

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting
April 4, 2017

The Presidents Council met at 11:00 a.m. on April 4, 2017, at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) in the first floor boardroom. Executive Council member Laurence Alexander was present. Charles Welch (co-chair), Steve Rook, Debra West, Evelyn Jorgenson, and Jim Shemwell participated via conference call. Glen Jones was unable to attend.

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

Charles Welch began by introducing new Executive Council members; Steve Rook replaced Margaret Ellibee; and, Debra West replaced Stephen Hilterbran. Charles Welch and Laurence Alexander were reappointed.

Evelyn Jorgenson moved to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2017 meeting. James Shemwell seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Review of AHECB Agenda

Presidents Council members reviewed the agenda items for the April 21, 2017 Coordinating Board meeting. The finance agenda included the Performance Funding Outcomes and the Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds.

The academic agenda included an Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Technology from Arkansas State University Newport, Masters in Athletic Training from Arkansas State University, Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity from Arkansas Tech University, Biomedical Informatics from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee, the Letters of Notification and the Letters of Intent.

Also included were the Annual Report on First-Year Remediation for Fall 2016, Annual Report on Credential 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, Arkansas Future Grant, Academic Challenge Scholarship, Governor's Program and Teacher Opportunity Program.

Debra West moved to approve the review of the agenda for the April 21, 2017 AHECB meeting. Laurence Alexander seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Director Markham began by saying that this was a very productive and positive legislative session for higher education. Since the individual legislation would be discussed in a wrap-up meeting, Markham would only highlight a couple of key items. The funding work group has wrapped up their discussions on the metrics and the design of the formula. Next, they will discuss funding distributions with the presidents and chancellors, said Markham. She then asked Dr. Charles Welch if a meeting date had been scheduled for the legislative wrap-up meeting.

Dr. Welch said not yet. However, he does anticipate having a final presidents and chancellors meeting to discuss all of the legislation either enacted or defeated that could have effected Arkansas institutions. At that time, Dr. Markham will be prepared to present a distribution scenario for the model.

Announcements

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will meet at ATU in Russellville on April 21.

The Council members agreed to cancel the May 2 and June 6 meetings. The next Presidents Council meeting will be July 11, 2017.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.