

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting
October 4, 2016

The Presidents Council met at 11:00 a.m. on October 4, 2016, at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) in the first floor boardroom. Executive Council members present were Margaret Ellibee (co-chair), Don Bobbitt and Stephen Hilterbran. Charles Welch (co-chair), Evelyn Jorgenson and Glen Jones participated via conference call. Laurence Alexander was unable to attend.

Staff members present were Maria Markham, Marla Strecker, Ann Clemmer, Tara Smith and Nichole Abernathy.

Don Bobbitt moved to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2016 meeting. Barbara Jones seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Review of AHECB Agenda

Presidents Council members reviewed the agenda items for the October 28, 2016 Coordinating Board meeting. The finance agenda included the Report on Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures for 2015-16, Bond/Loan Feasibility Update and the Maintenance Report.

The academic agenda included Bachelor of Science in Education in Computer Science and Business Technology Education at Henderson State University, Doctor of Occupational Therapy at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee, the Letters of Notification and the Letters of Intent.

Also included were the Review of Audit Report, Update on Prevention of Unplanned Pregnancies on Campuses, Report on Academic Program Review 2014-16, Report on Academic Program Deletions and the Annual Report on Institutional Certification.

Glen Jones moved to approve the review of the agenda for the October 28, 2016 AHECB meeting. Barbara Jones seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Next, Director Markham presented a financial aid update. She explained that the U.S. Department of Education instituted a new FAFSA application date starting on October 1 rather than January 1 as in the past. This allows students to report income from the previous year. High school seniors began applying for 2017-2018 college scholarships through the state's YOUniversal scholarship management system on October 1, said Markham. The one-stop system means a single application can determine eligibility for all of the state's scholarship programs.

To simplify the application process, ADHE has enhanced the system this year to automatically create a YOUniversal account for every public high school senior in the state, said Markham. Transcripts, ACT/SAT scores, contact information and other school data will be pre-loaded into each student's account, making the application process easier, faster and more accurate. On October 1, public high school seniors will simply need to enter an email address and password to

activate their accounts and apply for scholarships. Seniors at private high schools can create accounts and provide their information by logging into the YOUiversal site at www.scholarships.adhe.edu. As of today, over 1,300 students have applied for the 2017-2018 year.

Dr. Markham said that rosters for the Academic Challenge students are nearing completion with around 2,200 nontraditional and 10,500 traditional students awarded. This is pretty much in line with our early projections after changing the eligibility requirement for traditional students to a 19 ACT or equivalent, said Markham.

On October 31, Governor Asa Hutchinson will hold a press conference to announce his support of the new funding model said Dr. Markham. Presidents and chancellors are invited to attend to also show their support.

Announcements

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will meet at ADHE on October 28. Also, the Annual Trustees Conference will be held on December 9 at Pulaski Technical College at their main campus in North Little Rock.

The Council members agreed to cancel the November 1 and December 6 meetings. The next Presidents Council meeting will be January 3, 2017.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.