

**CHAPTER 3**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

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3.010. Statutory References. Sections 174.610 and 174.620 of the statutes provide for the selection and appointment of a board of governors consisting of ten members, with seven voting members and three nonvoting members. Section 174.630 provides that the Board of Governors "shall organize in the manner provided by law for the board of curators of the State University of Missouri" and that the "powers, duties, authority, responsibilities, privileges, immunities, liabilities and compensation of the board of governors" shall be the same as those prescribed by statute for the board of curators, "except that the Truman State University shall be operated only as an institution of liberal arts and sciences." Section 172.100 provides that the board of curators is to prescribe its own government and that:

The curators shall have power to make such bylaws or ordinances, rules and regulations as they may judge most expedient for the accomplishment of the trust reposed in them, and for the government of their officers and employees, and to secure their accountability, and to delegate so much of their authority as they may deem necessary to such officers and employees or to committees appointed by the board.

The members of the Board of Governors are appointed by the Governor of Missouri and serve for the periods prescribed in Sections 174.610 and 174.620.

Source: Chapters 172 and 174, Revised Statutes of Missouri

3.020. Role of Board Members. The Board is the highest policy making body of the University, and the direction and control of the University is entrusted to it by the people of the state. The individual board member is, therefore, a citizen representing citizens. The Board, when acting as a whole, is the

governing authority for the institution. However, an individual board member is in authority only when the Board is in session or when he or she is performing a service or function authorized by the Board. The Chair of the Board serves as spokesperson for the Board.

Source: Resolution of the Board dated October 24, 1969  
1987 Compilation: Article 1

- 3.030. Relationship of Board and President. The relationship of the Board of Governors and the President of the University is mutually cooperative and supportive as suggested by guidelines of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. The Board reflects its will in the formation of University policy and plans rather than engaging in administration. The Board strives to relate to members of the University community in a manner which maintains rather than erodes the authority of the President of the University. The same responsibility rests with the President of the University in support of Board policy.

The Board of Governors generally conducts an annual review of the President's performance based on various evaluation tools as determined by the Board. The purpose of the review is to allow the Board to monitor the President's progress on previously established goals, to propose goals and priorities for the coming year, and to address any significant new issues or concerns which have arisen since the last review, and to make an informed decision concerning any subsequent employment contract with the President. The Board of Governors, either directly or through delegation to a subcommittee of the Board, will prepare a written procedure for implementation of this policy. Such procedure is subject to review and revision by the Board or its subcommittee as needed.

Source: Resolutions of the Board dated September 12, 1992, December 1, 2007 and February 6, 2010

- 3.040. Meetings of the Board. The Board of Governors generally holds six regular meetings in each fiscal year with the meetings being held in the months of August, October, December, February, April and June. The annual meeting for the Board will be as designated in the Bylaws of the Board of

Governors. The election of officers shall occur at the regular meeting in December. Additional planning meetings or retreats are also held. The dates for such meetings are tentatively scheduled by the Board a year in advance, and the actual times and places of the meetings are scheduled by the Board approximately three months in advance. The times and places of regular meetings are subject to change by the Board in accordance with the Bylaws. Special meetings also may be called as provided in the Bylaws.

Source: Article II, Bylaws of the Board  
Resolutions of the Board dated December 1, 2007 and December 6, 2014

3.050 Open Meetings Law. It is recognized that meetings of the Board of Governors, and meetings of the committees of the Board, are covered by the Open Meetings Law, and the General Counsel has the responsibility to provide assistance to the members of the Board in their compliance with the law. The General Counsel also provides legal defense for any officer or employee charged with a violation of the law.

Source: Sections 610.010 through 610.030, Revised Statutes of Missouri  
Cross-reference: Section 17.030 of the Code

3.060 Conflict of Interest. (Section deleted and merged into Chapter 14.)

Source: Resolutions of the Board dated December 1, 2007 and December 6, 2014

3.070. Honorary Degrees

1. Purpose. The Board of Governors may grant honorary degrees to recognize individuals for outstanding achievement in a field and demonstrated commitment to Truman State University's mission and values.

2. Selection Process.

a. Any member of the University community may nominate individuals for

consideration of an honorary degree. To receive full consideration for the upcoming academic year, all nominations must be made formally through the President's Office by March 1.

b. The President screens and prepares a list of nominees for Board consideration.

c. An Honorary Degrees Committee established by the Board and chaired by a Board member will receive that list of nominees at the April Board meeting.

d. The Committee may recommend to the Board at the August Board meeting those individuals it believes deserving of an honorary degree. The Committee may also consider individuals *sua sponte* without the formality of steps a., b. and c., above.

e. The Board of Governors makes the final decision on the awarding of honorary degrees.

3. Honorary Degree Committee. Composition of the Committee is as follows:

a. a Board of Governors member, selected by the Chair of the Board, will serve as Chair of the Honorary Degrees committee;

b. three additional Board members, including the Student Representative on the Board, selected by the Chair of the Board;

c. two at-large faculty members, selected by the Faculty Senate;

d. an at-large student, selected by the Student Government;

e. the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; and

f. the Faculty Senate President, *ex officio*.

Source: Resolutions of the Board dated February 6, 2010, April 12, 2014 and October 10, 2014