

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
February 3, 2006

Minutes of Meeting

The February 3, 2006 regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held in the Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Monticello. Chairman Kaneaster Hodges called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. with a quorum of Board members present.

Coordinating Board present:

Kaneaster Hodges, Chair
David Leech, Vice Chair
Dr. Lynda Johnson, Secretary
Jodie Carter
Col. Jim Creech
David Damron
Phil Ford
Dr. Dan Grant
Bill Johnson
Dick Trammel

Coordinating Board absent:

Dr. Anne Trussell

Department staff present:

Dr. Linda Beene, Director
Dr. Steve Floyd, Deputy Director
Dr. Karen Wheeler, Associate Director of Academic Affairs
Dr. Stanley Williams, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Ron Harrell, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Cynthia Moten, Coordinator of Academic Affairs
Dr. Sandy Smith, Coordinator of Academic Affairs
Jeanne Jones, Coordinator of Institutional Certification
Robin Henson, Communications Officer
Christina Miller, Coordinator of General Administration
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Assistant

Presidents, chancellors, other institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chairman Hodges began by thanking John Porter and Mary Sue Price for hosting dinner at their home.

Chairman Hodges then gave homage to the late Betsy Thompson. He announced that a memorial service for her would be held immediately following the Board meeting at the Harris Recital Hall, located on campus.

Chairman Hodges introduced Dr. Jack Lassiter, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM) for a welcome.

Dr. Lassiter welcomed everyone to UAM's Fine Arts Auditorium and briefly described some of the items that make UAM unique. He noted that 29% of the student body this year is over the age of 25, which is uncommon for a traditional four-year institution. Dr. Lassiter said that the large number (65%) of first generation students reflects the mission of the campus. The rising cost of education is a national issue and Dr. Lassiter noted that UAM is looking at ways to stabilize their tuition.

Chairman Hodges welcomed State Representative Greg Reep; Dr. Sandi Sanders, Interim Chancellor at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith; and Dr. Dusty Johnston, new President of Ozarka College.

Dr. Lynda Johnson led everyone in singing *Happy Birthday* to AHECB Member, Phil Ford.

Agenda Item No. 1
Approval of Minutes

David Leech moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2005 regular meeting and the annual meeting of the Joint Boards of Education on November 14, 2005. Dick Trammel seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2
Report of the Director

Chairman Hodges recognized Dr. Linda Beene for her Director's Report and she began with a funding model update. Dr. Beene explained that the development of a Graduation and Retention incentive model, which is required by Act 1974 of 2005, would be included in this process. She noted that Dr. Stanley Williams and Ron Harrell were diligently working on ways to measure improvements in graduation and retention.

Dr. Beene discussed the new public information campaign for the Academic Challenge scholarship. The multifaceted campaign is designed to educate students and their families about the scholarship and provide information to schools. The campaign revolves around the theme "Earn Cash 4 College."

The Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (AASFAA) received a planning grant from the Lumina Foundation to host a College Goal Sunday in Arkansas. Financial aid experts from the state's colleges and universities will volunteer to assist low-income families complete the universal application required to qualify for college

financial aid nationwide. Dr. Beene explained that College Goal Sunday would also be a way for students, parents and constituents to learn how to plan for college and about available student assistance. College Goal Sunday will take place in February of 2007 and will be administered by AASFAA and ADHE.

Dr. Beene announced that ADHE has assumed the responsibility of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program this year with the support of Legislation. SURF's purpose is to provide the necessary funding that will encourage undergraduates to conduct in-depth research projects in their specific fields of study. Dr. Beene noted that in December, ADHE awarded 70 students who will do their research under the auspices of his/her mentor at various institutions.

Dr. Beene announced ADHE's new website for the Governor's Distinguished and Governor's Scholars program. She also noted that the application deadline was February 1.

Dr. Beene explained that the implementation of Act 672 of 2005, which creates a web-based transfer system, will be a major project for ADHE. Nineteen faculty teams, comprised of two and four-year representatives, will be meeting to determine the final course guidelines and reviewing courses for comparability. Legislation requires that the system be in place by December of this year. However, the process is anticipated to be finished by early summer, said Dr. Beene.

Dr. Beene discussed the Honor States Grant's curriculum alignment process between high schools and colleges. She noted that Dr. Steve Floyd along with educators from Arkansas attended a meeting of ten states, sponsored by Achieve, Inc., to begin development of a common end-of-course assessment for Algebra II. The states that attended the meeting are considering using the results of the test as a criterion for determining course placement in math for entering college freshmen.

Next, Dr. Beene thanked her ADHE staff for their hard work and she presented a summary of the accomplishments by ADHE from Fall 2002 through Summer 2005. The second edition of accomplishments will be released this summer.

Dr. Beene introduced Dr. Sandy Smith, new Coordinator of Academic Affairs. Dr. Smith previously served as an assistant professor of nursing at Henderson State University, and has a doctorate in Nursing from Loyola University in Chicago.

Dr. Beene discussed the launch by Governor Huckabee of the Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative in August with the participation of five two-year colleges. Dr. Beene noted that approximately 193,000 Arkansans are eligible for the program and 1,800 adults are currently enrolled. Next, Dr. Beene presented the Career Pathways television and radio ads that began airing statewide. She noted that prior to the grant that led to this initiative, it was unknown how many students that graduate from Arkansas' colleges remained in Arkansas to work. However, thanks to the efforts of Ron Harrell and staff of the department of Workforce Services, we will now be able to know this information.

Report of Committees

Dr. Dan Grant presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved to adopt Agenda Items 3-8. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

David Damron presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 9-12 as amended. Dick Trammel seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3
Certificate of General Studies

The administration and Board of Trustees of 17 institutions (Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, Arkansas State University-Beebe, Arkansas State University-Mountain Home, Arkansas State University-Newport, Black River Technical College, East Arkansas Community College, Mid-South Community College, National Park Community College, North Arkansas College, NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Ouachita Technical College, Pulaski Technical College, Southern Arkansas University-Tech, South Arkansas Community College, Southeast Arkansas College, University of Arkansas Community College at Hope, and University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton) request approval to offer the Certificate of General Studies, effective May 2006. The program is consistent with the institutions' role and scope to offer programs designed to meet the demonstrated need and demand of Arkansas residents. Each institution is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The institutional Boards have approved the proposed program.

No institution in Arkansas currently offers the Certificate of General Studies. Similar programs are offered at select community colleges and university systems across the country. The closest college offering a similar award is Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis, Tennessee

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Certificate of General Studies (CIP 24.0101) at Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, Arkansas State University-Beebe, Arkansas State University-Mountain Home, Arkansas State University-Newport, Black River Technical College, East Arkansas Community College, Mid-South Community College, National Park Community College, North Arkansas College, NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Ouachita Technical College, Pulaski Technical College, Southern Arkansas University-Tech, South Arkansas Community College, Southeast Arkansas College, the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope, and the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton, effective May 2006.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the Presidents, Chancellors, and Chairs of the Board of Trustees of the 17 institutions of this approval.

Dr. Grant stated that he reviewed the item with Dr. Barry Ballard, President of Ouachita Technical College, and he saw no indication that the curriculum was “watered down”. He commended the program and the institutions.

Phil Ford moved to recommend Agenda Item 3 to the Full Board for consideration. Dr. Johnson seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4
Master of Arts in Criminal Justice
Arkansas State University--Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System (ASU) request approval to offer the Master of Arts in criminal justice at Arkansas State University--Jonesboro (ASUJ). The program is consistent with the role and scope of the institution to offer master's degree programs in selected fields. ASUJ is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The ASU Board approved the proposal on June 9, 2005.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock offers the only master's degree in criminal justice in Arkansas. Bachelor's degrees in criminal justice are offered at Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the University of Arkansas at Monticello, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. These institutions awarded 195 bachelor's degrees in criminal justice during the past year.

In 2004-05, 38 (83 percent) of the 46 master's degree programs at ASUJ met Coordinating Board productivity guidelines.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Arts in criminal justice (CIP 43.0104) at Arkansas State University--Jonesboro effective immediately.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University of the approval.

Dr. Dan Grant questioned the difference between a required paper, which must be defended before the graduate faculty and presented at a professional conference or submitted to a refereed journal, and a masters thesis. Dr. Greg Russell, Director of Criminology and Forensics Sciences Program of ASUJ, responded that throughout the

nation it has become more common to focus less on a thesis and more on a professional paper.

Agenda Item No. 5
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Arkansas Tech University

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University (ATU) request approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. The proposed program is consistent with the institutional role and scope. ATU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools. The ATU Board approved the program on November 17, 2005.

The B.S. in Information Technology will prepare students for careers in the information technology industry. Information technology (IT) specialists are those who install, maintain, and enhance the computing infrastructure of businesses. The proposed program covers the major areas of IT (networking, database development and administration, web development and administration, and systems administration). The proposed 126-semester credit hour program consists of 68 semester credit hours of IT core and specialty courses.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (CIP 11.0103) at Arkansas Tech University, effective August 2006.

RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of this approval.

Dr. Grant questioned whether this was merely a name change. Cynthia Moten responded, "No, this program deals with the infrastructure aspect of computing programs."

Agenda Item No. 6
Technical Certificate and Associate of
Applied Science In Surgical Technology
South Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of South Arkansas Community College (SACC) request approval to offer the Technical Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology, effective August 2007. The program is within the role and scope of the institution. SACC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The SACC Board approved the proposal on November 15, 2005.

The proposed program will prepare individuals to deliver quality patient care before, during, and after surgery as a member of a surgical team at acute and ambulatory facilities. Surgical technicians work to provide maximum patient safety by ensuring properly functioning equipment, a sterile environment, and by assisting the surgeon during invasive and diagnostic procedures. The surgical technology field has allowed medical care to become more cost effective by providing trained technicians who require minimal orientation in the operating room.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology (CIP 51.0909) at South Arkansas Community College, effective August 2007.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of South Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 7
Institutional Certification Advisory
Committee Resolutions

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) met on January 10, 2006. The following resolutions are presented for Coordinating Board consideration.

Re-Appointment of Committee Member

Mr. Ken Hoppe

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to ACA §6-61-302, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reappoints Mr. Ken Hoppe, as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory. The term expires February 3, 2015.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Mr. Hoppe for his willingness to serve as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to communicate this appreciation to Mr. Hoppe.

Program Decertification**Graceland University, Independence, Missouri**

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board decertifies the Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies degree program offered via distance delivery by Graceland University. The decertification is effective February 3, 2006.

Saint Joseph's College, Standish, Maine

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board decertifies the following distance delivery degree programs offered via distance delivery by Saint Joseph's College: Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies. The decertification is effective February 3, 2006.

Program Certification**ITT-Technical Institute, Little Rock, Arkansas**

RESOLVED: That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants program recertification to ITT-Technical Institute to offer the following degree programs: Bachelor of Science in Technical Project Management; Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering Technology; Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering Technology; Bachelor of Science in Data Communications Systems Technology; Bachelor of Science in Digital Entertainment and Game Design; and Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Security. The recertification is for a period of four years and expires February 3, 2010.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of ITT-Technical Institute that the recertification of these degree programs require the institution to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's program in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of ITT-Technical Institute that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

University of Phoenix – Little Rock, Arkansas

RESOLVED: That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants program recertification to the University of Phoenix–Little Rock to offer the following degree programs: Bachelor of Science in Business; Bachelor of Science in Management; Bachelor of Science in Information Technology; Master of Business Administration; Master of Management; Master of Information Systems. The recertification is for a period of four years and expires February 3, 2010.

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to the University of Phoenix-Little Rock to offer the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration. The certification is for a period of four years and expires February 3, 2010.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Little Rock that the recertification and certification of these degree programs require the institution to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's program in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Little Rock that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

University of Phoenix – Online

RESOLVED: That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants program recertification to the University of Phoenix–Online to offer the following degree programs: Associate of Arts; Bachelor of Science in Business; Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration; Bachelor of Science in Health Administration; Bachelor of Science in Human Services; Bachelor of Science in Management; Bachelor of Science in Information Technology; Master of Business Administration; Master of Management; and Master of Information Systems. The recertification is for a period of four years and expires February 3, 2010.

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to the University of Phoenix-Little Rock to offer the following specializations for the Bachelor of Science in Business degree: Global Business Management and Integrated Supply Chain Operations Management, and the Visual Communication specialization for the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree. The certification is for a period of four years and expires February 3, 2010.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Online that the recertification and certification of these degree programs require the institution to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's program in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Online that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

University of Phoenix – Rogers

RESOLVED: The Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to the University of Phoenix-Rogers to offer the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration. The certification is for a period of two years and expires February 3, 2008.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Rogers that the certification of this degree program requires the institution to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's program in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix-Rogers that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) Report begins on page 7-6 of the Agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 8
Revision to the State Minimum Core Curricula

In April 1990, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted guidelines for the development of State Minimum Core Curricula in response to A.C.A. §6-61-218. This legislation provides that courses within the Core shall apply toward the general education core curriculum requirements for baccalaureate degrees at state-supported institutions and shall be fully transferable between public institutions.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the revised curricula for Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, University of Arkansas at Monticello, University of Central Arkansas, Arkansas Northeastern College, Arkansas State University--Beebe, Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, East Arkansas Community College,

Mid-South Community College, National Park Community College, Ouachita Technical College, Pulaski Technical College, and the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to distribute the State Minimum Core Curricula to all public colleges and universities.

Dr. Grant questioned the Arkansas Government course requirement by UAMS. Cynthia Moten explained that the institutions believe that these courses meet the guidelines for the core. Presently, Dr. Karen Wheeler is working with Chief Academic Officers and faculty to review the course descriptions and syllabi for the core courses as ADHE is expanding the transfer core.

Jodie Carter moved to recommend Agenda Items No. 4-8 to the Full Board for consideration. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 9
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Arkansas Tech University

Arkansas Tech University requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds of up to \$10 million with a term of 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5 percent. The bond proceeds will be for the construction of a new auxiliary residence hall and for making other housing renovations and improvements. The Arkansas Tech University Board of Trustees approved this bond issue at their meeting on December 17, 2005.

The debt service for the bond issue will be supported by net residence hall revenue. According to Coordinating Board policy, the net revenue from residence halls must be a minimum of 120 percent of the annual debt service.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas Tech University to issue bonds up to \$10 million with a term of 30 years at an estimated average annual interest rate of 5 percent for the construction of a new auxiliary residence hall.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Bill Johnson enquired about the location of the new residence hall. ATU President, Dr. Robert Brown, explained that the 230-bed residence hall would be

constructed at Burkel Field.

Dick Trammel moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 9 to the Full Board for consideration. Bill Johnson seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 10
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Arkansas State University—Beebe

Arkansas State University-Beebe requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$11 million with a term of 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate not to exceed 5.3 percent. Proceeds from the bonds will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved this action on December 16, 2005.

The bond proceeds will be used to construct an approximately 60,000 square-foot academic building with classrooms, science labs, faculty offices, a lecture auditorium, and a large open access computer lab. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to educational and general debt service.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas State University - Beebe to issue bonds not to exceed \$11 million for a term of 30 years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 5.3 percent for the construction of a new academic building.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University - Beebe of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Mr. Jerry Carlisle of ASU—Beebe explained the institution's need for additional science labs. Mr. Damron asked how many additional science students would ASU be able to serve. Mr. Carlisle stated that he couldn't give a specific number, however, the number would increase significantly as the size increased.

Chairman Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 10 to the Full Board for consideration. Dick Trammel seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 11
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
University of Arkansas For Medical Sciences

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds with a premium amount not to exceed \$107.5 million with a term of up to 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for auxiliary purposes. The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved this action on January 26, 2006.

The bond proceeds will be used to complete the new Patient-Care Tower. Coordinating Board policy regarding auxiliary debt service requires that the net auxiliary revenues must be a minimum of 120 percent of the total auxiliary debt service.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to issue bonds for the construction of a new Patient-Care Tower for a principal amount not to exceed \$107.5 million with a term of 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5 percent.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Mr. David Wilcox of UAMS elaborated on the plans for the new Patient-Care Tower noting that the construction would add 174 beds giving UAMS a total of 350 adult beds, all of which will be private rooms.

Chairman Hodges questioned the nonspecific terminology used in the allocations for the Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue resolutions. He then moved that ADHE outline the purpose of the allocation in future resolutions. Dick Trammel seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Bill Johnson moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 11 as amended to the Full Board for consideration. Chairman Hodges seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 12
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling approximately \$80 million with a term of up to 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for both educational & general (E&G) and auxiliary purposes. The

University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting on January 26, 2006.

The E&G issue will be approximately \$24.74 million with annual debt service of \$2,451,482. Proceeds from the issue will be used for improving campus energy efficiency (\$10.56 million), completion of the Law Building Phase II (\$4 million), additional classroom space at the Maple Hill Housing Complex (\$3.65 million), and property purchases (\$6.53 million).

Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to educational and general debt service.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville to issue bonds for approximately \$80 million with a term of up to 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5% for E&G and auxiliary purposes.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of the Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville of the Coordinating Board's resolution. Since 1988, all entering first-year students seeking an associate degree or higher from an Arkansas public college or university must meet AHECB assessment and placement standards in the disciplines of English, mathematics, and reading. A cut-off subscore of 19 on the ACT exam (or the equivalent on the ASSET, SAT, or COMPASS tests) is used for each of the three areas. Tables 13A and 13B offer a general overview of remediation in Arkansas public higher education, while Tables 13C, 13D, and 13E provide institutional detail by discipline for fall terms 2003 through 2005. In all tables, remedial data are based on students who meet two criteria: not meeting the board's cut-off score and being assigned to developmental-level coursework. Note that University of Arkansas at Fort Smith became a four-year institution in January 2002 and is counted as a four-year institution throughout this agenda item.

Dr. Don Peterson, University of Arkansas—Fayetteville, briefly explained the bond issue's educational & general (E&G) and auxiliary purposes.

Dick Trammel moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 12 to the Full Board for consideration. Jim Creech seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 13
Annual Report on First-Year
Student Remediation

Since 1988, all entering first-year students seeking an associate degree or higher from an Arkansas public college or university must meet AHECB assessment and placement standards in the disciplines of English, mathematics, and reading. A cut-off subscore of 19 on the ACT exam (or the equivalent on the ASSET, SAT, or COMPASS tests) is used for each of the three areas. Tables 13A and 13B offer a general overview of remediation in Arkansas public higher education, while Tables 13C, 13D, and 13E provide institutional detail by discipline for fall terms 2003 through 2005. In all tables, remedial data are based on students who meet two criteria: not meeting the board's cut-off score and being assigned to developmental-level coursework.

In fall 2005, Arkansas's public institutions enrolled 21,919 first-time students. Of this total, 2,676 entering students were not required to be tested because they pursued coursework in certificate-level programs or were non-degree-seeking.

Ron Harrell presented the tables and data on first-year student remediation to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 14
Annual Enrollment Report

Ron Harrell presented the annual enrollment report for Fall 2005. He stated that total, on-schedule enrollment for fall 2005 in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public universities, public colleges, and independent colleges and universities) was 141,478 students; representing a 1-year increase of students (+3.2 percent). On-campus, on-schedule enrollment for fall 2005 in all sectors of Arkansas higher education was 131,158 students; representing a 1-year increase of students (+2.6 percent).

Agenda Item No. 15
Annual Report on Productivity of
Recently Approved Programs

Ron Harrell presented the annual report on productivity of recently approved programs, which summarizes degree productivity for associate and certificate programs approved between July 1, 2001 and June 30, 2002 and baccalaureate and graduate programs approved between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2000. There are two methods for determining degree productivity: the number of graduates reported to ADHE for 2004-05 only, or the average number of graduates over the most recent three years for baccalaureate and graduate degrees and two years for associate degrees and certificate programs. Because programs need time to develop and produce graduates, productivity for certificate and associate programs is measured after three years, while baccalaureate and higher programs are measured five years after approval.

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) defines productivity standards as three graduates per year for baccalaureate programs, two graduates per year for masters level programs, and one graduate per year for doctoral programs. In evaluating certificate and associate degree programs, ADHE staff uses a guideline of three graduates per year.

The productivity data was included beginning on page 15-2 of the Agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 16
Annual Report on Retention and Graduation
Of Intercollegiate Athletes

Ron Harrell presented this report, which complies with Act 267 of 1989 that requires reporting retention and graduation rates for entering freshmen who participate in Arkansas intercollegiate athletics. This information is produced from data submissions through the Arkansas Higher Education Information System for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking student athletes participating in football, basketball (men's and women's), cross country/track programs and other sports programs. Information related to initial athletic scholarship status is also included. Table 16A provides a statewide overview of athletic retention one year after entry, followed by institutional summaries at the one-year and six-year points after entry into college.

Enrollment patterns for twelve student-athlete cohorts from the public universities have been followed for six years, beginning in 1992-93. It should be noted that students continue to be tracked as part of the group regardless of whether or not (s)he participated on an athletic team after the first year. For that reason, NCAA data may vary from that reported here. Institutional-level data also indicate the number of students who enrolled or completed a program of study at their original institution (i.e., native students) as required by Student-Right-to-Know legislation, as well as their success at an Arkansas public or independent transfer institution. NCAA data are based on enrollments and completions at the originating institution only. Additionally, NCAA data are based only on student-athletes receiving athletic aid.

Agenda Item No. 17
The Secretary of Education's Commission
On The Future of Higher Education

Christina Miller presented information to the Board on the Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education. On September 19, 2005, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced the formation of a national commission on the future of higher education. The 19-member panel includes representatives of business executives, current and former college presidents, higher education researchers and experts on minority students. A complete list of members is included on pages 4 and 5.

The Commission is charged with developing a comprehensive national strategy for postsecondary education that will meet the needs of America's diverse population and also address the economic and workforce needs of the country's future. The four areas of focus include access, accountability, affordability, and quality. The Commission shall consider federal, state, local, and institutional roles in higher education and analyze whether the current goals of higher education are appropriate and achievable. It will also focus on the increasing tuition costs and the perception of many families, particularly low-income families, that higher education is inaccessible. A written report with specific findings and recommendations is due to Secretary Spellings by August 1, 2006. The final report will serve as a blueprint for a 21st century higher education system.

Agenda Item No. 18 Existing Program Review Report

Ms. Moten presented the Existing Program Review report. In 1998, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the program review plan for each institution that includes a ten-year program review schedule. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education has received the institutional reports for programs reviewed during latest two-year review cycle.

Required institutional reports include the program summary of significant findings, plan and timeline for program improvement, and status report on program improvements completed during the review period. Based on the academic program assessments, the institutional review committees on each campus made recommendations on curriculum modifications, equipment upgrades, additional faculty resources, distance course delivery, and program termination.

All campus program review committees concluded that the specified programs met or exceeded expected standards. Programs reviewed during this period are listed on the following pages.

Dr. Grant questioned whether the reports go to the Boards of Trustees from the individual institutions. Ms. Moten explained that the reports are typically used for strategic planning, curriculum modifications or new programs based on the advisory committee's recommendations.

Agenda Item No. 19 and 20 Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Department of Higher Education received notice from institutions on programs not requiring Board approval including 2 new certificate programs, 1 new master's degree, 4 new program options, 1 new program minor, 1 new location for an existing degree, 2 distance technology programs, 2 reconfigurations of existing degrees, 1 consolidation of existing degrees, 1 new degree designation, 4 new organizational units, 6 inactive programs, 1 deleted program option, and 13 deleted degree programs.

Notification of items requiring Board approval included 9 certificate programs, 8 associate degrees, 2 bachelor's degrees, 3 master's degrees, 2 doctoral degrees, and 1 organizational unit.

During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests for recertification of 17 degrees, and initial certification for 15 degrees. The complete list of these notices appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 19-1 through 19-4 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 20-1 through 20-4 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 21
Approval of Reimbursement of Expenses for
Members Of the Higher Education Coordinating Board and
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

Although members of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and its Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) by law serve without compensation, they may receive expense reimbursement for performing official board duties after following certain procedures set out by Act 1211 of 1995 (A.C.A. §25-16-901 et seq.).

Because Act 1211 of 1995 (A.C.A. §25-16-901 et seq.) is the sole authority for expense reimbursement, it is necessary for the Coordinating Board to adopt a resolution authorizing expense reimbursement for board members and members of the ICAC. The following resolution is presented for the Coordinating Board's consideration:

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, by a majority vote of its total membership, authorizes expense reimbursement for each board member and member of the ICAC for performing official board duties.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the expense reimbursement shall not exceed the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Department of Higher Education to send a copy of this resolution to the Department of Finance and Administration to notify that agency of compliance with Act 1211 of 1995.

Phil Ford moved to approve Agenda Item 21. Jim Creech seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

A Resolution read by David Leech and recommended for approval was seconded by Jodie Carter and presented to the family of Betsy Thompson. The complete resolution follows the minutes.

Chairman Hodges opened the floor for public comments, which were none.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Dr. Lynda Johnson, Secretary

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Thompson, of Monticello passed away on January 27, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Thompson was a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Monticello and owner of Drew Plaza Mobile Homes and was a member of First United Methodist Church in Monticello; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Thompson served since 1997 as a member of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education Coordinating Board; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Thompson served on the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board as secretary of the Board and was committed to expanding the role of higher education in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, as a Board member of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Betsy Thompson initiated the passage of a 10-year moratorium on the establishment of new state colleges and universities in order to better serve the existing two-year colleges and the existing universities; and

WHEREAS, her leadership in passing this moratorium has enabled the existing Arkansas colleges and universities to better serve the students of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Thompson was a recognized leader in the manufactured housing business, serving as a member of the Arkansas Manufactured Housing Association Board of Directors since 1988 and an active member of the Manufactured Housing Council and was recognized as a leading business woman in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her service she was inducted into the Arkansas Manufacturing Housing Association Hall of Fame recognizing a lifetime of outstanding achievements;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Thompson as it also mourns the death of one of our colleagues and members. The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board hereby recognizes Betsy Thompson's commitment to business and higher education and as a result of her years of service has enhanced business opportunities in the State of Arkansas and advanced the role of higher education in the State of Arkansas. Our gratitude is extended to our esteemed colleague and friend.

Adopted this 3rd day of February 2006
in Monticello, Arkansas

Kaneaster Hodges, Chair

Lynda Johnson, Secretary