

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting
April 5, 2016

The Presidents Council met at 11:15 a.m. on April 5, 2016, via conference call. Executive Council members present on the call were Charles Welch (co-chair), Sandra Massey (co-chair), Stephen Hilterbran, Laurence Alexander and Larry Davis. Don Bobbitt, Margaret Ellibee and Glen Jones were unable to participate.

Staff members present were Brett Powell, Harold Criswell, Dr. Marla Strecker, Ann Clemmer, Tara Smith and Nichole Abernathy.

Welch began by introducing new Executive Council members; James Shemwell replaced Sandra Massey; and, Evelyn Jorgenson replaced Larry Davis. Glen Jones and Donald Bobbitt were reappointed.

Laurence Alexander moved to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2016 meeting. Don Bobbitt seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Review of AHECB Agenda

Presidents Council members reviewed the agenda items for the April 22, 2016 Coordinating Board meeting. The finance agenda included the Funding Formulas for the 2017-19 Biennium, the Performance Funding Outcomes and the Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds.

The academic agenda included the Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice by Phillips Community College of the U of A, the Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapy Assistant by Cossatot Community College of the U of A, the Associate of Fine Arts in Arts by NorthWest Arkansas Community College, The Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Education by Arkansas Tech University, the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology by the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, the Master of Science in Media Management by Arkansas State University, the Doctor of Occupational Therapy, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee, the Letters of Notification and the Letters of Intent.

Also included were the Annual Report on Credentials Awarded, Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation, Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes and the Annual Productivity of Recently Approved Programs.

Dr. Coy Grace, President of East Arkansas Community College (EACC), questioned why his proposal for a Certificate of Proficiency in Commercial Driver Training program wasn't listed in the synopsis. Ann Clemmer explained that the program was listed in the Letters of Notification and would be on the April 22 agenda.

Dr. Powell asked if the program was a multi-campus program. Dr. Grace said yes, it is part of the Arkansas Delta Training and Education Consortium (ADTEC). Some of the campuses already have this program and therefore, EACC is just requesting to be added.

Margaret Ellibee moved to approve the review of the agenda for the April 22, 2016, AHECB meeting. Donald Bobbitt seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Brett Powell began by stating that the Master Plan workgroups are continuing their work and most of the groups are due to submit a report by April 30. Once ADHE receives the reports, they will be compiled into one implementation plan. The institutions will have the opportunity to review the implementation plan before it is published, said Powell. The Coordinating Board will give it an in-depth review in June at their board retreat and will adopt it as an implementation plan at the July board meeting.

Powell also announced that the Interstate Passport group will meet next week. The new Mathways Group is continuing to meet and so is the Concurrent Credit group.

Next, Welch asked Powell to briefly update the Council on the funding discussions. Powell said that the Institutional Funding group will meet on April 6 and progress has been good. We have agreed on the framework for what the funding model will look like. Tomorrow we will start looking at what metrics we will use, how those metrics will be calculated and how they will fit into the framework that has been approved. Again, we are looking at a July date to get this approved by the Coordinating Board, said Powell.

Welch asked what opportunities will the presidents and chancellors have to review and comment on the model. Powell said we will have the framework available at the April 22 board meeting. ADHE will possibly get it out in June and review it at the June Presidents Council meeting.

Announcements

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will meet at National Park College in Hot Springs on April 22, 2016.

After agreeing to continue to meet via conference call, the Council members agreed to cancel the May 3 meeting. The next Presidents Council meeting will be June 7, 2016.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.