The Board of Regents, Midwestern State University, met in regular session on the Midwestern State University campus in the J. S. Bridwell Board Room, Hardin Administration Building, Wichita Falls, Texas, at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 14, 2019.

Individuals in attendance were as follows:

Regents: Mr. Caven Crosnoe, Chairman  
Ms. Nancy Marks, Vice Chair  
Mr. Warren Ayres  
Mr. Tony Fidelie  
Mr. Shawn Hessing  
Mr. Oku Okeke  
Dr. Shelley Sweatt  
Ms. Leia De La Garza, Student Regent

University Administration: President Suzanne Shipley  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James Johnston  
Vice President for Enrollment Management Fred Dietz  
Vice President for Student Affairs Keith Lamb  
Vice President for University Advancement and Public Affairs Anthony Vidmar  
Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance Valarie Maxwell  
Associate Vice President for Facilities Services Kyle Owen  
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Kristen Garrison  
Director of Athletics Kyle Williams  
General Counsel Barry Macha  
Director of Internal Audits Leigh Kidwell  
Controller Chris Stovall  
Director of Marketing and Public Information Julie Gaynor  
Director of Board and Government Relations Debbie Barrow

Governance Representatives: Dr. David Carlston, Faculty Senate Chairman  
Ms. Dottie Westbrook, Staff Senate Chair  
Ms. Ellie Gunderson, Student Government Association President

Media Representatives: Ms. Claire Kowalick, Reporter, Wichita Falls Times Record News  
Ms. Mica Victorian-Holland, Reporter, The Wichitan  
Ms. Alyssa Mitchell, Editor, The Wichitan  
Mr. Brad Pushkar, Reporter, KAUZ-TV6

Per a duly posted notice and there being a quorum present, Chairman Crosnoe called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
Opening Comments
Chairman Crosnoe welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that Regent Pang was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and Regent Burks was providing closing arguments in a trial and planned to join the meeting later by phone.

Introductions
President Shipley introduced Ms. Jennifer Smith, the new Executive Assistant to the President, and Ms. Betsy Tucker, the new Assistant to the President. Chairman Crosnoe welcomed Ms. Smith and Ms. Tucker to service in the President’s Office. Ms. Gaynor introduced the other individuals attending the meeting.

Public Comment
Chairman Crosnoe noted that no one had signed up to provide public comment.

Reading and Approval of Minutes
19-39. The Board of Regents approved the minutes of the November 7, 2018 Board of Regents meeting as presented.

Board of Regents Committees – Organization and Operation
19-40. Information regarding proposed changes to the structure and meetings of committees was included in the Board Book. The Board reviewed and discussed these recommended changes.

Regent Marks moved approval of the new committee structure as presented, and Regent Ayres seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Presidential Performance and Compensation Review
19-41. Chairman Crosnoe noted that the Presidential Performance and Compensation Review would be performed as part of the May Board meeting. He asked President Shipley to submit her self-evaluation to the Board three weeks before the meeting.

University Leadership Report
19-42. Chairman Crosnoe noted that this report would be presented later in the meeting.

Executive Session
19-43. Chairman Crosnoe noted that items would be discussed in Executive Session later in the meeting.

Faculty Report
19-44. Dr. David Carlston, Faculty Senate Chairman, provided information on behalf of the faculty. He reported that the faculty looked forward to receiving the report from the external consultants related to faculty compensation and workload. He expressed appreciation to the administration for their support of this review.

Staff Report
19-45. Ms. Dottie Westbrook, Staff Senate Chair, reported that the latest “You Make a Difference” Award winners were Kelle Lillie and Elvia Valdez, employees in the Wellness Center. She noted that the Staff Senate had developed recommendations
resulting from the Great Colleges to Work For survey. These included streamlining policies and procedures for employees and students, having town hall meetings with vice presidents each semester, and hosting social events for staff employees outside of work hours.

Student Government Report
19-46. MSU Student Government Association (SGA) President Ellie Gunderson reported that the Student Senate’s first meeting was held the previous week and it was well attended. At that meeting, the Senate discussed recycling on campus as well as tuition and fee recommendations, including the proposed security fee. She noted that the SGA was working on spring activities including Safe Spring Break, Black History month, Around the World in Four Days, and Take Back the Night.

Athletics Report
19-47. The MSU Athletics Report was presented in the Board Book, and Athletics Director Williams noted that he was pleased with the tutoring and study hall work by the university for student-athletes. Following discussion related to the grade point average (GPA) information included in the report, it was agreed that Mr. William’s May report would include GPA goals for the teams as well as information concerning what the department is doing to affect change in this area.

Success Rate Comparison of Online and Face-to-Face Students Summary Report
19-48. Provost Johnston expanded on the information provided in the Board Book. He added that the university must answer to the university’s accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC), and ensure the rigor and quality of coursework is the same for online and face-to-face courses. Following discussion, the administration was asked to report to the Board in the future regarding how this information is being used to help with retention. Additionally, it was noted that a presentation would be made at the August meeting showing how online courses are taught.

Enrollment Management Report
19-49. Vice President Dietz reviewed the report presented in the Board Book as well as the spring enrollment report (see Attachment 1). He discussed possible reasons for the decline in spring enrollment, noting that housing and Flower Mound numbers had increased. Following discussion, the administration was asked to provide a five-year projection of enrollment in Wichita Falls and Flower Mound, and to separate Flower Mound enrollment in future enrollment reports. President Shipley noted that a report on retention would be presented to the Board in May.

New Dual Credit Program at MSU – Approval of Program, Tuition Waivers and Fees, and New Position
19-50. Vice President Dietz reviewed the information provided in the Board Book regarding offering a new dual credit program at MSU and outlined the administration’s recommendations related to the following:

A. Approval of the MSU Texas Dual Credit Program as presented.
B. The waiving of all tuition and fees other than statutory tuition ($50 per semester credit hour) for students enrolled through this program and a new Dual Enrollment fee of $33.33 per semester credit hour.

C. Approval of the waivers and new fee being applied retroactively to the pilot dual enrollment course taught in spring 2019 in conjunction with the Wichita Falls Independent School District.

D. Approval of a full-time position in the Admissions Office in spring 2019 to coordinate this program.

Following discussion, Regent Marks moved approval of these items as presented, with the understanding that the new position, while authorized, may begin as a part-time position depending on administrative and budget priorities as determined by the President. Regent Ayres seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Recess
The Board meeting recessed at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

Housing and Dining Service Rates
19-51. Vice President Lamb reviewed the proposed housing and dining service rates presented in the Board Book.

Following discussion, Regent Marks moved Board approval of the rates as presented. Regent Fidelie seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Tuition and Fee Rates for FY 20 – Discussion
19-52. The administration presented for the Board’s review a draft proposal for tuition and fee rates for FY 20. Vice President Lamb and Interim Vice President Maxwell reviewed the information and noted that the same information was presented to the Student Senate the previous week. SGA President Gunderson also provided information and support for the proposed new Security Fee and the elimination of the Parking Fee for students. This item was presented as a point of information only. It was noted that the final tuition and fee recommendations would be presented in May.

Summaries of Financial Support
19-53. Regent Ayres highlighted gifts received since the last meeting of the Board of Regents. Vice President Vidmar reviewed the summaries of financial support that were presented in the Board Book. This item was presented as a point of information only.

Shimadzu Medical Systems USA Corporate Sponsorship Agreement and Naming
19-54. Following a review of this item by Provost Johnston, the administration recommended approval of a corporate sponsorship agreement with Shimadzu Medical Systems USA, a division of Shimadzu Precision Instruments, Inc. as presented in the Board Book. The administration further recommended approval of naming The Shimadzu School of Radiologic Sciences.

Regent Ayres moved approval of this item as presented. Regent Sweatt seconded the motion, and it was approved.
Shimadzu Medical Systems USA Contract for Equipment
19-55. The administration recommended approval of a contract with Shimadzu Medical Systems, USA for $1,775,000 for radiologic equipment and its maintenance. Provost Johnston noted that Shimadzu would provide $4,209,966 in equipment and services to the university and, through the Corporate Sponsorship Agreement approved in the previous item, the amount of $2,454,966 would be granted toward the package, resulting in the university paying $1,755,000, or less than 42% of the full value of the equipment. He added that the package included turn-key installation of the equipment, on-demand training on its use, and complete parts replacement and labor for ten years on the equipment.

Regent Ayres moved approval of this item as presented. Regent Marks seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Financial Reports
19-56. The FY 2018 Annual Financial Report and the September, October, November, and December 2018 Financial Reports were accepted upon a motion by Regent Ayres and second by Regent Marks.

Investment Report
19-57. The Board accepted the first quarter FY 2019 investment report upon a motion by Regent Ayres and second by Regent Hessing.

Salary/Title/Position Changes in FY 19 Budget
19-58. The Board Book included reports of personnel changes that were presented for information only. The salary and position changes were ratified upon a motion by Regent Ayres and a second by Regent Fidelie.

Authorization for Local Asset Holding Accounts
19-59. Regent Marks noted that she had a conflict of interest since her husband served on the Board of one of the banks being considered as part of this item and recused herself from participating in the discussion or voting on this item.

Controller Stovall provided information regarding the process used in soliciting bids for these services. He noted that after the review of the proposals, the administration determined the successful banks as American National Bank (ANB) and First National Bank (FNB). The administration requested Board authorization to open accounts with these banks with both offering a yield based on the Texpool posted rate plus 20 basis points (or 0.20%).

Following discussion, the motion was approved upon a motion by Regent Ayres and second by Regent Hessing, with Regent Marks not voting.

Approval of 403(b) Deferred Compensation Plan
19-60. General Counsel Macha provided information concerning this item. Following this explanation, the Board approved authorization of the Midwestern State University Special Deferred Compensation Plan and authorized the General Counsel to work with the Board Chairman to execute the Plan and recordkeeping and administrative agreement or
agreements as necessary to implement the Plan upon a motion by Regent Ayres and second by Regent Fidelie.

Campus Construction Update
19-61. Associate Vice President Owen reviewed the update of current projects as shown in the Board Book.

Facilities Complex Project–Contract Authorization and Budget Approval
19-62. Associate Vice President Owen reviewed information regarding this project and presented architectural designs as well as enhancement alternatives (see Attachment 2). Regents discussed the enhancement alternatives at great length and generally agreed with the idea that this building be constructed to look as much like the rest of the campus as possible, with the understanding of limited resources.

Following this discussion, Regent Ayres moved the Board authorize the administration to contract with the best-valued contractor and approve an overall project budget of up to $2.77 million. Regent Marks seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Easement on Real Property Owned by the University and Leased by the YMCA
19-63. The Board of Regents authorized the President to work with the Chairman of the Board of Regents to approve an easement with ONCOR Electric Delivery Company LLC for the university’s real property leased by the YMCA upon a motion by Regent Ayres and second by Regent Hessing.

Recess
The meeting recessed for lunch at noon and resumed at 1:03 p.m.

Compliance Update
19-64. The Compliance Update was presented as a point of information only.

Audit Update
19-65. The Audit Update was presented as a point of information only.

Minors on Campus Audit – Report 19-01
19-66. Director Kidwell presented the Minors on Campus Audit, Report 19-01 as presented in the Board Book. The Board accepted this audit upon a motion by Regent Hessing and second by Regent Ayres.

MSU Policies and Procedures Manual Modifications
19-67. Associate Vice President Owen and General Counsel Macha presented the recommended modification to MSU Policy 2.24 (Approval and Execution of University Contracts).

Regent Hessing moved approval of this change to the contracting limit in Section III of the policy, changing from seven to ten years as presented. Regent Ayres seconded the motion, and it was approved.
Board of Regents Bylaws
19-68. General Counsel Macha noted the revisions that were made to the draft Board of Regents Bylaws after the November meeting. Regent Hessing stated that the By-laws would be recommended for approval in May.

University Leadership Report
19-42. President Shipley provided information on the legislative session and her testimony that showed improvements made during the last ten years (see Attachment 3), MSU being awarded a Texas Affordable Baccalaureate Program grant, and MSU receiving the Division II Award of Excellence award at the NCAA Annual Convention in January.

Executive Session
19-43. Chairman Crosnoe announced that the Board of Regents would go into Executive Session to discuss Items 19-43A (Consultation with Attorney) and 19-43D (Personnel Matters) as allowed by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 074. The Executive Session began at 1:32 p.m. Individuals remaining for the session were Regents Crosnoe, Hessing, Marks, Sweatt, Ayres, Fidelie, Okeke, and De La Garza, President Shipley, Mr. Macha, and Ms. Barrow. The Executive Session concluded at 2:11 p.m.

Adjournment
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

I, Nancy Marks, the fully appointed and qualified Vice Chair and Acting Secretary of the Midwestern State University Board of Regents, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Midwestern State University Board of Regents meeting February 14, 2019.

Nancy Marks, Vice Chair and Acting Secretary
Midwestern State University
Board of Regents

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Enrollment – Spring 2019
2. Facilities Complex Project
3. President’s Testimony/Senate Finance Committee/Feb. 2019
## Enrollment Report

### Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>On-line Only</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>On-line Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New First-time Freshmen</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-enrolling Freshmen</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>1,931</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>1,941</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Baccalaureate</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Degree-Seeking</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Headcount</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,715</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,236</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,622</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,295</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>66,474</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,897</strong></td>
<td><strong>65,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,627</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Facilities’ Shops Building

Facilities Shops, Southeast View:
EXTERIOR ELEVATION:

- 3' tall brick wainscot to north side only $25k
- 3' tall brick wainscot to entire building $60k
- Brick entrance area north side only +$20k
- Full height brick pilasters at 3 locations, north side only +$16k
- Remove metal panels, replace with full height brick, entire building $250k

SITE:

- Add 24 brick pilasters to fencing on LJR & Hampstead $55k
- Add 24 brick pilasters and 28” continuous brick wall $125k
Facilities Shops (July '18 Rendering), Brick Pilasters in Fence:

Fence with Continuous Brick Wall & Pilasters:
86th Legislative Session
Senate Finance Committee
Budget Hearing

Dr. Suzanne Shipley, President
Midwestern State University
February 12, 2019
I am Suzanne Shipley, president of Midwestern State University. Today I will tell you about our institution, highlight a few points of pride, and review our legislative request.

I recently completed my third year as president of Midwestern State University, also known as MSU Texas. Located in Wichita Falls, we are the only public institution of higher education in the northwest region of the state, and the only one located between Denton and Lubbock. We are also the state’s only recognized public liberal arts university.

What began as a municipal junior college in 1922 has transitioned to a destination residential university with an enrollment of just more than 6,000 students. Our residential facilities in Wichita Falls can house 42% of our full-time undergraduate student population. This has become increasingly more important with 60% of our undergraduate students now coming from outside the local region, and a large number coming from the DFW area.

MSU Texas has long been valued for the liberal arts foundation it provides for students seeking 21st-century skills in a residential learning environment. As the only member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) in the state of Texas, we provide our students with a broad-based interdisciplinary education that develops critical thinking, adaptability, and flexibility. These skills are essential in a rapidly evolving economic environment, and employers from professional venues such as health sciences, engineering, business, and education value our workforce of critical thinkers who can adapt and thrive in rapidly changing conditions.

During the last two years we have begun to expand our mission to embrace seamless partnerships and shared presence with the community colleges of North Texas. By sharing space and missions with our partners, North Central Texas College and Weatherford College, we can offer working adults and place-bound students of all ages the needed access to an affordable four-year degree. We are working to apply what we have done in Wichita Falls to the growing population of students who wish to complete a baccalaureate or advanced degree without leaving their current careers or locations. We have extended our “brand” to the designation of MSU Texas in order to reflect this broader outreach.

Our goal as MSU Texas is to supplement our traditional, predominantly undergraduate student enrollment with community college transfer students, working adults, and graduate students from across our region. Offering our well-respected approach of individually tailored education to a population that otherwise would not be able to access it will benefit both the population and employers of the region. Largely due to the planned outreach, using Flower Mound as our hub, we are projecting five years of growth, aiming to add 2,000 new students by 2025 by growing by 4% per year.
POINTS OF PRIDE

• As a result of the greatly appreciated Tuition Revenue Bond (TRB) funding approved in 2015, we will finish construction of our Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Service’s new building in Wichita Falls in the summer of 2019. More than 30% of our graduates are preparing for careers in health sciences and human services. They will benefit greatly from this new facility.

• Midwestern State University earned the top spot in the *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine’s lists of the Top 100 minority health science degree producers among U.S. institutions of higher education. MSU Texas ranked No. 1 for bachelor’s degrees in allied health diagnostic, intervention, and treatment professions in 2017.

• MSU also ranked in the top 10 of two best-of university lists, including Most Affordable Online College in Texas by BestColleges.com, and a third-place national ranking in the Most Affordable Master’s in Healthcare Administration degree programs in 2018 by Healthcare-Administration-Degree.net. Additionally, MSU was ranked in the top 50 in Best Bachelor’s in Business Economics by BestCollegeReviews.org and Master’s in Sports Management Online Degree Programs by Top-Business-Degrees.net.

• The salaries of our graduates continue to place MSU in the top ten ‘Texas universities by graduates’ earnings as reported by the website Best Value Schools. This ranking identified schools based on graduation rate, net price, acceptance rate, and 20-year net return on investment; MSU was noted for its 20-year ROI of $300,000.

• When the new Health Sciences and Human Services building comes online, our teacher education programs will move into the vacated space. The TRB funds are also being used to renovate and update our Moffett Library, and to complete long-needed renovations that address fire safety and accessibility in numerous older academic buildings on campus. These renovations will benefit students in all areas of our campus.

• Midwestern State University also receives great support from alumni, foundations, and donors. Through our
capital campaign, Boundless Opportunities, contributions have been received totaling more than $50 million in the first two and one-half years of the campaign. This support has made it possible for our institution to expand scholarships and provide academic and student support that would have otherwise remained unmet.

- Our institution was recently awarded a Texas Affordable Baccalaureate Grant through the Texas Higher Education Foundation. Through this grant, we will offer a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies (Early Childhood-3) as a hybrid, competency-based, online program beginning in the fall 2019. This program will be a joint effort between MSU and North Central Texas College (NCTC) in Flower Mound and will allow learners the option of continuing to work while earning the degree and, ultimately, receiving a Texas teaching certificate.

### PERFORMANCE

As our institution works toward increased enrollment growth we are concentrating on performance indicators such as those shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Access</th>
<th>Base Year</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Course Load of Full-Time Undergraduate Students</td>
<td>13.85</td>
<td>13.91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Students Receiving Pell Grant</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Community College Transfer Students Enrolled</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>2,149</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Hispanic Students Enrolled</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of African-American Students Enrolled</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance Education Only (Fall)</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>1,340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Undergraduate Students Living on Campus</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Success</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-Time Student Graduation Rate (Four-Year)</td>
<td>11.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Time Student Graduation Rate (Six-Year)</td>
<td>30.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rate for Two-Year Transfers</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Degrees Awarded</td>
<td>1,220</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operational Effectiveness</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures per FTE Student</td>
<td>$15,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriations per Full-Time Student Equivalent</td>
<td>$4,935</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competitive Resources</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Endowment (University held, Foundation, Charitable Trust)</td>
<td>$44,588,397</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

State funding to support the operation of our institution is high on our list of funding priorities. We have outlined below particular areas that are important to the university’s overall funding needs.

- **Formula Funding** – Our highest priority is additional funding for the formulas. Formula funding ensures that Texas public institutions of higher education can provide high-quality teaching and support services for our growing student populations to prepare them for the workforce. We also welcome dialog on the issue of outcomes-based funding during the session.

- **Hazlewood Exemptions** – We value the relief provided during the last two legislative sessions for the Hazlewood program; however, this continues to be a growing cost to our institution. The continued absorption of these waivers without additional state funding is unsustainable. In FY17 the Hazlewood Exemption program alone cost MSU Texas an estimated $1.73 million and the amount rose to $1.95 million in FY18, an increase of almost 13% in a single year.

- **Student Financial Aid** – We appreciate the additional funding provided for TEXAS Grants during the 84th legislative session and support any opportunity to provide more aid for our students. In FY18, more than 71.5% of MSU Texas students qualified for state, federal, and local grants and scholarships, and the numbers continue to increase. TEXAS Grants are an important component in aiding low-socioeconomic students in their pursuit of higher education.

- **Higher Education Group Health Insurance** – MSU Texas, like all other institutions of higher education in Texas, continues to face increased employee and retiree health care costs that are beyond our control. Additional state funding to offset these rising costs would assist us in not passing these annually increasing operational expenses on to our students.
The following are Midwestern State University’s Non-Formula Support Requests for the 2020-2021 biennium, which meet the goal of expanding our educational mission and growing our financial base.

Non-Formula Support Request – Academic Expansion and Outreach – Midwestern State University requests funding of $1 million in each year of the biennium to aid in our investment in the academic expansion and outreach efforts in Flower Mound. We have leased a newly constructed educational facility adjacent to the current North Central Texas College (NCTC) location in Flower Mound, with the facility opening in May 2018. MSU’s capital expenses for start-up funding, in addition to the facility lease and build-out, included $450,000 for furniture/fixtures and $550,000 for technology. This request of $1 million each year of the biennium would support the costs of the leased facility.

While formula funding will become available in 2020 and 2021, this non-formula funding would provide support during these critical early years as enrollment increases. MSU Texas committed to deficit funding in order to provide this missing option for one of the largest metropolitan areas in Texas, hoping that a one-time appropriation of $1 million in each year of the biennium would allow MSU to move to profitability more rapidly.

Non-Formula Support Request – Infrastructure Upgrades – Tuition Revenue Bond (TRB) Funding Request – Midwestern State University requests $10 million in funding over the next biennium for Infrastructure Upgrades. Many of the university’s infrastructure and utility support facilities were built 60 or more years ago. While the university has regularly repaired and upgraded the facilities on a systematic basis, several of the items necessary are beyond the funding currently available to the institution. The infrastructure upgrades needing attention are outlined below.

- The university’s Central Plant is running at capacity with the recent addition of two large campus structures: Legacy Hall, a new residence hall (2017) and the new TRB-funded building for the Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human
Midwestern State University (opening in fall 2019). The current system has no redundancy or capacity for additional facilities with these two additions. The Central Plant building needs to be expanded by approximately 5,000 square feet and two additional boilers installed. The cost for this expansion and equipment is $3 million.

- The utility tunnels on campus are almost 60 years old and are beginning to deteriorate. As part of the new TRB-funded Health Sciences and Human Services building, a walkway/fire drive will be built over one of the tunnels. Because of its poor condition, the tunnel will not support the drive. The cost to repair and strengthen 380 linear feet of tunnel at $1,050 per linear foot was added to the cost of the new building, resulting in $400,000 in new costs for this project. The university has 6,300 linear feet of tunnel, of which 3,000 linear feet are in the same poor condition. The cost to repair the tunnels is estimated at $3.15 million.

- A main city sewer line runs under the Central Plant building, a parking lot, and one of the campus’ academic buildings. The line was placed in this location in the late 1950s, and in 1967 and 1978 the university built the Central Plant and an academic building on top of the line. This sewer line is showing signs of aging and breakage. Because the university erected buildings on top of the sewer line, the university is responsible for any repairs required and/or to move the line. In order to prevent a major sewer line break and shutdown to the neighborhood adjacent to the campus, the university requests funds to permanently move this 2000’ sewer line to a more accessible location. The cost to move the line is estimated to be $1 million.

- Sikes Lake is a 21.5-acre storm water retention lake on the Midwestern State University campus in Wichita Falls. The area around the lake is used for numerous university and community events and activities to include fun runs, concerts, and celebrations. The lake has silted up to the point of creating multiple acre “islands,” made up of trash, muck, and duck/geese droppings, and creating an unhealthy and unsightly environment. Because the lake is so shallow and the silt is like quicksand, the university staff cannot clear out or even clean up these “islands” of muck. In 2000, the lake was dredged at a cost of approximately $2 million with the Texas Legislature appropriating funds for this project. Dredging is required a minimum of every 20 years, depending on rainfall. The current cost to dredge the lake is estimated to be $2.85 million.
Midwestern State University fulfills a vital mission for higher education in Texas. Our size, our program offerings, our partnerships with community colleges, and our public liberal arts emphasis provide students with outstanding preparation for professional and personal success. I look forward to continuing the dialogue with you and the members as we build upon our obvious strengths to serve an increasing number and range of students.