

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
April 29, 2005

Minutes of Meeting

The April 29, 2005 regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held in the St. John Library on the campus of Rich Mountain Community College in Mena, Arkansas. Chairman Phil Ford called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum of Board members present.

Coordinating Board present:

Phil Ford, Chair
Kaneaster Hodges, Vice Chair
Betsy Thompson, Secretary
Jodie Carter
Bob Cheyne
Col. Jim Creech
David Damron
Dr. Dan Grant
Bill Johnson
Dr. Lynda Phillips Johnson
David Leech
Dr. Anne Trussell

Department staff present:

Dr. Linda Beene, Director
Dr. Steve Floyd, Deputy Director
Dr. Karen Wheeler, Associate Director of Academic Affairs
Dr. Stanley Williams, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Ron Harrell, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Cynthia Moten, Coordinator of Academic Affairs
Jeanne Jones, Coordinator of Institutional Certification
Claudia Griffin, Assistant Coordinator of Academic Affairs
Robin Henson, Communications Officer
Christina Miller, Coordinator of General Administration
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Assistant
Presidents, chancellors, other institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chairman Ford recognized Dr. Janet Smith, President of Rich Mountain Community College, and current chair of the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges. Dr. Smith expounded on the Rich Mountain Community College Quick Facts sheet which was distributed and detailed the institution's educational service programs, facilities profile, college funding, degrees and programs, outreach teaching and service programs, and

other programs and services. She added that Rich Mountain Community College may not be rich in terms of funding, but it is very rich in terms of hospitality. She also read excerpts from the recent Accreditation report by the Higher Education Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Smith then welcomed the Board to the campus and thanked her staff for their hard work in preparation for the meeting.

Phil Ford introduced former Rich Mountain Community College President, Representative Bill Abernathy. Representative Abernathy discussed the importance of scholarships for non-traditional students and thanked Dr. Beene and the Coordinating Board members for their dedication to higher education over the years commenting that "education is the motor that pulls us out of poverty." Dr. Beene thanked Representative Abernathy for his support during the legislative session, especially in the area of concurrent enrollment.

Phil Ford also introduced Lucretia Norris, the Governor's Policy Advisor for Higher Education.

Agenda Item No. 1 Approval of Minutes

Kaneaster Hodges moved to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2005 regular meeting upon correction of page 15, last sentence reading "receives below a C grade." David Leech seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved. Kaneaster Hodges moved to approve the corrected minutes of August 1, 2003 regular meeting in which an item was erroneously left out. Bill Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2 Report of the Director

Dr. Beene began her Director's Report by thanking Dr. Smith and the RMCC staff for their hospitality. Dr. Beene commented on the many changes and improvements in the institution over the years, adding that RMCC holds special memories for her as she recalled visiting in 1975 for the institution's original building dedication.

Dr. Beene acknowledged Dr. Steve Floyd, Dr. Stanley Williams, Ron Harrell, Melissa Goff, Christina Miller, Dr. Karen Wheeler, Robin Henson, Monroe Carlton, and Nichole Abernathy along with the ADHE Staff, for all of their hard work during the legislative session.

Dr. Beene reviewed some of the Acts of the 85th General Assembly that pertained to higher education, including the Governor's priority initiatives. She explained that the higher education institutions received the largest increase in state funding in almost a decade, an estimated \$41.25 million in total new funding for fiscal year 2006 and an

additional \$39.7 million for fiscal year 2007. Dr. Beene dedicated the majority of her director's report to detailing the status of higher education funding, which she said would also be released to the press that day. Dr. Beene reviewed a narrative and spreadsheet, which provided the percentage of funding realized based on need for each of the institutions. She explained that the funding realized still left institutions with less than 75% of their need funded. She said the two-year institutions did not do as well with funding and her limited staff primarily focused on development of the university model which had not previously existed. She also mentioned that she understood a lot of the issues with the two-year formula to have been resolved by the two-year colleges as a group.

Dr. Beene referred the audience to a chart, which had the percentage of funding for the institutions. She said four two-year institutions remained at or below 65% of their need – ASUMH, NWACC, PTC and UACCB. Dr. Beene explained that had the formulas been fully funded, these equity needs would have been addressed more fully. She also explained that the university and two-year college funding models are different. For example, many of the differences in the two-year formula are a result of the Workforce 2000 distribution, which ADHE has no control over. As a result, some two-year institutions received more than 100% of their need while others received far less. Dr. Beene concluded that the challenge over the next biennium would be to address the technical institutes. The Board requested a synopsis of all the non-formula entities for the next meeting.

"It has been a long time since higher education has benefited so greatly from a legislative session, and we are indebted to Governor Huckabee for his executive recommendation and to the legislature for their commitment to higher education," remarked Dr. Beene. She also gave special thanks to Chairman Ford, Vice-Chairman Kaneaster Hodges, and the other AHECB members for their help in securing these new resources.

Bob Cheyne moved to give thanks to Dr. Beene, ADHE Staff, and Lucretia Norris for their dedication and effective work during the Legislative session. Kaneaster Hodges seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to send Governor Huckabee a thank you letter on behalf of the higher education institutions for the most work and dedication to higher education that has been seen. Lynda Johnson seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Dr. Beene concluded her Director's report by mentioning that Legislative Audit finished its second audit of the agency for this year and there was no instance of noncompliance or findings identified. She thanked her staff for that result. She also mentioned that the agenda book is thinner due to new policies and procedures to create more efficient agenda preparations by not requiring Board approval for routine items. She added that a document was being prepared of all the accomplishments of ADHE.

Chairman Ford thanked Dr. Beene for her detailed report and the staff for their hard work during the session.

Report of Committees

Dr. Dan Grant presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved to adopt Agenda Items 3-16 and 21. David Leech seconded the motion and the Board approved, with Bob Cheyne's opposition to the notification of the University of Phoenix locating in Rogers.

David Leech presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 17-18. Bill Johnson seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3
Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Biosciences
Arkansas State University

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University request approval for Arkansas State University (ASU) to offer a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Molecular Biosciences with classes to begin in fall 2005. The program is within the institution's role and scope as approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The ASU Board of Trustees approved the program on December 19, 2003.

ASU faculty and staff began planning for the Ph.D. in Molecular Biosciences more than three years ago and presented their first draft proposal to ADHE staff in fall 2003. After receiving the official program proposal in spring 2004, ADHE staff secured national molecular bioscience experts Dr. James Hageman (Vice Provost for Research and Dean, College of Graduate Studies, University of Central Michigan) and Dr. Neal Stewart (Professor and Racheff Chair of Excellence in Plant Molecular Genetics, University of Tennessee-Knoxville) as external evaluators to review the proposal. Following a site visit by ADHE staff and the external evaluators in fall 2004, staff requested additional information and a revision of the proposal to reflect changes that had occurred since the initial proposal had been submitted. Final proposal revisions were received January 2005.

In 2002-03, 2 out of 2 (100 percent) doctoral programs offered by the institution met Coordinating Board degree productivity guidelines.

Karen Wheeler presented information to the Board regarding the Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI), a statewide collaboration of five institutions mandated to develop technologies that support knowledge-based industries, and the role assigned to Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) by the ABI Board. Further discussion focused on funding for the program provided by the federal Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement and existing resources that will support the new doctoral program.

Dr. Grant thanked Dr. Wheeler for her thoroughness adding that a lot of tough questions had been answered as a result of her in-depth explanation.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Ph.D. in Molecular Biosciences (CIP 26.0406) offered by Arkansas State University effective fall 2005.

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

Bill Johnson moved to recommend Agenda Item 3 to the Full Board, Kaneaster Hodges seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4
Northwest Arkansas Community College
Regional Technology Center in Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) request approval to establish an off-campus instruction site in Fayetteville to be called the NorthWest Arkansas Community College Regional Technology Center, effective July 2005.

West Campus Technical Center in Fayetteville is the oldest technical high school in Arkansas, founded in 1965 as Sequoyah Polytechnic. Through the years, its mission of providing superior vocational education became diluted when the Fayetteville Public Schools (FPS) also used West Campus as an alternative high school. With encouragement from the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education, FPS decided to separate the alternative program from the vocational program and approached NWACC about sponsoring the re-established technical high school. The school will serve students from 16 high schools in Madison, Benton and Washington Counties.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the establishment of the NorthWest Arkansas Community College Regional Technology Center as an off-campus instruction site of NorthWest Arkansas Community College effective July 1, 2005.

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

Bob Cheyne commented that this was an excellent demonstration of cooperation between two counties.

Agenda Item No. 5
Waldron Off-Campus Site
Rich Mountain Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of Rich Mountain Community College (RMCC) request Coordinating Board approval to recognize an off-campus site at Waldron to be called Rich Mountain Community College--Waldron Off-Campus Site, and to offer the existing Associate of Arts degree at this location.

RMCC has an agreement with Waldron School District for the use of their facilities for classroom and office space for \$1 per year. Facilities costs of all Waldron-based RMCC programs (utilities, phones, copier, etc.) are approximately \$750 per month and are funded through federal grants and non-credit business/industry programs listed above. The only expense for the program is adjunct faculty salaries. Cost for faculty is covered by tuition (\$50 per credit hour) on a course-by-course basis, therefore, each class must have 10 students in order to be offered.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Rich Mountain Community College--Waldron Off-Campus Site, and the offering of the existing Associate of Arts (CIP 24.0101) at this location, effective immediately.

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

David Damron asked why this program needed recognized as a separate site and Claudia Griffin explained that it is required by AHECB policy and for accreditation.

Agenda Item No. 6
Associate of Applied Science in Business Technology,
General Technology, and Allied Health
Arkansas Tech University

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University (ATU) request Coordinating Board approval for ATU to offer Associate of Applied Science degrees in Business Technology, General Technology, and Allied Health on the ATU Ozark campus. ATU is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The ATU Board of Trustees approved the proposals on January 20, 2005.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Business Technology (CIP 52.0401), the Associate of Applied Science in General Technology (CIP 30.9999), and the Associate of Applied Science in Allied Health (CIP

51.9999) at Arkansas Tech University to be offered on the ATU Ozark campus effective Fall 2005.

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

Agenda Item No. 7
Technical Certificate in Building Trades Technology
South Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of South Arkansas Community College (SACC) request approval to offer a Technical Certificate in Building Trades Technology, effective August 2005. SACC is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on November 16, 2004.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in Building Trades Technology (CIP 46.0201) at South Arkansas Community College for implementation in August 2005.

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

Agenda Item No. 8
Associate of Applied Science
Technical Certificate in Welding Technology
Arkansas State University - Beebe

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University (ASU) request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science and Technical Certificate in welding technology at Arkansas State University--Beebe (ASU-Beebe). The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The ASU Board approved the proposal on February 25, 2005.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science and Technical Certificate in welding technology (CIP 48.0508) to be offered at Arkansas State University--Beebe, effective Fall 2005.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the

President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University--Beebe of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 9
Associate of Applied Science
in Occupational Therapy Assistant
Pulaski Technical College in Partnership with
Baptist Health School of Occupational Therapy Assistant

The administration and Board of Trustees of Pulaski Technical College (PTC) request approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant in partnership with Baptist Health School of Occupational Therapy Assistant (BHOTA). PTC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The PTC Board approved this program on April 26, 2004. Baptist Health School of Occupational Therapy Assistant is licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education. The Baptist Health Leadership Team approved the proposal on April 1, 2004. Institutional responsibilities are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant (CIP 51.0803) at Pulaski Technical College in partnership with the Baptist Health School of Occupational Therapy Assistant, effective Fall 2005, contingent on the American Occupational Therapy Assistant Accreditation Council granting initial approval of the program.

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 Pulaski Technical College, the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Baptist Health System, and the Director of the Baptist Health School of Occupational Therapy Assistant of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 10
Master of Computer and Information Science
Master of Public Administration
Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia

The administration and Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University request approval to offer the Master of Science in Computer and Information Science and Master of Public Administration at Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia (SAUM). The programs are consistent with the role and scope of the institution to offer master's degree programs in selected fields. SAUM is accredited by the Higher Learning

Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The SAU Board approved the proposals on June 2 and December 17, 2004.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in Computer and Information Science (CIP 11.0101) and the Master of Public Administration (CIP 44.0401) at Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia, effective Spring 2006.

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

Dr. Grant asked if a thesis was required for the degrees. Cynthia Moten answered that the thesis is done through projects or internships and is more applied. Dr. Grant also asked if these graduates are expected to pursue a Doctorate and he was answered yes, based on the requirements for a Ph.D.

Agenda Item No. 11
Associate of Applied Science
and Advanced Certificate in Network Security Technology
South Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of South Arkansas Community College (SACC) request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science and Advanced Certificate in network security technology. SACC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The SACC Board approved the proposal on December 16, 2004.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science and Advanced Certificate in network security technology (CIP 11.1003) at South Arkansas Community College, effective Fall 2005.

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

Agenda Item No. 12
Department of College Student Personnel
Arkansas Tech University

The administration and Board of Trustees at Arkansas Tech University (ATU) request approval for the creation of the Department of College Student Personnel effective July 2005. The ATU Board of Trustees approved the proposal on December 11, 2004.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the creation of the Department of College Student Personnel at Arkansas Tech University, effective July 1, 2005.

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

Agenda Item No. 13
Construction Management Department
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval to establish a new academic administrative unit, Construction Management Department, at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR). The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The UA Board will consider the proposal on April 22, 2005.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Construction Management Department at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, effective July 1, 2005.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System, and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 14
Department of Education Reform
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval to establish a new academic administrative unit, the Department of

Education Reform, at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the establishment of the Center for Education Reform at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective July 1, 2005.

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, Fayetteville, of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 15
Center for Economic Development Education
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval to establish a new administrative unit, the Center for Economic Development Education, at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the establishment of the Center for Economic Development Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, effective immediately.

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 at Little Rock, of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 16
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee
Resolutions

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY, INDEPENDENCE, MO
Initial Certification
Recertification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to Graceland University to offer the following online degree programs: Bachelor of Arts in Health Care Administration, Master of Education in Collaborative Teaching and Learning, Master of Education in Technology Integration, and Master of Education in Quality Schools.

The Coordinating Board also grants program recertification to Graceland University to offer the online Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies. The certification is for a period of two years and expires April 29, 2007.

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of Graceland University 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:

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY, INDEPENDENCE, MO
Decertification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board decertifies the online Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies offered by Graceland University. This decertification is effective April 29, 2005.

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, MEMPHIS, TN
Decertification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board decertifies the Bachelor of Professional Studies in Fire Administration and Fire Prevention Technology offered by the University of Memphis. This decertification is effective April 29, 2005.

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX, AZ
Initial Certification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to the University of Phoenix to offer the following online degree programs: Bachelor of Science in Business with options in Retail Management, Public Administration, and Information Systems; Bachelor of Science in Information with an option in Software Engineering; Master of Information Systems; Master of Business Administration with options in Human Resources Management, Marketing, and Public Administration; Master of Management with options in Human Resources Management, and Public Administration; Executive Master of

Business Administration; Master of Science in Administration of Justice and Security; and Master of Science in Nursing with options in Health Care Education, and Integrative Health Care. The certification is for a period of two years and expires April 29, 2007.

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the University of Phoenix 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 minimum standards have been met under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) met on March 29, 2005 for the regular quarterly meeting.

The following programs were reviewed during the meeting:

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts in Health Care Administration - Initial Certification
Master of Education in Collaborative Teaching and Learning - Initial Certification
Master of Education in Technology Integration - Initial Certification
Master of Education in Quality Schools - Initial Certification
Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies - Recertification
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies - Decertification

THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

Bachelor of Professional Studies in Fire Administration and Fire Prevention
Technology - Decertification

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX ONLINE - Initial Certification

Bachelor of Science in Business
 Bachelor Science in Information Technology – Software Engineering
 Master of Business Administration
 The Executive Master of Business Administration Program
 The Master of Management
 The Master of Information Systems program
 The Master of Science in Nursing
 Master of Science in Administration of Justice and Security

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Items 4-16 to the Full Board, Jodie Carter seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 17
 Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
 NorthWest Arkansas Community College

NorthWest Arkansas Community College, requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue millage based bonds to build a new Student Center Plaza and to refund existing debt.

Relevant data follows:

Actual 2003-04 Millage Income	\$4,428,978
Maximum Annual Debt Service (4,428,978/120%).....	3,690,815
Existing Debt Service	609,993
Debt Service of Refunded Bonds	<609,993>
Estimated Debt Service for Proposed Bond Issues.....	1,585,170
Estimated Millage Income Remaining for Additional Debt Service	\$2,105,645

The above data demonstrate that NorthWest Arkansas Community College has sufficient millage income to support a bond issue of approximately \$23.7 million with a term of 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.42%.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for NorthWest Arkansas Community College, to issue millage income supported bonds of approximately \$23.7 million with a term of 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.42% to refund the 2000 and 2002 bonds and to construct a new student center plaza building.

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

David Damron asked where the new facility would be constructed. President Paneitz remarked that it would be constructed north of Burns Hall, where the intramural fields are now located.

Bob Cheyne stated he strongly recommends this student center for a campus growing outside its walls and moved to recommend Agenda Item 17 to the Full Board. Anne Trussell seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 18
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Henderson State University

Henderson State University (HSU), requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$14,000,000 with a maximum term of up to 20 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 6%. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for auxiliary purposes. The Henderson State University Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting held on April 29, 2005.

Relevant data follows:

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Estimated Net Auxiliary Profit	866,949	982,799	1,884,022	1,964,380	2,004,570
Maximum Annual Debt Service (Profit/120%)	722,458	818,999	1,570,018	1,636,983	1,670,475
Existing Debt Service	556,871	557,920	485,091	489,284	487,079
Estimated Annual New Debt Service	-	-	783,672	895,111	893,254
Total Debt Service	556,871	557,920	1,268,763	1,384,395	1,380,333
Profits Remaining for Additional Debt Service	165,587	261,079	301,255	252,588	290,142

The above data demonstrates that Henderson State University has sufficient revenue to support a bond issue of approximately \$14,000,000 with a term of 20 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 6%.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the Henderson State University (HSU) to issue bonds not to exceed \$14,000,000 for a period of 20 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 6% for auxiliary purposes.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President of HSU of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

John Choate from HSU added that the university tore down one residence hall but would not be tearing down any additional ones. However, they would be converting some of the dorms to single rooms. Dan Grant commented that the dorms are very old and in poor condition.

Lynda Johnson moved to recommend Agenda Item 18 to the Full Board. Bob Cheyne seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 19
Appointment of Nominating Committee
of Board Officers for 2005-2006

Phil Ford appointed Dan Grant, Lynda Johnson, and David Leech to the Nominating Committee of Board Officers for 2005-2006. He will serve as Chair of the Committee.

Agenda Item No. 20
Annual Report on Student Retention
and Graduation

Statewide retention and graduation information for students entering Arkansas public higher education in fall 1992 through 2003 was presented by Ron Harrell in the report for both the state and institutional levels. ADHE's Student Information System (SIS) enables multi-year student retention and graduation tracking in compliance with Student-Right-to-Know legislation as well as Act 267 of 1989. SIS tracks student enrollments and completions for multiple years at their originating or native campus, as well as at other public and independent institutions within the state. Ron Harrell said it is important to keep in mind that, while the original cohorts are based on students who begin full-time, they may or may not be enrolled full-time for any subsequent term, thereby potentially extending the time to graduation. It also should be noted that the data are simply indicators of student enrollment and not student progression. He said one should not conclude that, because a given percentage of a cohort is retained after 2 years, for example, an equal percentage has achieved upper-division status. Finally, while students are tracked between in-state institutions, they are not tracked across state lines.

Frank Adams, President of Cossatot Community College, voiced concerns regarding whether or not institutional performance should be measured in part by student retention and graduation reports. He added that the institutions could not control the individual behavior of students, therefore the students are free to misrepresent information that they supply to the school by indicating that they intend to pursue a degree for financial aid purposes. Lynda Johnson commented that this is a "truth matter," and unfortunately not everyone is honest.

Frank Adams suggested looking at a model invented in 1951 which relates graduation/retention to degrees.

Ron Harrell stated that when students in a cohort transfer, the graduation rate credit goes to the starting institution in the ADHE study, but not in IPEDS data because IPEDS do not count students who transfer.

Agenda Item No. 21 Letters of Notification

Between January 20, 2005 and April 15, 2005 the Arkansas Department of Higher Education received notice from Institutions of thirteen new certificate programs, fifteen new program options, two new program minors, eleven name changes, five new locations of existing programs, two reconfiguration of existing degrees, one consolidation of existing programs, one academic reorganization, two new organizational units, one inactive program, seventeen deleted programs, three inactive programs deleted, one deleted program minor, and ten exemptions from institutional certification, none of which require Board approval. Notification of items requiring Board approval included two certificate programs, five associate degree programs, four bachelor degree programs, and three master degree programs. During this period the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests for recertification of twenty-five degree programs, decertification of one degree program, and initial certification for ten degrees. The complete list of these notices appear on pages 21-1 through 21-10 of the agenda book.

Bob Cheyne voiced opposition to the notification from the University of Phoenix in Little Rock for a new location in Rogers, Arkansas.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item 21 to the Full Board, Lynda Johnson seconded and the Committee approved.

Announcements

Chairman Ford announced that Dr. Alan Rasco has been newly appointed the new President at South Arkansas Community College. Dr. Rasco was formally the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Galveston Community College. Chairman Ford offered a goodwill send off to Dr. Roger Worsley, who recently retired from Southern Arkansas University Tech and Dr. Tom Spencer, who recently retired from National Park Community College. Chairman Ford recognized Mary Beth Sudduth on her retirement and thanked her for her service to the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith and higher education.

Chairman Ford recognized Bob Cheyne for eight years of outstanding devotion to the Higher Education Coordinating Board by presenting Bob and his wife Jenni a plaque on behalf of ADHE and the AHECB. "Bob is term limited and this will be his last

meeting as a member of the Higher Education Coordinating Board,” added Chairman Ford.

Bob Cheyne expressed his thanks to Governor Huckabee and higher education in general for all the hard work over the years. He added that in all of his years of public service, he had never worked with a better group of people. He commented that he had never known a woman as enthusiastic for higher education or who worked as tirelessly as Linda Beene. Bob Cheyne said that he has enjoyed working with the Coordinating Board and thanked Phil Ford for his excellent leadership and dedication to higher education. He said he will continue to attend the meetings to demonstrate his support, and added that he and his wife Jenni would soon celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.

Chairman Ford opened the floor for public comments.

Dr. Ed Coulter, Chancellor of Arkansas State University at Mountain Home and Dr. Robert Brown, President of Arkansas Tech University, thanked Dr. Beene for her leadership in addressing equity issues.

Phil Ford congratulated Ed Coulter on his recent appointment as Chair-Elect of the American Association of Community Colleges. He then announced that the July 29th Coordinating Board meeting will be hosted by Glen Fenter and Mid-South Community College in West Memphis.

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

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Betsy Thompson, Secretary