

Faculty Handbook

With Constitution and Bylaws



For the Faculty of
Missouri State
University, West Plains

(Updated for 2024-2025)

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

WEST PLAINS FACULTY HANDBOOK

Updated August 29, 2024

(see Board of Governor's meeting minutes from June, 2024)

Faculty Handbook Approved by

Missouri State University

Board of Governors

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Administrative Forward:

The Faculty Handbook for Missouri State University-West Plains will be reprinted and distributed to faculty every seven years following the septennial review by the Faculty Handbook Committee and approval of changes by the Board of Governors. Printing will be in loose-leaf format and pagination will be designed to accommodate page by page changes as needed in the years between printings.

PREAMBLE

This Faculty Handbook reflects the policies of Missouri State University-West Plains in effect as of the date of publication. It prescribes the conditions of employment of all members of the faculty, both ranked and unranked.

The Faculty Handbook represents campus-wide policy and takes precedence over policy promulgated by divisions, departments or other units within Missouri State University-West Plains. This does not preclude divisions, departments or other units within Missouri State University-West Plains from issuing policy documents separate from the Faculty Handbook; however, while all such documents may amplify, add detail to, and expand upon policies contained in the Faculty Handbook, all policy disputes shall be resolved in favor of those contained in the Faculty Handbook.

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Appendix A: Intellectual Property

Section 1: Objectives

Inventions, discoveries, copyrightable works and other creative works that have the potential to be brought into practical use may result from the activities of University employees in the course of their duties or through the use, by any person, of University resources such as facilities, equipment or funds. The primary purpose of this Intellectual Property policy is to provide the necessary protections and incentives to encourage both the discovery and development of new knowledge and its transfer for the public benefit; a secondary purpose is to enhance the generation of revenue for the University and the creators. The University is guided by the following objectives:

1. To ensure that the educational mission of the University is not compromised;
2. To optimize the environment and incentives for research and for the creation of new knowledge at the University;
3. To bring the products of creative efforts into practical use for the public benefit as quickly and effectively as possible and
4. To protect the interest of the people of Missouri through an equitable recovery by the University of its investment in research.

Section 2: Definitions

Exceptions are expected in units where the tradition is to provide support to some faculty in the form of graduate assistants to help prepare traditional academic copyrightable works. Exceptions are also expected in situations where creators use University-provided facilities and resources in the creation of works of artistic imagination, for example, use of studios, pottery wheels or kilns for the creation of paintings, sculpture or ceramics. Other individual exceptions may be approved on a case-by-case basis (see Section 7.J.).

1. **Intellectual Property:** The term "intellectual property" as used herein is broadly defined to include inventions, discoveries, know-how, show-how, processes, unique materials, copyrightable works, original data and other creative or artistic works which have value. Intellectual property includes that which is protectible by statute or legislation, such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, service marks, trade secrets, mask works and plant variety protection certificates. It also includes the physical embodiments of intellectual effort, for example, models, machines, devices, designs, apparatus, instrumentation, circuits, computer programs and visualizations, demonstration software, biological materials, chemicals, other compositions of matter, plants and records of research.
2. **Traditional Academic Copyrightable Works:** "Traditional academic copyrightable works" are a subset of copyrightable works created independently and at the creator's initiative for traditional academic purposes. Examples include class notes, books, theses and dissertations, educational software (also known as courseware or lessonware), articles, non-fiction, fiction, poems, musical works, dramatic works including any accompanying music, pantomimes and choreographic works, pictorial, graphic and sculptural works or other works of artistic imagination that are not created as an institutional initiative (as specified in Section 4.A.2. below).
3. **Creator:** "Creator" refers to an individual or group of individuals who make, conceive, reduce to practice, author or otherwise make a substantive intellectual contribution to the creation of intellectual property. "Creator" includes the definition of "inventor" used in U.S. patent law and the definition of "author" used in the U.S. Copyright Act.
4. **University Resources Usually and Customarily Provided:** When determining ownership and license rights in copyrightable works, "University resources usually and customarily provided" includes such support as office space, library facilities, ordinary access to computers and networks, including Internet access and space for course pages or salary. In general, it does not include use of students or employees as support staff to develop the work or substantial use of

specialized or unique facilities and equipment or other special support provided by the University unless approved as an exception.

5. **Sponsored Projects:** Sponsored projects are activities funded in whole or in part by funds provided from internal University sources or provided by grants, contracts or other agreements with external entities. Internal sources of funding include, but are not restricted to, formally identified programs in which faculty, staff and/or students compete for support, as well as other instances wherein funds are provided from unit budgets.

Section 3: Application

This policy as amended from time to time shall be deemed a part of the conditions of employment for every employee of the University and a part of the conditions of enrollment and attendance at the University by students. It is also the policy of the University that individuals (including visitors) by participating in a sponsored project and/or making significant use of University-administered resources thereby accept the principles of ownership of intellectual property as stated in this policy unless an exception is approved in writing by the University. All creators of intellectual property shall upon request execute appropriate assignment and/or other documents required to set forth effectively ownership and rights as specified in this policy.

Section 4: Copyrights

1. **Ownership:** Unless subject to any of the exceptions specified below, creators retain all rights to traditional academic copyrightable works as defined in Section 2.B. above. (See, however, Section 4.B.2. below.) This includes all works developed by employees outside of University time and without use of University resources inaccessible to the public.

The University shall own copyrightable works as described following. Revenues generated by University-owned intellectual property shall be distributed according to the provisions of Section 8, unless otherwise determined in writing.

- a. Works created pursuant to the terms of a University agreement with an external party, or
- b. Works created as a specific requirement of employment or as an assigned University duty that may be specified, for example, in a written job description or an employment agreement. Such specification may define the full scope or content of the employee's University employment duties comprehensively or may be limited to terms applicable to a single copyrightable work. Absent such prior written specification, ownership will vest with the University in those cases where the University provides the motivation for the preparation of the work, the topic or content of which is determined by the creator's employment duties and/or when the work is prepared at the University's expense. Works created by University staff and administrative employees shall be considered to fall within this category, unless and except as specified by written agreement to the contrary, approved by the appropriate vice-president and the president of the University.
- c. Works specifically commissioned by the University. The term "commissioned work" is hereafter used to describe a copyrightable work prepared under a written agreement between the University and the creator when (1) the creator is not a University employee or (2) the creator is a University employee but the work to be performed falls outside the normal scope of the creator's University employment. Contracts covering commissioned works shall specify that the author convey by assignment, if necessary, such rights as are required by the University.
- d. Copyrights owned by the faculty member under this policy will not transfer to the University simply because the work is also patentable. However, if the University pursues a patent of the work, the University will own the patent rights and the faculty member will share in royalties as set forth in Section 8. The faculty member will also

license to the University the copyright for the University to use the work for the purposes of the patent and the right to sublicense to third parties for purposes of commercialization of the patent.

2. University Rights in Creator-Owned Works

- a. Traditional academic copyrightable works created using University resources usually and customarily provided are owned by the creators. Such works need not be licensed to the University.
- b. Traditional academic copyrightable works created with use of University resources over and above those usually and customarily provided shall be owned by the creators but licensed to the University. The minimum terms of such license shall grant the University the right to use the original work in its internally administered programs of teaching, research and public service on a seven-year royalty-free, non-exclusive basis. The University may retain more than the minimum license rights when justified by the circumstances of development. By definition, any course developed for any Missouri State University network, including Intranet, LAN, WAN or Internet course, workshop or other educational course work, shall be considered created with use of University's resources over and above those usually and customarily provided. The University's license shall include the rights to copy, store and modify at any time.
- c. This policy shall be administered consistently with Section 2.8.2 of the Faculty Handbook.

3. Student Works: Unless subject to the provisions of paragraph 4.A. or provided otherwise by written agreement, copyrightable works prepared by students as part of the requirements for a University degree program are deemed to be the property of the student but are subject to the following provisions:

- a. The original records (including software) of an investigation for a graduate thesis or dissertation are the property of the University but may be retained by the student at the discretion of the student's major department. In cases of dispute, the matter shall be referred to the University Intellectual Property Committee.
- b. The University shall have, as a condition of the degree award, the royalty-free right to retain, use and distribute a limited number of copies of the thesis, together with the right to require its publication for archival use.
- c. Creative works developed by a student employed by the University are owned, not by the student, but by the faculty member or the University as provided by this policy.

4. Copyright Registration and Notice: University-owned works should be protected by copyright notice in the name of the Board of Governors of Missouri State University. Such copyright notice should be composed and affixed in accordance with the United States Copyright Law. Registration of the copyright for University-owned works shall be in accordance with the operational guidelines and procedures established by the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college. The University may also decide to release a work to the public domain and if so, should so indicate.

5. University Publications: University publications, such as the *Journal for Public Affairs*, shall be responsible for copyright registration of works owned by the University and published for administering contracts with its authors. Such contracts shall define the rights and obligations of the author and the University and shall be processed as are other University contracts.

6. Compliance with the Copyright Act. University units that administer activities involving any usage regulated by the Copyright Act are responsible for knowing applicable regulations, monitoring their continuing evolution and conducting their programs in full compliance with the applicable laws and regulations.

Section 5: Other Intellectual Property Including Patents

Ownership: Except as otherwise specified herein or by the University in writing, intellectual property shall belong to the University if made: (1) by a University employee as a result of the employee's duties or (2) through the use by any person, including a University employee, of University resources such as facilities,

equipment, funds or funds under the control of or administered by the University. (See also Section 4.A.4. above.)

Section 6: Trademarks

Trademarks and service marks are distinctive words or graphic symbols identifying the source, product, producer or distributor of goods or services. Registration of trademarks or service marks, at the state or federal level, shall be approved by the appropriate campus or University level officer. Proceeds received from commercialization of a mark that is related to an intellectual property license will be shared with all creator(s) of the associated property as specified in Sections 8.B. and 8.C. below. Except as provided herein or unless subject to prior written agreement between the creator(s) and the University, the University will not share the proceeds from commercialization of a mark with the individual(s) who created the mark.

Section 7: Intellectual Property Administration

1. **Disclosure:** All intellectual property in which the University has an ownership interest under the provisions of this policy and that has the potential to be brought into practical use for public benefit or for which disclosure is required by law shall be reported promptly in writing by the creator(s). This disclosure is to be submitted to the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college with a copy to the Unit Head (*i.e.*, academic department or staff unit). The associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college will handle the disclosure in accordance with procedures developed for evaluation of the potential merit of the intellectual property. The Unit Head will review the disclosure and provide recommendations on the potential merit of the intellectual property and convey this to the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college through standard administrative routing. The disclosure shall constitute a full and complete disclosure of the subject matter of the discovery or development and identify all persons participating therein. The creator(s) shall furnish such additional information and execute such documents from time to time as may be reasonably requested.
2. **Evaluation and Exploitation Decisions:** After evaluation of the intellectual property and review of applicable contractual commitments, the University may develop the property through licensing, may release it to the sponsor of the project under which it was made (if contractually obligated to do so), may release it to the creator(s) if permitted by law or may take such other actions as are determined to be in the public interest. Exploitation by the University may or may not involve statutory protection of the intellectual property rights, such as filing for patent protection, registering the copyright or securing plant variety certification.
3. **Questions Related to University Ownership:** In the event there is a question as to whether the University has a valid ownership claim in intellectual property, such intellectual property should be disclosed in writing to the University by the creator(s) in accordance with Section 7.A. Such disclosure is without prejudice to the creator's ownership claim. The University will provide the creator with a written statement as to the University's ownership interest.
4. **Informing Creators of Decisions:** The University will inform principal creators of its substantive decisions regarding protection, commercialization and/or disposition of intellectual property which they have disclosed. However, specific terms of agreements with external parties may be proprietary business information and subject to confidentiality restrictions.
5. **University Abandons Intellectual Property:** Should the University decide to abandon development or protection of University-owned intellectual property, ownership may be assigned to the creator(s) as allowed by law subject to the rights of sponsors and to the retention of a license to practice for University purposes. The minimum terms of such license shall grant the University the right to use the intellectual property in its internally administered programs of teaching, research and public service on a perpetual, royalty-free, non-exclusive basis. The University may retain more than the minimum license rights and the assignment or license may be subject to additional terms and conditions, such as revenue sharing with the

University or reimbursement of the costs of statutory protection, when justified by the circumstances of development.

6. **Commercialization by Creator(s):** The University may, at its discretion and consistent with the public interest, license intellectual property to the creator(s) on an exclusive or non-exclusive basis. The creator(s) must demonstrate technical and business capability to commercialize the intellectual property. The creator(s) may be required to assume the cost of statutory protection. Agreements with creators will be subject to review and approval of conflict of interest issues in accordance with applicable University policy.
7. **University's Acceptance of Independently Owned Intellectual Property:** The University may accept assignment of intellectual property from other parties provided that such action is determined to be consistent with the public interest. Intellectual property so accepted shall be administered in a manner consistent with the administration of other University-owned intellectual property.
8. **Consulting Agreements:** Employees engaged in external consulting work or business are responsible for ensuring that agreements emanating from such work are not in conflict with University policy or with the University's contractual commitments. Such employees should make their University obligations known to others with whom they make such agreements and should provide other parties to such agreements with a statement of applicable University policies regarding ownership of intellectual property and related rights. Employees of the University have no authority to enter into agreements inconsistent with this policy.
9. **Statement by Creators:** The creators of intellectual property owned by the University under the terms of this policy may be required to state that to the best of their knowledge the intellectual property does not infringe on any existing patent, copyright or other legal rights of third parties; that if the work is not the original expression or creation of the creators, the necessary permission for use has been obtained from the owner; and that the work contains no libelous material nor material that invades the privacy of others.
10. **Administrative Responsibility:** The president has ultimate authority for the stewardship of intellectual property developed at the University. Primary responsibility is delegated through the president to the vice-president for academic affairs and the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college for establishing operational guidelines and procedures for the administration of intellectual property, including but not limited to determination of ownership, assignment, protection, licensing, marketing, maintenance of records, oversight of revenue or equity collection and distribution, approval of individual exceptions and resolution of disputes among creators and/or unit executive officers.
11. **Contractual Authority:** Licenses, options for licenses and other agreements related to commercialization or exploitation of intellectual property will be granted in the name of the Board of Governors of Missouri State University.
12. **Administrative Guidelines and Procedures:** General guidelines and procedures for the administration of intellectual property shall be established by the president in consultation with the University Intellectual Property Committee (as specified in Section 7.M. below) and the campuses. Detailed operational guidelines and procedures for the administration of campus-based responsibilities shall be established by the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college.
13. **University Intellectual Property Committee:** The University Intellectual Property Committee shall be appointed annually by the president, composed of eight (8) members, no fewer than four (4) of which shall be full-time ranked faculty, to make recommendations to the president regarding procedures, guidelines and responsibilities for the administration and development of intellectual property and such other matters as the president shall determine.
14. **Appeals:** After following the administrative guidelines and procedures established by the University, creator or unit executive officer may appeal to the University Intellectual Property Committee to seek resolution of complaints or questions regarding the matters addressed in this policy.
15. **Preferential Treatment of Sponsors:** Sponsored project agreements shall provide that all intellectual property developed as a result of the sponsored project shall belong to the University unless otherwise specified in writing. The sponsor may receive an option to license such resulting intellectual property on terms to be negotiated, said option to be exercised within

a specified period following the disclosure of the intellectual property. When the nature of the proposed project allows identification of a specific area of intellectual property or application which is of interest to the sponsor, the University may accept project agreements with terms which entitle the sponsor to specific commercial rights within the defined field of interest. Otherwise, the specific terms of licenses and rights to commercial development shall be based on negotiation between the sponsor and the University at the time of exercise of an option by the sponsor and shall depend on the nature of the intellectual property and its application, the relative contributions of the University and the sponsor to the work and the conditions deemed most likely to advance the commercial development and acceptance of the intellectual property. In all cases where exclusive licensing is deemed appropriate, such license agreements shall require diligent commercial development of the intellectual property by the licensee. The University may also determine, on a case-by-case basis, that it is in the University's interest to assign ownership of resulting intellectual property to the sponsor as an exception to this policy when circumstances warrant such action, in accordance with guidelines approved by the University Intellectual Property Committee.

16. **Summer Fellowships, Educational Leaves and Sabbaticals.** Summer fellowships, educational leaves and sabbaticals will be considered "University resources usually and customarily provided" when determining ownership and license rights in traditional academic copyrightable works.
17. **Exceptions to policy:** Recommendations for exceptions to the provisions in this policy shall be made by the University Intellectual Property Committee to the president for presentation to the Board of Governors. For individual exceptions, see Section 7.J.

Section 8: Proceeds Distribution

1. **Proceeds:** For purposes of this policy, "proceeds" shall refer to all revenue and/or equity, as defined below, received by the University from transfer, commercialization or other exploitation of University-owned intellectual property.
 - a. **Revenue:** "Revenue" shall mean cash from payments including, but not limited to, royalties, option fees, license fees or from the sale of the University's equity interest.
 - b. **Equity:** "Equity" shall include, but not be limited to, stock, securities, stock options, warrants, buildings, real or personal property or other non-cash consideration
2. **Revenue Distribution:** When revenue is received by the University, all direct payments or obligations attributable to protecting (including defense against infringement or enforcement actions), marketing, licensing or administering the property may be deducted from such income. In some cases, a reasonable reserve for anticipated future expenses will be withheld upon agreement between the University and the creators. The income remaining after such deductions is defined as net revenue.
 - a. **Creator's Share:** The creator (or creator's heirs, successors and assigns) normally shall receive forty percent (40%) of net revenue. If there are joint creators, the net income shall be divided equally among them absent a mutual agreement to the contrary.
 - b. **Originating Unit's Share:** The originating unit normally shall receive twenty percent (20%) of net revenue. If a creator is affiliated with more than one originating unit or if there are joint creators from different units, the originating unit(s) share shall be divided among such units as agreed in writing by the responsible unit executive officers.
 - c. **University's Share:** The University normally shall receive forty percent (40%) of net revenue. Distribution of the University's share shall be allocated in support of its technology transfer activities and academic and research programs as determined by the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college.

3. **Equity Distribution:** In any instance wherein the University executes an agreement with a corporation or other business entity for purposes of exploiting intellectual property owned by the University and the University receives or is entitled to receive equity, such equity or the proceeds of the equity shall be shared among the creator(s), the originating unit(s) and the University in the same proportions as revenue distributions (except as specified in Section 8.D. below).
4. **Exceptions when the Creator(s) have no Entitlement:** If the University accepts support in the form of a sponsored project agreement or unrestricted grant as part of the consideration in an intellectual property license in lieu of an option fee, license fee or royalty, the creator(s) shall have no entitlement to receive a share as personal income. For the subset of equity that is buildings, real or personal property or other non-cash consideration, the creator(s) shall have no entitlement to receive a share as personal income.
5. **Special Distributions:** Special facts or circumstances may warrant a different distribution of proceeds than specified above and such distributions will be determined on a case-by-case basis under the authority of the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college.
6. **Revenue from Actions for Defense or Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights:** When the University receives revenue from third parties that results from successful actions for the purpose of defending or enforcing the University's rights in its intellectual property, such revenue may first be used to reimburse the University (or the sponsor or licensee, if appropriate) for expenses incurred in such actions. The creator(s) and their originating unit(s) shall be entitled to recovery of lost royalties from the remaining net revenue, in the same proportions as specified in Section 8.B. above. The remaining net revenue shall be allocated in support of the University's technology transfer activities and academic and research programs as determined by the associate vice-president for academic affairs and dean of the graduate college.

Appendix B: Financial Exigency Policy

The mission of Missouri State University-West Plains is to provide quality educational opportunities to South Central Missouri. The core function of Missouri State University-West Plains is defined by its mission and, therefore, resides in programs of study and the courses of which they are composed. Because Missouri State University-West Plains receives public support and student fees for performing this primary activity, the overarching principle which guides Missouri State University-West Plains in times of financial stringency and exigency through the application of this policy is that **Missouri State University-West Plains will first significantly reduce expenditures that subsidize university programs and activities which do not directly contribute to the primary mission of Missouri State University-West Plains.**

Because of the centrality of University faculty to its primary mission, a financial exigency should be declared only when there is a financial crisis of such magnitude that all other reasonable measures have been taken and there is no reasonable alternative to termination of University employees. No faculty member's employment may be terminated or academic program eliminated for reason of financial exigency absent the declaration of financial exigency by the Board of Governors.

The University engages in continuing reallocation of resources unconnected to financial exigency. Sometimes such reallocation may include the relocation or dismissal of personnel or the restructuring of units to serve better the mission of the University. It is expected that these actions will continue during periods of financial stringency and exigency. Such reallocation shall occur with all applicable shared governance procedures as detailed in section 2.13.2 of the *Faculty Handbook*.

Pre-Exigency Deficit-Reduction Measures:

When the administration declares that it has compelling reason to believe that the University may soon enter a period of financial exigency or immediately after the chancellor is advised by the vice president for financial services (in Springfield) that the University will shortly enter a state of financial exigency, whichever comes first, the chancellor shall within two calendar days convene a forum with representatives of all employees of Missouri State University-West Plains. This forum will be open to the University community. The forum meeting must determine what measures have been taken, what reasonable further measures short of faculty employment termination ought to be taken and the amount of the remaining projected deficit, if any. Such expenditure reduction and revenue enhancement measures to be considered should include, but not be limited to, the following (no priority implied): increases in student fees and surcharges; increases in charges of rentals, tickets and retail items; consolidation of administrative functions; salary holdbacks (temporary salary reductions to be repaid); freezing of open administrative, staff and faculty positions; incentives to early retirement; curtailment or elimination of selected non-academic programs, including selected athletic programs; curtailment or elimination of selected student services, including selected scholarships; increased economy in operations and support services and prudent reductions in physical plant expenditures; a moratorium on plant construction.

Declaration of Exigency:

If the president of the University, with advice from the chancellor of Missouri State University-West Plains, determines that the situation cannot be alleviated by less drastic means than a declaration of a state of financial exigency, then he or she shall submit a recommendation to the Board of Governors for such a declaration. Accompanying this recommendation shall be a report detailing the rationale for this declaration. This report shall list each recommendation which has been implemented or endorsed and should explain why any remaining recommendations have not been implemented or endorsed. The Board shall receive the administration's recommendations. In addition, the Board may receive recommendations from Missouri State University-West Plains personnel and other delegations, if offered. The Board must then either declare a state of financial exigency or direct the president and/or chancellor to take further

steps to increase revenues or decrease expenditures short of terminating the employment of faculty members.

Exigency Deficit-Reduction Measures: If the Board declares a state of financial exigency, the chancellor must expeditiously convene a subcommittee of the forum composed of the chief financial officer, the chief academic officer, two representatives from the Staff Senate, two representatives from the Faculty Senate and two representatives from the student government. The chancellor will preside over the subcommittee to consider means of eliminating the remaining deficit which will, to the greatest extent possible, maintain courses which meet the four criteria listed below. At this time, in addition to further application of the deficit-reduction and revenue-enhancement measures considered previously, reductions in instructional expenditures will be considered, including the possible elimination of positions within the academic administration, faculty and staff, consistent with the goal of providing quality educational opportunities for south central Missouri. The meetings of this subcommittee will be open to the University community.

Academic Personnel Reduction During Exigency:

If this subcommittee determines that a reduction in the personnel budget of academic affairs must be made, positions within the faculty and academic administration may be identified for elimination in a manner which is distributed across the various divisions without the elimination of programs or it may be necessary to terminate programs. The distributed cutting of positions is preferable to the elimination of programs because such cutting would least affect the capacity of Missouri State University-West Plains to fulfill its mission. Therefore, the distributed elimination of positions will be given first consideration. Such a distributed elimination of positions would be accomplished through the advice of the deans. Any distributed elimination of faculty positions would follow the order of consideration in Section 2.13.1.2 of the Faculty Handbook. All faculty whose positions are so terminated would have the rights described in Section 2.13.1.4.

When it becomes apparent to the academic administration that additional distributed cuts will result in an unacceptable reduction in the quality of academic programs, it may become necessary to terminate one or more academic programs as specified below.

Academic Program Elimination During Exigency:

Academic programs (as defined in section 2.13.2.1 of the Faculty Handbook) shall be evaluated for elimination according to four criteria: academic quality; centrality to the mission (as described in the current long range plan); demand for and student enrollment in the program and cost and cost-effectiveness. The chief academic officer and the chair of the Faculty Senate will make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate concerning the programs that least meet the criteria.

The chief academic officer must provide the Faculty Senate with the following: financial information necessary to demonstrate that program terminations are necessary, the total deficit which must be covered by such eliminations and the projected savings to be realized from the termination of each of the programs presented as candidates for elimination. The chief academic officer must also report the information detailing why the proposed programs least meet the four criteria listed in the preceding paragraph.

The Faculty Senate will hear arguments for and against the elimination of each program presented as a candidate. Those arguments should address the four criteria listed above but are not limited to the four. There will be a Faculty Senate vote on each of the programs with a majority vote of the senators present being sufficient to accept termination of a program. The Faculty Senate may also present alternatives to the recommendation of the chief academic officer.

If the Faculty Senate has not agreed to the elimination of sufficient programs within two weeks of the initial Senate meeting, the administration may recommend termination of the additional programs necessary to meet the deficit.

Approval and Implementation of Exigency Plan:

The chancellor will report his/her plan to meet the exigency to the next meeting of the Board of Governors. This report will include the specific recommendations for the elimination of personnel and programs as determined by the above procedures. The constituent elements of the forum shall also have the right to address the Board through their executive committees, both in writing and in person. The Board of Governors must approve the plan before it may be implemented.

Termination of Exigency:

Throughout the period of exigency, the chancellor periodically shall report to the Board on progress made toward alleviating shortfalls and improving financial status. The Board will, at its discretion, declare the end of the exigency. Any of the delegations constituting the forum can petition the Board to declare an end to the exigency.

Post Exigency:

After the exigency has been declared over and as financial resources become available, restoration of funds to academic affairs will be given priority.

Programs eliminated due to exigency may be considered for reintroduction as new programs only through the normal curricular review process as defined in Article II of the Bylaws of the Faculty.

Amendment of the Missouri State University-West Plains Financial Exigency Policy:

This policy will be changed by the University only through the procedures specified for the amendment of the Faculty Handbook (Section 3.2.2).

Appendix C: History, Accreditation and Professional Organizations

1963

- July 5, Southwest Missouri State College (SMS) establishes Residence Center in West Plains. The Center opens September 16 with 111 students.

1965

- North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NCA) grants joint accreditation between SMS and Residence Center.

1973

- Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU) Residence Center receives first state funding (\$50,000 for operating expenses).

1976

- Enrollment quadrupled since campus' inception with 450 students.

1977

- Name changed to the West Plains Campus of SMSU (SMSU-WP)
- Coordinating Board of Higher Education (CBHE) authorizes awarding of Associates of Arts Degree in General Studies.

1982

- The State Board of Nursing and CBHE approve awarding of Associate of Science in Nursing.

1988

- SMSU-WP Nursing students ranked first in Missouri and fourth in nation by National Council Licensure Examination Summary Profiles.
- Nursing program accredited by National League of Nursing
- SMSU-WP celebrates 25th anniversary with enrollment of 700 students.

1992

- Grizzly Booster Club formed to raise scholarship funds for athletic program including men's basketball and women's basketball. Grizzly Cheer Team also formed.

1993

- Enrollment tops 1,000 mark with 1,016 students enrolled.

1995

- Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees established.

- SMSU-WP Mountain Grove Extended Campus opens serving 60 students.

1998

- SMSU begins offering bachelor's and master's degrees on the West Plains Campus

2000

- SMSU-WP opens China branch at Liaoning Teachers University (LTU) in Dalian.
- SMSU-WP offers first online courses.
- Enrollment tops 1,500 mark with 1,525 students. In addition, 193 students were enrolled SMSU bachelor's and master's degree programs.

2001

- After the Grizzly Volleyball team's several appearances in the NJCAA Division I National Volleyball Tournament, the SMSU-WP Grizzly Booster Club are awarded the three-year bid to host the tournament.
- SMSU-WP's first study abroad program established with three students spending the fall semester at the SMSU-WP's LTU campus in Dalian, China.

2005

- With system name change from Southwest Missouri State University to Missouri State University campus changes to Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP).

2007

- Beginning in fall 2007, the course schedule was restructured to offer most classes on Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday. This new format, along with the many online and distance learning opportunities available, gave many students the opportunity to take a full load of courses while only coming to campus two days a week.

2008

- The Corps of Opportunity Program was implemented in summer 2008 when six students were selected and started work in campus positions in June. The program combines scholarships and work opportunities on campus for qualified students with substantial unmet financial need.

2009

- Enrollment tops the 2,000 mark with 2,162 students.

2011

- Missouri State University-West Plains established its first endowed professorship in June 2011 with more than \$250,000 being raised to create the Donna Jones Endowed Professorship of Nursing. The professorship was named in honor of Jones, who has spent 23 years teaching in the nursing program.

- More than 300 students were candidates for graduation from Missouri State-West Plains during the May 14 commencement ceremony. This is the largest graduating class in Missouri State-West Plains history.

2012

- Missouri State University-West Plains' students received the largest gift in the campus' history – a \$4 million gift that endowed and expanded the Corps of Opportunity Program and two athletics scholarships. The gift to the Missouri State University Foundation was from the Lorene Thompson Brooks estate. In recognition, the Corps of Opportunity Program was renamed the Ed and Lorene Thompson Brooks Corps of Opportunity Program. It is the largest scholarship gift in the Foundation's history and was announced at a press conference on Feb. 23.
- Missouri State University-West Plains established its second endowed professorship in May 2012 with more than \$250,000 being raised to create the William and Virginia Darr Endowed Honors Professorship. The announcement fulfilled a promise made in 2008 when members of the Philanthropic Women for Education organization pledged an annual gift for five years toward the professorship while University officials sought to fully endow the position.

2013

- Missouri State-West Plains was ranked sixth in the nation in the "Best Community Colleges" category of the 2013 Washington Monthly College Rankings. Editors at Washington Monthly based their rankings for community colleges on two sources – The Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) and the U.S. Department of Education measures of student retention and completion.
- The William and Virginia Darr Honors Program surpassed the 100-student, single-year enrollment mark for the first time in its 15-year history during the fall semester. More than 470 students have enrolled in the program since its inception. Approximately 90 percent of the program's graduates have transferred to four- year institutions and graduated with a bachelor's degree.

2014

- With just over a month to spare, members of the Missouri State University-West Plains community met their goal of giving 50,000 hours of service to area communities as part of the Operation 50K initiative. The year-long community service initiative began following 2013 commencement ceremonies as a way to honor the campus' 50th anniversary. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and others with ties to the University were asked to log their volunteer hours online until 2014 commencement on May 17 with hopes of reaching the 50,000-hour goal by that time. Instead, the goal was surpassed just over a month before the deadline, and University officials were able to announce at the May 17 commencement ceremony that a total of 56,531 hours had been contributed.
- Missouri State-West Plains was recognized as "Business of the Year" at the Greater West Plains Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet for the impact that our college has had on this region.

2015

- A bonding package worth approximately \$300 million signed by Gov. Jay Nixon in June will fund repairs and renovations to public properties around the state. The legislation included about \$1.7 million in renovations for Missouri State-West Plains. Approximately \$1.5 million in funding will go toward renovating the building currently occupied by the U.S. Postal Service in West Plains. The building's anticipated use will expand classroom, tutoring and office space for the campus. The project is expected to start in January 2017 and take about one year to complete. An additional

\$220,000 will be used to upgrade and improve life safety equipment in the Garnett Library, Putnam Student Center and M.O. Looney Hall. The work will begin in summer 2016.

- Beginning fall 2015, students at Missouri State -West Plains were able to complete all of the credit hours required for the Associate of Arts in General Studies degree completely online. The University received approval last fall from its accrediting agency, the Higher Learning Commission in Chicago, Illinois, to offer the degree online.
- Officials at Missouri State University-West Plains announced in May they have raised the minimum \$250,000 needed in donations and pledges to endow the University's third professorship, the Endowed Professorship of Business. The professorship provides the money needed to support the salary of the chair of the division of business, applied technology and public service. The professorship was awarded at the beginning of the 2015 fall semester, with Missouri State-West Plains funding the interest for the professorship for the first five years while pledges are being met and the professorship reaches its full endowment level.

2017

- A total of 257 students graduated from Missouri State-West Plains during commencement ceremonies May 20 at the West Plains Civic Center. With this group of graduates, Missouri State-West Plains has conferred degrees upon more than 5,000 students overall and more than 1,000 nursing students.
- The official ribbon cutting of the new Greater Ozarks Center for Advanced Technology (GOCAT) in West Plains was held April 21. The renovated 16,000-square-foot facility is a partnership between the university, South Central Career Center (SCCC) of the West Plains R-7 School District and the City of West Plains. Thanks to a \$225,000 Delta Regional Authority grant and additional funding from the city, the former city scales building on Howell Avenue was converted into an advanced manufacturing training center. Its purpose is to bring advanced technological training to area residents, who will have access to traditional education as well as key technological skills that are in demand by manufacturers. Including grants and contributions to the estimated value of the facility, GOCAT is a \$2.5 million investment for the community. Associate degrees and certificates focusing on immediate entry into the workforce will be offered.

2018

- Missouri State-West Plains celebrates the 25th anniversary of Grizzly Athletics at its Jan. 20 Homecoming game.

[Additional Campus Highlights](#)

Memberships

- American Association for Affirmative Action
- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO)
- American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
- American College Personnel Association (ACPA)
- American Student Government Association (ASGA)
- Association of International Educators (NAFSA)
- Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials (AVECO)
- College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA)
- Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
- Council of North Central Two-Year Colleges (CNCTYC)
- Educause
- Mid-States Association of College Stores (MSACS)
- Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA)
- Missouri Association of College Admissions Counselors (MOACAC)

- Missouri Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO)
- Missouri Association of Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP)
- Missouri Postsecondary Agriculture Students Organization (MPAS)
- Missouri Campus Compact (MOCC)
- Missouri League for Nursing (MLN)
- Missouri Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (MOADN)
- Missouri Postsecondary Agriculture Students Organization (MPAS)
- National Association of College Stores (NACS)
- National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)
- National Association of Developmental Education (NADE)
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)
- National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR)
- National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)
- National League for Nursing (NLN)
- National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (NOADN)
- National Postsecondary Agriculture Students Organization (NPAS)
- National Student Clearinghouse
- North Central Association (NCA)
- Rural Community College Association (RCCA)
- Service members Opportunity Colleges
- Southwest Missouri Nursing Education Consortium

* *Provisional accreditation*