

A photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a light-colored facade. In front of the building, a long row of tall flagpoles holds numerous international flags, including the United States, United Kingdom, and several European flags. The flags are waving in the wind. In the foreground, there is a paved walkway and a row of low, green, rounded bushes. The text "State of the University Address" is overlaid in a large, dark red, serif font.

State of the University Address



Proceeding Confidently in Uncertain Times

Dr. James E. Cofer, Sr.

President

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

follow your
PASSION
find your
PLACE

Education: The Great Equalizer



Students First

- How will this affect students?
- How will this improve education for students?
- How will this benefit students?

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Goal 1

Complete the Five-Year Strategic Plan for 2011-16.

- We must envision what Missouri State University should be and needs to be in the long term for future generations of students.
- We must force ourselves to look beyond the immediate challenges to the future.





We need the best thinking possible for the long-range plan, so I hope you will become engaged in the process.

www.missouristate.edu/developingplan

Goal 2

Prepare the campus to effectively deal with the budget challenges of Fiscal Year 2012 and beyond.

- New budget process
- Inclusive and collegial

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“In a crisis we tend to look for the wrong kind of leadership. We call for someone with answers, decision, strength, and a map of the future, in short someone who can make hard problems simple.

“Instead of looking for saviors, we should be calling for leadership that will challenge us to face problems for which there are no simple painless solutions – problems that require us to learn in new ways.”

Ronald Heifetz

Goal 3

Foster a positive, collegial environment for faculty and staff on all campuses.

- I believe those affected by decisions should have a voice in those decisions. That will be one of the hallmarks of my administration.
- Another key component of this goal is to begin to develop a comprehensive compensation plan for all System faculty and staff.



Goal 4

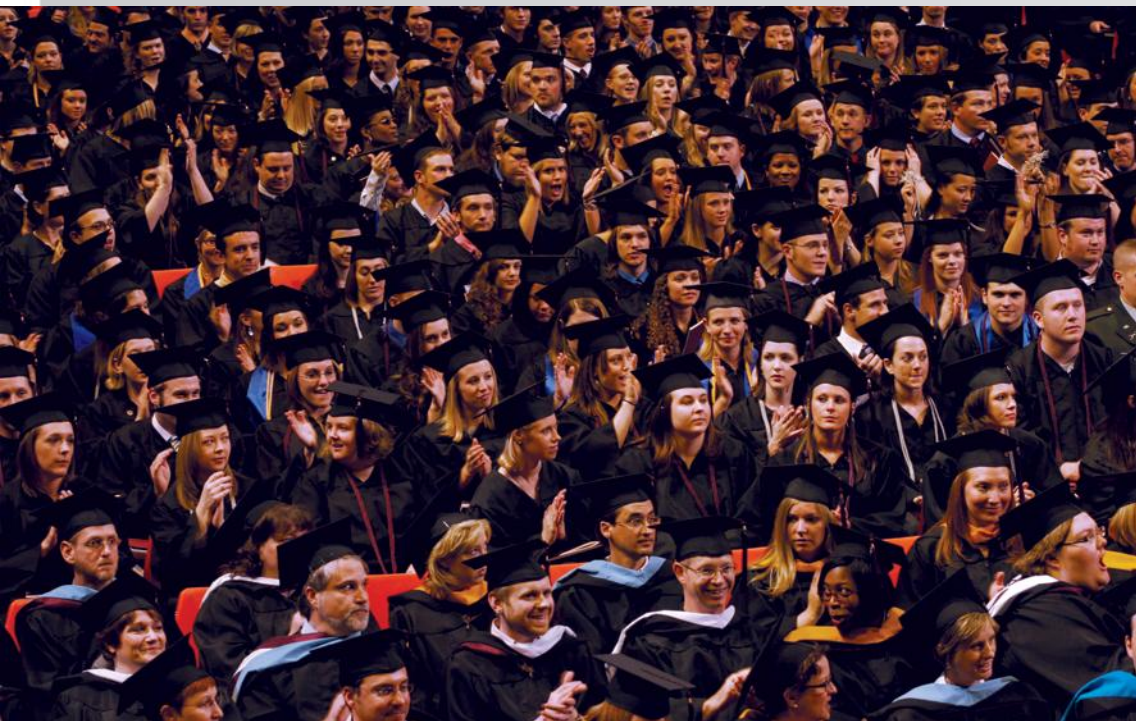
Prepare the academic curriculum and academic organization throughout the System to meet the demands of the 21st century.

- Core curriculum
- Incorporation of the public affairs mission into the curriculum
- Low-completer programs



Goal 5

Assure student access and success on all campuses.



- Retention
- Who teaches and how they teach – pedagogy
- Alternative modalities
- Recruitment and admission of transfer students
- Diverse and under-represented populations



Improve the diversity of the student body and workforce at the University.



Diversity

Inclusive Excellence



- From this point forward, neither the Provost nor I will approve interviews for searches for faculty and executive staff that do not include qualified candidates from under-represented populations.
- But our success in recruiting and retaining a diverse student body and diverse workforce is more basic than that. It requires that we take steps to develop a “welcoming environment” on campus.

Goal 7

Inventory, prioritize, and strategically fund improvements to facilities.

- Strategic investment of one-time funds
- Academic classrooms, laboratories and technology
- Facility commitments to comply with federal law, both ADA and Title IX
- Housing system through the housing auxiliary budget.



Temple Hall older lab



Temple Hall renovated lab

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Sunvilla Tower



Wells House



Kentwood South



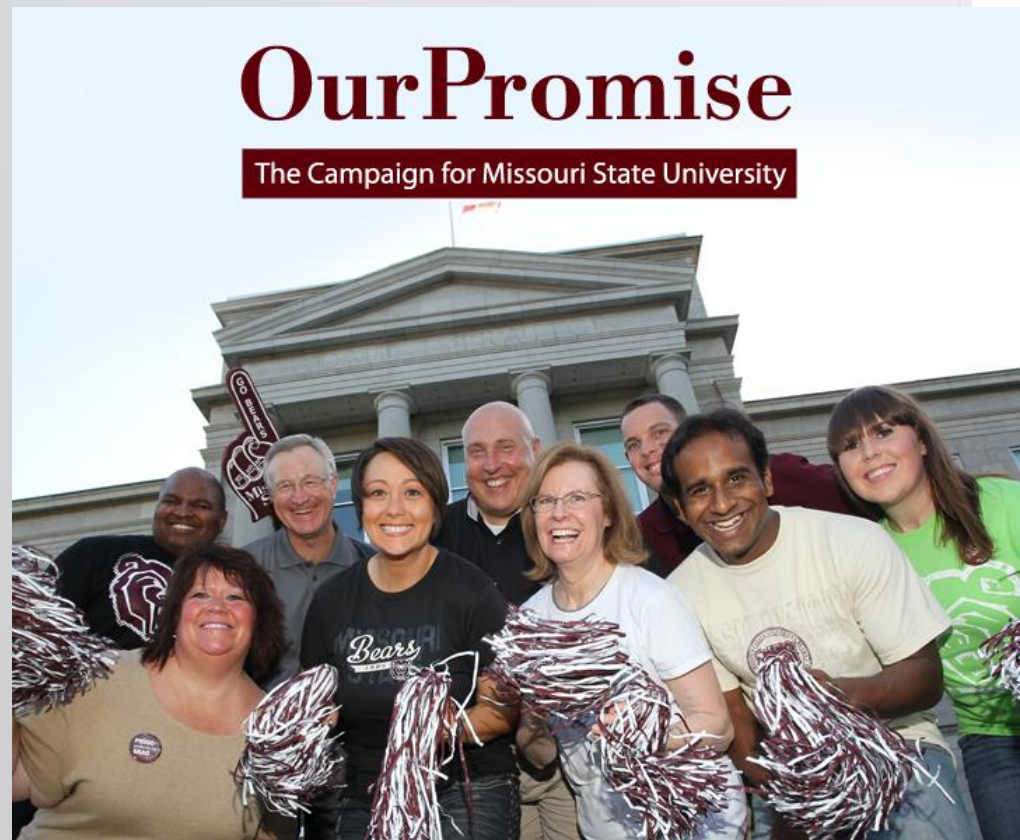
Dogwood Apartments

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Goal 8

Meet and exceed the \$125 million goal of Our Promise: The Campaign for Missouri State.

We should be able to announce the successful completion of the \$125 million goal sometime in fiscal year 2012.



Goal 9

Continue to advance economic development and community impact through the IDEA Commons, JVIC and other collaborations.

- JVIC facilitates cutting-edge research.
- Many advancements have been made over the past 5 years:
 - \$30 million in contracts and subcontracts
 - Nationally known corporate affiliates
 - 90 jobs with average wages of approximately \$70,000
 - Additional \$20 million in private investment

Jordan Valley Innovation Center



Brick City



Robert W. Plaster Center for Free Enterprise and Business Development (formerly Willow Brook)

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*“I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep.”*

By **Robert Frost**

The Late Poet Laureate

*From his poem “Stopping By
Woods on a Snowy Evening”*





**Missouri
State** TM

UNIVERSITY