

**Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Regents  
Murray State University  
August 25, 2023**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Murray State University (MSU) Board of Regents met on Friday, August 25, 2023, in Quarterly and Committee Session in the Pogue Library Jesse Stuart Room on the Murray State University campus. Chair Leon Owens called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed those joining the meeting in person and via livestream. He also welcomed the Board's two new members – Mr. G. L. Ovey and Dr. Matthew Price. All look forward to working with them and appreciate their willingness to serve. Secretary Jill Hunt called roll and the following Board members were present: Jessica Evans, Robbie Fitch, Virginia Gray, Ellie McGowan, David Meinschein, G. L. Ovey, Leon Owens, Matt Price, Emily Roark and Melony Shemberger. 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; Jackie Dudley, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services and Treasurer to the Board; Bob Pervine, Senior Associate Provost; Ashley Ireland, Assistant Provost and Director for Online Learning; Roslyn White, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management; Robert Miller, General Counsel; Jason Youngblood, Director of Facilities Management; Nico Yantko, Director of Athletics; Shawn Touney, Executive Director of Marketing and Communication; Jordan Smith, Executive Director for Governmental and Institutional Relations; Academic Deans; Information Technology staff and members of the general public and news media.

**AGENDA**

**Call to Order**

**Chair Owens**

**Roll Call**

**Secretary Hunt**

**Public Participation**

**Chair Owens**

**Consent Agenda**

**Chair Owens/President Jackson**

- A. Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting and Committee Meetings on June 2, 2023, and Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents on August 7, 2023\***
- B. Audit and Compliance Committee – Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Annual Report – Fiscal Year 2023 (For Information Only)**
- C. Audit and Compliance Committee – Office of Internal Audit – Summary of Presidential Travel Report (For Information Only)**
- D. Finance Committee – Personal Services Contracts – Schedule of Expenditures (For Information Only)**

**Report of the Chair**

**Chair Owens**

- A. President's Delegation of Authority Reaffirmation\***
- B. 2020 – 2025 Revised Strategic Plan Approval\***

**Report of the President**

**President Jackson**

**Report of the Treasurer\***

**Sr. Vice President FAS Dudley**

**(Quarterly Financial and Investment Reports)**

**Committee Reports/Recommendations**

- A. Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities      Regent Shemberger**
  - 1) Hutson School of Agriculture Academic Highlights Update (For Information Only)**
  - 2) Hutson School of Agriculture Resolution of Support\***
- B. Athletics      Chair Owens**

- 1) **Racer Athletics Update (For Information Only)**
  - 2) **Governing Board Certifications**
    - a. **Missouri Valley Conference – Academic Year 2023-24\***
    - b. **Ohio Valley Conference – Academic Year 2023-24\***
  - 3) **The Inside Track: National Collegiate Athletic Association Rules for Alumni, Fans and Friends of Racer Athletics (For Information Only)**
- C. Audit and Compliance** **Regent Waldrop**
- 1) **Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Charter Reaffirmation\***
- D. Buildings and Grounds** **Regent Roark**
- 1) **Facilities Management Projects Update (For Information Only)**
  - 2) **School of Nursing and Health Professions Building – Project Overview Update (For Information Only)**
  - 3) **Project Program Statements**
    - a. **Price Doyle Fine Arts Building Boiler and HVAC Renovation\***
    - b. **Hancock Biological Station HVAC Replacement\***
    - c. **Old Fine Arts Building Boiler Replacement and HVAC System Upgrades\***
    - d. **Pogue Library HVAC and Electrical Renovations\***
    - e. **New School of Nursing and Health Professions Building\***
    - f. **Mason Hall ADA and Mechanical Upgrades\***
    - g. **Biology Building (Science Complex) Mechanical Equipment and Roof Replacement\***
  - h. **Oakley Applied Science Building ADA and Mechanical Upgrades\***

12 noon (approx.) **Break for Lunch (Group Photo on Front Steps of Pogue Library)**

1 p.m. (approx.) **Reconvene**

- E. Enrollment Management and Student Success** **Regents Meinschein/McGowan**
- F. Finance** **Regent Fitch**
- 1) **Projects\***
  - 2) **Personal Services Contracts\***
  - 3) **Surplus Property Disposition\***
  - 4) **Surplus Property Disposition Request – Bucket Truck\***
- G. Legislative and Economic Development** **Vice Chair Gray**
- 1) **Legislative Update (For Information Only)**
- H. Marketing and Community Engagement** **Regent Evans**
- 1) **Naming Opportunity – *Doran Arboretum at Murray State University\****
  - 2) **Naming Opportunity – *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level – Roy Stewart Stadium\****
  - 3) **Naming Opportunity – *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office – Gene W. Ray Center\****

**NOTE: Full Board action will follow Committee action.**

**Personnel Changes**

**President Jackson**

- A. **Director of Athletics – Contract of Employment Amendment – Nico Yantko\***
- B. **Head Women’s Volleyball Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – David Schwepker\***
- C. **Head Rifle Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – Alan Lollar\***
- D. **Salary Roster\***

**Policy Changes**

**President Jackson**

- A. **New *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 2.29 – Remotely Operated Aircraft Systems/Drones* (second reading)\***
- B. **Revised *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.4 – Staff Congress* (second reading)\***
- C. **Revised *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.9 – Student Government***



## **Report of the President, received**

President Jackson indicated he provided an extensive presentation during the Retreat yesterday in regard to initiatives that are underway at the University.

## **Treasurer's Report (Quarterly Financial and Investment Reports), accepted**

Senior 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 June 30, 2023:

- Cash is down and this was anticipated due to known health insurance increases the University had to cover, additional money spent for scholarships than what was budgeted and the expenditure of one-time monies.
- Accounts receivable increased. In Fiscal Year 2021, accounts receivable was significantly higher but decreased in Fiscal Year 2022 due to Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) dollars being applied to account receivables to keep students in school. Accounts receivable rebounded in Fiscal Year 2023. The University no longer receives CARES funding and must again carry the accounts receivable balance.
- Working Capital is up due to accounts receivable increases.
- There was an almost \$14 million increase in net position related entirely to the pension entry. The University had a very good year but would have experienced a \$4.1 million decrease in net position without the pension entries. Nothing occurred during the year that was not anticipated. This was due to the University monitoring health care costs and net tuition and fees throughout the fiscal year and planning accordingly.
- Total revenues are on target compared to prior years. Total expenditures appear to be significantly higher this year. This is because for the past two years the University had very large pension entries that reduced expenditures and this year's entry was not as significant. A graphic was provided showing that actual expenditures were very much in line with what was budgeted for both Education and General and Auxiliary expenditures.
- The data presented today represent unaudited numbers and the audited figures will be presented to the Board at the December Quarterly meeting for approval.

Regent Fitch 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 June 30, 2023, as presented. Regent Meinschein seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #3)

## **Committee Reports/Recommendations**

### **Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee**

Melony Shemberger – Chair  
Jessica Evans  
Virginia Gray  
David Meinschein  
G. L. Ovey

Regent Shemberger called the Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee to order at 8:42 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

Chair Owens expressed appreciation to Regent Shemberger for working with Secretary Hunt to send out the Faculty Success Reports to the full Board.

## **Hutson School of Agriculture Academic Highlights Update, received**

Dr. Brian Parr, Dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture provided an update with the following highlights:

- Dr. Shea Porr is the new Associate Dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture. She has been with Murray State for 12 years and served as Department Head for Animal and Equine Science. She will continue in that role. Dr. Porr is an equine scientist and has a long background in education and research and she represents a phenomenal asset to the program and school.

- Three new faculty members joined the Hutson School of Agriculture this fall. Blake Kennedy is an Instructor in Unmanned Aerial Systems – a program that has grown significantly. He is teaching four classes this semester and all have high enrollment. Appreciation was expressed to the Board for establishing this program a few years ago. Dr. Nick Lancaster, a recent Purdue University graduate, is an Assistant Professor in Agribusiness Economics which is another flagship program with large enrollment within the Hutson School of Agriculture. Dr. Trent Wells is an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education and is leading the teacher education program for the Hutson School of Agriculture.
- Landon Wicker is now in place as the Operations Manager for Eagle Rest Farm. He is living on site and has made many improvements since his arrival to move toward the vision for that particular asset.
- The new Swine/North Farm Manager position is currently vacant.
- A new Endowed Professorship has been established in the Hutson School of Agriculture – the *Ray and Jewel Thomas Futrell Endowed Professorship*. This represents the first Endowed Professorship for the school and will support attracting new and qualified faculty into the agricultural science departments.
- Everyone is a recruiter at Murray State and this is especially true for the Hutson School of Agriculture. Not one member of the faculty or staff believe it is not their job to help bring more students into the School of Agriculture. This represents a constant effort through high school visits and attendance at state and national Future Farmers of America (FFA) conventions. Hutson School of Agriculture representatives also travel to the National Farm Machinery Show and the Tennessee FFA Convention. Most effectively, the school hosts approximately 2,000 high school students per year on campus. Students are given the opportunity to compete in events on behalf of their home high school but are also able to see what the Hutson School of Agriculture has to offer first hand.
- The Hutson School of Agriculture once again has a record enrollment of 1,300 students and welcomed nearly 300 students during Racer Nation Orientation this year. Not only are undergraduate enrollment numbers at an all-time high but graduate enrollment is at an exponential all-time high, due primarily to growth in online graduate programs. Two graduate programs are administered through the Hutson School of Agriculture. An additional program is administered through the College of Education and Human Services that feeds an Agri-Science Education Leadership program at the doctoral level. These programs are fully enrolled with over 200 students for the fall semester, representing enormous growth. In 2014, the school had 31 graduate students and of those, 15 or 16 were on campus and the other half were utilizing a hybrid format to obtain their graduate degree. Today there are 14 to 15 students on campus and the remainder are taking advantage of online options. Other states have also noticed Hutson School of Agriculture recruitment efforts.
- The Hutson School of Agriculture maintains several partnerships within industry for research and education and those were outlined. This represents a model that has served the school well for a number of years. It is not only a good educational model but is also financially sustainable.
- The Animal/Equine Science program is evolving. While maintaining a focus on traditional equine and food/animal programs, a new initiative is poultry and meats education. Dr. Thomas Powell, Assistant Professor of Animal Science, has been at the University for a number of years as a meat scientist and is developing a Meat Lab. Work continues to develop new articulation agreements for equine chiropractic schools which is becoming a popular option for students. In order to be an Equine Chiropractor, one must either be a Veterinarian or a human Chiropractor. Students are completing Murray State courses that will allow them to feed directly into two different chiropractic schools. These students first become a Chiropractor and then are able to move directly into an equine chiropractic school.
- A new livestock judging team is just starting and Jason P'Pool, Instructor of Animal Science, is doing a fabulous job of pulling this team together. Next year the University will host the American Collegiate Horseman's Association National Convention which will present an opportunity for the Hutson School of Agriculture to showcase its equine facilities and provide tours to industries in the area. Schools from across the country participate in the Convention and all are looking forward to the University hosting the event.
- The Pre-Vet/Vet Tech program is led by new Department Head Dr. Laura Ken Hoffman who has been with Murray State for approximately five years. These programs have a combined enrollment of approximately 460 students – the largest in the state. New state-of-the-art radiology equipment has been installed and new and innovative approaches to education are being undertaken. This program will necessitate additional attention moving into the future.
- The Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC) in Hopkinsville has the only Biological Safety Level 1 lab space dedicated to veterinary diagnostics in Kentucky. BVC is the only Level 1 Laboratory Status designated by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians for all species. BVC is also the only Level 1 Laboratory Status in Kentucky designated by the United States Department of Agriculture National Animal Health Laboratory system and one of only 60 laboratories in the United States (one of only 23 with Level 1 status). At times it is difficult to define how BVC relates to Hutson School of Agriculture academic programs. The BVC is used regularly, particularly by Pre-Vet/Vet Tech students, but there may be an even better way to more formally incorporate the BVC for the benefit of students on campus. This represents a wonderful facility with state-of-the-art equipment and legitimately world-renowned scientists.

- The landscaping plan for the house on Eagle Rest Farm was developed by the University's Horticulture students and much has already been put in place. The school is currently in collaboration with the Ballard County FFA for a sheep and hay production project for the Eagle Rest Farm. A fence is also being installed and cattle will be moved onto the 60-acres surrounding the house. Crop land improvements are constantly being made and currently 250 acres are leased out for crop production. The income from these leases is being utilized to improve the property further and make home repairs and enhancements. The goal is for the University to eventually be able to tend the entire farm. President Jackson reminded the Board that Eagle Rest Farm consists of 540 acres and was a gift to the University from Judge Jimmy Don Robinson. Consideration is also being given to establishing internships and allowing students to live in the house on this property.
- The University recently closed on the purchase of 32 acres of additional farmland adjacent to the Hutson Farm on Highway 80. Several companies are waiting on land to become available in order to establish collaborations with the University for crop science research. The University is also looking at land that joins the Arboretum and an appraisal has been ordered for that property.
- An endowment has been established for permanent funding for the Arboretum and the Board will be asked to act on a naming recommendation in this regard later today. The Doran family members represent wonderful partners in the community and have been extremely supportive of Murray State University in many different areas. Stanley Pullen purchased this property in 1925 and utilized it as his personal farm and as a laboratory for MSU agriculture students until 1935 when he passed. His wife – Mabel Pullen – continued to allow the University to use the farm. For 60 years, Murray State faculty and staff members continued to maintain contact with Mrs. Pullen and helped her in any way needed until she passed in 1995. Upon her death, Mrs. Pullen gifted the farm to Murray State University. The Doran family lives next to this farm and has gone above and beyond to help the University develop this property. This property is listed as the #1 rated location in Murray on Trip Advisor.
- The Rodeo Team was recently featured at the Kentucky State Fair and all are excited about what is happening in this regard under the leadership of Matt Papszycki, Interim Rodeo Coach from Cumberland Furnace, Tennessee. He is a professional rodeo athlete and has worked in the industry for most of his life. Rodeo is a unique sport in that student-athletes are able to compete professionally and for the National Collegiate Rodeo Association. Tate Papszycki is a freshman and International Professional Rodeo Association Rookie of the Year. He is among the top five in most international rodeo standings. New scholarships that are being offered are bringing new talent to the University which will help elevate the team to the next level of competitiveness. The University already has in place the facilities, scholarships and a new Interim Coach to begin to make this happen. The search for a permanent Coach will begin soon and all are excited about the Cherry Livestock and Exposition Center renovations and improvements which are being made. A new pipe fence is currently being installed around the barrel arena and a rendition of a new sign to be installed was provided. Appreciation was expressed to President Jackson and the Board for making these upgrades and improvements possible.
- Dr. Parr's vision for the Hutson School of Agriculture is for it to achieve college status in the near future and all believe they are on a good trajectory for this to occur. Very few colleges across the country are purely colleges of agriculture and usually combine their name with another discipline. Taking this into consideration, Hutson School of Agriculture enrollment is higher than most throughout the country and Auburn University was used for comparison purposes. Renovations being made to the Oakley Applied Science building will provide improved spaces for classrooms and laboratories and all are excited in this regard.
- The Commonwealth is in dire need of a School of Veterinary Medicine due to a shortage of Veterinarians. Current enrollment in the Pre-Vet/Vet Tech program at Murray State, the Breathitt Veterinary Center and expertise the University possesses all poise the Hutson School of Agriculture to be able to look at the feasibility of a School of Veterinary Medicine and move forward in this regard. Many models of how this could be accomplished have been studied over the past several weeks and it is believed to be an achievable asset for this institution, region and state.

This update was provided for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

President Jackson reported that Dr. Parr has been Dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture since July 1, 2023, and is doing a great job. His passion and enthusiasm for this work is evident. Faculty and staff in the Hutson School of Agriculture are not only doing a great job as recruiters but are also visionary in regard to what is needed next. Many changes have occurred in this unit over the past several months and appreciation was expressed to Dean Parr for his leadership in this regard. Regent Meinschein expressed appreciation for the Hutson School of Agriculture's partnership with his school system. Regent Shemberger expressed appreciation for the partnerships the Hutson School of Agriculture is willing to have with other colleges on campus because more of this type of collaboration is needed in other areas as well.

## **Hutson School of Agriculture Resolution of Support, approved**

President Jackson stated that as Dean Parr just noted, discussions have taken place regarding a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University for many years. Fifty years ago – on May 3, 1973 – this Board passed a Resolution of Support for a School of Veterinary Medicine to help the Commonwealth of Kentucky and region and to benefit agriculture as a whole. Nothing has occurred since the Resolution was passed 50 years ago and the initiative needs to be advanced. A great deal of time has been spent in recent weeks and months having conversations with those who can help bring this initiative to fruition. There is a tremendous shortage of Veterinarians in this country and in Kentucky, particularly those trained to handle large animals. The time is right and the perception throughout the Commonwealth among individuals the administration has talked with has been very positive. He appreciates the Board's consideration of the action being requested today.

Regent Shemberger read aloud the following Resolution:

### **Murray State University Board of Regents Resolution**

#### **Hutson School of Agriculture, School of Veterinary Medicine Proposal**

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Kentucky currently does not have a School of Veterinary Medicine and spent \$5.4 million during Fiscal Year 2022-23 and \$5.6 million in Fiscal Year 2023-24 to fund a total of 168 veterinary slots for Kentucky students with out-of-state universities; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States there are only 32 veterinary colleges accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and, based on statistics collected by the AVMA, only approximately 86,000 veterinarians are currently practicing in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States and Kentucky currently do not have a sufficient number of veterinarians to meet the growing needs of agricultural, public health and large and small animal owners; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that there are 86,300 veterinarians in the United States and this occupation is expected to grow by over 19% by 2031, producing a needed employment change of 16,800 veterinarians for a total of 103,100. Furthermore, the BLS reports a total of 122,800 veterinarian technologists/technicians are working today and the field is expected to grow by 20% by 2031 to 146,900; and

**WHEREAS**, per the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), Colleges/Schools of Veterinary Medicine accept approximately 4,500 new, first-year students each year from a pool of over 10,000 applicants. Approximately 70 students from Kentucky are accepted each year to out-of-state veterinary schools. Currently, there are 38 seats at Auburn University and four seats at Tuskegee University for Kentucky residents; and

**FURTHERMORE**, per the AAVMC, for the 2021-22 school year, "A total of 10,834 qualified applications [were] received by colleges and schools throughout the system. That represents a 5.5% increase over last year's cycle, when a total of 10,272 applicants applied for admission to the class that matriculated this year." Over the past several years, the number of applications has grown about six to seven percent year over year.

Per the AAVMC, "Total Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) student enrollment at the U.S. College of Veterinary Medicine is 14,503. On average, applicants apply to four to five colleges of veterinary medicine per cycle. The national applicant to first year seat ratio is 2.4 and is calculated using the number of unique applicants in the pool, by the total number of seats offered across institutions. The total number of applicants to the Class of 2026 was 10,834." The number of first-year DVM students accepted from Kentucky was approximately 70.

**WHEREAS**, the Hutson School of Agriculture has the estimated largest pre-veterinary medicine/veterinary technology enrollment of any university in Kentucky, with over 425 enrolled students for fall 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hutson School of Agriculture's Pre-Veterinary/Veterinary Technology programs have been AVMA-accredited since 1986, one of only three fully-accredited programs in the state of Kentucky. The programs have a unique curriculum instructed in the health care of cattle, horses, pigs, dogs, cats, laboratory animals and exotics. The curriculum is designed for students to gain acceptance into a veterinary school or prepare to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam to be a licensed Veterinary Technician; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hutson School of Agriculture is home to the A. Carman Animal Health Technology Center, located on Murray State's West Farm in Calloway County, and is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and supplies to prepare students for a career in the field of veterinary medicine, including multiple laboratories, pharmacy, surgery suite and the Animal Health Technology program, is a very active and strong academic area at Murray State University where students are provided with a great foundation that will help prepare them for entering the workforce upon graduation. With any of the career routes students decide to pursue, coursework is designed to provide valuable hands-on applications, in addition to the didactic teaching; and

**WHEREAS**, the Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC) at Murray State University, under the direction of the Hutson School of Agriculture, is a nationally preeminent animal disease diagnostic laboratory dedicated to protecting the invaluable assets of Kentucky's equine, livestock and poultry industries and is housed in Christian County, Kentucky; and

**WHEREAS**, the BVC is the only Level I Laboratory Status designated by the USDA National Animal Health Laboratory (NAHLN) system and one of only 60 laboratories in the United States and one of only 23 with Level 1 status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Breathitt Veterinary Center is fully accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) for all species and would serve as an important teaching/clinical laboratory for a School of Veterinary Medicine; and

**WHEREAS**, Calloway County and Christian County are both conveniently located in the heart of Kentucky's agricultural industry, where a rapid increase in livestock farming, poultry producers, etc. are being realized; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1973 the Murray State University Board of Regents unanimously passed a Resolution to strongly recommend that a School of Veterinary Medicine be established at Murray State University and in fifty years no progress by the Commonwealth of Kentucky has been made toward establishing a school; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Murray State University Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, create a Task Force to begin a feasibility study with the purpose of examining the statewide shortage of veterinarians with a special emphasis on large animal veterinarians in the Commonwealth and to work toward the development of a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University in order to address this important endeavor; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Murray State University will work with the General Assembly, Governor; Commissioner of Agriculture; Council on Postsecondary Education; Kentucky's federal congressional delegation and state, local and federal agencies, among others, in order to seek all available financial support through state appropriations and state and federal grants, coupled with raising private and other University funding, in order to build a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University.

Leon Owens – Chair, Board of Regents  
Virginia Gray – Vice Chair, Board of Regents  
Robert L Jackson – President, Murray State University

On behalf of the Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee, Vice Chair Gray moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Resolution of Support for the Hutson School of Agriculture, School of Veterinary Medicine as just read aloud. Regent Ovey seconded.



In response to whether the makeup of the Task Force has been decided, President Jackson indicated this is currently being considered. It is expected membership will include current Veterinarians, state officials, producers and any group that would be affected by a School of Veterinary Medicine. In response to when the Feasibility Study will be completed, President Jackson indicate the work would be conducted this fall, subject to Board approval, so it can be discussed in greater detail at the highest levels in the Commonwealth.

The motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Hutson School of Agriculture Resolution of Support, approved**

On behalf of the Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee, Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Resolution of Support for the Hutson School of Agriculture, School of Veterinary Medicine, as read aloud. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried. Chair Owens added that Regent Waldrop asked it be noted for the record his vote would have been yes as well.

### **Adjournment**

The Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

#### **Athletics Committee**

Leon Owens – Chair  
Robbie Fitch  
Matthew Price  
Emily Roark  
Tom Waldrop

Chair Owens called the Athletics Committee to order at 9:22 a.m. and reported all other members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

### **Racer Athletics Update, received**

Director of Athletics Yantko provided a Department of Athletics update with the following highlights:

- Athletics recently launched a partnership with a group licensing entity called Brandr (TBG) which provides the ability for student-athletes to have representation to align themselves with the University's logos and licensing partners. Murray State Athletics is currently leading the nation in sales – surpassing all of the Big 10 and SEC programs. Racers are currently number one in the country in that sales system. This represents an innovative opportunity and appreciation was expressed to Senior Vice President Dudley, President Jackson and many others for their support throughout this process as it represents yet another competitive advantage for Murray State to recruit and retain top athletes.
- Athletics is currently in the process of undertaking a website redesign. It has been over a decade since Athletics has made changes to the website so it represents a heavy lift that is expected to create a much more user-friendly opportunity for recruits, fans, alumni and others. A multi-ticketing app will be added to the website which will represent a cost savings for Athletics, as well as an efficiency mechanism to provide a more streamlined process for those who choose to utilize it.
- Sports Wager is coming to Kentucky very soon and next week Athletics will be partnering with an individual who is nationally recognized – Todd Sandstedt – to help support student-athletes. He is currently employed by the National Football League and previously worked with the Federal Bureau of Investigations. He will provide education for not only staff but for each student-athlete as part of a mandatory discussion. The desire is for the University to remain proactive in this area by providing continuous education, such as what is done for stakeholders relative to compliance and name, image and likeness training.
- The Jack Harlowe event has proven to be popular and all are excited in this regard. After today, that concert should be 95 percent sold out.
- For the last year the guiding principles have been to innovate as a department, initiate a new direction, incentivize support and inspire Racers everywhere. All in this room play a role in that process. The same is true with regard to strategic priorities and investing in the student experience. Investments will be made in recruiting and revenue generation, not only through initiatives but facilities improvements and enhancements and progress is being made in this area. In order to remain competitive in the Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) these investments must be made and that has

been known since the outset. This does not represent a one-year transition, especially with the move this year to the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

- Work that has been undertaken included establishing the leadership structure for Athletics over the past year. A photo of the leadership team was provided and members were highlighted, illustrating the roles they will play within Racer Athletics.
- Appreciation was expressed to Chair Owens and President Jackson for their leadership, support and advice relative to the establishment of the Dennis Jackson Leadership Program. This program focuses on key components of student-athlete development, including career readiness, civic and leadership engagement, brand management and innovation and financial literacy (in partnership with Community and Financial Services Bank) and mental health resources and educational opportunities. This work will help transform the lives of student-athletes.
- Student-athletes have reached the 38<sup>th</sup> straight semester with a 3.0 grade point average (GPA). This is a testament to the quality of the students and staff, especially Coaches who believe in the Mission for Athletics. The highest GPA in Racer history – 3.27 – was achieved in the 2023 Spring Semester. Deans and their respective faculty and staff also play a key role in this process and their work is very much appreciated.
- In terms of community service and impact, the Dennis Jackson Leadership Program has led to higher quality and directed participation in community service in all 15 sports programs. This year set a record as the highest ever for community service hours of impact and more than doubled 2021-22 numbers. Nearly \$2,000 has been raised and over 2,000 items were donated during the Racer Day of Service. The program was able to impact and service 22 different organizations in the region as a result of this effort which illustrates the servant-leadership mentality that is embraced in Racer Athletics.
- Sports program performance during the first year in the Missouri Valley Conference was strong. All expect these programs will continue to accelerate as resources are expanded and programs are evaluated. Every team made it to either the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) or Missouri Valley Conference Tournaments but continued investment in this area will be crucial to success. Soccer was MVC Championship Runner-Up; Baseball won two games in the MVC Tournament; Men's Basketball won a game in the MVC Arch Madness Tournament; Women's Basketball won a game in the MVC Hoops in the Heartland Tournament and Track and Field earned MVC Indoor Runner-Up and MVC Outdoor Runner-Up honors. Two Track student-athletes competed at the national level in Austin, Texas. The Rifle team finished 8<sup>th</sup> in Final National Rankings and were OVC Rifle Conference Champions and went on to compete for a national championship. Football had its top recruiting class in program history based on rankings. Track and Field had a record year of participants for the National Collegiate Athletic Association Qualifier with five student-athletes and Nationals with two players. Sports programs had one Coach of the Year, five All-Americans, 40 All-Conference student-athletes and three Players of the Year. All are proud of the Coaches and staff for helping position these student-athletes for success both on the field and off.
- In terms of the well-being of student-athletes, one year ago the ratio of Certified Athletic Trainers was 117 to 1 which was deemed to be unacceptable. The ratio is now 43 to 1 which is much more manageable and the same is true for Certified Strength and Conditioning staff which were at a ratio of 177 to 1 but are now 69 to 1. Work that has been undertaken represented a massive overhaul in order to reach the place where the program is currently and all are proud of the direction Athletics is heading. Efforts must continue to lean into this space, particularly due to the important roles these individuals play in student-athlete well-being. The ideal ratio is 30 to 1 for both categories.
- Due to work that has been undertaken with regard to brand awareness, there has been an over 600 percent increase in visitors to GoRacers.com and social engagement since September 2022. Website growth includes 2.2 million views with 531,338 new visitors (86 percent growth) participating and engaging with the Murray State brand on a daily basis. Social media growth revealed a combined 18 million impressions with over 15,000 new followers. There were 13 linear television competitions due to contracts with the MVC. Twelve of these competitions were in Men's Basketball and one was in Women's Basketball. There were over 86 ESPN+ broadcasts – at the top of the production category for schools in the MVC. This represents a massive opportunity to continue to grow brand awareness not only regionally but on a national and global scale and all are excited in this regard.
- Athletics revenue growth since September has included the highest fundraising year in history with a 126 percent increase in donations. There was a 29 percent increase in the number of donors – highest ever. Athletics also received the highest single gift since 2014 in the amount of \$250,000 from Swift & Staley. A record number of major gifts (over \$25,000) were received during the year (six commitments received in January alone). On the first-ever Day of Giving, \$204,000 was raised. A sophisticated renewal system has also been created representing the first-ever Racer Club renewals mechanism. At this time last year, basketball ticket renewals had not been sent out. This year, renewals are already at over 75 percent.
- Athletics had its top sponsorship revenue and partner year ever, representing a 27 percent increase, and its second highest ticket revenue year ever with a 10 percent increase for Men's Basketball and 96 percent renewal rate. Appreciation was expressed to the University's great donors, partners and friends of Racer Athletics. The University has also signed its first-ever exclusive partnership with Window World in Paducah, Kentucky. This partnership is valued at over \$175,000.

- With regard to major gifts, in the past month two individuals – one from Los Angeles, California, and one from Mayfield, Kentucky, have agreed to \$1 million commitments. There was a \$250,000 donor from Paducah and 26 major gifts were received for \$25,000 or more. One year ago, there were no donors participating at the \$100,000 level or more (currently six) and there were zero donors participating in the \$50,000 level or more (currently 11) and it takes this kind of commitment to elevate what Athletics is doing competitively.
- Appreciation was expressed to Director Youngblood and his team as there are several Athletics capital projects underway, all funded through private support. The CFSB Center LED Lights project represents a massive enhancement to the fan experience in the arena. For Baseball and Softball, Athletics is getting closer to wrapping up plans for a Performance Center which will provide these student-athletes with an opportunity to train every day of the year. Branding renovations and enhancements are being developed for the Gene Wells Ray Center Lobby and team area. This represents an effort to enhance spaces Athletics already has and increase recruitment excitement. Construction will begin soon for the Football Team Room and Player Lounge, including shower construction, and this work is long overdue. These spaces must continue to evolve to meet the needs of players and teams. Ultimately, Football offices will be moved back to the lowest level in Stewart Stadium (Performance Center) where they were previously located and a Football and Olympic Sport Office space created. Future capital projects will be incremental but monumental with the goal of prioritizing recruiting and revenue generation, enhancing the entertainment value for the community and region and preparing for possibilities. Each sport now has designated office space and recruitment areas. It is important to house these sports programs in the right spaces so they attract the best recruits and continue to create a more positive environment for current student-athletes.
- The current landscape in higher education relative to college athletics is evolving quickly and all projects being undertaken represent efforts with this in mind. All future capital projects will prioritize recruiting and revenue generation, enhancing the entertainment value of the community and region and preparing for possibilities.

President Jackson expressed appreciation to Director Yantko. Nothing in life replaces hard work, passion and enthusiasm and it seems like he has been at Murray State a lot longer than one year. All are proud of his leadership and the results that are being achieved.

In terms of where the Weaver Academic Center fits into the work being undertaken in Athletics, Director Yantko reported that the Center will continue to play a key role in student success by ensuring it offers study appropriate and common social spaces. The Center is dated and refresh work is needed in this regard but this will represent a much smaller-scale project than those outlined earlier. There is also a desire to provide outdoor space for student-athletes to enjoy as an additional component of the Weaver Academic Center. This update was provided for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

### **Governing Board Certifications**

Director Yantko reported that with regard to compliance it is always best to ask before you act. Chair Owens reported that with regard to governance, the Board is asked each year to approve the Missouri Valley Conference and Ohio Valley Conference Academic Year 2023-24 Certifications. The Board is being asked to consent that the authority for the administration of the Athletics program is designated to the Chief Executive Officer.

### **Missouri Valley Conference Academic Year 2023-24 Certification, approved**

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, consent to the Governing Board Certification as it pertains to the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Missouri Valley Conference for Academic Year 2023-24. Regent Roark seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Missouri Valley Conference Academic Year 2023-24 Certification, approved**

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, consent to the Governing Board Certification as it pertains to the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Missouri Valley Conference for Academic Year 2023-24. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

### **Ohio Valley Conference Academic Year 2023-24 Certification, approved**

Confirmation was provided that this Certification applies to the Rifle program which remained in the Ohio Valley Conference.

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, consent to the Ohio Valley Conference Governing Board Certification for Academic Year 2023-24. Regent Roark seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Ohio Valley Conference Academic Year 2023-24 Certification, approved**

On behalf of the Athletics Committee, Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, consent to the Ohio Valley Conference Governing Board Certification for Academic Year 2023-24. Regent Meinschein seconded and the motion carried.

### **The Inside Track: National Collegiate Athletic Association Rules for Alumni, Fans and Friends of Racer Athletics Report, received**

Director Yantko reported that The Inside Track: National Collegiate Athletics Association Rules for Alumni, Fans and Friends of Racer Athletics is provided to the Board annually. The brochure provides guidelines of which the Board should be aware when interacting with current or prospective student-athletes.

This update was provided for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

### **Adjournment**

The Athletics Committee adjourned at 9:52 a.m.  
The Board of Regents Quarterly and Committee meetings also adjourned for a break 9:52 a.m.

### **Reconvene**

Chair Owens reconvened the Quarterly and Committee meetings of the Board of Regents at 10:12 a.m.

### **Audit and Compliance Committee**

Tom Waldrop – Chair  
Ellie McGowan  
Leon Owens  
Emily Roark

In the absence of Committee Chair Waldrop, Regent Roark called the Audit and Compliance Committee to order at 10:12 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

### **Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Charter, reaffirmed**

Interim Director of Student Financial Services and Bursar Rhonda Henderson reported the following with regard to the Internal Audit Charter:

- The Internal Audit Charter is a formal document that defines the internal audit activity's purpose, authority and responsibility. The document also establishes the internal audit activity's position within the University; authorizes access to records, personnel and physical properties relevant to the performance of engagements and defines the scope of internal audit activities.
- The *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* are issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors and require annual review and approval of the Internal Audit Charter.
- The Charter also defines the mission of Internal Audit and outlines the position of the Internal Auditor with the University in both supporting functionality to the Board and administratively to the President.

- The Internal Audit Charter outlines the Board’s responsibilities which include the Audit Charter and the Annual Audit Plan. The Charter also outlines the Internal Auditor’s responsibilities such as maintaining independence and objectivity and reporting results of the Audit.
- The Board of Regents reaffirms the Internal Audit Charter every year. The Charter is instrumental to ensuring Internal Audit has access to all data and individuals needed to be able to perform audits across the University.

On behalf of the Audit and Compliance Committee, Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, reaffirm the Internal Audit Charter for Murray State University as submitted and in compliance with Standards for the internal audit profession established by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Regent Roark seconded and the motion carried.

**Full Board Action – Office of Internal Audit – Internal Audit Charter, reaffirmed**

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, reaffirm the Internal Audit Charter for Murray State University as submitted and in compliance with Standards for the internal audit profession established by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #4)

**Adjournment**

The Audit and Compliance Committee adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

**Buildings and Grounds Committee**

Emily Roark – Chair  
 Robbie Fitch  
 Jessica Evans  
 David Meinschein  
 Tom Waldrop

Regent Roark called the Buildings and Grounds Committee to order at 10:15 a.m. and reported all other members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

**Facilities Management Projects Update, received**

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

- The Chestnut Street bridge project is essentially complete and the structure is now well lit.
- Updates provided earlier today and yesterday highlighted projects which are underway in the Hutson School of Agriculture and the Department of Athletics.
- The Indoor Hitting and Practice Space project at Stewart Stadium is well underway and nearing completion. New lighting has been installed and preparation work is being done to paint the ceiling, floors and walls. The two new egress doors required by code have been installed.
- Over the summer building exterior cleaning was undertaken for the Wellness Center, Racer Arena and Wells Hall.
- Phase I work at Woods Park is wrapping up and Phase II will begin shortly. The Woods Park project will continue to develop in phases.
- The Student Financial Services office on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Sparks Hall received a refresh with new flooring, paint and wall graphics.
- Resident rooms on the top three floors of Regents Hall were updated with new closet systems and vanities and a refresh was done on the second-floor lounge.
- The Sorority Suites transitioned from the Foundation to the University this week and improvements are already being made to that property. This work includes painting inside and refreshing the landscape, especially in the center court area. Prior vandalism damage to the property has now been repaired. This summer the parking lot was resealed and restriped and improvements will continue to be made in this facility.
- Installation of new LED lights in the CFSB Center began over the summer and the project is expected to be completed in time for home basketball games.

- The linear fencing along the border of campus on Highways 121 and 641 has been repaired and repainted. Protection devices were also added to the bottom of the posts.
- Landscaping work has been undertaken on campus to repair damage which occurred as a result of the freeze this year, recent storms and the drought last summer. Before and after photographs of these improvements were provided. SSC is the University's contract partner for custodial and grounds work. SSC offered a scholarship as part of a competition for Horticulture students to develop a landscape design for the Sorority Suites Courtyard. Sarah Jordan was selected as the recipient of that scholarship award based on her design for the Sorority Suites Courtyard. Phase I of this work is underway and will be enhanced over time.
- Projects in progress include Curris Center renovations and the terrazzo Shield is now in place. Most of the acoustic ceiling and lighting work has been completed. The major focus at this time is completing the Welcome Center by November. Work must be completed on the upper areas of this space before the flooring can be installed. The handrails on the main stairs will be replaced beginning in September and the epoxy coating will be applied over Fall Break. The eSports Lounge is nearing completion and only lacks the wall coverings and installation of computers. The new horses running art pieces have been installed in the Atrium and all are pleased with the results, especially the backlighting.
- The fiber ring project is ongoing and Phase I work is complete with Phase II expected to begin soon. The Board received a report during the Retreat regarding network vulnerabilities and the fiber ring will provide flexibility in the event it is cut or damaged. Information Systems staff will be able to quickly redirect network traffic to another path should this occur.
- In terms of the new School of Nursing and Health Professions, the facility is expected to open for the January 2026 semester. The Board will be asked to approve a Program Statement for this facility later today and will receive a project scope report.
- Mason Hall renovations are following suit with the new nursing building. There is not a great deal of work that can be undertaken in this facility until the new School of Nursing and Health Professions building is completed.
- Waterfield Library HVAC Phase II work has been on the projects list for some time. The project was awarded over one year ago but the University is still waiting on equipment to arrive before physical work can begin.
- Work is underway on an outdoor seating area at Winslow Dining Hall.
- A Program Statement will be presented to the Board for approval later today for the Hancock Biological Station. This project was bid but came in significantly over budget. Work continues to determine how this project can be completed or what additional scope may be needed to ensure it moves forward.
- With regard to Applied Science building renovations, meetings have been held with the architects and consultants relative to design work for this project so it can be started. The schematic phase of this project is moving rapidly and potential floor plans for this facility are expected to be determined in the next few weeks. This is a large building and a plan must be developed for moving workers around while renovations are undertaken. The primary projects for this facility include ADA restroom upgrades, corridor improvements and a refresh of interior spaces. Once the Exercise Science programs are moved to their new location on campus, those vacated spaces can be renovated and turned over to the Hutson School of Agriculture.
- Program Statements have also been provided today for Pogue Library HVAC and electrical upgrades and the Old Fine Arts building boiler replacement, HVAC upgrades and interior stairwell repairs and require Board approval.
- The University is working closely with Ross Tarrant Architects, Ayers Saint Gross, Marcum Engineering and BFW Engineers on the nursing building project. Discussions are ongoing to develop the appropriate programming to be housed in this facility, its size and how it will fit into the University's budget. The goal is to be able to house all nursing programming in the new facility but a determination will also need to be made in terms of what remains in Mason Hall. An Executive Committee has been formed for this purpose and is working closely with the design teams. A graphic illustrating the potential location for the new facility was provided. Renovations to be undertaken in Mason Hall are also a significant topic of discussions that are underway but the focus in this facility will be ADA access, HVAC improvements and generator and elevator upgrades.
- Meetings have been held with consultants for the Cherry Livestock and Exposition Center project to start the design phase of this work. Staff have toured similar facilities in the region to help identify those areas in the University's current facility where improvements are needed.
- The design process for the CFSB Center full building generator has started.

Regent Roark expressed appreciation for the tour of the Curris Center that was provided yesterday. Many were surprised at the extent of work being undertaken in this facility but all are impressed with the results. Director Youngblood added that the furniture should be in and signage completed for another Board tour at the March 2024 Quarterly Meeting.

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

## **New School of Nursing and Health Professions Building – Project Overview Update, received**

Director Youngblood, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions Dina Byers and Sarah Lamere with Ross Tarrant Architects provided an update with the following highlights:

- Ross Tarrant is partnering with Ayers Saint Gross (nursing design expert), Marcum Engineering (mechanical, electrical and plumbing) and BFW Engineers (structural, civil and landscape) in the schematic design phase that is currently underway.
- The proposed timeline for the project was provided. The project began in February 2023 with programming and schematic design work. The schedule will remain fluid as the design and construction processes progress. Building design work began in August, construction is expected to start in March 2024 and it is anticipated the building will be open for the January 2026 semester.
- A graphic of the proposed program alignment was provided and has been utilized in working with Dean Byers and her staff, architects and consultants. Part of this work involves deciding which programs remain in Mason Hall and those that will transition to the new facility. Early in the process faculty and staff in the School of Nursing and Health Professions met with the architects to convey their needs in the new building in terms of teaching and learning spaces. Meetings have continued to take place throughout the entire process and in mid-July the graphic design being presented today was developed. As part of Phase I, a large portion of this space will be for clinical teaching and learning which makes sense for healthcare providers. Many activities are hands-on before students are placed in clinical settings in hospitals and health departments to ensure they are competent. For this reason, it makes sense that a large portion of the new facility will be for clinical teaching and learning spaces, such as simulation labs. Classrooms are also part of Phase I and, in consultation with faculty, it was determined that three large classrooms were needed in the building to meet current and future needs and this is reflected in plans moving forward. Faculty and administrative offices are also included as part of Phase I. Phase II will include the addition of the Exercise Science program which works closely with nursing. Once moved out of Mason Hall, this will provide space for additional health programs that could be added.
- Once the work just outlined was completed, blocking and stacking exercises began. These were developed in an effort to understand the size of the spaces needed and then adjacency in terms of where they needed to sit within the building. Working in conjunction with Dean Byers and SONHP faculty, work began to place these different programming elements on different floors of the building.
- As programming work began, it was realized that costs today would not allow for everything that had been identified to be moved into the new building. Discussions continue with regard to what can be moved into the facility given the budget the University has today and what will need to be part of Phase II work as additional funding becomes available. Confirmation was provided that this project is included in the Capital Plan and Capital Projects Request.
- Work then began to consider net square footage but corridors, restrooms, elevators and stairways had to be considered in order to arrive at gross square footage. A chart was provided showing the estimated square footage for classroom and clinical learning spaces, the Health Services Clinic, as well as student, amenity, wellness, office and building support spaces. In terms of whether the square footage for the new School of Nursing and Health Professions building being considered is comparable to that for modern nursing and health professions facilities elsewhere, it was indicated that the space needed is dependent on the number of individuals involved with the respective programs. As this work was undertaken, Ross Tarrant and Ayers Saint Gross made sure the space provided for the programs moving into the building would be comparable to others in the region. Trends and future expectations were also considered as part of this process.
- An outline was provided for program alignment, in addition to the budget for Phase I. The baseline building budget is \$45.5 million from the state for the new School of Nursing and Health Professions building. This translates down into \$32 million in net building costs which were broken down further per square foot into three different ranges. The University is targeting the middle range at gross square footage of 45,000 square feet. Only limited programs can be moved into the building as currently budgeted but plans are being made for the future to move additional programs into this one facility (Phase II).
- Phase II represents an estimate of what will be needed for an additional 10,000 gross square feet of space. If the University receives funding for Phase II, during Phase I construction programs can be moved around to accommodate the addition of those entities. Additional programs could also be moved from Mason Hall into the new facility. This will leave more space in Mason Hall for future growth and development of health programs and faculty offices.
- Once the building size was approximated and a decision was made on how many floors were needed, discussions centered on the appropriate site location for the building. This work included a review of adjacency to other buildings and access to 16<sup>th</sup> Street (across from Alexander Hall and north of Faculty Hall). This work led to the renderings being presented today. Once the site was identified, consideration was given to how connections on campus would occur with the new building. The University has really strong north to south connections but care was taken to understand the east to west connections as well, particularly how individuals move from Mason Hall through campus to the

new facility. A diagram was provided illustrating those connections while also taking into consideration green spaces.

- As the building footprint was defined, it was determined that the setback from 16<sup>th</sup> Street should be the same as that for Wells and Faculty halls. It was also decided there should be adjacency to the Science Complex in a straight line to create an internal Quad. The footprint that was identified is almost on top of where the old training school used to sit.
- Development schemes have also been discussed relative to what the building will look like for the new facility as well as for Phase II. This included where the mechanical yard would be located, as well as parking and outdoor space. Maintaining the 16<sup>th</sup> Street frontage and landscape area was a priority, as well as minimizing asphalt space adjacent to the building. Blocking and stacking models were further defined and various schematic diagrams were provided.
- A full campus parking map was provided showing the location for the new facility. Discussions are underway on how to keep some parking adjacent to the building for ADA parking spots. The University owns a house located at 503 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street that will be razed soon and work is currently underway with BFW Engineers to reimagine a parking area in this location. The goal is to have a net zero offset in terms of parking. There are currently several parking lots on the perimeter of campus and these will be utilized during construction and beyond. The number of offset parking spaces that will be needed has not yet been determined but any decision made will be based on the potential of the University receiving Phase II funding for an addition to the facility. It was indicated with regard to ADA parking that the issue is not distance from the building but providing an accessible path to inside the facility and surrounding buildings. Confirmation was provided that the required number of accessible parking spaces is based on a percentage of spaces in the total parking count as a whole but those spaces must be scattered throughout campus. There is currently a concentration of ADA parking in the Faculty Hall lot because it is located at the core of campus.
- In terms of the rationale behind moving Health Services from Wells Hall to the nursing building, it was indicated this would allow for a new health services location which is important to students. Students in general are not familiar with the current location of Health Services and moving it to the new nursing building will provide higher visibility and greater access for students, faculty and staff. There is also potential for the community to utilize Health Services as well. Consideration has also been given to Health Services being able to function independently from the new nursing building so it could be used in the event of an emergency situation. President Jackson added that students have expressed a desire for Health Services to be more centrally located near the housing side of campus versus its current location. This change would also enhance teaching and learning opportunities.

President Jackson expressed appreciation to Ross Tarrant and its partners, Dean Byers and her staff and faculty, Director Youngblood and his staff and Senior Vice President Dudley for their dedication and commitment to this project. Many meetings have occurred in the evenings and on the weekends and their willingness to assist in this effort is very much appreciated. Work to expand and enhance nursing and health professions programs is vitally important to campus, the region and the state. Dean Byers indicated that the nursing building also provides an opportunity for the University to reach out to the region to attract potential students to show them what a health career might look like and the Simulation Center and teaching and learning opportunities will allow for this work to be undertaken.

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

### **Project Program Statements, approved**

On behalf of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Regent Meinschein moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Program Statements for the Price Doyle Fine Arts Building Boiler and HVAC Renovation, Hancock Biological Station HVAC Replacement, Old Fine Arts Building Boiler Replacement and HVAC Upgrades, Pogue Library HVAC and Electrical Renovations, New School of Nursing and Health Professions Building, Mason Hall ADA and Mechanical Upgrades, Biology Building (Science Complex) Mechanical Equipment and Roof Replacement and Oakley Applied Science Building ADA and Mechanical Upgrades, as submitted. Regent Evans seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Project Program Statements, approved**

On behalf of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Regent Roark moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the attached Program Statements for the Price Doyle Fine Arts Building Boiler and HVAC Renovation, Hancock Biological Station HVAC Replacement, Old Fine Arts Building Boiler Replacement and HVAC Upgrades, Pogue Library HVAC and Electrical Renovations, New School of Nursing and Health Professions Building, Mason Hall ADA and Mechanical Upgrades, Biology Building



(Science Complex) Mechanical Equipment and Roof Replacement and Oakley Applied Science Building ADA and Mechanical Upgrades. Regent Fitch seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Mr. Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachments #5 – #12)

### **Adjournment**

The Buildings and Grounds Committee adjourned at 11 a.m.

### **Enrollment Management and Student Success Committee**

David Meinschein and Ellie McGowan – Co-Chairs  
Robbie Fitch  
G. L. Ovey  
Melony Shemberger

Chair Owens reported that the full Board received an extensive Enrollment Management update during the Retreat yesterday. Regent Meinschein indicated there were no additional agenda items to be addressed at this time. The Enrollment Management team has done an outstanding job and their work is historic in nature and appreciation was expressed in this regard.

### **Finance Committee**

Robbie Fitch – Chair  
Virginia Gray  
David Meinschein  
Leon Owens  
Melony Shemberger

Regent Fitch called the Finance Committee to order at 11 a.m. and reported all other members were present.

### **Projects, approved**

Regent Fitch 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 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. Most represent HVAC, boiler and electrical projects. Senior Vice President Dudley confirmed that most of the projects are being funded with Asset Preservation Funds, matched with bond monies. One safety project is being brought forward for repairs to the sidewalk and driveway at Oakhurst and, per the Delegation, requires Board approval.

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 projects outlined on the listing provided. Regent Evans seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Projects, approved**

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 attached listing. Regent Meinschein seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Mr. Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #13)

### **Personal Services Contracts, approved**

Regent Fitch 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 and involve General Fund monies.

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 Meinschein seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Personal Services Contracts, approved**

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 contracts as listed in the attached document per requirements of the Delegation of Authority (Item #11). Regent Ovey seconded. In response to a question, Senior Vice President Dudley provided clarification that the Health and Wellness Personal Services Contract is to put services out for bid but the current consultant would be eligible to submit a bid. The roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Mr. Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #14)

### **Surplus Property Disposition, approved**

Regent Fitch reported that Kentucky Revised Statute 164A.575 requires that the Board of Regents approve disposition of equipment and other property. The proposed plan will provide an efficient and timely process for the disposition of such property having a value of less than \$25,000. Non-routine dispositions require specific approval of the Board of Regents.

Item J for the disposal of golf clubs purchased for the Murray State University Golf Teams has been added for this year. All clubs are custom measured and made for the specific players. National Collegiate Athletic Association regulations allow the University to purchase clubs from manufacturers for student-athletes and to sell those clubs to the student. This change allows that sale to take place at cost plus applicable sales tax.

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 plan provided for Fiscal Year 2023-24 authorizing: (1) routine disposition of personal property having a value less than \$25,000 to include equipment and machinery; miscellaneous supplies and furnishings; vehicles; library books and materials; livestock and other agricultural commodities and products; recyclable materials; items with no possible future use and (2) the methods of disposal on the listing provided. Regent Meinschein seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Surplus Property Disposition, approved**

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 attached plan for Fiscal Year 2023-24 authorizing: (1) routine disposition of personal property having a value less than \$25,000 to include equipment and machinery; miscellaneous supplies and furnishings; vehicles; library books and materials; livestock and other agricultural commodities and products; recyclable materials; items with no possible future use and (2) the methods of disposal as listed on the attached. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #15)

### **Surplus Property Disposition Request – Bucket Truck, approved**

Regent Fitch reported that Murray State University owns a 1989 Ford Aerial Bucket Truck for use in the Facilities Management Electric Shop. The truck was originally used for high voltage line work, changing out bulbs on light poles and mounting banners on campus. High voltage work is now performed by contractors and use of a manlift is a more efficient way to accomplish the other tasks. Although the truck is more than 30 years old, it is in excellent condition. Estimates of value for the truck range from \$10,000 to \$40,000 based on sales of similar equipment in the last six months. The University is recommending that the truck be posted for sale at a minimum of \$25,000 for 30 days. If this does not attract buyers, it will be removed from the market for six months and then posted again. At that point, if there are no buyers, the minimum will be reduced to \$10,000.

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 sale of the 1989 Ford Aerial Bucket Truck considered surplus property per the requirements of Kentucky Revised Statute 45A.365 for the minimum of no lower than \$25,000, with minimum reduction to \$10,000 based on the timing reflected above. Vice Chair Gray seconded and the motion carried.

### **Full Board Action – Surplus Property Disposition Request – Bucket Truck, approved**

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 sale of the 1989 Ford Aerial Bucket Truck considered surplus property per the requirements of Kentucky Revised Statute 45A.365 for the minimum of no lower than \$25,000, with minimum reduction to \$10,000 based on the timing reflected above. Regent Roark seconded and the motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

The Finance Committee adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

### **Legislative and Economic Development Committee**

Virginia Gray – Chair  
Ellie McGowan  
Matthew Price  
Emily Roark  
Tom Waldrop

Vice Chair Gray called the Legislative and Economic Development Committee to order at 11:07 a.m. and reported all other members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

### **Legislative Update, received**

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

- During the interim, he and President Jackson, along with Senior Vice President Dudley and others, have been continuously meeting with legislators, Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) officials and others in Frankfort, on campus and throughout the region to prepare for the 2024 Legislative Budget Session.
- Senate Joint Resolution 98 (SJR 98) will be addressed during this Legislative Session. SJR 98 requires the CPE to conduct a study on current and projected population conditions and trends and the governance structure for higher education in Kentucky. A potential four-year residential college in southeastern Kentucky will be considered, as well as the comprehensive universities assuming Kentucky Community and Technical College System academic programs. The CPE will continue to hold meetings with the university Presidents, etc. in the interim. President Jackson serves as Chair of the President's Council. The group that is conducting this study is contacting university officials on each of the campuses. Findings and recommendations from the study are due to be presented to the Legislative Research Commission by December 1, 2023.
- The CPE is continuing to hold Performance Funding Work Group meetings with lawmakers, university Presidents, etc. in the interim. Final recommendations of the Work Group are due by October 3 in preparation for submission to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1. President Jackson serves on the Performance Funding Work Group, along with Senator David Givens, Legislator James Tipton and CPE President Aaron Thompson.

- Cybersecurity efforts include working throughout the interim to educate lawmakers about Murray State's Cybersecurity program – the Program of Distinction for Kentucky. Murray State has led this effort in Kentucky since before 9-11. A bill is being drafted in the interim that the CPE, Murray State and other universities are partnering on. This is not only a hot topic in Kentucky but also nationwide due to the increase in cyberattacks and Murray State and the University of Louisville are taking the lead in this effort.
- The Board recently approved conducting a feasibility study for a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State. The University has paid close attention to the work the Veterinary Shortage Work Group has been undertaking. Dean Parr and Provost Todd have been monitoring this work closely. Dr. Debbie Reed, Director of the Breathitt Veterinary Center, serves on the Large Animal Veterinary Shortage Work Group that the Department of Agriculture has established in the interim. The Work Group held meetings to examine the shortage of large animal veterinarians, as well as veterinarian retirements and other issues. Murray State is actively engaged on this topic and staff and others are meeting with agricultural stakeholders across the state. A final report will be delivered in November. A Murray State alumnus and Calloway County native also serves on the Large Animal Veterinary Shortage Work Group and is keeping the University updated in regard to work that is being undertaken.
- Murray State hosted state lawmakers and federal officials on campus throughout the Interim Session to tour the Cyber Center and participate in other activities. Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Michael Ramage, Director of the Cyber Center; Dr. Claire Fuller, Dean of the Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology; Dr. Jamie Rogers, Director of the School of Engineering; Associate Provost Fister; Assistant Provost Ireland; Provost Todd and others who have helped conduct the Cyber Center tours.
- Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear visited campus during the Governor's Scholars Program (GSP). He also announced a GSP grand award on July 21. Appreciation was expressed to Regent Shemberger and her staff, Dean of University Libraries Cris Ferguson and Assistant Provost Ireland for helping ensure the success of this event.
- Murray State hosted a large-scale meeting for state lawmakers, Area Development District officials, U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Department of Education officials and others on July 26 to discuss House Bill 9 grant opportunities for the entire West Kentucky region.

With regard to SJR 98, Regent Shemberger reported that an administrator at the CPE delivered a presentation to the Kentucky Faculty Advisory Network which she attended, along with Faculty Senate President Dr. David Roach, Associate Provost Fister and faculty across Kentucky. These individuals are meeting with a consultant from Ernst & Young on Monday to provide the faculty perspective on SJR 98. Regent McGowan indicated she serves as Chair of the Kentucky Board of Student Body Presidents this year and consultants have reached out to that body as well.

Regent Gray expressed appreciation to Executive Director Smith, President Jackson and Ronny Pryor, the University's Legislative Lobbyist. The interim months prior to a Legislative Budget Session are extremely busy laying foundation work. During the Session a lot of heavy lifting is also required. Their work is very much appreciated.

This update was provided for informational purposes only and required no Board action.

### **Adjournment**

The Legislative and Economic Development Committee adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

### **Marketing and Community Engagement Committee**

Jessica Evans – Chair  
 Ellie McGowan  
 G. L. Ovey  
 Matthew Price  
 Tom Waldrop

Regent Evans called the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee to order at 11:17 a.m. and reported all other members were present with the exception of Regent Waldrop.

Executive Director Bernot reported that the Office of Development works with the President's Office and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities for the University. This provides an opportunity to interact with very generous donors who make a significant gift to Murray State. *Board of Regents Policy Manual* guidelines are followed with

regard to naming opportunities and the three recommendations being presented today represent the results of that work, as well as the final step in the approval process.

**Naming Opportunity – *Doran Arboretum at Murray State University*, approved**

Executive Director Bernot reported that the Doran Family and Doran Foundation, Inc. have a long and rich history of providing Murray State University with significant financial support, service leadership and steadfast advocacy for its students and programs. More than \$1.5 million in total has been invested in Murray State University by the family, including support for the CFSB Center (formerly the Regional Special Events Center), the Golf Practice Facility named in honor of former men's and women's Coaches and the *H. Glenn and Anne Doran Endowment*, among many other gifts for various University initiatives.

Support from the Doran Family now also includes a new gift commitment of \$500,000 to establish an endowment to support capital improvements and maintenance of the Murray State University Arboretum in the Hutson School of Agriculture. The returns from this endowment shall not be used for salaries and normal, regular or recurring operating costs or supplant budgeted funds. In the event the Arboretum should no longer exist or be operated by Murray State University, all funds from this new endowment shall be added to the *H. Glenn and Anne Doran Endowment Fund* at the Murray State University Foundation, Inc. This most recent commitment by the Doran Family to the University's Arboretum will ensure the long-term sustainability of this important campus feature benefitting the University and the Murray and Calloway County communities.

The Arboretum at Murray State University opened to the public in the fall of 2013 and it has become a favorite destination for people of all ages across the Racer family and throughout the Murray and Calloway County communities. The mission of the Arboretum is to provide and display a collection of both local and introduced plants, with emphasis on native trees, shrubs and flowers of historic significance to the western Kentucky region. More than 13 acres are dedicated to this living-learning laboratory situated on the Pullen Farm at Murray State University. A large pavilion, walking trails and benches, play pockets, a hill and pond all complement the horticulture display, producing a one-of-a-kind learning and living environment for all to enjoy. Murray State University and the Hutson School of Agriculture manage the operations and offerings at the Arboretum.

For ten years, the Arboretum at Murray State has offered a variety of activities for all audiences. Field days, lectures, tours, garden society meetings, artistic activities, Homecoming picnics, back-to-school events, fundraising galas and more have all been enjoyed at the Arboretum. Murray State's Arboretum has come a long way since its original investment and groundbreaking on October 10, 2008, with Mr. H. Glenn Doran – a special friend, financial advisor and Executor of Ms. Mabel Pullen's estate – in attendance. The Doran Family respectfully appreciates and acknowledges that the establishment of the Arboretum at Murray State University would not have been possible without the generosity and vision of Ms. Pullen, a long-time farmer and agriculture educator at Murray State University and other local schools and programs. Before her passing Ms. Pullen generously donated her 44-acre farm to the Murray State University Foundation, Inc. to be used for educational purposes.

In appreciation of the Doran Family's loyal support, multi-generational service and volunteer leadership, as well as their commitment to education at Murray State University, approval for the naming of the Murray State University Arboretum located on the Pullen Farm in the Hutson School of Agriculture as the "***Doran Arboretum at Murray State University***" is being recommended. This will be commemorated with a dedication, prominent naming signage located at the entrance(s), as well as a plaque denoting the history of the Pullen Farm, establishment of the Arboretum and historical involvement and support of the Doran Family.

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Ovey moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the ***Doran Arboretum at Murray State University*** in appreciation of the generations of support to the University and new commitment to support the Arboretum at Murray State. Regent McGowan seconded and the motion carried.

**Full Board Action – Naming Opportunity – *Doran Arboretum at Murray State University*, 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 and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the *Doran Arboretum at Murray State University* in appreciation of the generations of support to the University and new commitment to support the Arboretum at Murray State. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

**Naming Opportunity – *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level* – Roy Stewart Stadium, approved**

Executive Director Bernot reported that the naming proposal for consideration is to name the “*Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level*” within Roy Stewart Stadium. Originally from Mayfield, Kentucky, Tommy and Sandy Draffen reside in Rancho Palos Verdes, California, and are proud graduates of Murray State University. Tommy graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Sandy graduated two years later in 1989, with a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health. The Draffen’s come back to the region often throughout the year to visit family and campus and to attend athletic events. Through these visits, they have developed a love for investing in the success and overall experience of Murray State student-athletes.

Recent financial investments from the Draffen’s include the Racer Fuel and Nutrition Area in Roy Stewart Stadium, support for Racer Football and Men’s Basketball, unrestricted funding and additional contributions to Murray State University, totaling over \$250,000. Tommy is also an investor of his time and talent to Murray State University by serving as a member of the National Campaign Council for the Be Bold: Forever Blue and Gold Campaign and was recently named to the MSU Foundation Board of Trustees. The Draffen Family has recently committed \$1 million to Racer Athletics to directly impact the student-athlete population through facility improvements in Roy Stewart Stadium, a facility that opened in 1973. Stewart Stadium serves as the central hub for day-to-day operations of the Athletics Department and houses over two-thirds of Murray State student-athletes. Resources from this investment will directly impact the experience of the over 350 student-athletes representing Murray State University. In appreciation of the Draffen family’s investment and their continued support to Murray State University and Racer Athletics, approval of the naming of the *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level* in Stewart Stadium is being recommended.

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Ovey moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level* in appreciation of the Draffen family’s investment and their continued support to Murray State University and Racer Athletics. Regent McGowan seconded and the motion carried.

**Full Board Action – Naming Opportunity – *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level* – Roy Stewart Stadium, 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 and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the *Tommy and Sandy Draffen Performance Level* in appreciation of the Draffen family’s investment and their continued support to Murray State University and Racer Athletics. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

**Naming Opportunity – *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office* – Gene Wells Ray Center, approved**

Executive Director Bernot reported that the naming proposal for consideration is the “*Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office*” within the Gene W. Ray Center. Pete and Joy Waldrop have a deep-rooted connection with Murray State University spanning decades. Pete began on campus at the Murray Training School and then attended the University, where he and Joy

received their bachelor's and master's degrees. Their shared love for Murray State Men's Basketball saw them as dedicated fans, who attended games nationwide, opened their house to many Coaches and student-athletes and kept in touch with them when they graduated from or left the University.

Through this showcase of unwavering support and hospitality of the Waldrop family, true familial bonds have been formed within the program. Pete passed away in 2021 but his passion lives on through Joy and their many family members. The Waldrop's story underscores the fusion of education, sports and community in their enduring relationship with the University. Aside from their deep-rooted fandom for Racer Basketball, the Waldrop family has invested over \$100,000 in Murray State University and Racer Athletics. The Waldrop Family has recently committed another gift of \$25,000 which will directly impact Men's Basketball and their experience while representing MSU. In appreciation of the Waldrop Family's investment and their continued support of Murray State University and Racer Athletics, approval of the naming of the *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office* located in the Gene W. Ray Center is being recommended.

On behalf of the Marketing and Community Engagement Committee, Regent Ovey moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office* in appreciation of the Waldrop Family's investment and their continued support to Murray State University and Racer Athletics. Regent Price seconded and the motion carried.

**Full Board Action – Naming Opportunity – *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office* – Gene Wells Ray Center, 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 and the Committee on Naming of Campus Facilities, Programs and Activities, approve the naming of the *Pete and Joy Waldrop Assistant Coach Office* in appreciation of the Waldrop Family's investment and their continued support to Murray State University and Racer Athletics. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

President Jackson expressed appreciation to Dr. Bernot for her work, as well as the Office of Development. These three gifts and the related naming opportunities are significant. For the last ten years an effort has been made to secure an endowment for the Arboretum and the Doran Family stepped up to that challenge in a major way to ensure this important asset to the University, community and region is kept in good order and in perpetuity and all are very grateful for their support. Tommy and Sandy Draffen have been incredibly supportive of Murray State in every way. Murray State does not have bigger or better cheerleaders than the late Pete Waldrop and his wife Joy. It is an honor to recognize these three wonderful families and the support of the Board in this regard is very much appreciated.

**Adjournment**

The Marketing and Community Engagement Committee adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The Board of Regents Quarterly and Committee meetings adjourned for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

**Reconvene**

Chair Owens reconvened the Board of Regents Quarterly and Committee meetings at 12:30 p.m.

**Personnel Changes**

**Director of Athletics – Contract of Employment Amendment – Nico Yantko, approved**

President Jackson reported that Murray State University executed a Contract of Employment to employ Nicholas "Nico" Yantko as Director of Athletics on August 16, 2022. The revised Contract of Employment being presented today for Director of Athletics Yantko is effective September 1, 2023, and adds an additional year and changes some terms and conditions, subject

to Board approval. His annual salary will be \$199,000 and there are additional incentives contained within the contract that represent changes from the initial contract and those were noted accordingly in the redlined version provided to the Board. Chair Owens reported that he was fortunate to have the opportunity to serve on the Search Committee for a new Director of Athletics. Director Yantko has not only lived up to but has exceeded expectations in the short period of time he has been at the University. In terms of salary, Murray State is not able to pay as much as some of the larger schools but he believes the revision to the base salary being recommended is appropriate, as are the incentives.

Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the attached Contract of Employment amendment for Mr. Nico Yantko, Director of Athletics, effective September 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027. Regent McGowan seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Chair Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #16)

**Head Women's Volleyball Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – David Schwepker, approved**

President Jackson reported that Murray State University executed a Contract of Employment to employ Mr. David Schwepker as Head Women's Volleyball Coach from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2023. The revised Contract of Employment for Head Coach David Schwepker is effective from September 1, 2023, to December 31, 2024, at a salary of \$63,260, subject to Board approval. Coach Schwepker entered his 25<sup>th</sup> season as Head Coach of the Racers in 2023. He is the winningest Coach in program history and the top Coach in longevity in program history, boasting a 384-331 overall record.

Chair Owens encouraged the Board to find an opportunity to watch the Women's Volleyball Team. They do an outstanding job and this contract amendment for Coach Schwepker is well deserved.

Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the attached Contract of Employment for Mr. David Schwepker, Head Women's Volleyball Coach, effective September 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024. Regent Fitch seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Chair Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #17)

**Head Rifle Coach – Contract of Employment Amendment – Alan Lollar, approved**

President Jackson reported that Murray State University executed a Contract of Employment as amended to employ Alan Lollar as Head Rifle Coach from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2024. The Contract of Employment for Head Coach Alan Lollar is extended by amendment to June 30, 2025, at an annual salary of \$63,715, subject to Board approval. Coach Lollar has led the Racers Rifle Program to nine Ohio Valley Conference championships, including the last title-winning season with ten National Collegiate Athletic Association appearances while also coaching 29 All-American selections and a staggering 21 OVC Rifle Athletes of the Year. His nine conference championships are the fourth most by a Coach in school history across all sports.

Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the contract extension for Coach Alan Lollar, Head Rifle Coach, to June 30, 2025. Regent Fitch seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes and Chair Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #18)



## **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 Gray moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the Salary Roster as of June 30, 2023, which includes new employment, retirements, resignations and terminations. Regent Fitch seconded and the roll was called with the following voting: Dr. Evans, yes; Dr. Fitch, yes; Mrs. Gray, yes; Ms. McGowan, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes (but abstain with regard to salary) and Chair Owens, yes. The motion carried.

(See Attachment #19)

## **Policy Changes**

### **New Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 2.29 – Remotely-Operated Aircraft Systems/Drones (second reading), approved**

President Jackson reported that two readings by the Board are required before a policy becomes effective. At its June 2, 2023, Quarterly Meeting, the Board of Regents approved the first reading of this policy. In furtherance of providing the safest possible learning and living environment for members of the campus community, the University administration proposes the adoption of new *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 2.29* to address the use of remotely-operated aircraft systems (drones) on campus property. This policy is proposed in conjunction with a new section of the University's *Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual*, addressed separately, which will contain additional information for pilots and operators of drones on campus.

The question was asked regarding how the new policy relates to Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) aircraft guidelines. General Counsel Miller reported that FAA regulations are very complicated and change frequently. Faculty are allowed to fly drones for academic purposes and also as a hobby. The ceiling for these aircraft is typically 400 feet. The policy being recommended would prevent a recreational user from flying drones around campus during an event or outside a window in one of the campus academic buildings or residence halls. The policy will require drone users to go through a registration process before they would be allowed to fly these devices on campus.

Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the University General Counsel, approve the new *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 2.29 – Remotely Operated Aircraft Systems/Drones* (second reading) as presented. Regent McGowan seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #20)

### **Revised Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.4 – Staff Congress (second reading), approved**

President Jackson reported that at its June 2, 2023, Quarterly Meeting, the Board of Regents approved the first reading of this policy revision. The Murray State University Staff Congress approved changes to its *Bylaws*, specifically *MSU Staff Congress Bylaws – Article I – Representatives – Section 3 – Representation* on May 17, 2023. The proposed changes to the *Staff Congress Bylaws* were recommended in order to provide more equitable campus representation as a result of changes in FTE in the current representation categories.

Regent Evans indicated that the revised *Bylaws* modify the representation categories from employment classifications to one based upon the University's organizational structure due to a change in the number of staff positions on campus to more closely align with not only the number of employees on campus but also to put the positions that are available for election in more close alignment with Vice Presidential areas. This allows for better representation across campus and an individual representative from the regional campuses to serve as a representative which was not previously the case. This policy will expand Staff Congress membership so there is broader representation. MSU Staff Congress, as expressed in its revised *Bylaws*, requests revisions to the

*Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.4 – Staff Congress* as outlined in the attached document.

Regent Shemberger moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the revised *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.4 – Staff Congress* as presented in this second reading. Regent Fitch seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #21)

**Revised Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.9 – Student Government Association Constitution (second reading), approved**

Regent McGowan reported that the current Constitution of the MSU Student Government Association allocates two “freshman Senator” classified positions. Currently, students are only eligible to run for office based on their academic classification entering college. A freshman classification requires a student to have no more than thirty (30) credit hours; therefore, current constitutional statutes limit the population of students eligible to run and vote for these positions. More and more students are bringing in college dual credit (50 percent at Murray State). If these students enter college with too much dual credit where they are classified as a sophomore, current Board policy will automatically not allow these students to hold freshman Senator positions. A great deal of discussion occurred on what it means to be a freshman and also considered was maintaining a focus on the overall freshman experience. The number of students who apply for freshman Senator positions has decreased significantly since the pandemic. Of those few who did apply, many had dual credit. The proposed changes, if adopted, would enable student eligibility to be based off of both academic classification and how many credit hours the student has earned after high school graduation; allowing for students who have completed dual-credit courses in high school the opportunity to participate in freshman Senator elections. The Board of Regents approved the first reading of this policy at its June 2, 2023, Quarterly Meeting.

Vice Chair Gray moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the changes to the Student Government Association Constitution as outlined in the attached document and approve the revision of the *Board of Regents Policy Manual – Section 6.9 – Student Government Association Constitution* (second reading) – to reflect those changes. Regent Shemberger seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #22)

**Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual – Policy III L – Flexible Work Arrangements (first reading), approved**

President Jackson reported that Murray State University’s Insurance and Benefits Committee recommended a policy with regard to flexible work arrangements be developed and provided input into the policy development process. At its June 2, 2023, Quarterly Meeting, the Board of Regents was provided with an update regarding the status of the policy development process for a Flexible Work Arrangements Policy for the University and this topic was discussed in detail during the Retreat yesterday.

Regent Fitch moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the attached *Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual – Policy III L – Flexible Work Arrangements* as presented in this first reading. Vice Chair Gray seconded and the motion carried.

(See Attachment #23)

**Supplemental Materials**

President Jackson reported that supplemental materials were included in the eBoard book as follows: “Good News” Report (Spring/Summer 2023); Quarterly Branding, Marketing and Communication Report (April – June 2023) 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 Owens reminded Board members to return their Conflict of Interest Statements to Secretary Hunt if they have not already done so. He also thanked fellow Board members for their preparedness and participation. Their service is very much appreciated.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Owens 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 12:45 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Jill Hunt

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Leon Owens

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