights included:

- A program led by the Provost's Office to recruit diverse faculty from the region, the United States and throughout the world was outlined. This program is led by two outstanding faculty members who are experts in their respective fields – Professor of Psychology Dr. Ester Malm and Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling Dr. Samir Patel. These faculty work closely with Executive Director Duffy and the Provost's Office on strategizing ways to promote Murray State for the recruitment of diverse faculty. These individuals also work closely with Executive Director Touney and his team, the Deans and Chairs, Graduate Recruitment and alumni. Initiatives in this regard were outlined. Chair Tharpe indicated this represents great work as all are looking to see how diverse universities are and this initiative shows that Murray State is actively recruiting diverse faculty.
- The *Regents Fellows* program provides mentoring experiences, higher education talent tools, interview dining experiences and professional development opportunities. The program helps with recruitment and *Regents Fellows* for the 2022-23 academic year are graduate students Zyanna Gee and Jemele Artis. These individuals also work in an area of the University which might lead to a permanent position. They have been very active on campus and shared some recommendations. They developed a publicity campaign that will be shared soon with administrators and attended leadership meetings to see what those experiences look like and to gain an understanding that higher education is much broader than their undergraduate student experience. Work continues to identify additional mentoring experiences for these students to help them learn, grow and navigate higher education. Chair Tharpe indicated he would like to write a letter to these students on behalf of the Board congratulating them on their accomplishments. President Jackson expressed appreciation to Executive Director Duffy for her leadership in this area.
- The Black Faculty and Staff Association connects with campus leadership through monthly meetings. Appreciation was expressed to Vice Chair Owens and Big Ed's in Paducah, Kentucky, for providing a dining experience and an opportunity to spend time with these students. Goodie Bags were also put together for the Black Student Council and connections have been made with the Office of Multicultural Initiatives through the Resource Fair. Additional opportunities include the Black and Connected Series, professional development and presentation to the family of Mary Ford Holland who was the first African American student to attend Murray State. Mrs. Ford's niece – Elnora Ford – represented her aunt and participated in a community forum which was well attended. She also provided the Commencement Address and received an Honorary Doctorate on behalf of her aunt. While on campus the family visited the historical marker that bears Mary Ford Holland's name and traveled to her burial site. The Black Faculty and Staff Association also honored Mary Elaine Horn who is retiring after many years of service to the University. President Jackson and Karen hosted a Dessert Reception at Oakhurst which provided an additional opportunity for these individuals to interact with the administration.
- An overview of Office of Multicultural Initiatives (OMI) retention and programming was provided. Materials were provided to the Board relative to the Emerging Scholars Institute (ESI). This program is designed to meet the needs of the multicultural student population on campus. Two Faculty Liaisons work with the ESI – Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics Dr. Donald Adongo and Assistant Professor of English Dr. Alicia Carthell. These individuals have been critical to providing mentoring and academic and program support for students. The cumulative GPA for ESI students last fall was 3.07 with 147 students participating in the program. Of those, 142 are underrepresented minority students and 119 are *Diversity Scholars*. This marks the 13th year the ESI program has maintained over a 3.0 GPA.
- The President's Reception is held every Fall and approximately 60 students participated. This event helps promote a sense of belonging on campus for these students and is crucial for retention.
- *Minority Graduate Fellows* provide the same mentoring and academic and program support that are essential for young professionals in graduate school. This program is also possible due to support from the Provost's Office. Through their work students learn how a complex organization like higher education works. Those *Minority Graduate Fellows* in attendance were asked to stand and introduce themselves and the group was recognized with a round of applause.
- Monthly Student Resource Days are offered and approximately 125 students on average attend those events. There are approximately 20 vendors – or offices on and off campus that provide student support – in attendance. A survey will be conducted at the end of the year to determine how successful this program has been.
- The Faculty and Staff Mentor program included approximately 11 individuals last Fall who served as mentors to first-year students and this marks the second year of the program.
- A new initiative – the Structured Study Tables program – was outlined. This program is designed to provide assistance to academically at-risk students. There are currently 34 student participants in the program.
- The OMI Used Book Loan program has been developed in conjunction with the University Bookstore and typically 30 to 40 students take advantage of this resource.
- There are approximately ten retention workshops offered. Due to the pandemic, those are currently conducted via ZOOM but will transition back to some being offered in-person and others remaining in a virtual format. Diversity training and presentations are offered in the residential colleges and other areas on campus – as well as some off-campus locations.

- The Diversity Achievement Awards will be held on April 29 and participation averages 300 attendees.
- Student Affairs has formed a Diversity Task Group that meets two to three times per year to discuss the campus climate, program connectivity and opportunities for collaboration. Work is also underway to develop a Diversity Strategic Plan which is expected to be completed in June.
- The Hitimu Celebration is held the Friday before Commencement and recognizes students graduating the following day. All Regents were encouraged to attend.
- Leadership luncheons and dinners are held and Glenn Mills – the son of Dr. Marvin D. Mills and Eunice – was the Keynote Speaker last Fall. President Jackson will also be hosting a dinner for underrepresented minority (URM) students later this Spring and all are excited about the event.
- OMI hosted the national officers for Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity during Homecoming and the Eta Beta Chapter celebrated its 50th anniversary. The University will also be hosting their regional state conference in November, with 400 Kappa's from five states expected to attend.
- The OMI holds Alumni Success Lunches and cultural programming is provided through the Black Heritage Lecture Series and the Hispanic Lecture Series.
- The OMI office produces a monthly newsletter with 2,500 subscribers.
- Special clubs are important to campus because they build a sense of belonging for students and those were highlighted. The African Student Club is also being resurrected.
- Vice President Robertson and Executive Director Carthell both advise the Black Student Council and the International Student Organization.
- The ESI Connected Orientation provides students with an overview of the program and encourages them to get involved in the office and with other resources on campus.
- OMI co-sponsored the Regional Diversity Conference, in conjunction with four other universities in Kentucky and approximately 300 individuals participated. OMI also hosted two open house events during Admitted Student Weekend.
- The Susan E. Baurenfeind Wellness Center, managed by Director Jordan Williams, represents one of the most diverse locations on campus.
- The Office of Student Disability Services, under the supervision of Director Ken Ashlock, not only provides services to students but also participates in a number of recruiting activities.
- The Office of Student Support Services, under the supervision of Director MeLissa Cooper, offers an array of services but also provides a great deal of support to students of color as well as for those who are low-income and first-generation.
- Underrepresented minority student retention has increased ten percentage points in one year due to efforts which has been employed in this regard. The URM graduation rate also increased 22 percent in one year. Most importantly, students are being provided with an opportunity to connect curricular and co-curricular experiences together so they can reach their dream of attaining employment and changing their lives through higher education.

Regent Meinschein expressed appreciation to Executive Director Carthell for his work and asked him to express that sentiment to faculty and staff involved in the initiative just outlined. Chair Tarpe indicated Executive Director Carthell does great work for the University that is much needed. He suggested that Dr. Carthell lean into this Board for their expertise and support. Regents need to be aware of these events because they want to attend to ensure there is truly a diverse and inclusive presentation. Appreciation was also expressed to President Jackson for the events he and Karen are hosting because it means a great deal to these students. The entire campus needs to see that the Board is also advancing diversity and inclusion. Vice Chair Owens indicated that in the past there have been Listening Sessions scheduled with Board members and the President and those proved to be particularly effective. Out of those Listening Sessions, different initiatives came forth from the students. In terms of whether there is a plan in place to re-initiate those type of Listening Sessions, Executive Director Carthell indicated such a plan could be developed but the Listening Sessions were held as a result of the pandemic and the unrest that was occurring at the time throughout the country. The Listening Sessions revealed that students had a lot of concerns but they were not necessarily related to Murray State. Their experiences on this campus were largely positive and that remains true today. Focus groups are offered annually and the Listening Sessions could perhaps become part of that effort. Vice Chair Owens reported that different states take different approaches to African American and other cultural history. His reason for suggesting reinvigorating the Listening Sessions is so that the University can be proactive in addressing any such issues that may arise. President Jackson reported that every Fall since 2018 the reception at Oakhurst has been held. During that event there is a question and answer session and that in essence represents a listening session. During the reception in 2018, a student asked about campus lighting which served as the precursor to the Campus Lighting Plan this Board approved that has now been put in place. There are many other examples. Vice President Robertson reported that Director of the Women's Center and Pride Center Abigail Cox also has in place very aggressive programming to address concerns on campus to ensure students are comfortable with who they are and feel safe. Another such

initiative is the Pride Center and student engagement in this area has been phenomenal. Safe Zone training is conducted and a Lavender Graduation has now been developed. This unit also produces a monthly newsletter. Regent Evans expressed appreciation to all for this conversation because it is not often that there is the opportunity to discuss diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives that impact faculty, staff and students. Knowing that all of these areas intersect with one another and seeing how this helps not only faculty and staff but ultimately the student population that the University is here to serve is much appreciated. It is important that all understand when talking about these initiatives it is not just a particular group or sector but the entire University constituency.

Appreciation was expressed to Associate Provost Fister for providing the information needed to determine where the University needs to focus its recruitment efforts. Ongoing URM admissions and recruiting activities in the Office of Recruitment were outlined and detailed, including scholarship opportunities, as follows:

- A joint committee of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Finance and Administrative Services and Athletics has been formed with a focus on graduation rates. The group meets twice per month to support the graduation of URM and low-income students and initiatives in this regard were outlined. As a result of this work, the University has been able to narrow the gap of the low-income six-year graduation rate to within one percent of the overall six-year graduation rate.
- Another resource being put in place is a Resource Kiosk and that initiative was outlined.
- There is a correlation between first-generation students, which comprise 44 percent of the MSU student population, and low-income students (38 percent of the MSU student population). The First-Generation Student Success Committee was created by Assistant Director for the Center for Student Engagement and Success Jennifer Smith and launched earlier this month. The Committee is comprised of faculty and staff and the goals for the Committee were outlined in detail.

This report was presented for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

Adjournment

The Enrollment Management and Student Success Committee adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Reconvene

Chair Tharpe reconvened the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting and Committee Meetings at 1 p.m. and reported that Regent Meinschein had to leave the meeting early.

Resolution of Appreciation – Chief of Police Jeff Gentry, approved

Chair Tharpe reported that Chief Gentry is present with his wife and granddaughter. The following Resolution was read aloud by President Jackson:

**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF REGENTS
RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

JEFFERY C. GENTRY

WHEREAS, this Resolution of Appreciation will recognize the long-time service and commitment of Jeffery C. Gentry to Murray State University (MSU) and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery C. Gentry began his career at Murray State as a patrol officer and served in many positions within the area of campus safety and security, advancing to the role of Chief of Police in January of 2021; and

WHEREAS, through his professionalism in all aspects of his career, he has proven to be an outstanding role model for his co-workers as well as to the students with whom he mentors and interacts; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to continued professional development led to his completion of the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Executive Development Program; and

WHEREAS, his oversight in maintaining the professional standards required of the officers and staff of the MSU Police Department by the Department of Criminal Justice was of utmost importance in ensuring compliance with the Peace Officer Professional Standards Board; and

WHEREAS, his reputation for excellence in his duties was duly noted by his co-workers in his selection as a recipient of the *Phil R. Schooley Staff Excellence Award* in 2015; and

WHEREAS, his contributions in fostering a safe environment for all of the University's constituents resulted in the department's designation of Department of the Year by the Safe Campus initiative in 2018; and

WHEREAS, through his efforts, the MSU Police Department has maintained accreditation with the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP), an accreditation it has held since 2007; and

WHEREAS, his leadership skills have been recognized by his counterparts throughout the state in his selection as President of the Kentucky Association of University Law Enforcement Administrators (KAULEA) for the fifth consecutive term; and

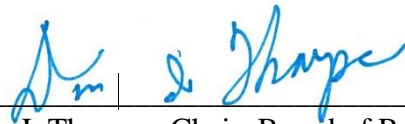
WHEREAS, he was instrumental in management of campus protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, his calm demeanor and empathy as well as his experience as a certified Police Chaplain have proven truly paramount to the University in appropriately handling critical situations; and

WHEREAS, he has served the faculty, staff and students of Murray State University on a daily basis with compassion;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University recognizes Jeffery C. Gentry and his 21 years of service to Murray State University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents expresses its deep and heartfelt appreciation to Jeffery C. Gentry for his dedication and loyalty to the institution and his contributions to the betterment of the University and extends best wishes for a long and happy retirement.



Don I. Tharpe – Chair, Board of Regents
February 24, 2023

Chief Gentry received a standing ovation and expressed appreciation to Murray State, stating that he loves and misses everyone dearly and is grateful for the opportunity to serve the University. Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents approve the Resolution of Appreciation just read aloud. Regent Evans seconded and the motion carried.

Finance Committee

Leon Owens – Chair
Robbie Fitch
Virginia Gray
Melony Shemberger
Don Tharpe

Vice Chair Owens called the Finance Committee to order at 1:05 p.m. and reported all other members were present.

Annual Lease Report, accepted

Vice President Dudley reported that, as per Item #16 of the Delegation of Authority, the Board is to approve University real property and facilities' leases under which 1) the University is the lessee if the annual rental is in excess of \$100,000 or 2) the University is the lessor of University real property or facilities and the lease has a non-cancellable term exceeding one year. No additional approval will be required if an approved lease is renewed pursuant to the same terms and conditions but the Board will be advised of any such renewal. A listing of all leases is provided to the Board annually.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the annual Lease Report as presented. Regent Gray seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Annual Lease Report, accepted

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the attached annual Lease Report. Regent Evans seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #6)

Personal Services Contracts, approved

Vice President Dudley reported that Item #11 of the Delegation of Authority stipulates that the Board: "...approve all Personal Services Contracts totaling more than \$50,000. The Board will be notified of all Personal Services Contracts between \$10,000 and \$50,000 before they are submitted to the Legislative Research Commission. Upon review, individual Board members may request that these be held for approval at the next Board meeting." The contracts on the listing provided require approval by the Board of Regents.

The first contract being presented for approval is for interpreting services and represents a renewal. The second contract is for consulting services for a compensation study for faculty and staff salaries. Director Hixon will be Project Manager for the compensation study initiative. A firm that already has a contract with the state of Kentucky has been identified and will participate in this engagement. Director Hixon reported that the compensation review will focus on faculty, exempt staff and non-exempt staff positions. The proposed project start date is March with conclusion expected in Fall 2023. As part of this work, an Advisory Committee has been established comprised of representation from the University administration and faculty and staff leadership from Staff Congress and Faculty Senate. The project will consist of eight different tiers or phases and over the timeframe outlined there will be a lot of engagement and activities when the number of positions to be reviewed is taken into consideration. The positions will be benchmarked in an external labor market and a salary survey will be conducted. Within the salary survey, primary data will be utilized to identify peer institutions. Secondary data will also be used and includes information at the national level from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR). Data from CUPA-HR is utilized to allow for a comprehensive salary review. For the staff perspective, salaries in the local and regional area will be reviewed because the positions will be similar. At the conclusion of the project, the results will be reviewed and an implementation strategy developed. The maintenance of the program moving forward will also be considered as part of this work. Confirmation was provided that the consultant would provide assistance to the University on how to strategize for the long term.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the contracts as presented per requirements of the Delegation of Authority (Item #11). Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Personal Services Contracts, approved

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the contracts as listed in the

attached document per requirements of the Delegation of Authority (Item #11). Regent Evans seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #7)

Projects Approval, approved

Vice President Dudley reported that Delegation of Authority Item #20 states "...Prior to moving forward, all projects, including price contracts related to capital projects, costing over \$500,000 and up to the threshold denoted by Kentucky statue should be reviewed by the Board Chair and the President and a determination made in terms of those projects requiring further Board approval." The schedule listing new projects or projects with a total estimated cost of over \$500,000 was provided for the Board. These projects include Regents Hall which Director Youngblood discussed earlier and boiler, piping and air handler replacements in White Hall. The Chestnut Street pedestrian bridge project is also included. The Board had previously approved this project but for a lesser amount and it is being brought back for approval with a scope increase. A project is included on the listing which does not meet the \$500,000 limit but, per the Delegation of Authority, requires Board approval, and that is the relocation of the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services to another location in Sparks Hall. The final project on the listing includes HVAC challenges which exist in Hart Hall and this also represents an increase in project scope.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the projects outlined on the listing provided. Regent Gray seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Projects Approval, approved

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the projects outlined on the attached listing. Regent Shemberger seconded and roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #8)

Adjournment

The Finance Committee adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Legislative and Economic Development Committee

Virginia Gray – Chair
Brandon Edmiston
Ellie McGowan
Leon Owens
Tom Waldrop

Regent Gray called the Legislative and Economic Development Committee to order at 1:15 p.m. and reported all members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

Legislative and Federal Delegation Update, received

Executive Director Smith provided a legislative and federal delegation update with the following highlights:

- Today marks Day 16 of the 30-day Legislative Session. March 15 and 16 are concurrence days and signify when the House and Senate must have concurred on bills that are important to their respective chambers. From March 17 to March 28, all the bills from the Legislative Session are presented to the Governor to either veto, sign or choose not to act. March 30 is *Sine Die* and represents the last day of the Legislative Session when all work by the General Assembly must be finished.
- West Kentucky Day at the Capitol took place on February 15 and he and President Jackson were both in Frankfort, in addition to other individuals from the region. The Governor addressed attendees that

day and there was an opportunity for interaction with Governor Beshear, as well as the University's West Kentucky legislators.

- Appreciation was expressed to the Hutson School of Agriculture for taking the lead on the Collegiate Farm Bureau Day on March 16 that was sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau. President Jackson spoke to the Collegiate Farm Bureau at the Capitol, as did the Lieutenant Governor and others.
- Posters-at-the-Capitol will be held on March 2 and Murray State hosts this event every year in Frankfort. Dean of University Libraries Cris Ferguson and Associate Professor/Scholarly Communication Librarian A. J. Boston were key participants in this event which highlights academic excellence throughout the state. CPE President Thompson will be in attendance at Posters-at-the-Capitol, along with Provost Todd, Regent McGowan and others. Members of the House and Senate will speak at the event as well.
- The Higher Education Student Rally will be held on March 9 and Regent McGowan is helping host the event, along with the Board of Student Body Presidents in Kentucky. The Governor and the Speaker of the House have both confirmed to speak at the event. West Kentucky legislators will also visit with the Student Government Association students in attendance.
- From the beginning of the Legislative Session, meetings in Frankfort have consisted of monitoring the University's Bill Watch and talking to legislators about the bills that are important to Murray State and higher education. This was the last week for bills to be introduced into the Legislative Session in both chambers. As this deadline approached, and as is customary, a large number of bills have been introduced in these last days of the Session. As a result, the University had been following approximately 50 bills and that has now increased to 80 - 90 bills. A lot of new bills were introduced just yesterday. Frankfort meetings have centered on all bills the University is following.
- With regard to KERS pensions, the University continues to remind the Legislature about the challenges in this area. Discussions continue about asset preservation and deferred maintenance in order to remind legislators that these are state-owned and operated buildings and they have been highly encouraged to continue investing in these state assets.
- The 2020 Performance Funding Work Group was reconvened during this Legislative Session. President Jackson, as Convener of the Presidents for the CPE, plays a prominent role in this Work Group to ensure the University is represented in these discussions.
- On February 23, President Jackson and Executive Director Smith testified before the Budget Review Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education under new leadership by Chair Bobby McCool from eastern Kentucky. Chair McCool's former roommate in college was State Representative Larry Elkins. Chair McCool has done an excellent job as a Subcommittee Chair and has worked well with Murray State. The new House Education Chair – Representative James Tipton – previously served as the Budget Review Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Chair and all appreciate the good working relationship he has with Murray State, the CPE and all higher education. During the presentation, Murray State highlights were provided and included the Breathitt Veterinary Center and other items of importance to this institution during the Legislative Session.
- Photos were shown of recent legislative visits, including those with the new Senate Education Chair Senator Steve West, Representative Mary Beth Imes (Murray-Calloway County), Chair Tipton and Floor Leader Representative Steve Rudy, a Distinguished Alumnus from Murray State. Also highlighted was Ronny Pryor, the University's legislative contract Lobbyist, who is a prominent Murray State alumnus. These are a select few individuals who help Murray State behind the scenes. Appreciation was expressed to all West Kentucky legislators who continue to help the University.

In terms of the Legislative Bill Watch, the following were highlighted:

- House Bill 136 represents a tuition freeze bill filed by Representative Bill Lawrence from eastern Kentucky. This bill would prohibit the CPE from raising tuition more than 5 percent per year for resident students and 7 percent per year for non-resident students. If this is contained in state statute, the maximum would be taken each year and Murray State has been sharing with legislators that its tuition increases have averaged only 1.3 to 1.5 percent for resident and non-resident students. The Legislature has also been reminded that West Kentucky legislators have no desire to set tuition because that falls under the responsibilities of the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Boards at the different institutions. This bill also adds one student and one additional faculty member to the Board of Regents and discussions have also been held in this regard. At this point the bill has not been assigned to a Committee even though it receives a lot of attention.
- House Bill 138 removes the gun-free zone on college and university campuses and discussions have occurred in this regard. Former MSU Chief of Police Gentry has been very helpful in having the University Campus Law Enforcement Association write letters urging the Legislature not to pass bills like this one. In the meeting held with Representative Savannah Maddox, Chiefs of Police were present to provide a reminder about the dangers of removing gun-free zones and encouraging individuals to bring guns to campus. Due to this good work, this bill is also not moving forward.
- House Bill 139 is another bill sponsored by Representative Maddox and extends free speech protection to the public on college and university campuses. Legislators have been reminded that the colleges and campuses already have free speech under the United States Constitution. The bill would extend extra protections to members of the public who want to come on campus at any time to have spontaneous protests, even in the middle of a classroom. This bill was getting some traction and the

West Kentucky legislators really helped the University pause the bill because those who live in this region understand what is currently in place is already working.

- House Bill 171 is the FAFSA bill and has previously been discussed with the Board. Representative Steve Riley from Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Chair Tipton are the sponsors of this bill. There has been no movement on the bill at this time but it will likely be assigned to a Committee. There has been a great deal of discussion about this topic and the university Presidents have participated in those conversations. The bill requires completion of the FAFSA as a requirement for high school graduation but it does contain a waiver option.
- Senate Joint Resolution 98 was filed by Senate President Robert Stivers and directs the CPE to study all of higher education, in particular, southeast higher education opportunities, in Kentucky. The bill also requires an examination of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). This represents a 20-year look back at higher education from House Bill 1 that was passed in 1997. House Bill 1 created KCTCS and Programs of Distinction (Cybersecurity for Murray State) at the different universities. It is anticipated the bill will pass. Once passed, CPE Work Group meetings will be held in the interim to discuss issues of importance to the Legislature.

Regent Shemberger questioned why some of these bills would even be introduced during the Legislative Session due to their potential to cause harm on college and university campuses. Executive Director Smith indicated groups from outside of Kentucky have encouraged some of these bills. As an example, a graduate student at a different university that is a member of one of these outside groups is leading the charge with regard to House Bill 136. President Jackson stated that some believe universities stymie free speech. That is certainly not the case at Murray State, although it may or may not be true for other universities in terms of certain types of speech. There is a process in place at Murray State to allow all groups to speak on campus and that is exercised on a regular basis. Executive Director Smith added that legislators are very happy with the process that is already in place.

In terms of the federal delegation and associated updates, the following highlights were provided:

- Executive Director Smith, President Jackson, Chair Tharpe and Vice Chair Owens were in Washington, DC, from January 31 – February 3, 2023. During the visit, meetings were held with Congressmen James Comer, Morgan McGarvey, Harold Rogers and Brett Guthrie; Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell; Senator Rand Paul and other government officials. The visit also felt like a Murray State alumni event due to the number of individuals encountered who had ties to the University. Discussions ranged from academic grants and different funding opportunities to Name, Image and Likeness federal legislation.
- The visit also provided an opportunity for MSU to thank federal officials for their support of Murray State. Like state legislators, federal officials and their staff do a lot for Murray State behind the scenes with grants, immigration issues and internships and fellowships.
- This week Executive Director Smith was in Washington again representing Murray State at the Fulbright event hosted by the State Department of Education. All are proud of the Murray State students who have been named as *Fulbright Scholars*, as well as the Honors College, Academic Affairs and others who helped shepherd them through this process. While in Washington for this occasion, he also met again with Congressman Comer, Kentucky Farm Bureau representatives and different University partners in that location.

Regent Gray asked whether performance-based funding has evolved more to Murray State's favor because at first the model was very weighted toward the larger universities. Executive Director Smith reported that Associate Provost Fister has done an excellent job presenting the metrics associated with the Performance Funding Model to illustrate where Murray State is excelling in more areas than some other state universities yet is not receiving funding to reflect this performance. President Jackson confirmed that performance funding work is evolving. The Performance Funding Work Group – comprised of the Presidents from each of the universities, CPE President Thompson and two legislators – will hold its third meeting next week and work continues in this regard. One of the major discussion points is taking part of the \$75 million that was appropriated during the last Biennial Session – which is currently cycled out to each institution through the Performance Funding Model – and making a portion of that funding part of base funding each year. Since the inception of the model, last year Murray State received \$3.3 million – the first one-time (not recurring) money the institution has received since the existence of the Performance Funding Model. If some portion of performance funding dollars were added to the base appropriation so that it is recurring that would assist the universities greatly, especially in terms of budgeting. Two institutions in the Commonwealth did not receive any performance funding dollars. Common ground will be found as the universities negotiate through the various scenarios being considered. This work must be completed before December 1, 2023, for the next Biennial Budget Session of the Legislature. If part of the performance

funding were made part of the base appropriation, this would also make budgeting easier if it was being carried out with recurring dollars. State Representative Myron Dossett has referenced the Murray State performance funding chart that was prepared by Associate Provost Fister. West Kentucky legislators also continue to remind members of their respective work groups that the model is volume-based and care must be taken to ensure academic quality is also taken into account.

Chair Tharpe expressed appreciation to Regent Gray for representing the Board as this work is undertaken. Appreciation was also expressed to Executive Director Smith for his efforts in this regard.

Adjournment

The Legislative and Economic Development Committee adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Marketing and Community Engagement Committee

Jessica Evans and Emily Roark – Co-Chairs

Virginia Gray
David Meinschein
Tom Waldrop

Regent Evans called the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee to order at 1:40 p.m. and reported all members were present with the exception of Regents Meinschein and Waldrop.

Executive Director of Development Bernot thanked the Board for their support and all they do for the University. She also announced that a week of giving will be held March 8 – 15.

Gift-in-Kind – 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax – Department of Music, received, accepted and approved

Executive Director Bernot reported that the Board is being asked to accept the gift of a 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax to the Murray State University Department of Music for student and departmental use. This instrument is being gifted from Kenneth Neidig, a 1952 music education graduate who lives in New Mexico. He is an editor, writer and music educator. He also served a three-year enlistment in the United States Army Band, including the 293rd Division at the United Nations Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Roark moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, receive, accept and approve the donation of a 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax with a value of \$10,000 from Kenneth Neidig of Las Cruces, New Mexico, for use by the Department of Music. Regent Gray seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Gift-in-Kind – 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax – Department of Music, received, accepted and approved

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Evans moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, receive, accept and approve the donation of a 1957-58 Selmer Paris Mark VI Tenor Sax with a value of \$10,000 from Kenneth Neidig of Las Cruces, New Mexico, for use by the Department of Music. Vice Chair Owens seconded and the motion carried.

Gift-in-Kind – Sorority Suites from Murray State University Foundation, accepted

Executive Director Bernot reported that the Murray State University Foundation has approved the transfer of ownership of the Sorority Suites to the University. This action is summarized in a letter from the MSU Foundation and the third-party appraisal indicating an implied value of \$450,592 that were provided to the Board. In addition to the gift of the buildings and associated property, the Foundation will also gift \$250,000, made in two annual installment payments, to be

used for major maintenance on these facilities. The Sorority Suites are located at 1507 and 1509 Poplar Street and have a total of 2,744 square feet for each suite and photos were provided. These buildings were constructed in 1999 by the Foundation at a cost of approximately \$640,000. They are wood frame structures, with brick veneer and shingle roofs.

The Foundation owns the land the suites are located on; however, the parking lot behind the suites is a University asset and has been monitored and maintained by Campus Parking Services since 2001. The University has always been responsible for routine maintenance, cleaning, grounds and security for these suites since they opened in 2001. The Foundation has historically been responsible for all major maintenance, such as HVAC, flooring, utilities infrastructure, etc. The Foundation has carried leases with the four sororities that utilize these suites. These leases are currently \$700/month for each sorority and will transfer to the University upon the conveyance of this asset. Since 2001 the University has paid the Foundation \$1,000/month, covered insurance and utilities and routine maintenance within the existing budgets in order to utilize these facilities. In total, the Foundation has received \$3,800/monthly in rental income, including the \$1,000 from the University. The University anticipates continuing to operate the suites for their current purpose and within the existing budget and rental income, with no added recurring budget necessary.

The expected major maintenance that will be funded from the Foundation's \$250,000 monetary gift will be new roofing, tuckpointing, chimney repairs, trash enclosure, security cameras and electronic door locking devices. Before the property transfer can be completed, the University will need to obtain approval by the Secretary of Finance and Administration Cabinet. Appreciation was expressed to MSU Foundation President Dr. David Durr and the Board of Trustees for their efforts in this regard.

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Roark moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the transfer of the Sorority Suites, located at 1507 and 1509 Poplar Street, from the Murray State University Foundation for the use stated above at an implied value of \$450,592, with full acceptance being contingent upon approval by the Secretary of Finance. Regent Gray seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Gift-in-Kind – Sorority Suites from Murray State University Foundation, accepted

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Evans moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, accept the transfer of the Sorority Suites, located at 1507 and 1509 Poplar Street, from the Murray State University Foundation for the use stated above at an implied value of \$450,592, with full acceptance being contingent upon approval by the Secretary of Finance. Regent Shemberger seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried.

Adjournment

The Marketing and Community Engagement Committee adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

President Jackson expresses appreciation to Executive Director Bernot and the Office of Development for the great job they do as it is very much appreciated. He also expressed appreciation to the MSU Foundation Board of Trustees and Dr. Durr. This topic has been discussed for many years and action today will help Murray State and benefit students.

Personnel Changes

Faculty Sabbatical Leave, approved

Provost Todd reported that the Sabbatical Leaves, as described below, have been recommended by all appropriate recommending levels. Academic Sabbatical Leaves are awarded for either two semesters at one-half salary or one semester at full salary. These are highly-deserving faculty who have requested a Sabbatical Leave. Regent Shemberger added that a Sabbatical Leave is

very important to faculty because it represents a time when these individuals step outside the classroom – and sometimes off campus – to emerge themselves in research, scholarly activity and service. They can then bring those experiences back into the classroom. She congratulated all faculty being recommended for Sabbatical Leave and looks forward to hearing what they accomplish.

Sabbaticals:

◆ Joy Humphreys	Management, Marketing and Business Administration	Fall 2023
◆ Mi-Hwa Park	Early Childhood and Elementary Education	Fall 2023
◆ Christopher Lavery	Art and Design	Fall 2023
◆ Andrew Black	English and Philosophy	Fall 2023
◆ Julie Cyzewski	English and Philosophy	Fall 2023
◆ Christine Lindner	History	Fall 2023
◆ Kevin Miller	Chemistry	Fall 2023
◆ John Porter	Mathematics and Statistics	Fall 2023
◆ Nicole Hand	Art and Design	Spring 2024
◆ Jeff Osborne	English and Philosophy	Spring 2024
◆ Daryl Phillipy	Global Languages and Theatre Arts	Spring 2024
◆ David Pizzo	History	Spring 2024
◆ Esther Malm	Psychology	Spring 2024
◆ Laura Sullivan Beckers	Biological Sciences	Spring 2024
◆ Marcie Venter	Earth and Environmental Sciences	Spring 2024

Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, grant the requests for Sabbatical Leaves for the individuals and periods indicated above. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

Salary Roster, approved

President Jackson reported that in compliance with state statutes and the responsibilities of the University Treasurer as identified in the *Bylaws* of the Murray State University Board of Regents, the attached Salary Roster outlines the amount paid to each professor, teacher or official of the school. The Salary Roster is presented to the Board at the meetings following June 30 and December 31 each year.

Vice Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Salary Roster as of December 31, 2022, which includes new employment, retirements, resignations and terminations. Regent Roark seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Mr. Edmiston, yes; Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Mr. Owens, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Dr. Tharpe, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #9)

Supplemental Materials

President Jackson reported that supplemental materials were included in the eBoard book as follows: “Good News” Report (Winter 2023); Quarterly Branding, Marketing and Communication Report (October – December 2022) and Sponsored Programs – Grants and Contracts Report. The Litigation Status Report prepared by General Counsel Miller was provided in a separate, confidential eBoard book. These reports were provided for informational purposes only and required no Board action.


Other Business

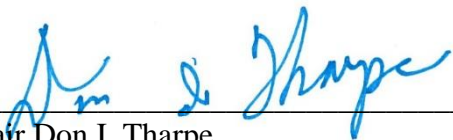
Chair Tharpe thanked his fellow Board members for their preparedness and participation today. Their service is very much appreciated. Appreciation was also expressed to faculty and staff for their work and love for this University. President Jackson echoed this appreciation.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tharpe requested a motion to adjourn. Regent Shemberger so moved, seconded by Regent Fitch, and the motion carried.

The Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting and Committee meetings adjourned at 2 p.m.


Secretary Jill Hunt


Chair Don I. Tharpe

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