

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Special Meeting
January 26, 2012

Minutes of Meeting

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board held a special meeting on Thursday, January 26, 2012, at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in the Extension Complex Auditorium. Chairman Leech called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

David Leech, Chair
Dr. Olin Cook, Vice-Chair
Sarah Argue, Secretary
Dr. Charles Allen
Dr. Joe Bennett
Dr. Bob Burns
Bob Crafton
Kaneaster Hodges
Dr. Calvin Johnson
Steve Luef
Florine Milligan

Coordinating Board absent:

Horace Hardwick

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Interim Director
Harold Criswell, Interim Deputy Director
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs
Jackie Holloway, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Zanette Douglas, Coordinator of Institutional Certification
Brandi Hinkle, Communications Officer
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Support

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

Chairman Leech thanked presidents and chancellors for attending the Special Board meeting.

Chairman Leech then called on Interim Director Shane Broadway and he presented information on performance funding.

Chairman Leech thanked Interim Director Broadway for the informative information.

Agenda Item No. 1
Fall 2010 Annual Enrollment Report

Rick Jenkins presented summary and detailed information about annual student enrollment. He noted the total, on-schedule enrollment for fall 2011 in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public and independent colleges and universities) was 175,997 students; representing a 1-year increase of 2.1 percent.

The annual unduplicated headcount enrollment for Academic Year 2011 (2010-2011) in Arkansas public higher education (4-year public universities and 2-year public colleges) was 202,963 students; representing a 1-year increase of 2.4 percent.

Based on institutions reporting coursework delivered via distance learning, 4,281 classes (up from 4,104 the previous year) were offered in fall 2011 representing a growth of 4.3 percent. There were 78,396 enrollments (up from 75,079 the previous year) in these courses representing a growth of 4.4 percent.

Agenda Item No. 2
Annual Report on First-Year Student
Remediation for Fall 2010

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.

In fall 2011, Arkansas's public institutions enrolled 23, 253 first-time degree-seeking students and 23, 176 of those students were tested for placement purposes.

Of the 23,176 students who were tested, 11,436 students (49.3 percent) were assigned to one or more remedial courses while the balances were placed in college-level coursework. This represents a decrease in the remediation rate of 3.3 percentage points from fall 2010.

Of the 11, 436 students assigned to remediation, 5,101 (44.6 percent) were in the four-year sector, and 6,335 (55.4 percent) were in the two-year sector.

Florine Milligan asked if ADHE had identified the reason the remediation rate is going down. Rick Jenkins explained that while there are probably numerous reasons, they have not been identified. Shane Broadway stated that we are beginning to see some reform from funding equity as a result of the Lakeview School District suit and subsequent legislation.

David Leech asked what the total cost of remediation was for the state of Arkansas. Shane Broadway said around \$50 million dollars. David Leech remarked that if it costs \$50 million dollars and the funds come out of the colleges and universities budget, and yet the remediation problem was inherited from K-12, perhaps the funds come out of the K-12 budget.

Dr. Calvin Johnson commented that sources suggested that it would take about 10 years to see results as a result of the Lakeview case. Now, may be a good time for the education boards to start collaborating more, he suggested.

Agenda Item No. 3
Annual Report on Financial Condition

Jackie Holloway presented information regarding the financial condition of each publicly supported institution of higher education. Institutions are implementing several costs saving initiatives to keep tuition increases at a minimum and to offset declining state support and increasing enrollments.

Scholarships make up 12 percent of the E&G tuition and mandatory fee revenues. Average scholarships, including tuition waivers, decreased from 16.1 percent in 2009 to 12.9 percent in 2010. Approximately \$64.5 million in bonds and loans have been approved over the past three years.

Agenda Item No. 4
Report of Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (Chair- Dr. Bob Burns, Dr. Charles Allen, and Dr. Joe Bennett) recommended the following slate of Board officers for 2012-13 (Sarah Argue as Secretary, Dr. Charles Allen as Vice Chair, and Dr. Olin Cook as Chair).

Kaneaster Hodges moved to accept the 2011-2012 nominations. Dr. Olin Cook seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Executive Session

Chairman Burns moved to declare the meeting in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the job performance of ADHE Interim Director Shane Broadway. Chairman Burns stated that the Board thought Broadway was doing an exceptional job. No action was taken.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Sarah Argue, Secretary