

Tentative Agenda Items for July 29, 2005 AHECB Meeting

Arkansas State University--Jonesboro

Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science

Program Summary

The College of Sciences and Mathematics and College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Arkansas State University - Jonesboro proposes to develop a cross-disciplinary Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Science. It is anticipated that the program will have a significantly higher demand than the discipline-specific majors of Chemistry, Biology, and Criminology. This degree is highly appropriate in light of the importance of developing a technically skilled scientifically competent workforce. The proposed B.S. degree is required to support economic development to the state and region through knowledge-based federal, regional, state, and private-sector development arising out of the need for qualified quantitative scientists trained in the fields of science and forensic criminology. This cross-disciplinary program integrates the knowledge and technical skills of several disciplines in the science and techniques related to criminal investigations.

Forensic science plays a critical role in the justice system by providing scientific and foundational information for criminal investigations and the courts. Forensic science - the application of the methods of science to legal matters - is an exciting, complex and cross-disciplinary program of study. In it one employs the principles of chemistry, physics, biology, and mathematics, as well as social science theory and law, to help solve crimes and serve justice.

The proposed program is based on the recommendations of the 2004 National Institute of Justice Special Report "Education and Training in Forensic Science: A guide for forensic science laboratories, educational institutions, and students". The BS in Forensic Science will provide students with cross-disciplinary training with emphasis areas in Forensic Chemistry and Forensic Biology. Forensic Chemistry refers to the analytical chemical methods used to analyze controlled substances (e.g., explosives, illegal drugs) as well as the analysis of fibers, glass, soil, paint and other materials. Forensic Biology refers to DNA analysis, serology, biochemical analysis of human tissues, human anatomy including forensic anthropology, and new sub-disciplines such as forensic entomology. Forensic Science is an applied science that covers an array of disciplines. An undergraduate degree must combine a strong foundation in the natural sciences with extensive laboratory training. As a model undergraduate program, our proposed program will provide a strong science foundation that emphasizes the scientific method and the application of problem-solving skills in both the classroom and laboratory setting. Students in the program will acquire the scientific writing, public speaking, laboratory, and computer skills that prepare them to become forensic science professionals. Through the involvement of faculty and forensic science practitioners our program will provide the networking opportunities the students require ensuring that they gain employment in the field and remain active in the field upon graduation. Students will be exposed to a breadth of forensic science disciplines, will be acculturated into the forensic science and justice communities, and will be trained sufficiently to gain certification upon graduation. All activities within the program will ensure that students gain real-world experience in preparation for practice upon graduation.

Most forensic science employment occurs in a laboratory setting. Results of laboratory analyses are typically used by law enforcement to investigate crimes, identify or eliminate suspects, and assist courts in reaching fair and just determinations. Due to the

fundamental importance of analytical results to the criminal justice system, students will be trained in analytical methods, ethics, and legal evidence so that they graduate from the program with strong science backgrounds and a depth of understanding regarding their role and responsibility in the justice system.

Relationship to Institutional Role and Mission

This proposal is an extension of a well-established need for broadly based cross-disciplinary technical training of undergraduate students to meet state, regional and national needs in the coming years. The program is in direct support of the University's mission to educate leaders. The University is continuing to expand its research and teaching capacities. Forensic Science offers a unique cross-disciplinary setting in which to utilize the interdisciplinary research strengths of University faculty and develop new and exciting educational opportunities for our students. Given the increased need for trained scientists in Arkansas and nationally it is clear that degree programs at the Bachelor's level are required to foster interdepartmental and intercollegiate undergraduate student training and research.

Arkansas State University--Jonesboro

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

Program Summary

This program is intended to be a master's degree that conforms to the nationally accepted standard in the field as indicated by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. The core courses and elective concentrations most closely resemble a mix between the MA programs in criminal justice at Washington State University and SUNY, Albany, the number 6 and number 1 schools in the field respectively. It is intended to 1) develop additional analytical skills for in-service practitioners with a BA/BS in the field or a closely related field; 2) to provide practitioners in this region with access to graduate education in their field in order for them to be more competitive for promotion within state agencies; 3) to provide our undergraduates who wish to pursue a degree regional access to one in their field of choice; and 4) to provide our undergraduate students who are considering a Ph.D. in the field a good foundation for further graduate studies.

Initially there are no new courses and the proposed degree program will employ only existing courses and existing faculty lines. The primary contributors will be from two Departments: 1) Criminology, Sociology and Geography, and 2) Political Science.

There will be no additional costs to the university in regards to faculty, course offering impacts, or staffing. The program will require the normal allocation of graduate assistantships from the graduate school.

Faculty resources are currently sufficient for projected student demand.

Library holdings are currently sufficient to support this degree.

Classrooms and the Statistics and Research Labs are sufficient to support this degree.

East Arkansas Community College

Technical Certificate in Geographic Information Systems
Certificate of Proficiency in Geographic Information Systems

Program Summary

East Arkansas Community College is requesting approval from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education and the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to establish a certificate program in Geospatial Information Systems, which consists of a technical certificate (33 credit hours) and a certificate of proficiency (15 credit hours).

Geographic Information Systems is an expanding and evolving technology that has created a demand for programs to provide training on the use of GIS in many fields including agriculture, business, engineering, architecture, environmental studies, and computer science. Certificate programs are a popular and necessary way of training and certifying technicians and working professionals in the GIS technology discipline. Our certificates focus on practical issues such as basic concepts of GIS technology and the use of specific GIS software (ArcGIS application software).

North Arkansas College

Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture

Program Summary

The Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture is designed to lead the student directly to employment in a specific career. The Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture specializes in animal sciences, plant sciences, environmental science, agriculture communications, and agriculture business and technology. Though many of the courses required for this degree will transfer to various senior institutions, the Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture is not intended for students planning to transfer. It has been designed to:

- encourage students to pursue a post secondary level of education that can be completed relatively quickly;
- allow students more career opportunities in agriculture;
- allow the articulation of Northark courses with secondary level agriculture courses;
- provide students from two to eighteen hours of college credit for articulated courses; and
- provide those students with a head start on their college education while preparing them to enter the work force in agriculture more quickly.

The new degree program will utilize existing curriculum, costs, resources, facilities, and equipment. However, the Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture will provide academically strong students at the secondary level of education an opportunity to earn college credit from articulated agriculture courses. North Arkansas College currently offers an Associate of Science in Agriculture, Food, and Life Science for students planning to transfer that will support the proposed program.

NorthWest Arkansas Community College

Associate of General Studies

Program Summary

This degree program is designed to allow an individual course of study for students to meet personal employment or enrichment goals. The AGS will include collegiate level work of academic transferable courses, technical courses, or a combination of both. The degree will include 18-19 hours of general education core courses, including English, Communications, Math, Social/Behavioral Sciences and Computers. The remaining general and technical studies electives (41-42 hours) will be selected in conjunction with an advisor. Students will be required to demonstrate mastery of skills and knowledge in at least one specific area or discipline. The AGS will require a total of 60 credit hours. Courses from any of our current certificate or degree programs could potentially be included in the AGS degree. While many of the required courses could transfer, this degree is designed for the student who does not intend to transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution.

University of Arkansas--Fort Smith

Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Program Summary

Designed in collaboration with the Fort Smith Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Sebastian County Sheriff's Office, this program prepares students for careers in criminal justice and provides continuing education for professionals already employed in the field.

The A.A.S. degree prepares students for entry-level careers in federal law enforcement, state and local police work, probation/parole, and/or corrections. The A.A.S. degree in Criminal Justice feeds into the B.S. degree in Criminal Justice. The B.S. degree further prepares students for supervision and management careers in criminal justice fields, as well as provides continuing education for professionals already employed in the field.

Criminal justice agencies have various entrance, background, and physical requirements. These programs of study will assist in preparing students for employment in criminal justice if other criteria established by the employer/agency are met. This major will provide a foundation for post-baccalaureate work in law, public policy, social work, and business.

The A.A.S. and B.S. Criminal Justice programs will not have an impact on any existing programs. These degrees support the mission and vision of the university to raise the education achievement level by providing high quality baccalaureate and associate programs for its six-county Western Arkansas service area.

University of Arkansas--Fort Smith

Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design

Program Summary

This program was designed based on graphic design programs offered at OSU/Okmulgee, Savannah College of Art & Design, Virginia Commonwealth University, and feedback/input from the UA Fort Smith Graphic Design Advisory Committee along with local area professionals. It builds upon the A.A.S. in Graphic Design currently offered at UA Fort Smith. Students in this discipline learn to be creative and develop technical solutions to design challenges encountered in the workplace, including logos, brochures, packages, advertising and identity designs, copywriting, photography direction, digital media, and illustration. Graduates of the program will have a completed portfolio and be prepared to work for advertising agencies, design studios, television stations, corporate design firms, and other graphic-related industries.

The B.S. in Graphic Design prepares the student with a solid foundation in traditional art and design classes, and then builds upon that foundation with the latest digital media, prepress, advertising, and multimedia skills. The program is designed to meet graphic and digital design needs of the present and future. The proposed program content is based upon surveys and competencies identified by area businesses, industries, graphic design and advertising firms, and printers. The curriculum will be modified on an ongoing basis to meet the future needs of the workforce.

ADHE

Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) will review the applications at the quarterly meeting on June 28, 2005.

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Extension Campus, Conway, AR

The Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Extension Campus (BMATS) of Conway, AR, submitted an application for decertification of the following programs: Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Religion, which were initially certified in August 2003. The request was reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

Capella University, Minneapolis, MN

Capella University of Minneapolis, MN submitted an application for recertification of the following programs: Bachelor of Science in Business with specializations in Business Administration, Finance, Human Resource Management, and Management and Leadership; Bachelor of Science in Information Technology with specializations in Graphics and Multimedia, Network Technology, Project Management, and Web Application Development; Master of Science in Organization and Management with specializations in Human Resource Management, Information Technology Management, and Leadership; Master of Business Administration with specializations in Finance and Marketing; Master of Science in Technology with specializations in Information

Technology, Information Security, Network Architecture and Design, Project Management and Leadership, and System Design and Programming; and Doctor of Philosophy in Organization and Management with specializations in Human Resource Management, Information Technology Management, and Leadership. The programs were initially certified in August 2003. The application was reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

Graceland University, Independence, MO

Graceland University submitted an application for initial certification of the following online programs: Master of Science in Nursing for registered nurses with tracks in Clinical Nurse Specialist-Family Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner, and Health Care Administration; and Post-Graduate Certificates in Family Nurse Practitioner and Health Care Administration. Graceland also submitted an application for recertification of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Master of Science in Nursing which have been offered to Arkansas students via distance delivery since 1995, were recertified in August 2003. The applications were reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

ITT Technical Institute, Little Rock, AR

ITT Technical Institute submitted an application for the initial certification of the following programs: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Business Accounting Technology, and Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. The application was reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

Rio Salado College, Tempe, AZ

Rio Salado College of submitted an application for decertification of the Associate of General Studies offered in Arkansas since August 2003. The request was reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

University of Phoenix, New Location in Rogers, AR

The University of Phoenix submitted an application for initial certification of the following programs to be offered in Rogers, AR: Bachelor of Science in Business with an option in Management, Bachelor of Science in Information Technology Master of Business Administration, and Master of Management. The application was reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

Webster University, Fort Smith, AR

Webster University-Fort Smith submitted an application for the initial certification of the Master of Arts in Computer Resources and Information Management. Webster also submitted application for the recertification of the Master of Business Administration initially certified in 1998, and the Master of Arts in Human Resources Management initially certified in 2001. Both programs were recertified in August 2003. The applications were reviewed by the ICAC at the June 28, 2005, quarterly meeting and will be submitted for Board action at the July 2005 meeting.

Report on 2004 College-Going Rate

The annual report concerning the College-Going Rate for Arkansas will be presented. Included will be a table detailing the number of first-time entering freshmen by institution for the past five years through fall 2004 and a comparison to the national college-going rate according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

Annual Faculty Performance Report

A summary report on the Annual Review of Faculty Performance for the 2004-05 academic year will be presented.

Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets for 2005-06

A.C.A §6-62-805 (Act 366 of 1991) directs institutions of higher education having intercollegiate athletic programs to certify annually that their intercollegiate athletic programs will generate sufficient revenues to meet budgeted expenditures, or that any athletic deficit will be met by separate institutional, board-sanctioned student athletic fees.

Each institution having an intercollegiate athletic program responds with submission of both ADHE Form 21-2 and a copy of its Board resolution approving the athletic operating budget for the 2005-06 fiscal year. ADHE finance staff then compares the athletic data received by each institution on Form 21-2 with institutional 2005-06 operating budgets submitted to ADHE.

In October, staff will report to the Board 2004-05 actual revenues and expenditures for athletics. The report in October will highlight any budgeted verses actual disparities in the 2004-05 fiscal year.

Distribution of \$150 Million in College Savings Bond Funds

The AHECB will be asked to approve the department's recommended distribution of funds. In accordance with the Governor's directions, \$50 million will be distributed to the colleges and \$100 million to the universities. The first \$10 million of the \$100 million for universities will be allocated for e-Corridor connections and related contingencies.

The methodology used to distribute the funds to the institutions included each institution's Facilities Condition Index of existing space, need for space relative to existing square footage, capacity for additional debt service, fall on-campus FTE enrollment, and additional technology costs to support distance learning for off-campus FTE.

Economic Feasibility for Bond Issue for University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$14.5 million to acquire a 300 bed apartment complex.

Economic Feasibility for Bond Issue for University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$21 million to acquire a 390 bed housing facility for \$10.2 million and \$10.8 million for various renovation and construction projects.

Economic Feasibility for Bond Issue for University of Central Arkansas

University of Central Arkansas (UCA) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$11 million to construct and furnish a student health services facility for \$6.5 million, construct a field house at the intramural and softball complex and to combine the track and soccer complex for \$3.6 million and to construct a commuter parking lot and to provide connecting sidewalks to campus for \$900,000.

Financial Aid

Due to recent changes in various statutes related to student financial aid programs, there are several programs that need to have the rules and regulations amended and one program that needs to have the rules and regulations repealed. There will be a public hearing conducted during the Board meeting to address these changes.

Amendments to Rules and Regulations

Missing in Action/Killed in Action Dependents' Scholarship

This action will amend the name of the Missing in Action/Killed in Action Dependents' Scholarship to Military Dependents' Scholarship and allow the children and/or spouses of military members who become 100% totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty to receive scholarships at Arkansas public-supported colleges and universities. This action will ensure that rules and regulations comply with Act 2127 of 2005.

Academic Challenge Scholarship

This action increases the income limits of the Academic Challenge Scholarship from \$50,000 per year to \$60,000 and increases the current award amount by \$500 per year for all current recipients of the Academic Challenge Scholarship. In addition, for those students in their 8th semester on the scholarship who are scheduled to graduate immediately following that 8th semester, the full-time enrollment requirement is waived. The end of course requirement is extended to begin with high school graduates of 2009. This action will ensure that rules and regulations comply with Acts 1014, 2011, 2197, and 2214 of 2005.

Governor's Scholars Program

This action provides authorization for ADHE to award one Governor's Scholarship in the amount of \$4000 per year to one student in each of Arkansas' seventy-five counties for each student applicant who is ranked first, but does not meet the requirements for the Governor's Distinguished Scholarship. In addition, for those students in their 8th semester on the scholarship who are scheduled to graduate immediately following that 8th semester, the full-time enrollment requirement is waived. The end of course requirement is extended to begin with high school graduates of 2009. This action will ensure that rules and regulations comply with Acts 1014, 1274, and 2197 of 2005.

Workforce Improvement Grant Program

This action will raise the award amounts of the program from \$1800 per year to \$2000 and allows private, non-profit Arkansas colleges and universities, Arkansas public-supported technical institutes, and certain Arkansas nursing schools to participate in the program. This action will ensure that rules and regulations comply with Act 2129 of 2005.

Repeal of Rules and Regulations

Student Assistance Grant

This action will repeal the Student Assistance Grant Program to comply with Act 2142 of 2005. The funds for this program have been transferred to the Arkansas Workforce Improvement Grant.

Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Board Officers for 2005-06

The Nominating Committee (Dan Grant, Linda Johnson, David Leech, Phil Ford) will make a recommendation on the slate of Board officers for 2005-06 and the Board will act upon the recommendation.