

**Tentative Agenda Items  
April 21, 2017 AHECB Meeting**

**BOARD BUSINESS (Introductions, announcements, minutes)  
EXECUTIVE SECTION  
AGENCY UPDATES  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT\*  
FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT\*  
OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS**

\*The Academic Affairs and Finance Committees will continue to meet before the full Board meeting. However, agenda items that will be considered by the full Board will be placed in the Executive section.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

- Introductions
- Minutes, January 26, 2017 Special Meeting
- Minutes, January 27, 2017 Regular Meeting
- Announcements

**AGENCY UPDATE**

**EXECUTIVE SECTION**

- **Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for Fall 2016**

Remediation rates for the Fall 2016 entering class will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item. Remediation rates by institution will be compared to the four previous fall terms. This will include comparative data of the Anytime Rates, 2-Year Rates, and 1-Year Rates.

- **Annual Report on Credentials Awarded**

The credentials awarded report is provided as an information item. This report reviews the number of total credentials awarded by public and private institutions and is segmented by the credential degree level.

- **Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation**

The annual report on Graduation and Retention Rates will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item. The report provides fall-to-fall retention, graduation, and success rate calculations on cohorts of students along with segmentations by gender, race, and age.

- **Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes**

The annual report on retention and graduation of intercollegiate athletes will be presented to the Coordinating Board.

- **Annual Report on Productivity of Recently Approved Programs**

Degree productivity of certificate and associate degree programs approved by the Coordinating Board in AY2013 (2012-2013) (after three years) and baccalaureate and graduate degree programs approved by the Coordinating Board in AY2011 (2010-2011) (after five years) will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item.

- **Arkansas Future Grant**

In compliance with Act 1258 of 2015, the proposed rules for the Arkansas Future Grant are presented for AHECB review. If approved, the proposed rule will go to the Governor and ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee.

In accordance with 316 of 2017, the Department of Higher Education shall promulgate rules to implement the Arkansas Future Grant. The Arkansas Future Grant, also known as ARFuture, will provide grants on a first come, first serve basis to students enrolling in a program of study that leads to an associate degree or a certification in a: science, technology, engineering, or mathematics field; or a regional high-demand field.

- **Academic Challenge Scholarship**

In compliance with Act 1258 of 2015, the proposed amendments to the Academic Challenge Scholarship Program rules and regulations are presented for AHECB review. If approved, the amendments will go to the Governor and ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee.

In accordance with Acts 315, 597, House Bill 2243 and Senate Bill 542 of 2017, the amendments to the Academic Challenge Scholarship Program include expanding the definition of a traditional student, allowing a recipient to use the scholarship towards a graduate-level or professional degree if the student has remaining eligibility, changes the eligibility requirement for a non-traditional applicant and clarifies continuing eligibility requirements for the scholarship.

- **Governor's Scholars Program**

In compliance with Act 1258 of 2015, the proposed amendments to the Governor's Scholars Program rules and regulations are presented for AHECB review. If approved, the amendments will go to the Governor and ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee.

In accordance with House Bill 2243 of 2017, the amendment to the Governor's Scholars Program includes changing the award amount for those students that are the highest achieving student that resides in a county where no student qualified for the Governor's Distinguished Scholarship.

- **Teacher Opportunity Program**

In compliance with Act 1258 of 2015, the proposed rules for the Arkansas Future Grant are presented for AHECB review. If approved, the proposed rule will go to the Governor and ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee.

In accordance with Act 160 of 2017, the amendment to the Teacher Opportunity Program provides for the first priority of awards of funds under this program is the award of reimbursements for additional education in: science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields; computer science; literacy or reading; prekindergarten education; or special education.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- **Performance Funding Outcomes**

The performance-based funding formulas were approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) at its Special Meeting held on December 2, 2011. This report will provide the outcomes for each University and College based on the performance-based funding formulas aforementioned.

- **Productivity-Based Funding Model**

In compliance with Act 1258 of 2015, the proposed policy for the Productivity Funding Model are presented for AHECB review. If approved, the proposed rule will go to the Governor and ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee.

In accordance with Act 148 of 2017, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt policies developed by the Department of Higher Education necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education. This agenda item will propose separate policies for two-year institutions of higher education and four-year institutions of higher education. The proposed policies will implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.

- **Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds**

The Department of Higher Education recommends that up to \$750,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund be allocated to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for expenses associated with the operation of the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network of all public universities.

## **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

### **Consent Agenda**

- **Arkansas State University Newport (ASUN)  
Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Technology**

The Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Technology will train students for skilled positions as equipment operators, mechanics and service technicians, agricultural equipment operators, and chemical equipment operators in the agriculture industry. The proposed program will provide a solution to the skills gaps that exist in agricultural science and the technology workforce. ASUN has received \$669,262 from a Regional Workforce Implementation Grant for program implementation.

- **Arkansas State University (ASU)  
Masters in Athletic Training**

In 2022, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) will recognize the Master of Athletic Training program as the entry point to the athletic training profession. This proposed graduate level will provide an educational framework that prepares students to be successful as athletic trainers. ASU will be phasing out their Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training. ASU will seek accreditation from CAATE in 2017-18. Additionally, the state of Arkansas requires individuals to possess the national certification by the Board of Certification (BOC) prior to issuing a permanent license to practice athletic training. Students graduating from a CAATE accredited program are eligible to take the BOC examination.

- **Arkansas Tech University  
Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity**

#### **Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity**

The rise in cyber threats has created an unprecedented demand for cybersecurity specialists. Data breaches, malware infections, and software vulnerabilities are common on today's technology and it is critical to understand fully how these attacks occur, how to prevent them, and how to recover should an attack occur. The curriculum for the proposed programs include courses in programming, wireless technologies, mathematics, and networking with focused concentrations in both theory and practical hands-on experience. The Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity degree is 60 credit hours, which can be transferred to the 120 credit hour Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity degree.

- **University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
Biomedical Informatics**

Informatics is the study of the fundamental principles that govern the generation, storage, processing and use of information in Biomedicine. Biomedical Informatics pursues use of information to improve human health. Biomedical Informatics is the use of any information, from molecular level to entire populations or eco-systems, toward the improvement of human health. These proposed graduate programs will cover human health-focused discovery in the basic biomedical sciences (Translational Bioinformatics); and the design, conduct and reporting of clinical studies (Clinical Research Informatics and Research Imaging Informatics); and the generation and use of information support patient care (Clinical Informatics and Clinical Imaging Informatics). Graduates of the proposed programs will be able to practice at the professional or scientific level. Those working in research operations most often hold a Master of Science degree and are trained in the practice of informatics as well as fundamentals of research. Scientific investigators in Biomedical Informatics hold a PhD, or an MD and an MS in Biomedical Informatics and have a research track record in Biomedical Informatics. Students pursuing the graduate programs in Biomedical Informatics have the option of choosing the 15 credit hour Graduate Certificate; the 36 credit hour Master's Degree; or the 55 credit hour Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree. The PhD hours are inclusive of the Master's degree and the first two years are primarily coursework taken by Master's students.

- **Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC)**

The following applications for initial certification may be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the AHECB meeting in April 2017.

DeVry University, Downers Grove, Illinois

Bachelor of Science in Accounting  
Master of Information Technology Management

Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts

Master of Arts in Journalism  
Master of Fine Arts in Popular Fiction Writing and Publication  
Master of Fine Arts in Writing and Film for Television  
Master of Science in Communication Disorders

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, Florida

Associate of Science in Engineering Fundamentals  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies  
Bachelor of Science in Logistics and Supply Chain Management  
Bachelor of Science in Safety Management  
Bachelor of Science in Unmanned Systems Applications  
Master of Science in Cybersecurity Management and Policy  
Master of Science in Human Factors  
Master of Science in Human Security and Resilience  
Master of Science in Project Management

Northcentral University, San Diego, California

Master of Science in Accounting  
Master of Science in Forensic Psychology  
Master of Science in Organizational Leadership  
Master of Science in Technology and Innovation Management  
Doctor of Marriage and Family Therapy (Non-Licensure)  
Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership  
Doctor of Philosophy in Technology and Innovation Management

Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts  
Master of Public Health in Health Equity  
Master of Strategic Communications

- **Letters of Notification**

Programs included in the Letters of Notification have been approved by the ADHE Director and must be included on the AHECB agenda prior to program initiation. The programs are reasonable and moderate extensions of existing certificates and degrees.

- **Letters of Intent**

A Letter of Intent informs the AHECB of institutions that plan to offer new programs or organizational units that require a proposal and Coordinating Board approval. Chief academic and chief executive officers can comment on the proposed programs and organizational units before the proposals are considered by AHECB.