



## MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

June 2, 2011

Dr. David Russell, Commissioner of Higher Education  
Missouri Department of Higher Education  
205 Jefferson Street  
Post Office Box 1469  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dr. Russell:

Thank you for your helpful questions about our request for a waiver. We very much appreciate the due diligence you and your staff have performed regarding the waiver process, and we were pleased that we have a chance to clarify any questions you have about our request.

Enclosed are our responses to the questions you posed. Certainly, should you have any need for further clarification, we stand ready to respond expeditiously to such requests.

In addition to our response to your queries, given the horrendous disaster that has struck Joplin, we anticipate far reaching consequences, including incurring unreimbursed expense and possible loss of enrollment. For example, we are aware that several thousand dollars of rental textbooks due back on the Monday following the storm have not yet been returned and were likely destroyed. This is just one example of the far reaching consequences of this disaster for MSSU. We believe these consequences merit consideration as a new extraordinary circumstance per Criterion 9.

The uncertainty that surrounds budgetary issues related to the disaster that struck Joplin is unique. I only mention those uncertain budgetary issues because of their probable impact on MSSU's operating expenses, however unclear the extent of that impact is at this point.

All of us at MSSU, including the Board of Governors, are grateful for the professional care you and your staff have taken in assessing the data regarding waivers various institutions have submitted to you. We are particularly grateful for the attention you have paid to our submission, and we hope that our responses to your follow-up questions will provide the information you need to make a decision about our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce W. Speck".

Bruce W. Speck

cc: Rod Anderson, Chair MSSU Board of Governors  
Rob Yust, MSSU Vice President for Business Affairs