

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
July 26, 2013

Minutes of Meeting

The July 26, 2013, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) in Little Rock. 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
Dr. Tim Langford
Florine Milligan
Greg Revels
Mary Anne Salmon

Coordinating Board absent:

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Interim Director
Harold Criswell, Interim Deputy Director
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Tara Smith, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Chandra Robinson, Program Specialist for Institutional Finance
Callan Callaway, Program Specialist for Institutional Finance
Lillian Williams, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs
Jeanne Jones, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs
Alana Boles, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs
Brandi Hinkle, Communications Coordinator
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Support

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

Chairman Allen introduced ADHE Interim Director Shane Broadway for a welcome. Director Broadway thanked everyone for coming to the board meeting and welcomed guests to ADHE.

Chairman Cook thanked Director Broadway for his welcome.

Next, Chairman Allen introduced Emily Jordan-Cox, policy advisor for the Governor's Office and Dr. Gail Hughes, interim dean of the College of Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Agenda Item No. 1
Approval of Minutes

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

Agenda Item No. 2
Agency Updates

Director Broadway began by introducing several ASU-Beebe graduate interns that are interning with Dr. Deborah Garrett, Vice Chancellor for Student Services at ASUB. He noted that only one of the interns is an Arkansas native, the rest are from out-of-state.

Next, Broadway welcomed new AHECB member Mary Anne Salmon to her first Coordinating Board meeting. He thanked AHECB members for attending the new board member orientation hosted by ADHE at ADHE, on the previous evening.

Unfortunately, due to a reduction in TANF funds, ADHE Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) had to reduce their staff. CPI staff members Jeanie Toombs and Nancy Sparks are no longer with ADHE, announced Broadway. Fortunately, they both have found employment at PTC, said Broadway.

In early July, ADHE asked the institutions to verify that they were in compliance with Act 747 of 2011, concerning the common course numbering system and the ACTS transfer system. The ADHE will file a report with the General Assembly on the compliance of state-supported institutions of higher education with this subchapter on August 15, 2013.

Broadway announced that the date for the annual Trustees Conference has been set for December 6, 2013 at the Pulaski Technical College main campus. Governor Beebe has been invited to address the crowd and invitations will be sent out soon. The next Coordinating Board meeting will be October 25, 2013 at North Arkansas College in Harrison. He also announced that due to new legislation, the Joint Meeting of the Education Boards is no longer required.

A couple of years ago, the Governor's Workforce Cabinet initiated the Stem Works initiative. ADHE's part of the Stem Works Initiative was working in concert with some of the institutions by going to the math, science and engineering majors and encouraging them to become a teacher, due to shortages in the areas that we

need teachers in our K-12 system. The UTeach Institute partners with 35 universities to implement the UTeach programs across 17 states nationwide. Three of these universities, all of which began implementation in Fall 2012, are located in Arkansas: University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the University of Central Arkansas. To date, these institutions have enrolled a total of 179 students statewide. Graduates of these programs are projected to teach approximately 110,000 secondary science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students by 2020.

The Department of Higher Education in partnership with the Association of Two-Year Colleges announced the Credit When It's Due initiative, to bolster Arkansas's college completion efforts, said Broadway. Also known as reverse transfer, this initiative is aimed to significantly increase associate degrees awarded to transfer students when they complete the requirement for the two-year degree while pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Sarah Argue commented that she had the honor to attend the Credit When It's Due press conference and luncheon and has also read the report. While looking at the data, she found it interesting that the majority of the bachelor's degree recipients were women. With that said, you would expect women to have the higher wage earnings in Arkansas, but they don't.

After a lengthy discussion, Horace Hardwick said kudos to Mary Anne Salmon for helping to get this initiative started.

Agenda Item No. 3 Report on 2012 Fall college-Going Rate

The college-going rate measures the proportion of students enrolling in postsecondary education in the fall semester after finishing high school, in most cases, immediately after high school. Since most students enrolling in postsecondary education do so immediately after completing high school, the college-going rate is an indicator of the total proportion that will or did enroll in postsecondary education. The percentage, therefore, reflects the accessibility of higher education as well as students' assessment of the value of attending college when compared to working, entering the military, traveling, or following other pursuits.

The college-going rate (CGR) for all Arkansas public and independent institutions for the 2012 Fall term was 52.9 percent. This represents an increase of 0.7 percentage points from the previous fall term. The share of CGR students at 4-Year Universities has increased from 31.2 percent to 33.0 percent (an increase of 1.8 percentage points). The share of CGR students at 2-Year Colleges has increased from 14.5 percent to 18.2 percent (an increase of 3.7 percentage points). The majority of CGR students attend 4-Year Universities.

Sarah Argue asked if Arkansas participated in the National Clearing House. Rick Jenkins said no.

Ms. Argue asked if there was a reason that we historically don't participate. Mr. Jenkins said no.

Ms. Argue asked if ADHE has any data sharing agreements with other states. Mr. Jenkins said no; However, Arkansas is a member state of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB).

Agenda Item No. 4
Report on Faculty Performance Review
2012-2013-AHECB Policy 5.5

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-63-104 and Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) policy 5.5 require that each college and university conduct an annual performance review of faculty members. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) staff also is required to make an annual report to the Coordinating Board and Legislative Council. Each institution has submitted a report to ADHE that describes the process followed during the 2012-2013 academic year. Institutional plans are on file with ADHE and significant amendments to these plans must be submitted for Board approval.

The collaboration between the Colleges of Education and the public schools in their respective areas was documented in the reports. Institutions engaged in numerous activities that provided assistance with staff development and school improvement programs, including advisory councils, professional development, mentoring programs, teacher job fairs, internship location for teacher preparation, and data collection and needs assessments. Institutions also partnered with public schools through Educational Renewal Zones, secondary career centers, educational cooperatives, and other programs that encouraged high school students to pursue postsecondary education. It was noted that while not required, several two-year institutions worked with public schools on improvement activities.

Agenda Item No. 5
Policy Amendment:
Concurrent Enrollment – AHECB 5.16

The Concurrent Enrollment policy was reviewed by a 3-member team selected by ADHE from among those designated to serve on the Concurrent Review Committee (CRC). Based on the CRC review, ADHE made a recommendation for continued authorization of the institutional concurrent enrollment program.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the policy amendment on concurrent enrollment effective Fall 2013. *The concurrent enrollment policy outlines the guidelines for concurrent program participation; however, Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities are not required to participate in a concurrent enrollment program; and a high school/school district may choose to partner with more than one*

Arkansas college/university for concurrent courses.

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That any Arkansas state-supported college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program with a public school district, private high school, or home-school student shall implement and administer the concurrent program in accordance with the policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the rules of the Arkansas State Board of Education.*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That any college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) or must be authorized by Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board no later than August 1, 2015. A college/university not offering concurrent courses currently must have AHECB initial authorization for the institutional concurrent enrollment program prior to the offering of concurrent courses.*

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities will not participate with Arkansas Early College High School (AECHS) in the delivery of blended AP/concurrent courses for college credit.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities will not participate with AECHS in the offering of single courses for multiple higher education institutions.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That ADHE staff will review, in cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Education, the blended AP/concurrent course offerings throughout the state to determine if these courses are in keeping with the concurrent enrollment policy as outlined in this agenda item.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the ADHE staff to submit an annual report on concurrent course enrollment to the Board which *will include institutional data on concurrent course offerings and locations*, and could include ADHE Executive Staff Recommendations for policy amendments on the *administration, continuance, and funding* of the concurrent enrollment program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to provide a copy of the amended policy to presidents and chancellors, chief academic officers, chief students affairs officers, and institutional research officers at Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities.

Bob Crafton asked if there has been any blending of the International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and concurrent courses. Ms. Moten said at this time there has not been any blending of the IB and concurrent courses.

Mary Anne Salmon suggested that ADHE look into using IB and AP courses in the same manner. Ms. Moten said that will take some additional discussion. ADHE will need to know what the IB teacher credential requirements and the IB course syllabus approval process. Teachers for the AP courses must complete the College Board AP training. We will need to know if there are similar requirements for teaching IB courses said Ms. Moten.

Dr. Joe Bennett moved to approve Agenda Item No. 5. Mary Anne Salmon seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 6
Associate of Applied Science in Digital Media
Mid-South Community College

The AAS in Digital Media is designed to provide students with the skills necessary for entry-level positions in advertising, graphic design, computer illustration, web design, as well as the recording industry, filming, television, and radio and internet-based companies. Students will have access to and be trained on the latest software. Additionally, they will have an opportunity to pursue Adobe certification. This proposed program will build upon an existing Certificate of Proficiency in Film and Video Production.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Digital Media (CIP 09.0702, 60 semester credit hours) at Mid-South Community College, effective Fall 2013.

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 Mid-South Community College of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 7
Associate of Applied Science
Technical Certificate and Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality Management
Mid-South Community College

The Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality Management will provide students with skills and training in hospitality, management, food service and customer service. The curriculum is designed for graduates to obtain entry level jobs in restaurants as food service workers; and in lodging in sales and management. The proposed program will also provide a certificate of proficiency and technical certificate in Hospitality Management. Salaries for these entry-level positions range from the low \$20K to mid \$30K.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality Management (CIP 52.0901, 18 semester credit hours); the Technical Certificate in Hospitality Management (CIP 52.0901, 32 semester credit hours); and the Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality (CIP 52.0901, 60 semester credit hours) at Mid-South Community College, effective Fall 2013.

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 Mid-South Community College of the approval.

Sarah Argue asked if there were any similar programs in Arkansas other than the University of Memphis program.

Lillian Williams explained that there were similar programs at Arkansas State University - Beebe, National Park Community College, NorthWest Arkansas Community College and Pulaski Technical College; however, none within close proximity to MSCC.

Mary Anne Salmon asked if we were encouraging students to go to Tennessee to work after graduation instead of coming back to Arkansas. Ms. Williams said that more than likely, the program would work for both sides of the river, Arkansas and Tennessee. Either way, it is still a good program, said Ms. Salmon.

Agenda Item No. 8
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

The Bachelor of Arts in Political Science will prepare students to enter careers in public/government service, international relations, and business. Additionally, some graduates will pursue law school or graduate programs in Political Science or Public Administration. The new degree will be housed and supported by existing faculty in the Department of History, Geography, Political Science, Philosophy, and Religious Study in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Existing faculty, equipment, classroom space, and facilities are adequate to implement the program. Environmental Policy and International Law are additional course offerings that are planned for the next academic year. Additional faculty will be hired in the next two to three years as these courses are implemented and more students pursue the proposed degree.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (CIP 45.1001, 120 semester credit hours) at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, effective Fall 2013.

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 University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 9
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee Resolutions

Initial Program Certification-Distance Technology

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1-6 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents by distance technology or at an AHECB approved site in Arkansas for a period of three years through December 31, 2016.

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.

American University, Washington, D.C.

Argosy University

Arizona State University, Scottsdale, Arizona

Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Everest University, Florida; Campuses in Pompano Beach and Tampa

Franklin University, Columbus, Ohio

ITT Technical Institute, Carmel, Indiana – Little Rock Campus

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

National American University, Rapid City, South Dakota

National University, La Jolla, California

South University, Savannah, Georgia
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Trident University International, Cypress, California

University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut
Victory University, Memphis, Tennessee

**Initial Program Certification-Distance Technology
New Institutions**

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
Cox College, Springfield, Missouri
George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri

Post University, Waterbury, Connecticut
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio

University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota

Dr. Charles Allen asked how many institutions offer course work in Arkansas. Ms. Boles said that she doesn't know the exact number off hand but she believes it is around 50.

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Items No.6 – 9 to the full Board for consideration. Greg Revels seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Items No. 10 & 11
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Department of Higher Education received notice from 11 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 65 out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice list appears in the Letters of Notification on pages 10-1 through 10-41 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 11-1 through 11-21 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 12
Certification of Intercollegiate
Athletic Budgets for 2013-14

A.C.A. §6-62-805 (Act 366 of 1991) requires each state supported institution of higher education to annually certify by June 15 to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board that its intercollegiate athletic program will generate sufficient revenues to meet expenditures or that any athletic deficit will be met by separate institutional board sanctioned student athletic fees.

A.C.A. §6-62-804 requires that any student athletic fees assessed must be clearly defined in all publications and institutional board minutes, and listed separate and distinct from tuition or other student fees on student tuition and fee statements. All institutions assessing a student athletic fee have certified to the Department compliance with this requirement and have submitted copies of their student fee billing statements illustrating the disclosure of the athletic fee to each student.

Dr. Olin Cook asked if a student could opt out of paying the athletic fee. Tara Smith explained that the athletic fee was a mandatory fee and therefore a student could not opt out.

Dr. Joe Bennett asked if the athletic fee was for the full year or per semester. Ms. Smith said it was per student semester credit hour.

Mr. Crafton reminded everyone that this information is before the Coordinating Board for their approval of the review and to certify that this is the institution's budgets. Ms. Smith said that is correct.

Greg Revels moved to recommend Agenda Item No.12 to the full Board for consideration. Horace Hardwick seconded and the Committee approved. Kaneaster Hodges voted no.

Agenda Item No. 13
Economic Feasibility of Loan
Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

Arkansas State University - Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to secure a loan from the College Savings Bond Revolving Loan Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000 with a term of ten (10) years with an annual interest rate not to exceed 1.0 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) campus surface improvements including pedestrian walkways and parking. The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved this loan financing at its meeting on July 24, 2013.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the loan from the College Savings Bond Revolving Loan Fund to Arkansas State University - Jonesboro (ASUJ) for

\$1,000,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an interest rate not to exceed 1.0 percent for ADA campus surface improvements including pedestrian walkways and parking.

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

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No.13 to the full Board for consideration. Horace Hardwick seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 14
Economic Feasibility of a Private Loan
Henderson State University

Henderson State University requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to secure a loan from private lenders not to exceed \$1.1 million with a term of up to twenty (20) years at an expected annual interest rate not to exceed 5.0 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for auxiliary purposes to repay their food service provider, Aramark for equipment and renovation of the café portion of the Garrison Activity and Conference Center. The Henderson State University Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting held on May 10, 2013.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the Henderson State University to secure a loan not to exceed \$1.1 million with a term of twenty (20) years at an estimated annual interest rate not to exceed 5.0 percent to repay their food service provider, Aramark for equipment and renovation of the café portion of the Garrison Activity and Conference Center.

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

Bob Crafton clarified that the vendor, Aramark, is paying for everything and then the private loan will pay them back. Chandra Robinson said that is correct.

Sarah Argue questioned if HSU was sure they were getting the best price, since the work had already been done.

Bobby Jones, Vice President for Finance and Administration, commented that two bids were received on this project and HSU accepted the best one.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No.14 to the full Board for consideration. Florine Milligan seconded and the Committee approved.

Report of the Committees

Sarah Argue presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 6 - 9. Florine Milligan seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Bob Crafton presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 12 - 14. Kaneaster Hodges seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Chairman Allen announced that Act 533 of the 2013 Regular Session amended the requirements for the Director of ADHE. Therefore, the Search Committee has instructed ADHE to re-advertise the Director's position in light of the new language. The new Act will not go in effect until August 17th, said Chairman Allen. Harold Criswell will run ads in local and national advertisements and will manage the applications as they come in. The Search Committee will meet in the near future to discuss their next steps.

Kaneaster Hodges, Chairman of the Search Committee, said that the AHECB members are ready to move forward; however, they aren't expecting a large group of applicants.

Next, the audience gave Dr. Larry Williams, Chancellor at Arkansas State University – Newport, a round of applause after Florine Milligan announced that this might be his last Coordinating Board meeting due to his upcoming retirement.

Chairman Allen announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting would be hosted by North Arkansas College on October 25, 2013.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Sarah Argue, Secretary