

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting  
April 1, 2014

The Presidents Council met at 11:00 a.m. on April 1, 2014 in the First Floor Board Room of the Department of Higher Education. Executive Council members present were Charles Welch (co-chair), Jackie Elliott, Sandra Massey, Glen Jones, Don Bobbitt and Phillip Wilson. Paul Beran and Larry Davis participated via phone call.

Staff members present were Shane Broadway, Harold Criswell, Cynthia Moten, Rick Jenkins, Alana Boles, Brandi Hinkle, Micah Gilbert and Nichole Abernathy.

Charles Welch began by introducing the new chancellor of ASU-Newport, Dr. Sandra Massey and new president of NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Dr. Evelyn Jorgenson. He welcomed them to their first Presidents Council meeting.

Next, Phillip Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2014 meeting. Jackie Elliott seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Review of AHECB Agenda

President's Council members reviewed the agenda items for the April 25, 2014, Coordinating Board meeting. The finance agenda included the Performance Funding Outcomes, the Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue for the College of the Ouachitas, the Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue for Southern Arkansas University, the Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue for the University of Central Arkansas, the Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds and Funding Models.

The academic agenda included the Associate of Science in Professional Pilot-Aviation by Ozarka College, the Cosmetology Technical Certificate by the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville, the Technical Certificate in Multi-Craft Technology by Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, the Bachelor of Science in Education in Special Education by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Henderson State University – Hot Springs Degree Center by Henderson State University, Branch Campus in Queretaro, Mexico by Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Role and Scope Change Request to Offer Doctor of Education in Executive Leadership by Arkansas Tech University.

Also included was the Annual Report on Credentials Awarded, Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation, Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes, Annual Report on Productivity of Recently Approved Programs and the Policy Amendment (AHECB 5.20) – Role and Scope Change Process.

A public forum will be held to approve the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Rules and Regulations.

Don Bobbitt moved to approve the review of the agenda for the April 25, 2014, AHECB meeting. Sandra Massey seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Director Broadway introduced Megan Witonski, with Learning Services to discuss Common Core State Standards, which were adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010. Dr. Witonski announced that common core has moved past the implementation period and is

completely phased in for all of K-12. While moving through the implementation period, we didn't see students progressing entering higher education institutions the way we thought they should've been, said Dr. Witonski, specifically the English language arts standards and mathematics standards. It is designed to prepare students for college and career readiness.

Dr. Witonski then went on to explain the PARCC assessment (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers). PARCC is a group of states working together to develop a set of assessments that measure whether students are on track to be successful in college and their careers. These high quality, computer-based K-12 assessments in Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy give teachers, schools, students, and parents better information whether students are on track in their learning and for success after high school, and tools to help teachers customize learning to meet student needs. The PARCC assessments will be ready for states to administer during the 2014-15 school year.

Director Broadway asked if the PARCC Assessment would replace the ACT. Dr. Witonski said no, it would not.

#### Announcements

Chancellor Laurence Alexander's investiture will be at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff on July 8.

The Council agreed to cancel the May 6 and June 5 Presidents Council meetings. The next meeting will be July 8, 2014.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.