

**Northwest Missouri State University**  
**Board of Regents**  
**Date of Meeting: October 29, 2009**

Cabinet Member: Douglas Dunham      Agenda Item: MSSU-Northwest MOU

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**Background:**

Currently, we have two MOUs with Missouri Southern State University: One for Education-related programs and one for our MBA program. The purpose of this MOU is to combine the two different MOUs into one MOU, in part to develop uniform administrative processes.

This MOU has been reviewed by Board Counsel.

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**Issue:**

I recommend approval

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**President's Recommendation:**

The President recommends and requests Board approval.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY (Northwest) AND MISSOURI  
SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY (Missouri Southern) AND ITS SUCCESSOR  
TO DELIVER COOPERATIVE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS**

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into this 29th day of October 2009, by and between Northwest Missouri State University and Missouri Southern State University and its successor.

Witnesseth:

**WHEREAS**, Northwest has a long tradition of distributed graduate education in North Missouri to sites in Saint Joseph, Chillicothe, Trenton, and Kirksville and has the needed infrastructure to deliver said instruction using blended media including interactive video and asynchronous on-line courseware, and

**WHEREAS**, by action of the General Assembly (RSMo 174.231), after August 28, 2003, Missouri Southern State University, located in Joplin, Jasper County, Missouri, has operated as a statewide institution of international and global education, and

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri General Assembly has authorized Missouri Southern State University – Joplin to enter into agreements to provide existing graduate programs to citizens of the region, and

**WHEREAS**, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education is authorized by statute to promote and encourage the development of cooperative agreements between Missouri public four-year institutions of higher education which do not offer graduate degrees and Missouri Public four-year institutions of higher education which do offer four year degrees for the purpose of offering graduate degree programs on campuses of those institutions of higher education which do not otherwise offer graduate degrees, and

**WHEREAS**, such agreements shall identify the obligations and duties of the parties including assignment of administrative responsibility, and

**WHEREAS**, the goals of this agreement are to promote cooperation and to link resources among educational institutions to serve the citizens of Missouri, to facilitate responsiveness in addressing the educational needs of all the citizens and organizations, to reach citizens, industries and other organizations not currently being served, to blend the complementary strengths of the institutions to provide a seamless approach to meeting the graduate educational needs of Missouri, to develop a cost-effective approach to marketing and delivering non-duplicative distance graduate learning in Missouri, to facilitate programmatic articulation between the institutions, and to enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Missouri through regional development, lifelong learning, and research, and

**WHEREAS**, Section 173.005 of RSMo authorizes joint graduate programs. Now, therefore, the parties hereto agree to collaborate to meet the above stated needs and goals of the people of Missouri. The parties mutually agree to obligations and duties as follows:

1. Develop cooperative graduate programs in Early Childhood Education; Instructional Technology; Health and Physical Education; Recreation; Biology; Reading; Master of Business Administration and Special Education.
2. Governance of the curriculum of the joint master's degree programs will be the responsibility of Northwest, in consultation with Missouri Southern.
3. Delivery of each course will be through distance education unless enrollment on each campus warrants a separate class on each campus.
4. Mediated course delivery may be by Internet, Instructional Television (ITV), or other technology, including hybrid/blended technologies. Courses may be team-taught.
5. Northwest and Missouri Southern will contribute an equal number of faculty to teach courses over an academic year, unless both parties agree to do otherwise due to enrollment or other factors.
6. Appointment to the graduate faculty will be governed by Northwest policies. Faculty teaching in this partnership may be approved as Associate or Graduate faculty.
7. The Northwest course numbering system will be used in this joint degree program.
8. Northwest policies for admission, registration, retention, and program completion will be applied to students in these joint degree programs.
9. Students entering the program will be assured of continuing availability of program courses, based on course periodicity charts established by the partner institutions. (Northwest & Missouri Southern will determine a schedule of courses projected for two or more years in advance of course offerings.)
10. Northwest tuition and relevant fees will be charged for this joint degree program.
11. Each institution will retain the revenue from each course its faculty members teach.
12. Credit hours and revenue generated will accrue to the home campus of the faculty who teach the course.
13. Each institution will be responsible for compensating its faculty members who participate in this joint degree program. Other expenses including marketing and promotion of the program will be shared equally by each institution.
14. A Board of Advisors for each program will be appointed with equal representation from each institution to oversee, periodically evaluate, and facilitate graduate courses and programs. Corporate representatives may be invited to participate when appropriate.
15. Graduates of these cooperative programs will receive a diploma containing the name and seals of both institutions.
16. All marketing and promotional material and any other material used in the program shall be jointly approved by each institution.

17. This agreement will be reviewed annually and renewed every three years. Northwest Missouri State University and Missouri Southern State University will jointly assess processes to track performance. By mutual written consent, the agreement may be modified at any time.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written:

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Dr. John Jasinski  
President  
Northwest Missouri State University

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Dr. Bruce W. Speck  
President  
Missouri Southern State University

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_