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Missouri College Access Network

Coordinating Board for Higher Education
December 12, 2018

BACKGROUND

The Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA), the Missouri Department of Higher Education, and the Missouri Scholarship Loan Foundation (MSLF) convened a planning committee in collaboration with the National College Access Network to explore establishing a statewide network focused on college access and success. The planning committee has finalized the mission and vision statements for the Missouri College Access Network (MOCAN). The MOHELA board of directors has approved, as part of its budget for the 2019 fiscal year, \$1 million in funding for the initiative, with the condition that no significant expenditures shall be made until the board reviews and approves a comprehensive plan for the network. It is anticipated that this plan will be presented to and approved by MOHELA's board at its December 14 meeting and the network will be launched in early January, 2019. In November, the Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Board met and approved the distribution of operating funds to support for MOCAN in the amount of \$250,000 each quarter for an indefinite period of time.

The Commissioner of Higher Education will be a standing member of the MOCAN board of directors.

MOCAN Mission

The mission of MOCAN is to increase career and college awareness, preparation, access, and completion in Missouri, particularly for the underrepresented and underserved. The network will do this by:

- Advocating for public and institutional policies that promote postsecondary access and success.
- Coordinating statewide career preparation and college access and success activities for service providers.
- Leveraging and connecting providers, professionals, and other stakeholders to strengthen and grow programs, and to eliminate service and equity gaps.
- Centralizing knowledge-sharing and technical training for career and college program providers.
- Identifying, summarizing, and actively sharing standardized data collection measures and relevant research regarding career preparation and college access and success.
- Fostering a collective voice to communicate postsecondary educational and training opportunities to all people in Missouri.

MOCAN Vision and Values

The planning committee adopted vision and values statements:

- We believe that success in college and career begins in K-12, but can be achieved at any point.
- We use the term "college" to refer to the attainment of valuable postsecondary credentials beyond high school, including technical certificates and academic degrees.
- We believe that postsecondary opportunity and attainment are a public good critical to create a just and equitable society, robust economy, and healthy communities.

Next Steps:

December	January	February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present to MOHELA board• Finalize bylaws and articles of incorporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain nonprofit status• Select six members for board of directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft budget• Advertise for executive director	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secure a home office for MOCAN• Begin public relations campaign for MOCAN

Participating Organizations in the Planning Committee include:

- Active Advocacy Coalition
- Missouri Diversity Officers in Higher Education (MODOHE)
- TRIO – Southeast Missouri State University
- Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)
- KC Degrees
- Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation
- Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP)
- Missouri Association for College Admission Counseling (MOACAC)
- Missouri College Advising Corps
- BDT & Company, LLC.
- Prosper Springfield
- Community Partnership of the Ozarks
- Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis
- Missouri School Counselor Association
- KC Scholars
- Missouri Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO)
- St. Louis Graduates

RECOMMENDATION

This is an information item only.

NO ATTACHMENTS