Agenda Item No. 1 Higher Education Coordinating Board January 30, 2009

# ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD Regular Quarterly Meeting October 14, 2008

### **Minutes of Meeting**

The October 14, 2008 regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held in the Ambassador Ballroom of the John Q. Hammons Convention Center in Rogers. Chairman Trammel called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

### Coordinating Board present:

Dick Trammel, Chair

Dr. Lynda Johnson, Secretary

Dr. Charles Allen

Dr. Joe Bennett

Bob L. Burns

Jodie Carter

Dr. Olin Cook

Phil Ford

Dr. Dan Grant

Kaneaster Hodges

Steve Luelf

### Department staff present:

Dr. Jim Purcell, Director

Dr. Steve Floyd, Deputy Director

Dr. Karen Wheeler, Associate Director for Academic Affairs

Dr. Stanley Williams, Senior Associate Director for Finance

Cynthia Moten, Coordinator of Academic Programs

Jeanne Jones, Coordinator of Academic Programs

Zanette Douglas, Coordinator of Institutional Certification

Ashley Pettingill, Financial Manager

Charlette Moore, Financial Officer

Dale Ellis, Communications Officer

Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Support

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

Chairman Trammel introduced Dr. Ed Franklin, Executive Director for the Arkansas Association of Two-year Colleges, for a welcome. Dr. Franklin began by thanking everyone for attending the Two-year Colleges Annual Conference. He noted that while these are challenging times and some companies are cutting back, some are

Coordinating Board absent: David Leech, Vice Chair

growing and expanding. There are new jobs available if you have the skills necessary. Never has there been a time when Arkansas has needed the two-year institutions more. The two-year colleges are continuing to provide the technical training needed by Arkansan's to move up the skill ladder to get better jobs. In closing, Dr. Franklin said that the institutions must not become complacent. Everyone must continue doing what needs to be done to move Arkansas forward.

Next, Chairman Trammel introduced Emily Jordan-Cox, Deputy Policy Advisor for Higher Education in the Governor's office, Tom Courtway, Interim President at the University of Central Arkansas, and Skip Carnine, a member-elect of the legislature.

Agenda Item No. 1 Approval of Minutes

Dr. Dan Grant moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2
Approval of 2009 Coordinating Board
Meeting Schedule

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meets quarterly to act upon Board initiatives and to respond to campus proposals. The proposed 2009 schedule for these regular quarterly meetings follows:

January 30, 2009	Cooperative Extension Service Little Rock
April 24, 2009	Southern Arkansas University Tech East Camden
July 31, 2009	John Brown University Siloam Springs
October 30, 2009	University of Arkansas at Fort Smith Fort Smith

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board agrees to the following dates for regular quarterly meetings during 2009: January 30, April 24, July 31, and October 30.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board expresses its appreciation and accepts the invitations to meet in January at the Cooperative Extension Service in Little Rock, in April by Southern Arkansas University Tech in Camden, in July at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, and in October at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith.

Dr. Charles Allen moved to approve Agenda Item No. 2. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

# Agenda Item No. 3 Update on Associate of Arts in Teaching

Following the July 2008 AHECB meeting, the presidents, chancellors, chief academic officers, and education deans reconsidered the requirements for the Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree and the Bachelor of Science in Education (BSE) degree completion program. Curricular changes were agreed to by all parties to ensure that all courses of the AAT will transfer into all BSE degrees in middle school and P-4 education beginning in Fall 2008.

Two-year institutions have signed an agreement that requires the institutions to offer the AAT degree without course substitutions or additions and to award the AAT degree only when students have completed the approved curriculum with a cumulative grade point average of 2.65 or higher and have passed the PRAXIS I examination. The agreement signed by the four-year institutions requires the institutions to accept the AAT degree without course substitutions or additions and to apply all AAT courses toward the total semester credit hours required for the bachelor's degree in middle school or P-4 education. The agreement also requires that qualified AAT students be admitted to the College of Education with junior status and that the institutions publish the bachelor's degree completion plans for middle school and P-4 education.

Institutions must inform ADHE before implementing middle school and P-4 curricular changes so that ADHE can determine the impact on the AAT degree. An institution that wishes to terminate the agreement must submit written notification to ADHE at least one year prior to the effective date for termination. All AAT students enrolled in the bachelor's degree completion program will be allowed to complete the middle school or P-4 education degree.

The AAT degree and the Memoranda of Agreement will be posted on the ADHE website for reference by students, faculty and administrators. ADHE staff will monitor the agreements and report to the Board as needed.

## Agenda Item No. 4 Annual Report of Financial Condition

At its regular meeting on July 25, 2008 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board requested that the Department of Higher Education compile and present annually to the AHECB a report related to the financial condition of each publicly supported institution of higher education. Dr. Stanley Williams presented the first Annual Report.

Dr. Williams explained that the financial report would reveal declining State support, declining operating margins, and declining unrestricted E&G fund balances. It will show tuition increasing faster than inflation and higher education becoming less affordable. It will show scholarship expenditures increasing faster than tuition and a gap between the stated tuition and fees and the actual net tuition income per student.

Chairman Trammel thanked Dr. Williams and his staff for providing the financial report.

# Agenda Item No. 5 Legislation to Reduce Institutional E&G Scholarships

Act 1795 of 2005 states that beginning with the 2006-07 fiscal year public colleges and universities expenditures for academic and performance scholarships shall not exceed thirty (30% percent of the institutions unrestricted educational and general tuition and mandatory fee income. "Academic scholarships" means scholarships awarded: (i) On a basis of criteria, including entrance exam scores, high school grade point averages, and rank in high school graduating class; or (ii) For merit or academic performance. "Academic scholarships" does not include: (i) Graduate assistantships or fellowships; (ii) Tuition waivers based on age, military service, or occupation and out-of-state tuition waivers for graduate students or students from contiguous states in close proximity to a college or university; and (iii) Scholarships for transfers from two-year institutions.

"Performance scholarships" means scholarships for band, musical performing groups, arts, theater, forensics, and similar activities that are not awarded on the basis of entrance exam scores or high school academic achievement.

The ADHE staff recommends that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopt a resolution directing the staff to seek legislation to lower the maximum percentage to fifteen (15%) percent of the institution's unrestricted educational and general tuition and fees by the 2013-14 fiscal year with a reduction in funding recommendations for the next biennium by the amount of the over expenditure.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board directs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education staff to draft legislation for the 87<sup>th</sup> Arkansas General Assembly lowering the maximum allowable expenditure for academic and performance scholarships effective to fifteen (15%) percent of unrestricted educational and general tuition and mandatory fee revenue by the 2013-14 fiscal year.

**FUTHER RESOLVED,** That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall include in the legislation a plan for reducing the appropriation recommendation for each year of the succeeding biennium and amount equal to the amount the institution's scholarship expenditures exceed the maximum allowable percent of the unrestricted tuition and mandatory fee income.

Dr. Purcell explained that ADHE is not against scholarships – just E&G funded scholarships. When E&G funds are used for unintended purposes, quality instruction and quality student experiences diminish.

Dr. Robert Brown, President at Arkansas Tech University (ATU), said that currently ATU, with the highest allowable percentage (30%) of it's E&G budget devoted to institutional scholarships has one of the lowest tuition and fee structures in Arkansas. When room and board charges are factored in, only one other public university in Arkansas has a lower cost to the student. If scholarships are driving up tuition and fees, how is ATU one of the lowest cost institutions, commented Dr. Brown. The facts are that tuition is driven up by increased cost of items over which ATU has no control, such as health insurance, technology costs, energy, competition for the best faculty and infrastructure costs. Dr. Brown said that when you combine this with constant real spending on higher education over the past 20 years by the state, we see clearly the reason for higher tuition. In reality, most institutional scholarship holders get a discount. He commented that between institutional aid, federal aid, private scholarships, and state programs, 89% of students receive some form of assistance.

Dr. Brown stated that if this proposal is enacted, institutions will experience falling enrollment and declining institutional income, all of which will result in lower degree production and upward pressure on tuition. Dr. Brown then asked if ADHE staff could do a complete study before enacting this proposal.

Dr. David Rankin, President of Southern Arkansas University (SAU), commented that when legislation was passed in 2005 to lower the maximum percentage to 30% of an institution's unrestricted educational and general tuition and fees, SAU made the adjustment. Currently, they are at 26% and they watch it very closely. However, by fiscal year 2013-14, SAU will be required to be at 15%. This will take some rather dramatic changes on our part, said Dr. Rankin. He noted that this will

have an impact not only on their institution but on their students as well. Dr. Rankin urged ADHE staff and the Coordinating Board to reconsider this proposal.

Jodie Carter asked how the 15% threshold was chosen. Dr. Purcell explained that a large number of states require 10% or under. 15% was chosen so that Arkansas can complete with the rest of the country.

Dr. Lynda Johnson asked if lowering the maximum percentage of E&G scholarships to 15% would prevent other institutions from falling into the same predicament that UCA is currently in. Dr. Purcell said it will.

Dr. Purcell reiterated that he is not against scholarships, just using student's tuition to offset scholarships.

Dr. Grant clarified that this proposal will not reduce scholarships, just the amount that can come from E&G funds.

Dr. Lawrence Davis, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, said that he understands why the Department of Higher Education would want to lower the maximum percentage of E&G scholarships. However, he doesn't see any way to replace it. Dr. Davis said that it's no surprise that Arkansas has a problem with the number of adults with a bachelor's degree and with remediation. We've failed to educate all of our citizens, he said. In 1945, Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal (AM&N) College, which is currently UAPB, established a freshman studies program. The program was designed to address student's deficiencies, whether academic, social, or financial. UAPB's average student has a family income of less than \$30,000 per year. Many of the students are unable to borrow money for college because of their families' low financial status. In closing, Dr. Davis beseeched the Board to find a solution that will address the financial problems facing UAPB and other institutions.

Kaneaster Hodges said that the Coordinating Board was asked to solve this problem in 1999 and didn't. Now we have schools robbing maintenance funds for scholarships.

Dr. David Gearhart, Chancellor at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, urged the Board to take a different approach and possibly come up with a formula that would give students with the most financial need a higher percentage of funds.

Dr. Purcell said that it's up to the institutions to determine what percentage of their funds will be allocated to low income students. This proposal will only determine how much E&G funds can be used for scholarships.

Dr. Dan Grant moved to approve Agenda Item No. 5. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

# Agenda Item No. 6 Revision to Board Policy Regarding the Economic Feasibility of Bond Issues

In its regular meeting January 14, 1975, the State Board approved "Regulations Regarding Economic Feasibility of Bond Issues". Procedures were amended by the State Board in 1975, 1992, and 1993 based on changes in the statutes regarding sales of bonds. The changes included allowing the use of a fiscal agent for the sale of bonds, revising the interest rate from 10 percent max to the limit allowed by state law, allowing community and technical colleges to pledge tuition and fees for capital projects, and permitting negotiated bids as well as sealed bids for sales.

In view of the fluctuations in bond interest rates and the lack of not only capital funds from the state but also tight operating budgets from the economic downturn, the staff believe further revision of the policy is warranted. There are two limitations, which refer to bond issues containing a refinancing, in the current regulations that should be reviewed and amended. The limitations are on the length of the bond term and the interest rate. The amendments would eliminate tying the term of the new bond to the term remaining on the original bond and would eliminate the requirement that the interest rate of the new bond be equal to or lower than the interest rate on the bond being refinanced. The statutes are silent as to the term and the interest rate on refinancing bonds; however, A.C.A. § 19-9-304 allows, for refunding bonds issued by any county, municipality, school district, or improvement district, an interest rate on the new bond that is higher than the interest rate on the bond being refinanced as long as the new rate is not higher than the rate allowed by law at the time of the original bond's sale.

On April 25, 2003, the Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the following resolution (Agenda Item No. 4):

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board repeals or revises the aforementioned policies as outlined above, effective April 25, 2003.

Jodie Carter moved to approve Agenda Item No. 6. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 7
Academic Program Review and
Program Viability Threshold

Arkansas Code §6-61-214 requires the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to establish standards for the academic programs offered by Arkansas colleges and universities and to create a 7-10 year review cycle for all

existing academic programs. The existing academic program review policies (AHECB Policy 5.12) were adopted in 1988 and revised in 1995 and 1998.

In April 2008, the AHECB directed the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) staff, in cooperation with the public colleges and universities to revise the existing program review process to ensure quality academic programs that support Arkansas's economic development goals; to identify and remove non-viable programs from the AHECB approved program inventory, and to reduce barriers to graduation.

The policy includes the following:

- Institutions will schedule an external review for all existing programs every 7-10 years.
- External program reviews will employ out-of-state reviewers/consultants.
- Academic program viability standards will be increased.
- Academic programs that do not meet viability standards will be removed from the approved program inventory and will not be supported by state general revenue funds.

ADHE staff has met with the presidents, chancellors, and chief academic officers and has received extensive input on the proposed changes in the program viability standards and review process.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the revised Policy for the Review of Existing Academic Programs (AHECB Policy 5.12) outlined in this agenda item, effective immediately.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the presidents, chancellors, chief academic officers, and institutional board chairs of this action.

Dr. Grant asked if the Board is already required to do this by law, however, because of understaffing have been unable to enforce. Dr. Purcell said that is correct.

Dr. Franklin asked that institutions be given the opportunity to provide input while the Board is developing the review and appeal process.

Dr. Lynda Johnson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 7. Jodie Carter seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

### Agenda Item No. 8 Report on Program Deletions

Dr. Steve Floyd provided detailed information about program deletions during the 2007-08 academic year. He summarized the number of program deletions for the academic year by level of program and by level of institution. 16 programs were deleted in 2007-08 compared to 49 deletions in 2005-06 and 46 deletions in 2006-07. Two graduate programs were deleted, the balance of the deletions were at the undergraduate level. Four-year institutions deleted 10 programs while the other 6 deletions were made at two-year institutions.

# Agenda Item No. 9 Process and Procedures for Role and Scope Changes

ACA § 6-61-207 requires the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to establish appropriate institutional role and scope designations in consultation with college and university personnel, and to periodically review those designations. At its July 25, 2008 meeting, the Coordinating Board approved revisions of the role and scope designations of all the institutions (AHECB Policy 5.20). The law also gives the AHECB the authority to change role and scope designations at any time.

The purpose of this agenda item is to address role and scope change requests by individual institutions. Such requests are made in response to a need identified by the institution that cannot be appropriately addressed under the institution's existing role and scope designation.

The agenda item, which will revise AHECB Policy 5.20, outlines the process and procedures institutions must follow in order to request a change in the program types and/or program levels approved by the AHECB, and the process ADHE staff and the AHECB will follow during the review and consideration of that request.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Process and Procedures for Role and Scope Changes, which will revise AHECB Policy 5.20, Institutional Role and Scope Designations, outlined in this agenda item, effective immediately.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the AHECB instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the presidents, chancellors, chief academic officers, and institutional board chairs of this action.

Dr. Olin Cook moved to approve Agenda Item No. 9. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

## Agenda Item No. 10 Agency Updates

Dr. Purcell announced that the Governor's Summit would be held at the Statehouse Convention Center on October 15-16, 2008. Ten people from each county are asked to attend the summit to help create a strategic plan of action for education/economic progress and improvement.

The legislative Audit recently concluded their report on the Early College High School and has made recommendations for the Department of Higher Education and Education. Dr. Purcell will said that more information regarding the audit findings will be presented at the January 30, 2009 AHECB meeting.

# Agenda Item No. 11 Institutional Certification Advisory Committee Resolutions

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) met on September 25, 2008. ADHE Executive Staff recommend that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolutions.

## Bryan College, Rogers, Arkansas Recertification

Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration and Management Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems-Networking Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assistant Associate of Applied Science in Exercise Specialist

**RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants program recertification to Bryan College, Rogers, Arkansas, to offer the following degree programs to Arkansas citizens: Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration and Management, Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems-Networking, Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assistant, and Associate of Applied Science in Exercise Specialist. The recertification is for a period of two years and expires on October 31, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of Bryan College, Rogers, Arkansas, 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 Bryan College, Rogers, Arkansas, 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.

### Ecclesia College, Springdale, Arkansas Recertification

Associate of General Studies
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

#### Initial Certification

Bachelor of Science in Sport Management

**RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants program recertification to Ecclesia College, Springdale, Arkansas, to offer the following degree programs to Arkansas citizens: Associate of General Studies and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. The recertification is for a period of two years and expires on October 31, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to Ecclesia College, Springdale, Arkansas, to offer the following degree program to Arkansas citizens: Bachelor of Science in Sport Management. The initial certification is for a period of two years and expires on October 31, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of Ecclesia College, Springdale, Arkansas, that the recertification 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 Ecclesia College, Springdale, Arkansas, 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.

## Regis University, Denver, Colorado Recertification – Online

Master of Business Administration Master of Science in Nursing Doctor of Physical Therapy (Transition)

### **Initial Certification – Online**

Master of Science in Accounting Master of Science in Criminology

### **Decertification - Online**

Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems

Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration

Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management

Bachelor of Science in Marketing

Bachelor of Science in Public Administration

Master of Science in Computer Information Technology

Master in Non-profit Management

Master of Science in Organization Leadership (was Management)

Master of Science in Software Information Systems

**RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants recertification to Regis University, Denver, Colorado, to offer the following degree programs to Arkansas citizens: Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Physical Therapy (Transition)

The certification is for a period of two years and expires on October 14, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to Regis University, Denver, Colorado, to offer the following degree programs to Arkansas citizens: Master of Science in Accounting and Master of Science in Criminology. The certification is for a period of two years and expires on October 14, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board decertifies the following degree programs offered by Regis University, Denver, Colorado: Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems, Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration, Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management, Bachelor of Science in Marketing, Bachelor of Science in Public Administration, Master of Science in Computer Information Technology, Master in

Non-profit Management, Master of Science in Organization Leadership, and Master of Science in Software Information Systems. The decertification is effective October 14, 2008.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of by Regis University, Denver, Colorado, 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 by Regis University, Denver, Colorado, 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, Texarkana, Arkansas Initial Certification

**Bachelor of Business Management** 

**RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to University of Phoenix, Texarkana, to offer the following degree program to Arkansas citizens: Bachelor of Business Administration. The initial certification is for a period of two years and expires on October 31, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of University of Phoenix, Texarkana, 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 University of Phoenix, Texarkana, 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.

## Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota Initial Certification – Online

Master of Science in Software Engineering Master of Science in Systems Engineering

**RESOLVED,** That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota, to offer the following degree programs to Arkansas citizens: Master of Science in Software Engineering and Master of Science in Systems Engineering. The certification is for a period of two years and expires on October 31, 2010.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 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 Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 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 11-6 of the Agenda book.

Dr. Grant asked if ADHE staff members were comfortable with Ecclesia College offering academic courses, in particular biology, after being exempt just two years ago. Ms. Zanette Douglas answered that in 2006 Ecclesia College was certified to offer two academic degrees. They would now like to offer a new degree. After reviewing their agenda, certification, curriculum, and syllabi, everything appears to be in order.

Dr. Lynda Johnson moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 11 to the full Board for consideration. Jodie Carter seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

## Agenda Item No. 12 and 13 Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Department of Higher Education received notice from institutions on 13 programs not requiring Board action.

Notification was received on 10 items requiring Board action. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from 16 out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice list appears in the Letters of Notification on pages 12-1 through 12-3 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 13-1 through 13-6 of the agenda book.

Dr. Charles Allen voiced concern over the growing number of out-of-state institutions now in Arkansas.

Steve Luelf asked if other states are having problems with the growing number of out-of-state institutions. Dr. Purcell said that while this is a fairly new phenomenon in Arkansas, it has been going on in other states for a while.

Jodie Carter asked how many Arkansas students were enrolled in out-of-state institutions. Zanette Douglas stated that currently there are fewer than one thousand Arkansas students enrolled in out-of-state institutions.

Agenda Item No. 14
Report on Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures for 2007-08

Act 245 of 1989 (A.C.A. §6-62-106) directed the Coordinating Board to develop and establish uniform accounting standards and procedures for reporting revenues and expenditures. Based on these standard definitions and formats, the Coordinating Board is to collect the financial data and provide a uniform report of

each institution's athletic revenues and expenditures for the previous fiscal year to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and the public by November of each year.

Athletic revenues and expenditures for 2007-08 for each institution have been collected according to uniform standards and compiled in a summary report. An explanation of the reporting format follows:

The 2007-08 total amount of athletic expenditures reported by state-supported universities is \$100,317,779 and two-year colleges is \$261,018. The statewide total is \$100,578,797 an increase of \$1,945,665 (2%) from \$98,633,132 in 2006-07.

A comparison of 2007-08 actual expenditures to 2007-08 budgeted revenues certified to the Coordinating Board in August 2007 is also illustrated at the bottom of the summary chart. Certified budgeted revenues for 2007-08 totaled \$89,229,655 for all institutions. Total actual expenditures for 2007-08 for all institutions exceeded this certified amount by 13 percent. Actual expenditures varied from the Board of Trustees-certified budgeted revenue by a range of 20 percent over the budgeted amount to 1 percent under the budgeted amount.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Report of 2007-08 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Coordinating Board authorizes the Director to transmit the Report of 2007-07 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee according to the provisions of Act 245 of 1989.

Dr. Olin moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 14 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Joe Bennett seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 15
Revisions to Higher Education Bond Projects

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the list of Higher Education Bond Projects on April 27, 2007.

Henderson State University

Renovations of Technology Center & Related Buildings – Renovation. An amount up to \$1,135,180 is allocated to HSU to establish a campus technology center. This will include renovations of existing facilities and the purchase of additional

properties adjacent to the campus. The technology center will house central computing, the Multi-Media Learning Center, technology training, and 24/7 student computer labs.

University of Arkansas – Clinton School of Public Service

<u>Library Acquisitions</u> – Other. An amount up to \$100,000 <u>\$0</u> is allocated for library acquisitions. The school is seeking to expand their limited library in the areas of public administration, public policy, health policy, political science, rural development, and international relations

University of Arkansas - Fayetteville

<u>Laboratory Facility</u> - Construction/Renovation. An amount up to \$16 million \$16.1 million is provided toward the construction of a laboratory facility that will emphasize nanoscience and technology research. Other critical laboratory needs may also be addressed through this new facility or renovation of existing space.

University of Arkansas – Arkansas School for Mathematics, Science and the Arts

<u>Instructional Technology</u> – Technology. An amount up to \$300,000 is provided for the planning and installation of VOIP telephone and voicemail, equipment and installation to provide wireless service to the campus, and renovations to existing campus facilities.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves and endorses the revision to the proposed Higher Education Bond Project as described in this agenda item and that this project is incorporated in the Plan of Implementation.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Director is instructed to transmit to the Governor the plan for capital projects for public institutions of higher education to be funded from the proceeds derived from the sale of Higher Education Bonds.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That all requirements and limitations approved for the Higher Education Bond Projects by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board on November 4, 2005 apply to these changes.

Dr. Olin Cook moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 15 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Joe Bennett seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

### Agenda Item No. 16 Economic Feasibility of Private Loan University of Central Arkansas

The University of Central Arkansas (UCA) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to obtain a Loan/Line-of-Credit from private banks in an amount up to \$6 million at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.59 percent. Proceeds from the loan/line-of-credit will be for current operations purposes. The University of Central Arkansas Board of Trustees approved the opening of a line-of-credit at its meeting on October 10, 2008.

### **Under AHECB Policy**

<u> </u>	
Budgeted 2007-08 Tuition and Fee Revenue	\$ 61,998,582
Maximum Allowable Debt Service (\$ 27,572,649 x 25%)	15,499,646
Existing Debt Service	4,552,089
Estimated Debt Service for Proposed Issue	6,137,000
Tuition & Fee Revenue Remaining for	
Additional Debt Service	\$ 4,797,557
Under Arkansas Code 6-62-105	
Estimated May and June 2009 State Funding	\$ 8,491,916*
Estimated Debt Service for Proposed Issue	6,137,000

<sup>\*</sup>Reduced by the prorated advance/loan from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund.

The above data demonstrate that the University of Central Arkansas has sufficient revenue to support a loan/line-of-credit of approximately \$6 million with a term of up to 9 months at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.59 percent.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Central Arkansas to seek a private loan/line-of-credit for approximately \$6 million with a term of up to 9 months at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.59 percent for educational and general operations for fiscal year 2009, as requested by the institution.

**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 Central Arkansas of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Steve Luelf asked if this request was a result of UCA's previous line of credit. And, if so, what guarantees do we have that they won't come back with a similar request at the end of this fiscal year. Dr. Williams reiterated that this is not going to be solved in a few months. It is very probable that UCA will have to make an additional request in the future.

Steve Luelf commented that this is a serious situation and should be treated as such. He noted that maybe the Coordinating Board should consider developing an oversight procedure to deal with situations like this.

Dr. Lynda Johnson strongly recommended that the finance committee approve this request.

Jodie Carter commented that even though the Board doesn't have a lot power or authority, institutions shouldn't be allowed to go over their heads without any repercussions. Dr. Williams said that while this is a very complicated circumstance, he is confident that UCA will work their way out of this situation. In the future, the annual financial report will help keep the Board up-to-date on the institutions financial status.

Kaneaster Hodges commented that we must look closely at what contributed to this problem. The growing number of scholarships must be addressed. He then commended Tom Courtway for his efforts to get UCA back on track.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 16 to the full Board for consideration. Bob Burns seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

### Report of the Committees

Dr. Dan Grant presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Item 11. Jodie Carter seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Steve Luelf presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 14-16. Kaneaster Hodges seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Chairman Trammel opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Chairman Trammel announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting would be held at the Cooperative Extension Service Center in Little Rock on January 30, 2009.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 1	January 30, 200
APPROVED:	Nichole Abernathy

Dr. Lynda Johnson, Secretary

#### MINUTES

#### JOINT MEETING

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD STATE BOARD OF WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

### November 3, 2008

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

A joint meeting of the State Board of Workforce Education and Career Opportunities (SBWECO), the State Board of Education (SBE), and the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) was called to order by SBWECO Chairman Jack Justus in the ballroom of the Governor's Mansion at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 2008.

#### 2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Jack Justus welcomed members of the three boards and thanked Governor Mike Beebe and his staff for the use of the facility.

Mr. Justus said the chairperson of each board would introduce members of their respective boards. Mr. Justus introduced the following members of the SBWECO: Mr. Bill Walker, Mr. Phil Taylor, Ms. Lucy Ralston, Mr. Richard Smith, Ms. Kathy Scarsdale, Ms. Martha Dixon and Mr. Justin Mitchell.

Mr. Randy Lawson, chair of the SBE, introduced the following members of the SBE: Dr. Ken James, Ms. Brenda Gullett, Mr. Jim Cooper, Mr. Samuel Ledbetter, Ms. Alice Mahony, Dr. Naccaman Williams, Ms. Sherry Burrow, Dr. Ben Mays, Ms. Diane Julian and Mr. Paul Gray.

Mr. Dick Trammel, chair of the HECB, introduced the following members of the HECB: Dr. Jim Purcell, Mr. David Leech, Dr. Lynda Johnson, Dr. Charles Allen, Mr. Kaneaster Hodges, Mr. Jodie Carter, Dr. Joe Bennett, Dr. Dan Grant, Mr. Bob Burns, Dr. Olin Cook, Mr. Steve Luelf, and Mr. Phil Ford.

### 3. THE HONORABLE MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS

Mr. Bill Walker, Director of the Department of Workforce Education introduced the Honorable Mike Beebe, Governor of Arkansas, to say a few words to the three boards in attendance.

Governor Beebe stated that it was a pleasure to have the three boards present. He commended the boards for working together to coordinate where we go as people with a common thread and a common theme.

Governor Beebe stated that it is appropriate for these three boards, which are each distinct and diverse but extraordinarily important and actually cohesive from

the standpoint of the total overall picture of responsibility in education, to come together and share thoughts with each other.

Governor Beebe informed board members that he had some good news and some bad news. The good news is that K-12 is treated better than everybody else is, but that is our constitution. That is the result of *Lakeview* and it is also the state public policy of this administration. But in good times or bad we figure out what the needs for K thru 12 are and we do that first, and then we determine what is left for everyone else – not just higher education or workforce education, but human services, prisons, criminal justice, whatever it might be. So that means when times get tough, some people end up having to take a disproportionate share of the potential cuts.

The governor also stated that we have some other good news. Arkansas is bucking the national trend. He said he was in New York a week or so ago and most of the folks with national publications, from the *New York Times, Newsweek*, and just about every publication, were pretty much amazed at what Arkansas has done recently compared with what is happening in the rest of the country. Traditionally, Arkansas never experiences quite the highs or quite the lows as the east coast or the west coast. Nevertheless, we are still normally subject to national trends, good or bad, and we are currently bucking those trends as you all have been watching the monthly reports from the revenue side. Even though we had the largest tax cut in history, we are still running ahead of the forecast for the first four months of the year.

Governor Beebe informed the board that October is not running as far ahead as the other months. Nevertheless, we have been bucking those trends and the governor said he felt that was the result of a combination of things. One is the fact that he is notorious for being conservative when it comes to fiscal budgetary matters. It is easier to go up with a conservative forecast then it is to go down from a liberal forecast, he said.

Governor Beebe stated that the good news for Higher Education is that they received a disproportionate share of increase in the 2007 budget time. That increase actually flowed just as it was supposed to in the first year of the biennium, but all the other areas that received new money, such as Medicaid, state police, and prisons, has a reduction of that new money in the second year of the biennium – about 48 percent. Therefore, if you get new money, the first that is cut is the new money. So even though you are doing much better than you did three years ago, you are not doing as well as he would have liked had we not had the budget cuts in the capital. He said it was his belief that if that is the money that is cut, then that should be the first money that is restored.

Governor Beebe asked – what about workforce? Workforce, he said, continues to be the most direct linkage we are seeing between having big money, which is good news here, and the whole education component. Now all of you here are important, he said, some are important for different reasons. Some of you are constitutionally more important, but every aspect of this education process is an integral part of where we have to go in the state. Nowhere have we seen the kind of direct application between changes in what we are doing and economic developments than we have in manufacturing. The manufacturers say people would come to work, show up one day, and never show up a second day.

He stated that workforce, together with the two-year institutions and higher education, particularly those two entities, really started a programming design to totally change those numbers. Specifically, what we are doing before we send people to the manufacturers to work. We are putting them through a simulated work environment that they will be expected to perform for that specific business. With this, the employee is informed as to what will be expected and will be less likely to quit. I can tell you the success of that program has resulted in better retention numbers, he said. In December, there was less than one percent turnover. So specific programs do work and collaboration between entities does work. This is a situation where Workforce Education, Higher Education, and the institutions of higher education and the workforce development areas within a given geographic area responded specifically to the needs of a business and that translated not merely to that business but it has been replicated, not just in Marion, but across the state. These are all specific examples of progress.

Governor Beebe stated that when he is talking about education, he is talking about each one of you and then some. He stated that we cannot forget adult education, workforce training and retraining, pre-K, K-12, two-year institutions, technical colleges, four-year universities, and research universities that are trying to stimulate the twenty-first century economy that Arkansas needs to have. He said the bottom line – the success or failure of where we go as a people – is largely dependent on the work of the folks around these tables. The success or failure of Arkansas and her teachers is dependent upon education – every aspect of education. You may serve on a board for publicity; you may serve on a board that is more covenant as far as all the folks that try to get on them; you may serve on a board that observes or tries to say they are one of the most prestigious boards in Arkansas; but you can't serve on a board that is any more important to the future of our state than the boards that are represented here today.

Governor Beebe thanked the three boards for their dedication to the future of education in the state of Arkansas.

### 4. KEN SMITH, PRESIDENT, JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

Mr. Walker introduced Mr. Ken Smith, President of Jobs for America's Graduates. Mr. Smith stated that he was here to add to the good news that the governor told about. He said in terms of success and being sensitive to the governor's time, he was going to skip little parts of this, but that he was here to present the most prestigious and most important award they give. They call it the Five of Five Award. He said they have five national categories for success. They have thirty states that are part of this organization; forty thousand high risk youths are enrolled, two thousand which are here in Arkansas. Arkansas is among the leaders, not only in the terms of success, but also innovation. You have, he said, for example, the only JAG program in the country in a school for the blind, and you just initiated a pilot program at the Rehabilitation Center in Hot Springs using the Arkansas JAG model.

Mr. Smith stated that they were so impressed with what is happening here that they are bringing their entire National Board of Directors to Arkansas next April to

come and see firsthand the successes that the governor has talked about and specifically the success of Arkansas JAG.

Mr. Smith thanked Governor Beebe, Mr. Walker, Dr. James, and others who have seen to it that they are now going to expand to 25 of our alternative learning environments as part of our strategies using alternative settings to help a group of very high-risk youths be more successful.

Mr. Smith wanted to announce on behalf of the Verizon Corporation, a long-standing supporter of JAG, that when they surveyed the country they decided to make a special investment here in Arkansas and they are committing \$250 thousand over the next two years to support the growth of the Jobs for Arkansas Graduates. This is a very big deal, he said, because Verizon is feeling the economy crunch that the governor talked about and they definitely have cut back on some of their contributions, but they have decided to invest in Arkansas because of the governor's leadership.

Mr. Smith then presented The Honorable Governor Beebe with the National Five of Five Award.

### 5. DR. GENE BOTTOMS, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD

Mr. Justus introduced Mr. John Davidson, deputy director of career and technical education to introduce the next speaker.

Mr. Davidson introduced Dr. Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice-President of the Southern Regional Education Board.

Dr. Bottoms stated that he was very pleased to have the opportunity to speak to the three boards. He said the job was trying to figure out how to graduate more folks from high school and graduate them so they are prepared for college. He then said we were going to look at six conditions that drive up preparation for college and careers.

Condition one: A rigorous academic core curriculum is the foundation for any career-focused program of study. The academic core is four years of college preparatory English, four years of math, algebra or higher, three lab sciences where you actually do lab. What you are doing is connecting the hand and the head together.

Condition two: High quality CT programs of study embed academic standards for reading, writing and mathematics into the curriculum and engage students in applying those academics to complete authentic assignments.

Condition three: High-quality CT programs of study emphasize 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and intellectually demanding assignments. Those skills are critical thinking/problem-solving; oral and written communication skills; teamwork/collaboration; doing quality work timely and redoing it until it meets standards; and, using technology to complete assignments. Condition four: Expect students to meet standards in all classrooms. Students were asked if the teachers were clear about quality of work expected. If the

teacher required them to redo the work until standards were met, they would be higher achievers.

Dr. Bottoms stated that in the state of Virginia, CT students have the opportunities to take an employer certification exam. CT students who take the exam have much higher expectations. Dr. Bottoms suggested that might be something we want to look for in this state. How these examinations might be used to provide optional assessments beyond mathematics, reading and writing, to improve graduation rates, to better prepare youths for further study and career, and to improve quality of CT instruction.

Condition five: Provide students the extra help they need to meet college- and career-readiness standards.

Dr. Bottoms asked if students are receiving the extra help they need to meet college- and career-readiness standards. Yes – when adults believe that, given the right environment, most students can master complex academic and technical skills. Yes – when schools do not differentiate programs of study as "heads-on" work for some and "hands-on" for others, and yes – when schools provide additional time and support.

Condition six: Connect students with an adult who serves as their mentor/advisor and sees that students set postsecondary goals, develop a plan to achieve those goals, and receive the assistance and support needed to succeed.

Dr. Bottoms asked how advisors or mentors could help students. He said they help students set tentative educational and career goals. They can help students choose a program of study based on interest and not on achievement. They can view initial student choices as exploratory and accommodate revised decisions and provide students the assistance and support to succeed.

Dr. Bottoms stated that in order to graduate more students that are prepared, we may have to redesign CT courses for academic credit. In order to do this you will need a policy to accept the substitute credit. You will need a double-block period to earn academic and CT credit and to accommodate project-based learning. Courses need to be taught by qualified teachers with credentials in the academic content area and do end-of-course exams to validate academic achievement.

Dr. Bottoms final point was that you have to continue to improve mathematic instruction; we have to look at how we can embed reading and literacy strategies into all high school courses and strengthen guidance and advisement given to students and parents.

Dr. Bottoms again thanked the three boards for the opportunity to speak with them about these issues facing our young people.

### 6. DR. KEN JAMES, COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Mr. Walker introduced Dr. Ken James, Commissioner of the Department of Education, to come forward and discuss the issues facing education in Arkansas.

Dr. James stated that there are three major challenges we continue to look for in this process. (1) To create smooth transitions from Pre-K to elementary, middle grades to high school, and high school to college and careers. (2) Close achievement gaps in racial/ethnic group and gender, in urban/suburban location and in income. (3) Align education systems in curricula and assessments, in school and college data and in accountability to the public.

Dr. James also states that there are twelve goals:

- 1. First-grade readiness are students ready for first grade
- 2. Early grades achievement do all groups exceed national averages and gap close
- 3. Middle grades achievement do all groups exceed national averages and gaps close
- 4. High school graduation are all young adults earning a diploma or , if not, are they passing the GED tests
- 5. College and career readiness are high school graduates prepared for postsecondary education and a career
- 6. Adult literacy and job training are adults without diplomas participating in literacy and job skills training and further education
- 7. Postsecondary certificates and degrees does the percent of adults who have earned degrees or certificates exceed national averages
- 8. School performance standards do schools have higher student performance, and do students meet state standards each year
- 9. School leadership do schools have leaderships that improves student performance beginning with effective principals
- 10. Qualified teachers is every student taught by a qualified teacher
- 11. College and university accountability are universities/colleges regularly assessed; is funding aimed at quality, efficiency, and needs
- 12. Education system that is accountable does the state place high priority on an education system of schools, colleges and universities

Dr. James stated that concluded the information he had at this time.

### 7. DR. JIM PURCELL, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. James asked that Dr. Jim Purcell, Director of the Department of Higher Education to come forward to present information pertaining to higher education.

Dr. Purcell stated that what we care about is the American dream. When you think about Arkansas as Davey Crockett says, "If I could rest anywhere, it would be in Arkansas, where the men are of the real half-horse – half-alligator breed such as grows nowhere else on the face of the universal earth."

Dr. Purcell stated that if the legislative taskforce on remediation, retention, and graduation is projected to reach the SREB average, Arkansas must increase the current production of bachelor's degree by 64% (7,098 more graduates per year).

Dr. Purcell stated that Arkansas is currently producing 11,186 bachelor degrees per year and at this rate of production, Arkansas will have 337,256 citizens with bachelor's degrees by 2015.

He also stated that they have developed a plan "Speed to Market and Close to Customer," which includes three things: (1) implement a series of initiatives that expedite the number of degrees produced and the speed at which degrees are produced; (2) enhance the production of degrees in high-demand programs that are needed for the modern Arkansas economy; and (3) encourage students to complete a degree and to work in Arkansas.

Dr. Purcell states that we are making progress with regard to growth in associate's and bachelor's degree areas. He asked "What will we get for it," – greater volunteer activity in our communities, blood donations will be better, better social systems, less likely to be convicted of a crime, unemployment rates will decline, more likely to wear a seatbelt when intoxicated, and income will go up per families.

He stated that possibly Arkansas's greatest generation is at the schoolhouse door waiting for the opportunity to propel Arkansas into the global economy.

Dr. Purcell thanked the three boards for their time and energy in helping make education a top priority in the state.

#### 8. CLOSING REMARKS AND ANNOUCEMENTS

Mr. Justus expressed his appreciation to Dr. Gene Bottoms, Dr. Ken James, and Dr. Jim Purcell for their information presented today, it speaks to the very core of the concepts of the mission we all have when we talk about math, reading and literacy.

Mr. John Davidson introduced Mr. Randy Brinkley with the Department of Economic Development.

Mr. Brinkley presented information concerning a joint project called Educator's and Industry between the Department of Workforce Education and the Department of Economic Development.

Mr. Walker announced that lunch would be served at 11:30 a.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Justus adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., Ex-Officio Secretary State Board of Workforce Education and Career Opportunities Jack Justus, Chairman State Board of Workforce Education and Career Opportunities