

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
April 23, 2021

Minutes of Meeting

The April 23, 2021, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was held via Zoom video conferencing. Chair Al Brodell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Al Brodell, Chair
Keven Anderson, Vice Chair
Lori Griffin, Secretary
Graycen Bigger
Dr. Jim Carr
Dr. Jerry Cash
Chad Hooten
Dr. Kyle Miller
Greg Revels
Dr. Michael Stanton

Coordinating Board absent:

Andy McNeill

Department staff present:

Dr. Maria Markham, Director
Nick Fuller, Assistant Director for Finance
Dr. Jessie Walker, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs
Sonia Hazelwood, Assistant Director for Research and Analytics
Micah Gilbert, IT Manager
Nichole Abernathy, Executive Assistant

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chair Brodell began by thanking everyone for participating in the virtual meeting and welcomed new AHECB members Graycen Bigger of Pocahontas, Dr. Kyle Miller of Helena and Dr. Jerry Cash of Harrison, to their first quarterly meeting. He then announced that Bill Clary resigned from the board following his appointment to an institutional board.

Next, Chair Brodell recognized former AHECB member Chris Gilliam for his outstanding work while serving on the Coordinating Board. Brodell presented a plaque to Gilliam and thanked him for giving unselfishly of his time and talents to promote the cause of higher learning in Arkansas.

Agenda Item No. 1
Approval of Minutes

Dr. Michael Stanton moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Lori Griffin seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2
Director's Report

Institutional Leadership Changes

Deborah Frazier, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College (UACCB) in Batesville, announced her retirement effective May 31. Frazier was named chancellor at UACCB in May 2007. She began her teaching career as an accounting instructor at Gateway Vocation Technical School in 1987. During her tenure, she has served as a division chair of business, technology and public service, vice chancellor of academic affairs and vice chancellor for learning and student services.

Crisis Stabilization Units

Kathryn Lawson Griffin, Justice Reinvestment Coordinator for the Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson, presented information on Crisis Stabilization Units (CSU). Created under Act 423 of 2017, CSUs are short-term residential treatment units that provide immediate care to individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use disorder crisis. The goal of the CSU is to quickly stabilize the individual – often within 72 hours – and refer that individual to community resources when they are available. Arkansas has four Crisis Stabilization Units.

Pulaski County Crisis Stabilization Unit has 16 beds and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is staffed by UAMS. It is located at 3001 W. Roosevelt Road in Little Rock. It serves Pulaski, Perry, Saline, Lonoke, Jefferson, and Grant counties.

Sebastian County Crisis Stabilization Unit has 16 beds. It is staffed by Western Arkansas Guidance and Counseling Center. It is located at 3113 South 70th Street in Fort Smith. It serves Sebastian, Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Scott, and Polk counties.

Washington County Crisis Stabilization Unit is located at 105 N. Mill Avenue in Fayetteville. It serves the Northwest region of Arkansas.

Craighead County Crisis Stabilization Unit has 16 beds. It is located at 837 Willett Road in Jonesboro. It serves 20 counties in the Northeast region of Arkansas.

ADHE Strategic Plan

Building on the successes and lessons of the Closing the Gap 2020 master plan, the Arkansas Division of Higher Education engaged think tanks from a cross-section of

experts from within and beyond academia, explained Dr. Markham. The collaborative result is a highly targeted, tangible, and data informed plan to move our state to the next phase of post-secondary strategy. By 2030, we aspire to increase the percentage of adult Arkansans with college credentials to 55%. We will take concrete steps to reach measurable outcomes in our new master plan: Align Arkansas 2026. Dr. Markham invited presidents/chancellors, faculty, and staff to submit comments by June 1.

Legislative Update

The legislative Session is scheduled to recess on Tuesday, April 27, for higher education items. We have had mixed success this session, said Markham. The ADHE needs-based scholarship initiative was defeated in committee. ADHE will revisit that option in the 2023 session. ADHE staff will provide the board with a legislative summary in the next couple of weeks.

Chair Brodell thanked Kathryn Griffin for her presentation on CSUs and encouraged the institutions to take advantage of their services. He also thanked Dr. Markham and staff for their work on the strategic plan.

Agenda Item No. 3 Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation

Statewide student retention and graduation rates for students entering Arkansas higher education institutions are presented in this report for both public 4-Year and 2-Year institutions, and private/independent institutions. The Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) enables multi-year student retention and graduation tracking in compliance with Student-Right-to-Know legislation and Act 267 of 1989.

When looking at both public sectors together, the state's fall-to-fall retention rate of 70.6% for the Fall 2019 cohort has increased 2.1% over the Fall 2015 retention rate of 68.5%, due to the increased retention rate of our 4-Year institutions. The 2-Year college retention rate comes in around 58% for each of the reported cohorts.

Both male and female cohorts reported slight increases in their retention rates for our 4-year public institutions. For the 2-Year college cohorts, the male students' retention rate has increased only 0.7% when comparing the Fall 2017 cohort to the Fall 2019 cohort, and females showed a retention rate decline of 1.5%.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 4 Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes

This report complies with Act 267 of 1989 that requires reporting of retention and graduation rates for first-time in college students who participate in Arkansas intercollegiate athletics. This information is collected through institutional data

submissions to the Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) from all public colleges and universities with athletic programs. In addition to retention and graduation rates, this report provides data on all athletic participation by sport and scholarship status.

In Academic Year 2019-20, 3,576 students participated in athletics at ten universities and seven 2-year colleges. This is the most student-athletes ever reported for an academic year. This is an increase of 239 student-athletes over the 2018-19 academic year, including 48 student-athletes reported by two 2-year colleges, Cossatot Community College of the U of A and South Arkansas Community College. This was the first year South Arkansas Community College reported student-athlete data to ADHE, and the first time for Cossatot Community College to report since Academic Year 2017.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5
Annual Report on First-Year Student
Remediation for Fall 2020

In accordance with A.C.A. §6-61-110, the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) addresses the placement standards necessary for enrollment of students into mathematics, English composition, and reading based on appropriate indicators of potential student success rates.

In Fall 2020 (AY2021), 20,767 first-time entering, degree-seeking students enrolled in an Arkansas public institution of higher education. Of this population, 18,544 (89%) were classified as full-time students and 2,223 (11%) were classified as part-time students. With regard to gender, over half (58%) were female; 42% were male and less than 1% percent did not report. When examining the place of enrollment, 13,362 students (64%) enrolled at four-year institutions compared to 7,405 (36%) at two-year institutions.

Regarding the remediation count of all first-time entering students, 13,777 (66%) first time entering students did not take any remedial courses whereas 6,990 students (34%) were placed into one or more remedial courses.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 6
Annual Report on Productivity of
Recently Approved Programs

Arkansas Code §6-61-214 requires the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to establish standards for the academic programs offered by Arkansas colleges and universities and to create a seven to ten-year review cycle for all existing academic programs. The existing academic program review policies (AHECB Policy 5.12) were adopted in 1995 and 1998.

In April 2008, the AHECB directed ADHE staff in cooperation with the public colleges and universities to revise the existing program review process to ensure quality academic programs that support Arkansas's economic development goals, and to identify and remove non-viable programs from state general revenue funding. The goal for the review is to identify certificate and degree programs not currently meeting productivity standards.

Fifty-two percent of all programs are on track to meet academic standards. How does this compare to last year, asked Chair Brodell? Dr. Walker said that last year only forty-seven percent of all programs were on track to meet academic standards.

Agenda Item No. 7 Maintenance Review

Currently there is no formal definition for Maintenance in policy. ADHE staff believe the best definition to use for these types of set-asides would be planned maintenance of the facilities. Planned maintenance is defined as any maintenance activity that is planned, documented, and scheduled. The goal of planned maintenance is to reduce downtime by having all necessary resources already on hand and a strategy to use those resources. This would not include maintenance staff, which would be part of normal operating costs, or small daily items such as replacing light bulbs. It would also not include reactive maintenance costs when something unexpectedly breaks.

Current rates for set-aside funding is adequate to meet these planned maintenance needs for new facilities. ADHE staff will continue to monitor these rates and make suggested updates as trends change within the area, explained Nick Fuller.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 8 Review of Revised Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budget

A.C.A. §6-62-805 (Act 366 of 1991) requires each state supported institution of higher education to annually certify by June 15 to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board that its intercollegiate athletic program will generate sufficient revenues to meet expenditures or that any athletic deficit will be met by separate institutional board sanctioned student athletic fees.

South Arkansas Community College recently approved the addition of baseball and softball to their athletic programs. The institution is submitting for approval a revised 2020-2021 budget to account for these additions. The programs will not begin play until 2021-2022, but initial startup expenses are needed in this fiscal year.

This revision is for an increase of budgeted expenditures of \$26,966 above previously budgeted amounts. A summary chart of 2020-21 athletic certification data for the

institution is shown on page 8-2.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the revised Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures Budgeted for 2020-21 for South Arkansas Community College as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

Greg Revels asked Fuller if SACC knew they would have a baseball team last June. Fuller said they did not. They are working now so the program can be implemented in spring 2022.

Keven Anderson moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 8 to the full Board for consideration. Chair Brodell seconded and the committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 9 Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds

According to the provisions of A.C.A. §6-61-801 through §6-61-808, there is established the Arkansas Research Development Program for providing Arkansas Research Development Program Grants to publicly-supported universities in Arkansas by the Division of Higher Education. Act 181 of 2020 provides that after the sum of \$13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund to be used as provided by law.

In accordance with A.C.A. §6-61-803 and A.C.A. §6-61-807, "There is created a program to be known as the Arkansas Research Development program which shall be administered by the Director of the Division of Higher Education. Funds may be made available for administration of the Arkansas Development Research Program, for purchasing state-of-the-art equipment, for minor renovations of laboratory space, for publication of findings, for employing scientists or research assistants, and for providing any other assistance to scientists in order to develop a continuing research capacity in this state which is recognized as exemplary."

The current balance in the Higher Education Research Development Fund is \$65,181. The fiscal 2021 appropriation of \$500,000 is adequate for the authorization of distribution of up to \$350,000 requested by the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) board of directors.

RESOLVED, That after review by the Legislative Council, the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to distribute up to \$350,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for continuing personal services and operating expenses related to ARE-ON.

There were no questions.

Keven Anderson moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 9 to the full Board for consideration. Chair Brodell seconded and the committee approved.

Agenda Item. No. 10
Economic Feasibility of Loan for the
University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana

The University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana (UACCH-T) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to secure (1) a loan from the College Savings Bond Revolving Loan Fund (CSBRLF) not to exceed \$2,923,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 0.18 percent and (2) a bank loan in the amount of \$4,800,000 with a term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 3.0 percent. Proceeds from both loans will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes along with reserves set aside for this project. The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas approved this financing at its meeting on March 18, 2021.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana to secure a loan not to exceed \$2,923,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 0.18 percent and a bank loan in the amount of \$4,800,000 with a term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 3.0 percent to fund an energy savings performance contract project that includes (1) a 13,165 sq. ft. Workforce Training Center that houses a welding lab, classrooms, offices, and reconfigurable space for teaching workforce training courses on the Texarkana campus; (2) a 1.0 megawatt (MW) AC solar array located on the Hope campus; (3) academic Solar Lab to support the Certificate of Proficiency in Solar Energy Technology on the Hope campus and (4) energy conservation improvements to include HVAC equipment replacement and upgrades, lighting upgrades and water conservation.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Greg Revels asked if both loans include energy savings projects. Fuller said that is correct.

Chair Brodell asked if an institutional representative was present to provide additional information.

Laura Clark, UACCHT Interim Chancellor explained that UACCHT will put in a solar array located on the Hope campus which will create a significant amount of cost savings as well as a small solar lab to support the Certificate of Proficiency in Solar Energy Technology. They will also create a Workforce Training Center that houses a welding lab, classrooms, offices, and reconfigurable space for teaching workforce training courses on the Texarkana campus, said Clark.

Greg Revels asked if maintenance funds would be set aside for the solar array. Fuller said there is nothing in the maintenance policy that requires the funds be set aside for non-facility equipment.

Keven Anderson moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 10 to the full Board for consideration. Chair Brodell seconded and the committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 11

Technical Certificate and Certificate of Proficiency in Marine Technology Arkansas State University – Beebe

Arkansas State University- Beebe (ASUB) is seeking approval to establish stackable credentials in Marine Technology. The Certificate of Proficiency and the Technical Certificate in Marine Technology are stackable credentials in Marine Technology. The TC in Marine Technology will consist of 30 semester hours consisting of 8 marine technology courses and 6 hours of general education. The CP in Marine Technology will consist of 9 semester hours of marine technology courses. The TC in Marine Technology will also meet the AAS in General Technology requirements for students who wish to complete an associate's degree.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in Marine Technology (CIP 47.0616; 30 credit hours; Fall 2021) Certificate of Proficiency in Marine Technology (CIP47.0616; 9 credit hours; Fall 2021).

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University Beebe of the approval.

Dr. Jason Goodner, Vice Chancellor of Academics, provided additional information on the program.

Dr. Jim Carr asked if Yamaha would help with the funding of this program. Dr. Goodner said that the initial funding will be provided through the Governor's Ready for Life Initiative. However, Yamaha is ready to provide additional funding and training as needed.

Chair Brodell asked if ASUB knew the immediate or future needs for the program graduates. Dr. Goodner said that one of their partners is currently in need of 10 marine technology positions. ASUB's business and industry partners plan to hire between 30 – 40 marine technologists between the next 3 – 5 years.

Agenda Item No. 12

Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology Systems East Arkansas Community College

The Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology Systems (AAS-ITS) program will prepare students with the applied knowledge, technical and communication skills to pursue a wide range of entry-level positions. Information technology fields include areas of general IT support, basic programming and software management and networking. The program's courses will develop students' foundational skills, prepare them to install, maintain computers, networks, troubleshoot hardware and software issues. The existing technical certificate in Microcomputer Maintenance and Repair (TC-MMR), courses will support the proposed AAS-ITS.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology Systems (CIP 11.1006; 60 credit hours) offered by East Arkansas Community College, effective Fall 2021.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of East Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Robert Summers, Vice President for Vocational, Occupational, and Technical Education, provided additional information on the program.

Dr. Jim Carr commented on the low projected enrollment rate. Dr. Summers explained that EACC purposely projected low based on the current COVID environment. He is hopeful they will exceed those numbers.

Graycen Bigger asked if local industry was involved with the development of the program curriculum. Summers explained that EACC has visited with advisory committees and has great support from the ACC IT workgroup. Industry and educational partners have helped with the development of this program.

Bigger commended EACC for considering the salaries of the students, which are well above the average. She asked if there was a pipeline with the industry partners to ensure the students have a place of employment when the program is finished. Summers said that while Forrest City doesn't have a lot of big manufacturing facilities, they do have hospitals, banks, and retail that have available IT positions.

Agenda Item No. 13
Associate of Applied Science in Health Sciences
Northwest Arkansas Community College

The proposed Associate of Applied Science in Health Sciences degree is designed to allow students to meet the general education course requirements to apply to any of NWACC's Health Profession programs as well as prepare to transfer or bridge to higher level degrees in Health Professions. Students not accepted to the Health Profession programs at NWACC who do not choose to transfer on to higher degrees, will have the opportunity to have a completed degree with a basis in Health Professions and allow them to complete entry level certifications in EMT or CNA. The Health Professions directed electives will also give the student basic knowledge in medical terminology and electronic health records allowing them to work in entry level positions in a health care setting.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Health Sciences (CIP 51.000; 60 credit hours; Summer 2021).

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Ricky Tompkins, Vice President for Learning, provided additional information on the program.

Dr. Jim Carr voiced concern regarding the projected Summer 2021 enrollment of 100 students, and noted they only expect to have 18 graduates by Summer 2024. Dr. Tompkins said that he believes the graduation numbers will be much higher. He explained that some students are going to start this program and then transition into the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing or Respiratory Therapy programs.

Agenda Item No. 14
Associate of Applied Science in General Technology
Northwest Arkansas Community College

The Associate of Applied Science in General Technology degree will enable students to design an individualized program of study to fulfill workforce training goals that cannot be met through the completion of any single degree program presently offered at NWACC. Students within this program will be able to select from multiple technical disciplines, including possible PLE credit gained from prior completion of industry recognized credentials and/or experience.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in General

Technology (CIP 30.9999; 60 credit hours) offered by the Northwest Arkansas Community College, effective Summer 2021.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Ricky Tompkins, Vice President for Learning, provided additional information on the program.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 15
Technical Certificate in Bicycle Assembly and Repair Technician
Northwest Arkansas Community College

The Technical Certificate in Bicycle Assembly and Repair (39-40 credit hours), will be designed to prepare students for immediate employment in technical positions in the bicycle industry, including critical thinking, problem solving and customer service. This will allow graduates of this program to obtain positions as bike technicians, retail associate, and manufacturers This credential will be completely stackable within the Associate of Applied Science in General Technology, which transfers completely to the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith’s Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in Bicycle Assembly and Repair Technician (CIP 47.0610; 39-40 credit hours) Northwest Arkansas Community College, effective Fall 2021.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Ricky Tompkins, Vice President for Learning, provided additional information on the program.

Chad Hooten and Dr. Jim Carr expressed excitement for the Bicycle Assembly and Repair Technician program.

Chair Brodell said that after a lot of research, he is confident that there is a need for this program in Northwest Arkansas.

Graycen Bigger thanked NWACC for the interesting program.

Lori Griffin expressed excitement for the health and wellness benefits this program will bring to Arkansans.

Agenda Item No. 16
Master in Nursing Science-Case Management
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Nursing currently offers a Master of Nursing Science (MNSc) degree with tracks in nurse administration and six nurse-practitioner specialties (adult-gerontology acute care, adult-gerontology primary care, family, pediatric acute care, pediatric primary care, and psychiatric mental health) for registered nurses with baccalaureate degrees or higher. The curriculum for these tracks ranges from 40–43 credits.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves Master in Nursing Science-Case Management (CIP 51.3808; 60 credit hours) offered by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, effective Fall 2021

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences of the approval.

Dr. Patricia Cowan, Dean of the College of Nursing, provided additional information on the program.

Dr. Carr asked if UAMS expected full or part-time students in this program. Dr. Cowan said they anticipate a mix of both full and part-time students.

Agenda Item No. 17
Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Nursing offers multiple nursing education programs, including a traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), a Registered Nurse (RN) to BSN program, and multiple graduate programs. Both the traditional BSN program and the RN-to-BSN program are offered from the main Little Rock campus of UAMS. The UAMS College of Nursing traditional BSN program has had 95% or higher pass rates on the NCLEX exam for several consecutive years, with the highest pass rate in the state in 2019.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (A-BSN) (CIP 51.3801, 120 credit hours) offered by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, effective Summer 2021.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences of the approval.

Dr. Patricia Cowan, Dean of the College of Nursing, provided additional information on the program.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 18

Associate of Applied Science in Network Engineering Technology
Technical Certificate in Network Engineering Technology
Certificate of Proficiency in Supporting Technology
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, is offering a new Associate of Applied Science degree in Network Engineering Technology (60 credit hours), to support industry, government, and academic uses of networked systems. The program incorporates customer service, cyber devices, programming, network software and hardware infrastructure, cloud computing, and computer security. This program will address customer service and technology transfer required by many positions, from help desk to technical support to security administration to cloud computing across practically every type of organization.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Network Engineering Technology (CIP 11.1006; 60 credit hours) Technical Certificate in Network Engineering Technology (CIP 11.1006; 31 credit hours) Certificate of Proficiency in Supporting Technology (CIP 11.1006; 12 credit hours) offered by the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, effective Fall 2021.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith of the approval.

Dr. Ken Warden, Dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology, provided additional information on the program.

Dr. Carr asked how this program is being funded since UAFS is experiencing cut backs. Dr. Warden said embedding this program in the Peak Innovation Center (PIC) has allowed it to garnish significant investments. They have also received funds from the regional workforce grants rounds I and II to continue these efforts and for the

infrastructure. These strategic investments have to happen to keep our community sound and prosperous, said Warden.

Agenda Item No. 19
 Associate of Applied Science in Computer Integrated Machining
 Technical Certificate in Computer Integrated Machining
 Certificate of Proficiency in Machining Technology
 Certificate of Proficiency in Computer Numerical Control Machining
 University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, proposes the addition of a new degree, the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Integrated Machining (60 credit hours). As part of this new degree, we propose the addition of nine new classes. There are seven Machining classes still in the course catalog from the previously deleted Machine Technology program and we propose to delete five of those classes. The existing classes were 5 credit hours, and we are going to deliver the new courses as 4 credit hour classes.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Integrated Machining (CIP 48.0510; 60 credit hours; Technical Certificate in Computer Integrated Machining (CIP 48.0510; 30 credit hours; Fall 2021); Certificate of Proficiency in Machining Technology (CIP 48.0510; 12 credit hours; Fall 2021) and the Certificated of Proficiency in Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machining (CIP 48.0510; 8 credit hours; Fall 2021)

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas Fort Smith of the approval.

Dr. Ken Warden, Dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology, provided additional information on the program.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 20
 Master of Design in Design for Collaborative Futures
 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The University of Arkansas – Fayetteville, proposes the addition of a new degree; the Masters of Design in Design for Collaborative Futures. A \$120 million endowment by the Walton Family Charitable Trust Foundation was awarded to the School of Art to establish a graduate degree in design considering that there is no stand-alone terminal degree in design in the state of Arkansas. The graduate degree will consist of 60 credit hours within a two year or four-semester period. For those applicants who derive from

interdisciplinary undergraduate degrees or require a foundational design education prior to entering the Master of Design's two-year sequence, a foundational year will be offered.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Design in Design for Collaborative Futures (CIP 09.0702; 60 credit hours) offered by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, effective Fall 2022.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville of the approval.

Dr. Terry Martin, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided additional information on the program.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 21
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

RESOLVED, That pursuant to A.C.A. §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1 - 2 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of three years through December 31, 2024.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of said institutions that the certification of the degree programs requires the institution to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of said institutions that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in A.C.A. §6-61-301.

Initial Program Certification – Distance Technology

Ultimate Medical Academy, Tampa, Florida
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Initial Program Certification at New Institutions – Distance Delivery

University of California Davis, Davis, California
William Jessup University, Rocklin, California

Initial Program Certification at Arkansas Locations

Vincennes University, Vincennes, Indiana

There were no questions.

Dr. Jim Carr moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Items No. 11 - 21 to the full Board for consideration. Graycen Bigger seconded and the Committee approved.

There were no questions.

Agenda Items No. 22 & 23
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 22-1 through 22-37 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 23-1 through 23-6 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Report of the Committees

Chair Al Brodell presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 8 – 10. Dr. Jim Carr seconded and the board approved.

Lori Griffin presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 11 – 21. Dr. Michael Stanton seconded and the board approved.

Remarks by Presidents and Chancellors

Chair Brodell announced the next Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meeting would be held on July 30, 2021, via Zoom.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

APPROVED:

Nichole Abernathy

Lori Griffin, Secretary