

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**January 31, 2014**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The January 31, 2014, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education in Little Rock, Arkansas. Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all members present.

Coordinating Board present:

Dr. Charles Allen, Chair  
Kaneaster Hodges, Vice Chair  
Sarah Argue, Secretary  
Dr. Joe Bennett  
Dr. Olin Cook  
Bob Crafton  
Horace Hardwick  
Sherrel Johnson  
Florine Milligan  
Ben Pickard  
Greg Revels  
Mary Anne Salmon

Coordinating Board absent:

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Director  
Harold Criswell, Deputy Director  
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs  
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability  
Tara Smith, Senior Associate Director for Finance  
Jeanne Jones, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs  
Alana Boles, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs  
Janet Lawrence, General Counsel  
Brandi Hinkle, Communications Coordinator  
Micah Gilbert, Network Support Specialist  
Nichole Abernathy, Executive Assistant

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

Chairman Allen introduced Director Shane Broadway, for a welcome. Director Broadway announced that after a year, ADHE staff were finally feeling at home in the new location. He then welcomed new AHECB member Ben Pickard to his first meeting.

Chairman Allen thanked Broadway for his welcome.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Approval of Minutes

Greg Revels moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Dr. Olin Cook seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2  
Report of Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (Chair- Dr. Joe Bennett, Mary Anne Salmon and Horace Hardwick) recommended the following slate of Board officers for 2014-15 (Sarah Argue as Secretary, Bob Crafton as Vice Chair and Kaneaster Hodges as Chair).

Greg Revels moved to accept the 2014-2015 nominations. Florine Milligan seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Kaneaster Hodges thanked his fellow board members for appointing him to serve as Chairman for a second time. He then announced that unfortunately, he had to leave but looked forward to his next meeting as chairman.

Agenda Item No. 3  
Reimbursement of Expenses for  
Members of the AHECB and ICAC

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.).

**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.

Mary Anne Salmon moved to approve Agenda Item No. 3. Greg Revels seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4  
State Board of Higher Education Foundation  
Election of Supervisory Committee

The State Board of Higher Education Foundation was established on May 2, 1992. The Board for the Foundation includes three annually elected members: a president, a vice president and a secretary/treasurer. The Foundation was established in order to accept private funds for specific projects for the benefit of higher education in Arkansas. The current officers are:

President – Bob Crafton  
Vice President – Sarah Argue  
Secretary/Treasurer – Dr. Charles Allen

The terms for these members have lapsed, requiring a re-election or new appointments.

The following resolution is presented for Board consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves and elects members to serve as the State Board of Higher Education Foundation Supervisory Committee as follows:

Bob Crafton – President  
Sarah Argue – Vice President  
Dr. Charles Allen – Secretary/Treasurer

Sherrel Johnson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 4. Greg Revels seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Agency Updates

Director Broadway began his report by announcing that ADHE accountant Dawanna Walls resigned and transferred to the Department of Human Services.

Next, Broadway recognized Senator Bruce Maloch and Representative David Fielding, both from Magnolia. He then introduced Bill Stovall and welcomed him to his first Coordinating Board meeting as Director of the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC).

ADHE has been working with K-12 to identify students who need remediation. In November, ADHE, Southern Education Foundation, ADE and the Council on

Postsecondary Education and Career Readiness hosted a remediation conference at the University of Central Arkansas. Over a hundred attendees gathered to discuss the role of early remediation in preparing college-ready Arkansas students.

Agenda Item No. 6  
2013 Fall and 2013 Annual Enrollment Report

Rick Jenkins presented summary and detailed information about annual student enrollment. He noted the total, on-schedule enrollment for 2013 Fall term in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public universities, public colleges, as well as independent colleges and universities and nursing schools) was 170,505 students; representing a 1-year decrease of 2.4 percent.

Of these 170,505 students, 14,302 were high school students (8.4 percent), 137,866 were undergraduate students (80.9 percent) and 18,337 were graduate students (10.8 percent).

Agenda Item No. 7  
Annual Report on First-Year  
Student Remediation for Fall 2013

Rick Jenkins presented summary and detailed information about annual student enrollment. In fall 2013, Arkansas's public institutions enrolled 22,135 first-time degree seeking students. 22,063 of those students were tested for placement purposes. Of the 22,063 students who were tested, 9,533 students (43.2 percent) were assigned to one or more remedial courses while the balance was placed in college-level coursework. This represents a decrease in the remediation rate of 4.6 percentage points from Fall 2012. Note that this is the lowest remediation rate in the 5 fall terms and the total remediation rate has dropped every year since the 2009 Fall term. Of the 9,533 students assigned to remediation, 4,313 (45.2 percent) were in the four-year sector and 5,220 (54.8 percent) were in the two-year sector. Using the old remediation rate methodology, the remediation rate is 45.2 percent representing an improvement of 2.0 percentage points.

Florine Milligan asked if it was possible for the remediation rates to be affected by a student's financial aid and if it was possible for corequisite courses to be done.

Director Broadway said that corequisite courses are currently being done and more information will be provided at the April meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8  
Report on Academic Program Viability

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) adopted new program viability standards for Arkansas colleges and universities in October 2008. After the Board set the new viability standards, a list of non-viable programs

at Arkansas colleges and universities was presented to the Board in January 2010. Of the 89 programs that were required to meet program viability standards by Summer 2013, 39 programs met the viability standard and 20 programs have made progress toward the standard. Some of these programs were designated as a cognate/ embedded program, designated as a degree completion program, approved as an associate transfer degree, or reconfigured as a concentration in related degree programs. One program was placed on inactive status by the institution, and 24 programs have been deleted by the institutions. With these actions, only 5 non-viable programs remain for consideration by the Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the continuation of state funding for the following certificates and degrees with a status report on the viability of these programs and the Final Recommendation presented to the Coordinating Board in January 2018. The Final Recommendation on program continuation or discontinuation will be based on substantial progress being made toward the viability standards.

UAM-Technical Certificate in Automotive Service Technology (DC 4355)  
 UAPB-Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (DC2870)  
 UAPB-Bachelor of Science in Special Education (DC 3210)  
 UAPB-Bachelor of Science in Science Education (DC 3170)  
 SAUT-Certificate of Proficiency in Materials & Operations Management (DC 4935)

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board approves the continuation of state funding for the following certificates and degrees without further review during this 10-year review period which ends in Summer 2020.

ASUJ-\*Bachelor of Science in Physics (DC 3030)  
 ASUJ-\*Bachelor of Science in Education in Physics (DC 3960)  
 ASUJ-\*Bachelor of Arts in Economics (DC 1400)  
 ASUJ-\*Bachelor of Science in Business Economics (DC 2330)  
 ATU-Bachelor of Arts in International Studies (DC 1540)  
 ATU-Master of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife (DC 6225)  
 HSU-Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts (DC 1840)  
 NWACC-Associate of Science in Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences (DC 0935)  
 SAUM-Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (DC 1690)  
 SAUM-Bachelor of Arts in Theatre (DC 1840)  
 SEARK-Technical Certificate in Industrial & Mechanical Technology (DC 4620)  
 SEARK-Associate of Applied Science in Industrial & Mechanical Technology (DC 0570)  
 UAF- Doctor of Education in Recreation and Sport Management (DC 4995)  
 UALR-Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts (DC 1840)  
 UALR-Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health Sciences (DC 2550)  
 UAM-Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (DC 1690)  
 UAM-Bachelor of Arts in Art (DC 1250)  
 UAMS-Bachelor of Science in Ophthalmic Medical Technology (DC 2965)

UAPB-Bachelor of Science in Middle Level Education (DC 2910)

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board approves the continuation of state funding for the following degree completion programs without further review.

ASUB-Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Medical Service-Paramedic (DC 0470)

EACC-Associate of Applied Science in Advanced Emergency Medical Technology (DC 0470)

EACC-Associate of Applied Science in Child Care (DC 0310)

NWACC-Associate of Applied Science in Electronics Technology (DC 0460)

SEARK-Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic (DC 0470)

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

Dr. Olin Cook moved to approve Agenda Item No. 8. Mary Anne Salmon seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

#### Agenda Item No. 9 Annual Higher Education Financial Condition Report

Tara Smith presented background information regarding the financial condition of each publicly supported institution of higher education. The financial conditions report addressed several topics including the equity of the needs-based funding formulas, outcome-centered funding, revenues versus costs in higher education, funds per full-time equivalent (FTE) student, the increased volume of construction on campuses, a comparison of Arkansas faculty salaries to other Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) states and various charts and graphs on tuition and fees by institution, expenditures by function, fund balances, operating margins, athletic incomes and expenditures, scholarship expenditures and measures of performance. It also included recommendations for future financial policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB).

Mary Anne Salmon asked if the SREB data included adjunct faculty in the comparison of Arkansas faculty salaries. Rick Jenkins said it did not.

Sarah Argue questioned why some institutions' fund balances are so high (over 40 percent) and others are so low (below 5 percent). At what point should we ask

institutions with high fund balances to invest their money in their students and stop raising tuition, she commented.

Agenda Item No. 10  
Associate of Applied Science in Apprenticeship Trades  
College of the Ouachitas

The Certificates of Proficiency (CP) in Plumbing Apprenticeship Levels I-IV and the Technical Certificate (TC) in Plumbing Apprenticeship are designed to provide students the training and skills needed for employment in the plumbing industry and to recognize the on-the-job training completed by the student in the Plumbing Apprenticeship program. The CP programs will provide the initial classroom experience and hands-on training in plumbing safety, blueprint and plumbing drawings, pipes and fittings, fixtures and faucets, water supply piping, water treatment and related areas.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the following program offerings at the College of the Ouachitas, effective Spring 2014:

Associate of Applied Science in Apprenticeship Trades (CIP Code 46.0599; 62-67 semester credit hours)

Technical Certificate in Plumbing Apprenticeship (CIP Code 46.0599; 39 semester credit hours)

Certificate of Proficiency in Plumbing Apprenticeship, Level I (CIP Code 46.0599; 13 credit hours)

Certificate of Proficiency in Plumbing Apprenticeship, Level II (CIP Code 46.0599; 13 credit hours)

Certificate of Proficiency in Plumbing Apprenticeship, Level III (CIP Code 46.0599; 13 credit hours)

Certificate of Proficiency in Plumbing Apprenticeship, Level IV (CIP Code 46.0599; 13 credit hours)

**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 the College of the Ouachitas (COTO) of the program approvals, contingent on the College maintaining government agency approvals for all apprenticeship programs offered by COTO.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 11  
Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate in Heating,  
Ventilation and Air Conditioning  
Arkansas State University – Mountain Home

The Certificates in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) are designed to provide students the training and skills needed for employment in the HVAC industry. The Certificate of Proficiency will provide the initial classroom experience and hands-on training in sheet metal fabrication, principles of residential and commercial air conditioning, refrigeration, heating, and ventilation. The Technical Certificate will include training in troubleshooting, blueprint reading, and safety. Students will develop and apply the technical knowledge and skills to install, service, and repair HVAC systems.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Certificate of Proficiency in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (CIP Code 47.0201, 14 semester credit hours), and the Technical Certificate in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (CIP Code 47.0201, 39 semester credit hours) offered by the Arkansas State University–Mountain Home, effective Fall 2014.

**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 the Arkansas State University System, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University–Mountain Home of the approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 12  
Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate  
in Automotive Systems Repair  
Arkansas State University – Mountain Home

The Certificates in Automotive Systems Repair are designed to provide students the training and skills needed for employment in the automotive service/repair industry. The Certificate of Proficiency will provide the initial classroom experience and hands-on training in steering, suspension, electrical, and braking systems; transmissions and drive trains; engine performance; and safety. Students in the Technical Certificate will develop and apply the technical knowledge and skills to repair, service, and maintain all types of automobiles.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Certificate of Proficiency in Automotive Systems Repair (CIP Code 47.0604; 14 semester credit hours) and the Technical Certificate in Automotive Systems Repair (CIP Code 47.0604; 42 semester credit hours) offered by the Arkansas State University – Mountain Home, effective Fall 2014.

**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 the Arkansas State University System, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University – Mountain Home of the approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Master of Science in Strength and Conditioning Studies  
Arkansas Tech University

The Master of Science in Strength and Conditioning Studies is a 33-semester credit hour program designed to provide graduate level instruction in theory and science of strength and conditioning for coaches, physical educators, physical therapists, athletic trainers and other fitness professionals. Graduates will be prepared for positions in personal training, strength coaching, and health club management. The Conway Regional Fitness Center and public school districts in Russellville, Pottsville, Atkins and Ozark have jobs in the field and a need for program graduates.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in Strength and Conditioning Studies (CIP 31.0599, 33 semester credit hours) at Arkansas Tech University, effective Fall 2014.

**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 Arkansas Tech University of the approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 14  
Master of Science in Applied Sociology  
Arkansas Tech University

The proposed Master of Science in Applied Sociology is a 30-semester credit hour sociology program with an emphasis in either Gerontology or Criminal Justice. The program has a 12-semester credit hour core and the remaining 18 semester credit hours can be obtained with either a thesis or non-thesis option with comprehensive exams. The program is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to acquire jobs that apply sociological theory and methods to specific programs in the community or workplace. Graduates will be able to teach at the undergraduate level, continue graduate study, conduct independent research and present those findings in both academic/scholarly and public setting as well as work with agencies, businesses and communities to identify and solve problems.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in Applied Sociology (CIP 45.1101, 30 semester credit hours) at Arkansas Tech University, effective Fall 2014.

**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 Arkansas Tech University of the approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 15  
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee Resolutions

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1-8 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents. This certification is for a period of three years through December 31, 2017.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of said institutions that the certification of the degree programs 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 programs in Arkansas.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of said institutions 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.

Argosy University, Orange, California

Arizona State University, Scottsdale, Arizona

Bethel University, McKenzie, Tennessee

Bryan University, Springfield, Missouri, Rogers Campus

Capella University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Chamberlain College of Nursing, Downers Grove, Illinois

Columbia College, Columbia, Missouri

DeVry University, Downers Grove, Illinois

Drury University, Springfield, Missouri

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri

National American University, Rapid City, South Dakota

Post University, Waterbury, Connecticut

Rasmussen College, Bloomington, Minnesota

South University, Savannah, Georgia

Strayer University, Washington D.C., Distance Technology, and Little Rock Campus

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio

University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri

University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama

Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri

### **New Institutions**

#### **Initial Program Certification-Distance Technology**

Crowder College, Neosho, Missouri

Maryville University, St. Louis, Missouri

The New School, New York, New York

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Saint Francis University, Loretto, Pennsylvania

University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska

University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska

Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, Utah

**New Institutions**

**Institutional Planning and Development – Authorization to Offer Associate Degrees**

Jefferson Regional Medical Center School of Nursing, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants certification for institutional planning and development to offer an initial associate degree in nursing to Jefferson School of Nursing in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. This certification for institutional planning and development is for a period of three years through December 31, 2017; which requires Jefferson School of Nursing to submit an application for initial program certification no later than July 1, 2017.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of Jefferson School of Nursing, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, that the certification for institutional planning and development to offer associate degree programs to Arkansas residents 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; (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas; (4) change in home state authorization; or (5) a change in institutional accreditation status.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of Jefferson School of Nursing 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.

Jefferson Regional Medical Center School of Nursing, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

**New Institution**

**Institutional Planning and Development – Arkansas Campus Location**

Vista College, Richardson, Texas

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants certification to Vista College in Richardson, Texas, for institutional planning and development to establish a campus location in Fort Smith, Arkansas, to offer associate degree programs to Arkansas residents. The certification for institutional planning and development is for a period of three years through December 31, 2017; which requires Vista College to submit an application for initial program certification no later than July 1, 2017.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of Vista College, Richardson, Texas, that the certification for institutional planning and development to establish a campus in Arkansas and to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents 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; (3) change in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas; (4) change in home state authorization; or (5) a change in institutional accreditation status.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of Vista College 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.

Vista College, Richardson, Texas

**Arkansas Institution**  
**Reinstatement to Offer Degrees**  
Shorter College, North Little Rock, Arkansas

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants certification for the reinstatement of Shorter College in North Little Rock, Arkansas, to offer associate degree programs.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this reinstatement recognizes Shorter College as an Arkansas independent two-year college; and requires Shorter College to maintain institutional accreditation with the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) or another accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification is not required for Shorter College to offer additional associate degree programs.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Shorter College must submit student and institutional data to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education according to the guidelines outlined in the Arkansas Student Information System Manual, beginning with the 2014-15 Academic Year.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Shorter College must notify the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) change in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution for the 1) major reorganization of the institutional controlling body or institutional operations; (2) initial offering of bachelor's degrees or graduate degrees; (3) change in the name of the institution; or 4) change in the institutional accreditation status.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Shorter College must publish a written disclosure for students indicating that courses are not guaranteed for transfer to other colleges and universities until Shorter College has a signed transfer/articulation agreement with other accredited colleges and universities.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of Shorter College 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:

Shorter College is recognized as an Arkansas independent two-year college by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board; however, this recognition does not constitute an endorsement of the institution or any degree offerings.

Dr. Jerome Green, president of Shorter College in North Little Rock, updated the Coordinating Board on the status of Shorter College's accreditation status. Shorter College is a private, faith-based, two-year liberal-arts college located in North Little Rock. Founded in 1886, by the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Shorter College is one of the nation's 110 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the only two-year HBCU in the state of Arkansas. Having two students in the summer of 2012 and a current enrollment of 460 students, Shorter College is the fastest-growing campus in Central Arkansas, said President Green.

Florine Milligan asked what strategies Shorter College was using to increase their enrollment numbers. Shorter College's open enrollment policy makes obtaining an associate's level degree possible for any person having earned a high school diploma or GED completion from an accredited agency. A person that has a desire has the opportunity, said President Green.

After several other comments, President Green received accolades from the Coordinating Board members on his success and efforts at Shorter College.

Sherrel Johnson moved to recommend Agenda Items No. 10 – 15 to the full Board for consideration. Florine Milligan seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Items No. 16 & 17  
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Department of Higher Education received notice from 6 institutions on new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from 79 out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents, and from one Arkansas postsecondary institution to offer associate degrees. The program notice list appears in the Letters of Notification on pages 16-1 through 16-38 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 17-1 through 17-22 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 18  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering  
Southern Arkansas University – Magnolia

Because there are many companies in the defense and oil industry that are located in southern Arkansas which require engineers, the purpose of the proposed engineering program at Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia (SAUM) is to provide an engineering education to residents in the southern Arkansas region and to provide graduates for engineering positions in regional companies. ADHE employed one engineering faculty member and two engineering program administrators to review the SAUM engineering proposal then travel to Magnolia to meet with area industry representatives, institutional administrators, and engineering physics students and faculty about the need for a bachelor's degree in engineering. The reviewers also toured engineering labs and research science labs on the SAUM campus. After meeting with the industry representatives, the reviewers concluded that there is a need for a general engineering degree in the south Arkansas region. The reviewers also confirmed that SAUM has demonstrated its commitment to meeting the needs of area industry and the demands of students by offering selected courses in chemical and mechanical engineering as a part of the engineering physics degree, providing modern science laboratory facilities, engaging in collaborative research, and securing financial resources for additional engineering faculty, new engineering labs, and engineering program accreditation.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (CIP 14.0101, DC 3790, 123 semester credit hours) at Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia, effective Fall 2014.

**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 Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia of the approval. Program continuation is contingent on SAUM obtaining and maintaining engineering program accreditation by ABET (formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) in six years, for the engineering degree to remain listed in the AHECB Approved Degree Programs Inventory.

Dr. Olin Cook voiced concern regarding program duplication and wondered if Arkansas really needed another Engineering program.

What is the timeline for securing faculty, asked Sarah Argue.

Dr. Trey Berry, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs said that SAU will be able to use resources that are already budgeted for retiring faculty in other areas. We are also having discussions with area industries about setting up endowed professorships in industries.

Dr. Scott McKay, Dean of Science and Technology said that one of SAU's missions is to be very industry focused. Therefore, they will have a very strong adjunct faculty.

Sherrel Johnson and Bob Crafton then expressed their support for the SAU Engineering program.

Dr. Olin Cook recommended that the resolution be amended to read, "Program continuation is contingent on SAUM obtaining and maintaining engineering program accreditation by ABET in six years, for the engineering degree to remain listed in the AHECB Approved Degree Programs Inventory."

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Item No.18 to the full Board for consideration, following amendment. Sherrel Johnson seconded and the Committee approved. Dr. Olin Cook voted no.

#### Report of the Committees

Sarah Argue presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 10 – 15 and 18. Sherrel Johnson seconded the motion and the Board approved.

Chairman Allen announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting would be hosted by the Department of Higher Education on April 25, 2014.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Nichole Abernathy

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Sarah Argue, Secretary