

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**August 6, 2004**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The August 6, 2004 regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held in the Wal-Mart Auditorium on the campus of NorthWest Arkansas Community College in Bentonville, Arkansas. Chairman Phil Ford called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. with a quorum of Board members present.

Coordinating Board present:

Phil Ford, Chair  
Dr. Dan Grant, Vice Chair  
Betsy Thompson, Secretary  
Jodie Carter  
Bob Cheyne  
David Damron  
Kaneaster Hodges  
Bill Johnson  
Dr. Lynda Phillips Johnson  
David Leech  
Dr. Anne Trussell

Department staff present:

Dr. Linda Beene, Director  
Dr. Steve Floyd, Deputy Director  
Dr. Stan Williams, Sr. Associate Director for Institutional Finance  
Dr. Karen Wheeler, Associate Director of Academic Affairs  
Cynthia Moten, Coordinator of Academic Affairs  
Jeanne Jones, Assistant Coordinator of Academic Affairs  
Patsy Strode, Coordinator of Institutional Certification  
Julie Bates, Coordinator of Institutional Finance  
Shelia Mauppin, Coordinator of Federal Programs  
Reagan Brown, Financial Manager  
Judy McAinsh, Finance Officer  
Christina Miller, Coordinator of General Administration  
Mary Fedrick, Administrative Assistant

Presidents, chancellors, other institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present. Chairman Ford introduced Dr. Becky Paneitz, President of NorthWest Arkansas Community College at Bentonville. President Paneitz welcomed the Coordinating Board, department staff, and others to the campus and stated that she appreciated the opportunity to speak to the Board. She said she was celebrating her one-year anniversary at NorthWest Arkansas Community College and provided an

update on the accomplishments of their institution. She stated that the Shewmaker Center, funded in partnership with Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, and the Shewmaker family, opened last September. She was also excited to report a 300% increase in enrollment from 1990-2003. In closing, she welcomed everyone to take a tour of the facility to see some of the results of their dedication to NWCC.

Chairman Ford thanked Dr. Paneitz and introduced Senator David Pryor, Dean of the Clinton School of Public Service, and Dr. Tony Kinkel, new chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Approval of Minutes

David Leech motioned to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2004 meeting, Dr. Trussell seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2  
Report of the Director

Dr. Beene reported that the final meeting of the Blue Ribbon Committee was held on June 1, 2004 and Governor Huckabee has asked for comments from presidents and chancellors.

Dr. Beene mentioned the brochure on an upcoming Strategic Policy Forum titled, "The Buck Starts Here". She said the conference is scheduled for September 22-23, 2004, and will include speakers who will address issues that can qualify for the annual training required by trustees.

Dr. Beene reported that the Department of Higher Education has undergone some personnel changes that included Dr. Stan Williams' new role as Senior Associate Director for Institutional Finance when Rita Fleming went to UCA; Patsy Strode has taken on new role to promote the STAR Program which is designed to recruit teachers in critical needs areas/programs; Reagan Brown has assumed the role previously held by Scott Trotter who moved to Houston; John Davidson begins his role in Institutional Finance in about two weeks; and Dr. Gene Aist, Coordinator for Federal Programs has retired.

Dr. Beene thanked Melissa Goff for her work with the college financial assistance programs. Dr. Beene distributed a copy of a report to the Coordinating Board that was presented by Melissa at the previous April Board meeting. Dr. Beene explained that discussion has begun regarding increasing the award amount for the Workforce Improvement Grant or absorbing the SAG Program into the WIG Program. A copy of the report was also sent to presidents and chancellors and written comments were

asked for by August 16<sup>th</sup>. Any recommendations requiring legislative action will be presented to the Coordinating Board at the October meeting.

In closing, Dr. Beene thanked the Higher Education staff for their hard work over the last several months.

Agenda Item No. 3  
Report of Nominating Committee &  
Election of Board Officers for 2004-05

Chairman Ford called on Bob Cheyne to present the report of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Cheyne reported that Phil Ford was elected to remain as chair of the Coordinating Board, Kaneaster Hodges was elected Vice-Chair, Betsy Thompson elected as Secretary, Dan Grant elected as chair of the Academic Committee, and David Leech elected as chair of the Finance Committee. Jodie Carter motioned to accept the Board Officers for 2004-05 as presented, Dr. Trussell seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4  
Resolution in Support of Amendment #2

Dr. Beene explained that the purpose of the resolution found on pages 4-1 through 4-2 was to endorse Amendment #2 by the Coordinating Board. Dr. Beene stated that this Amendment will be placed on the November 2004 ballot for voters and would give the Legislature, Department of Economic Development and Department of Finance & Administration permission to grant revenue bonds to industries like auto manufacturing plants. Kaneaster Hodges moved approval, Dan Grant seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Report of Committees

David Leech presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 5,5A-13. Bob Cheyne seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. Chairman Ford asked if there were any questions or comments about the funding formula agenda items, to which there were none.

Dr. Dan Grant presented the report of the Academic Committee and motioned to adopt Agenda Items 14-36 & 38. Kaneaster Hodges seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Recommendations for Educational and  
General Operations for 2005-07

A.C.A. §6-61-223 establishes the process and key components for formula development for funding public institutions of higher education. That language reads as follows:

“(a) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board will work with the state college and university Presidents Council to review, revise, and develop funding formulas which will, in principle, seek to provide fair and equitable state support to all postsecondary students across the state, regardless of the state institution attended, while at the same time recognizing: (1) The different needs for lower level, upper level, and graduate level instruction at the various institutions; (2) The requirements for specialized equipment, labs and smaller class sizes in some disciplines; and (3) Unique missions, such as agricultural extension services, research, medical sciences, workforce development, and public service; and (4) Growth, economies of scale, and other appropriate factors. (b) The formulas will be developed in consensus with the state college and university president’s council and presented to the Joint Budget Committee for review.”

At its April 30, 2004 meeting, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the funding models for both the two-year colleges and the universities. These models had been developed in conjunction with presidents and chancellors after numerous meetings and revisions. Those meetings also resulted in two separate methodologies for the distribution of funds in the event full funding could not be realized. The two funding models were used to develop the comparative needs of Arkansas institutions of higher education in terms of the average funding levels of schools in the SREB region.

The non-formula group has expanded from 9 to 17 entities since funding recommendations were made for the current biennium. The staff reviewed the justification requests submitted by the non-formula group and prepared preliminary funding recommendations based upon those requests. After making preliminary recommendations, the staff conducted budget hearings with each non-formula entity. After the conclusion of all budget hearings, final recommendations were made in light of the appeals heard during the budget hearings.

**Operating Funding Recommendations for the 2005-2007 Biennium**

Operating recommendations (Table 1A, Page 5-5 of the agenda book) represent a 9% increase for two-year institutions, an 8.1% increase for four-year institutions, and an 8.9% for nonformula entities for 2005-06. The operating recommendations for 2006-07

represent a 8.2% increase for two-year institutions and an 8.1% increase for four-year institutions and a 7.9% increase for the non-formula entities. Additional information can be found on pages 5-2 through 5-8 of the agenda book.

Dr. Williams thoroughly explained the need-based funding formula and added that the need was determined by using nationally derived standards for the institutions. He explained that the amount of funds recommended would bring Arkansas funding comparable to the SREB region on a four (4) year schedule. He responded to questions regarding distribution methodology. The Coordinating Board applauded Dr. Williams and the Institutional Finance staff for the tremendous efforts they put forth to provide such a funding formula.

Board members were distributed copies of Amendment 5A which proposed a grandfather clause for Arkansas State University at Jonesboro's funding formula regarding tuition fees in Paragould. The Board members affirmed that this exception applied to ASUJ instruction in Paragould only.

Ms. Betsy Thompson expressed concern regarding funding sources for the Clinton School. Senator David Pryor offered additional comments to re-emphasize the unique opportunities for the state of Arkansas that the Clinton School would offer. He also reminded everyone that the Clinton School would offer the only graduate degree in public service in the nation.

#### Agenda Item No. 5

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendations for state funding of the educational and general operations of Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2005-07 biennium as included in Tables 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2005-07 operating recommendations of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That should any errors of a technical nature be found in these recommendations, the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board's action on these recommendations.

Agenda Item No. 5A

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the 2005-07 funding recommendations without application of the October 19, 2001 Policy 5.17.1,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Policy 5.17.1 will not be applied to Arkansas State University lower-level instruction in the future in Paragould because the instruction began prior to the approval of the policy.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board affirms that this exception to Policy 5.17.1 shall not serve as a precedent in any other location.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University of this action.

Mr. Cheyne motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Items No. 5 and 5A to the full Board, Dr. Trussell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 6  
Recommendations for State Funding of Capital Projects  
2005-07 Biennium

From a total of \$104.2 million appropriated, the 2003 General Assembly allocated \$14 million for distribution from the General Improvement Fund (GIF) for various capital projects at institutions of higher education. To date, \$7.2 million has been released to institutions from the GIF for higher education projects. The amount of funding available from the GIF has greatly decreased over the last two biennium. For the 2001-03 biennium, \$21.7 million was distributed for capital projects, which was down from the 1999-01 biennium when \$56 million was distributed for capital projects. For the 2005-07 biennium, \$94.7 million in Category A and \$116.5 million in Category B is the recommendation.

Mr. Leech asked if institutions with critical maintenance were funded first and Dr. Williams stated that critical maintenance institutions don't have to be funded first. He also stated that according to the Revenue Stabilization Act, excess funds went back into the General Improvement Fund.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the staff recommendations for state funding of capital projects totaling \$222.7 million as identified in the accompanying agenda materials.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director is authorized to transmit to the Governor and the General Assembly the Board's recommendation for state funding.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director is authorized to make such technical adjustments to these recommendations as may be required.

Mr. Bill Johnson motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 6 to the full Board, Dr. Trussell seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 7  
Maximum Salary Recommendations for  
Non-Classified Personnel  
2005-07 Biennium

As a part of the statutory authority given to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to present a consolidated budget request to the General Assembly and the Governor for each institution (A.C.A. §6-61-209), all new position requests have been reviewed. Line item maximum salaries for all non-classified administrative, academic, and auxiliary positions at each institution of public higher education have been recommended by staff to be effective July 1, 2005. These position recommendations recognize the varying structures of institutions, priorities of the new biennium and full-time equivalent enrollment growth while maintaining reasonable consistency among titles and salaries for the same functions at similar institutions. At the same time ADHE staff has attempted to keep the net growth in new positions at a minimum due to concerns over budget shortfalls and the expansion of state services.

As instructed, institutions submitted their personal services requests with the maximum salaries for 2005-06 at 2.7 percent above the authorized salary maximums for 2004-05, and the 2006-07 maximum salaries at 2.7 percent above the 2005-06 maximums. Due to a directive from the State Chief Fiscal Officer, staff adjusted the line-item maximum salaries using the following formula:

\$0 - \$50,000	3% of employee's current salary with a \$600 minimum adjustment for line-item maximums under \$20,000
\$50,001 - \$90,000	3% on first \$50,000; plus 1.9% on remaining salary up to \$90,000

\$90,001+	3% on first \$50,000; plus 1.9% on salary amounts between \$50,001 and \$90,000; plus 1.5% on salary amounts above \$90,001
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ADHE staff reviewed each position request and made preliminary recommendations to the institutions prior to the budget hearings held in June. Staff recommendations were further reviewed after the hearings and some changes were made in response to institutional concerns.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommended maximum salaries for non-classified positions in academic, administrative, and auxiliary positions for the 2005-07 biennium as recommended by staff.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to make technical corrections consistent with Coordinating Board action.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board requests the Director to transmit the Personal Services recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration for the 2005-07 biennium.

Staff recommendations for this agenda item appear on page 7-2 of the agenda book. Mr. Cheyne motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No.7 to the full Board, Mr. Bill Johnson seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 8  
Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic  
Revenues and Expenditures for 2004-05

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.

Ms. Julie Bates stated that all institutions submitted the proper forms, which were verified by Institutional Finance staff.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures Budgeted for 2004-05 as prepared in accordance with

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

Mr. David Damron motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 8 to the full Board, Mr. Bob Cheyne seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 9  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$47 million with a term of 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.8 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for both educational & general (E&G) and auxiliary purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting on August 4, 2004.

The E&G issue will be approximately \$27 million with annual debt service of \$2,057,000. Proceeds from the issue will be used for various renovation and maintenance projects and for acquisition of property including University Plaza, which is adjacent to the campus. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to educational and general debt service.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to issue bonds for approximately \$47 million with a term of 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.8 percent for E&G and auxiliary purposes.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Mr. Cheyne motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 9 to the full Board, Mr. Johnson seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 10  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$23.3 million with a term of up to 20 years at an estimated annual interest rate of five percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting on August 4, 2004.

The E&G issue will be approximately \$23.3 million with annual debt service of \$1,900,000. Proceeds from the issue will be used for various renovation and construction projects on campus including upgrades to the chiller plant and additions to the law library. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to educational and general debt service.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville to issue bonds for approximately \$23.3 million with a term of 20 years at an estimated annual interest rate of five percent for E&G purposes.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Mr. Damron motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 10 to the full Board, Dr. Trussell seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 11  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$190 million with a term of up to 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5.2 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for auxiliary purposes, which will include a new patient-care bed tower, a dormitory and a parking deck in support of the new patient facility. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting on August 4, 2004.

The proposed issue will include: \$163.6 million for the patient care tower with annual debt service of \$12,162,000; \$15.2 million for a dormitory with an estimated annual debt service of \$1,133,000; and \$11.1 million for a parking deck with an estimated annual debt service of \$828,000. Proceeds from the issue will be used to replace an existing dormitory to make room for the new patient care tower and a parking deck in support of the new patient-care tower. Current Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board policy regarding auxiliary debt service requires that the net auxiliary revenues must be no less than 120 percent of the total auxiliary debt service.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to issue bonds for approximately \$190 million with a term of 25 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5.2 percent for auxiliary purposes.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Ms. Bates distributed revised copies of this agenda item to Board members and stated that additional copies were available to presidents and chancellors in attendance. Dr. Trussell motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 11 to the full Board, Mr. Johnson seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 12  
Economic Feasibility of Loan  
Henderson State University

Henderson State University requests approval of a loan of \$445,000 with a term of 10 years at an annual interest rate of 2.05 percent from the College Savings Bond Loan Fund. Proceeds of the loan will be used to purchase land and structures adjacent to the campus to be converted to office and classroom space. This loan fund was created from the repayment of loans approved by the State Board from the College Savings Bond Loan Fund in Phase I of the College Savings Bond Program. The Henderson State University Board of Trustees approved the loan application on July 12, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the loan from the College Savings Bond Loan Fund for Henderson State University of \$445,000 with a term of 10 years at an annual interest rate of 2.05 percent to purchase land and structures adjacent to the campus to be converted to office and classroom space.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Henderson State University and the President of Henderson State University of the Coordinating Board's approval of the loan and to enter into the necessary contracts to initiate and secure the loan.

Mr. Cheyne motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 12 to the full Board, Dr. Trussell seconded, and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Arkansas Health Education Grant Program

The Arkansas Health Education Grant Program (ARHEG) provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. Such assistance is currently provided for students of dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, and chiropractic medicine.

Section 30 of Act 31 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003 provides that "The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after consulting with the recognized associations of each of the applicable medical professions and other interested persons, shall determine the priorities for the applicable programs enumerated on the appropriation made for 'Health Education Grants' in this act. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall re-adjust the number of freshman positions to be funded for each applicable program based upon the priorities determined by the board."

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board concurs in the staff recommendation that no new slots for the ARHEG program be allocated for the 2005-07 biennium, unless directed otherwise by the Arkansas General Assembly.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board concurs in the staff budget recommendation for the 2005-07 biennium for the ARHEG Program and the Dental Loan Forgiveness Program so long as funds are made available through the Higher Education Grant Funds Account.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board concurs in the staff budget recommendation that should funds not be made available to fund the ARHEG Program and Dental Loan Forgiveness Program, that the freshmen slots in the

program and the loan forgiveness funds will be eliminated first and that the staff may determine the most equitable method to reduce other costs to the program.

Further details regarding this agenda item can be found on pages 13-2 through 13-5 in the agenda book. Mr. Damron motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 13 to the full Board, Dr. Trussell seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 14  
Arkansas Higher Education  
Distance Education Activities

Board members heard a brief summary of the distance education report prepared by ADHE staff. The report focuses on the availability of distance education courses and programs, student demographics, best practices, and quality indicators. In addition, NWACC staff will demonstrate an approved internet-based program that is currently being offered by the institution.

Dr. Angela Peace at NorthWest Arkansas Community College presented an on-line demonstration for distance technology that provided answers for many questions previously asked by the Coordinating Board. She explained that on-line courses are not for everyone, and not every course should be offered on-line. Dr. Peace informed the Board that distance technology is more demanding and requires more student contribution. She also said it opens doors for working people to attend classes and presents opportunities to receive a degree in a reasonable amount of time. Mr. Hodges commented that Dr. Peace's report was excellent and he was very impressed with the information she provided regarding distance technology. He stated there is comfort in knowing that those who use distance education are as accomplished as those who use classroom education. He added that it also provides an economical way for working people to fit higher education into their schedule.

Agenda Item No. 15  
Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care  
Arkansas State University—Mountain Home

The administration and Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University (ASU) request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science in respiratory care on the Arkansas State University—Mountain Home (ASUMH) campus, effective January 2005. ASUMH is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of ASU approved the proposal on May 7, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in respiratory care (CIP 51.0908) to be offered at Arkansas State University—Mountain Home effective January 2005.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University—Mountain Home of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 16  
Bachelor of Science in Early Care and Education  
Arkansas State University—Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University (ASU) request approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in early care and education at Arkansas State University—Jonesboro. ASU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of ASU approved the proposal on May 7, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in early care and education (CIP 13.1210) to be offered at Arkansas State University—Jonesboro, effective August 2004.

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

Agenda Item No. 17  
Master of Arts in Heritage Studies  
Arkansas State University—Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University (ASU) request approval to offer the Master of Arts in heritage studies at Arkansas State University—Jonesboro, effective January 2005. ASU is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The ASU Board of Trustees approved the proposal on June 14, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Arts in heritage studies (CIP 05.9999) to be offered at Arkansas State University—Jonesboro effective August 2004.

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

Agenda Item No. 18  
Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS) to offer the Associate of Applied Science in early childhood education. UAFS is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System approved the proposal on June 4, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in early childhood education (CIP 19.0706) to be offered at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, effective Fall 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department 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 this approval.

Agenda Item No. 19  
Bachelor of Arts in African/African-American Studies  
University of Central Arkansas

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) request approval to offer the Bachelor of Arts in African/African-American studies, effective Fall 2004. UCA is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The UCA Board of Trustees approved the proposal on May 7, 2004.

Dr. Grant asked for clarification on the differences of African vs. African American Studies. Dr. Lee, University of Arkansas at Conway, explained that African Studies involves the study of Africa and African culture and African-American Studies involves those citizens born in the United States and study the history of slavery in Africa. He added that it is customary to merge the two studies.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Arts in African/African-American Studies (CIP 05.0201) to be offered at University of Central Arkansas effective fall 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 20  
Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture  
Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia

The administration and Board of Trustees of the Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia (SAUM) request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture, effective fall semester 2004. The program is consistent with the mission of SAUM. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University--Magnolia approved the proposal on March 30, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture (CIP 01.0102) at Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia, effective fall semester 2004

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 21  
Master of Science in Operations Management  
at Blytheville, Camden, and Via Distance Delivery  
by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) to offer the existing Master of Science in Operations Management (OMGT) at Blytheville, Camden and via distance delivery, effective fall semester 2004. The program is consistent with the mission of UAF. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas approved the proposal on April 2, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves offering the existing Master of Science in Operations Management (CIP 52.1301) at Blytheville, Camden, Cross County, and via distance delivery by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department 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, Fayetteville, of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 22  
Master of Science in Engineering Via Distance Delivery  
by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) to offer the existing Master of Science in Engineering via distance delivery beyond its current Little Rock delivery area, effective fall semester 2004. The program is consistent with the mission of UAF. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The UA Board of Trustees approved the proposal on April 2, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Master of Science in Engineering (CIP 14.0101) to Arkansas residents via distance delivery by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department 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, Fayetteville, of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 23  
Bachelor of Professional Studies  
University of Central Arkansas

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) request approval to offer the Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) with concentrations in health and safety, and leadership and technology, effective fall semester 2004. The program is consistent with the mission of UCA. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association

of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas approved the proposal on May 7, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Bachelor of Professional Studies (CIP 30.9999) with concentrations in health and safety and leadership and technology by the University of Central Arkansas, effective fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 24  
Advanced Certificate and Bachelor of Science  
in Diagnostic Medical Sonography at  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
Area Health Education Center – Northwest

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) to offer the existing Advanced Certificate and Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) at the UAMS Area Health Education Center-Northwest (AHEC-Northwest) in Fayetteville, effective fall semester 2004. The program is consistent with the mission of UAMS. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas approved the proposal on June 4, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Advanced Certificate and Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (CIP 51.0910) by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences at the Area Health Education Center--Northwest in Fayetteville, effective fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department 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 this approval.

Agenda Item No. 25  
Bachelor of Science in Vocational Education,  
Human Resource Development Concentration,  
at the University of Arkansas at Monticello  
College of Technology in McGehee and  
Northwest Arkansas Community College  
by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request approval for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF), to offer the existing human resources development concentration of the Bachelor of Science in Vocational Education at the University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM) College of Technology in McGehee, and NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) effective fall semester 2004. The proposal is consistent with the mission of UAF. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas approved the proposal on June 4, 2004.

Dr. Grant asked if there were any differences in the general education requirements for this program. Ms. Jeanne Jones stated there was no difference and that the program is designed to help working adults meet all the general studies requirements.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves offering the existing human resources development concentration of the Bachelor of Science in Vocational Education (CIP13.1320) at the University of Arkansas at Monticello College of Technology in McGehee and NorthWest Arkansas Community College by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective fall semester 2004.

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

Agenda Item No. 26  
Reorganization of the College of Business  
Arkansas State University—Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University request Coordinating Board approval to reorganize the College of Business at Arkansas State University--Jonesboro (ASUJ), creating a new academic department in computer and information technology (CIT), effective August 15, 2004. ASUJ is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and

Schools. The ASU Board of Trustees approved the proposed changes on May 7, 2004. Additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 26 can be found on pages 26-1 and 26-2 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the reorganization of the College of Business at Arkansas State University--Jonesboro that includes academic departments in computer and information technology, economics and finance, accounting and law, and management and marketing; and the Delta Center for Economic Development, effective August 15, 2004.

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

Agenda Item No. 27  
Existing Degrees in Early Childhood Education,  
Emergency Administration and Management,  
and College Student Personnel  
Offered Via Distance Technology  
by Arkansas Tech University

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University (ATU) request Coordinating Board approval to offer the existing Associate of Science in early childhood education, Bachelor of Science in early childhood education (P-4), Bachelor of Science in emergency administration and management, and Master of Science in college student personnel via distance technology, effective in the fall of 2004. ATU is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The ATU Board of Trustees approved the proposals on May 20, 2004.

Dr. Grant commented that this provided an excellent summary of guidelines for distance technology. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 27 can be found on pages 27-1 through 27-6 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Associate of Science in early childhood education (CIP 13.1209, DC 1010), Bachelor of Science in early childhood education, P-4 (CIP 13.1209, DC 2440), Bachelor of Science in emergency administration and management (CIP 03.0299), and Master of Science in college student personnel (CIP 13.1002) via distance technology by Arkansas Tech University, effective in the fall 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of this approval.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board directs the ADHE staff to conduct a follow-up review of degree programs offered via distance technology and give a report on the status of these programs in 2008.

Agenda Item No. 28  
Existing Degrees in Business Administration,  
Fire Science Management, Technology,  
and Environmental Science  
Offered Via Distance Technology  
by Southern Arkansas University—Tech

The administration and Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University (SAU) request Coordinating Board approval for Southern Arkansas University--Tech (SAU-Tech) to offer existing associate degrees in business administration, fire science management, technology, and environmental science via distance technology, effective in the fall of 2004. SAU-Tech is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The SAU Board of Trustees approved the proposals on June 2, 2004. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 28 can be found on pages 28-1 and 28-2 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Associate of Science in business administration (CIP 52.0201), Associate of Science in fire service management (CIP 43.0202), Associate of Applied Science in technology (CIP 15.9999), and Associate of Applied Science in environmental science (CIP 15.0507) via distance technology by Southern Arkansas University--Tech, effective in the fall 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University, and the Chancellor of Southern Arkansas University--Tech of this approval.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board directs the ADHE staff to conduct a follow-up review of degree programs offered via distance technology and give a report on the status of these programs in 2008.

Agenda Item No. 29  
Bachelor of Science in History  
With Social Studies Teacher Licensure  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS) to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in history with social studies teacher licensure, effective fall semester 2004. UAFS is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This degree proposal is within the role and scope of the institution. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on May 15, 2003. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 29 can be found on pages 29-1 through 29-3 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in history with social studies teacher licensure option (CIP 13.1328) at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, effective in the fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify 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 this approval.

Agenda Item No. 30  
Bachelor of Science in English  
With Teacher Licensure  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS) to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in English with teacher licensure, effective fall semester 2004. UAFS is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This degree proposal is within the role and scope of the institution. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on September 19, 2003. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 30 can be found on pages 30-1 through 30-3 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in English with teacher licensure option (CIP 13.1305) at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, effective in the fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify 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 this approval.

Agenda Item No. 31  
Master of Science in Community and Economic Development  
Offered in People's Republic of China and Taiwan  
University of Central Arkansas

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) seek approval to offer the existing Master of Science in community and economic development (MSCED) in the People's Republic of China and in Taiwan, effective fall semester 2004. UCA is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This degree proposal is within the role and scope of the institution. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on February 20, 2004.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the existing Master of Science in community and economic development (CIP 44.0201) to be offered in the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, effective in the fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 32  
Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) to offer the Master of Science in biomedical engineering, effective fall semester 2004. UAF is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This degree proposal is within the role and scope of the institution. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on February 20, 2004. ADHE contracted with Dr. Nitish Thakor, Professor of Biomedical Engineering at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland to serve as a reader/reviewer of the proposal. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 32 can be found on pages 32-1 through 32-5 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in biomedical engineering (CIP 14.0301) at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective in the fall semester 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 33  
Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts/  
Hospitality Ozarka College

The administration and Board of Trustees of Ozarka College request the approval to offer of the Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts/Hospitality, effective Fall, 2004. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of Ozarka College approved the Culinary Arts/Hospitality degree on December 16, 2003. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 33 can be found on pages 33-1 through 33-3 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts/Hospitality (CIP 12.0599) at Ozarka College, effective August, 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Ozarka College of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 34  
Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance Technology  
National Park Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of National Park Community College request approval to offer the Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance Technology, effective Fall, 2004. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees of National Park Community College approved the proposal on January 28, 2004. Any additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 34 can be found on pages 34-1 through 34-3 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in industrial maintenance technology (CIP 47.0303) at National Park Community College, effective August, 2004.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of National Park Community College of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 35  
Conversion of Programs Offered at  
Merged Technical Institutes  
to Technical Certificate Program Status

At its February 7, 2003 meeting, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved four merger actions.

- Cotton Boll Technical Institute with Mississippi County Community College in which the institutions were renamed Arkansas Northeastern College
- Foothills Technical Institute with Arkansas State University-Beebe in which Foothills Technical Institute was renamed Arkansas State University-Searcy, A Technical Campus of Arkansas State University-Beebe
- Quapaw Technical Institute with Garland County Community College in which the institutions were renamed National Park Community College
- Forest Echoes Technical Institute (renamed University of Arkansas at Monticello Technical College – Crossett) and Great Rivers Technical Institute (renamed University of Arkansas at Monticello Technical College – McGehee) with the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Furthermore, during the 2003 regular session of the Arkansas General Assembly, HB 1786 was passed and signed into law becoming Act 452 of 2003. This legislation merged Arkansas Valley Technical Institute with Arkansas Tech University, effective July 1, 2003. With this action, Arkansas Valley Technical Institute was renamed Arkansas Valley Technical Institute of Arkansas Tech University.

At its August 1, 2003 meeting, the Board granted one-year approval of the programs offered by the merged technical institutes with the condition that during that year those programs would be evaluated and brought back to the Board for final conversion to Technical Certificate status. Specifically, the approval stated:

- All programs, technical certificates, and certificates of proficiency, will be approved for one year and added to the degree program inventory of each college or university with which a technical institute(s) merged to provide

- assurance that students in these programs will be eligible to receive federal financial aid.
- During the next year, ADHE staff will work with the chief academic officers and develop a set of quality indicators that will be documented for review. The reviews will be conducted and programs will be recommended for final approval at the July 2004 [AHECB] meeting. Among the indicators to be reviewed are the course syllabi, instructors' vitae, documentation of the Council of Occupational Education accreditation and other relevant certification, and data on the number of students enrolled in programs, number of graduates or completers, and data on job placement of completers.

To date, each merged institution has completed a focus visit with the NCA-Higher Learning Commission and currently holds, or is seeking, accreditation with the Council of Occupational Education, a national accrediting agency for postsecondary workforce education programs. The Higher Learning Commission visits culminated in approval in status as merged institutions.

Five programs were merged and renamed under Agenda Item No. 35 with resolutions listed below. Additional information can be found on pages 35-1 through 35-18 in the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at Arkansas Northeastern College to Technical Certificate status, effective fall term 2004: Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology, Automotive Service Technology, Early Childhood Development, Computer-Aided Drafting and Design Technology, Computer Repair and Networking, Computer Support Technology, Computerized Accounting, Dental Assisting Technology, Office Technology, Paramedics, Practical Nursing, and Welding Technology.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at Arkansas Valley Technical Institute of Arkansas Tech University to Technical Certificate status, effective no later than June 2005: Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Applied Laboratory Technology, Automation Maintenance Technology, Automotive Service Technology, Business Technology, Business Technology-Medical Transcription, Collision Repair Technology, Computer Information Systems, Cosmetology, Electronics Technology, EMT/Paramedic, Practical Nursing, and Welding Technology.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at Arkansas State University-Searcy, A Technical Campus of Arkansas State University-Beebe to Technical Certificate status, effective fall term 2004: Air

Conditioning, Auto Body Repair, Automotive Service Technology, Business Education, Computer Repair and Networking, Diesel Technology, Early Childhood Education, Health Information Assistant, Industrial Electronics, Machining Technology, Paramedics, and Practical Nursing.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at National Park Community College to Technical Certificate status, effective fall term 2004: Automotive Service Technology, Early Childcare Education, Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Marine Repair Technology, Practical Nursing, Residential Carpentry, and Welding Technology.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at University of Arkansas at Monticello Technical College-Crossett to Technical Certificate status, effective fall term 2004: Administrative Information Processing, Computer Maintenance and Networking, Electromechanical Maintenance, Electromechanical Technology – Instrumentation, Industrial Equipment Maintenance, Electromechanical Technology – Industrial Controls, Industrial Processes Technology, Practical Nursing, and Pulp and Paper Science.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the conversion of the following programs at University of Arkansas at Monticello Technical College-McGehee to Technical Certificate status, effective fall term 2004: Agriculture Technology, Automotive Technology, Business Technology, Early Childhood Education, Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic, Practical Nursing, and Welding Technology.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the respective colleges and universities of these approvals.

Agenda Item No. 36  
Recommendations of the  
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) met Tuesday, July 13, 2004. The following resolutions are presented to the Coordinating Board to implement the recommendations adopted by the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

**Webster University Little Rock Metropolitan Campus, Little Rock, Arkansas  
Initial Program Certification**

**Master of Arts in Business and Organizational Security  
Master of Arts in Media Communications  
Master of Science in Finance**

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to Webster University Little Rock Metropolitan Campus, Little Rock, Arkansas, to offer the Master of Arts in Business and Organizational Security, Master of Arts in Media Communications, and Master of Science in Finance. This certification is granted under Arkansas Code §6-61-301 for a period of two years and expires August 7, 2006.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the administration of Webster University Little Rock Metropolitan Campus that this certification 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 program in Arkansas.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the Webster University Little Rock Metropolitan Campus 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 minimum standards have been met under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in Arkansas Code §6-61-301.

**OTHER ICAC BUSINESS**

- **Appreciation Expressed to Former Member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee**

**Garland Hankins**

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-61-301 empowers the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to appoint individuals to the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC). The law specifies one member as the Director of the Arkansas

Department of Workforce Education or his designated representative. Each ICAC member is appointed to a term of nine years, with the term of one member expiring annually.

Mr. Garland Hankins, Deputy Director of Arkansas Department of Workforce Education, has generously served since 1999 as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee as the designated representative of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education. He was appointed to the ICAC in 1999 and reappointed in 2003, serving a total of six years. Mr. Hankins retired on June 30, 2004.

Therefore, the following resolution is submitted for Board consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Mr. Garland Hankins for his six years of service as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to communicate this appreciation to Mr. Hankins.

▪ **Appointment of Institutional Certification Advisory Committee**

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-61-301 empowers the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to appoint individuals to the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC). The law designates several institutional categories that must have representation on the committee. Each member is appointed to a term of nine years, with the term of one member expiring annually.

**Deborah Germany**

Ms. Deborah Germany, who is employed by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education as Organizational Development Manager, has been appointed as the designated representative of Dr. Steve Franks, Director of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education. This term will expire August 6, 2012, and completes an unexpired term.

The following resolutions are presented to the Coordinating Board to implement the recommendations adopted by the ICAC:

**RESOLVED**, That, pursuant to ACA §6-61-302, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board appoints Ms. Deborah Germany as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee as the designated representative of the Director of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education. The term of this appointment expires August 6, 2012.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Ms. Germany for her willingness to serve as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to communicate this appreciation to Ms. Germany.

**Dr. Jack Lassiter**

Dr. Jack Lassiter, Chancellor of University of Arkansas at Monticello, has been nominated by the public four-year presidents and chancellors to fill a position for an unexpired term that ends August 6, 2011.

Therefore, the following resolution is submitted for Board consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board appoints Dr. Jack Lassiter, Chancellor of University of Arkansas at Monticello, as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee to fill the an unexpired term a position representing Public Postsecondary Education Institution Chief Administrators according to §6-61-302. The term of this appointment expires August 6, 2011.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Dr. Lassiter for his willingness to serve as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to communicate this appreciation to Dr. Lassiter.

**Connie Nelson**

Ms. Connie Nelson, of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, has been nominated to fill the vacancy as one of the two legal residents of the state of Arkansas who are not officially affiliated with any postsecondary institution in any state as an employee, board member, or in any other capacity. Ms. Nelson is employed by the Arkadelphia 20/25 Commission as the Executive Director. This term will expire August 6, 2007, and completes an unexpired term.

The report of the ICAC can be found on pages 36-5 through 36-9 in the agenda book. Dr. Lynda Johnson motioned to approve Agenda Items 15-36, Mr. Jodie Carter seconded and the Coordinating Board unanimously approved.

Therefore, the following resolution is submitted for Board consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That, pursuant to ACA §6-61-302, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board appoints Ms. Connie Nelson of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee to represent Arkansas consumers and to fulfill the ICAC membership position as one of the two legal residents of the state of Arkansas who are not officially affiliated with any postsecondary institution in any state as an employee, board member, or in any other capacity. The term of this appointment expires August 6, 2007.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Ms. Nelson for her willingness to serve as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to communicate this appreciation to Ms. Nelson.

Dr. Lynda Johnson moved approval to recommend Agenda Items No. 15-36 to the full Board, Jodi Carter seconded, and the Board unanimously agreed.

Agenda Item No. 37  
Letters of Notification

Between April 15, 2004 and July 20, 2004 the Arkansas Department of Higher Education received notice from institutions of eleven new certificate programs, one name change, one new program concentration, two new organizational units, three new program codes, and two inactive programs, none of which require Board approval. Notification of items requiring Board approval included six certificate programs, seven associate degree programs, four bachelor programs, seven master degree programs, and three doctoral programs. During this period the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests for initial certification for thirty-nine degrees, initial certification for two institutions, initial certification for one on-site location for student services administrative office, decertification of a degree program, and recertification of a degree program. The complete list of these notices appear on pages 37-1 through 37-4 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 38  
Doctor of Audiology  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System (UA) request Coordinating Board approval to offer the Doctor of Audiology (AuD) at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) in cooperation with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR), effective in the fall of 2005. UAMS and UALR are

fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The existing cooperative master's degree in communication sciences and disorders is accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The UA Board of Trustees approved the proposal on June 4, 2004. Any additional information regarding this agenda item can be found on pages 38-1 through 38-3 of the agenda book.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Doctor of Audiology (CIP 51.0202) at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in cooperation with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, effective in the fall 2005.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System, and the Chancellors of the Medical Sciences and Little Rock campuses of the University of Arkansas, of this approval.

Mr. Kaneaster Hodges motioned to recommend approval of Agenda Item No. 38 to the full Board, Mr. Carter seconded the motion and the Board unanimously agreed.

#### Agenda Item No. 39 Arkansas Performance Reporting System

Act 1463 of the 2003 Regular Session directed the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) to work in consultation with Arkansas colleges and universities to develop a performance reporting system for higher education in Arkansas. In September 2003, ADHE staff and a committee comprised of two- and four-year institutional representatives from academic affairs, student affairs, finance, institutional research, and other campus and system administrators began working to identify data elements to include in the Performance Reporting System (the System) in keeping with the legislative mandate.

Dr. Karen Wheeler explained to the Coordinating Board that ADHE staff approached the task of developing the Performance Reporting System on the premise of what is important and how it could be measured. She stated that some of the performance measures included who participates, how well those students are prepared, and if students in college are successful in achieving their goals. She also added that using traditional measures is good, but more modern methods need to be integrated as well. Dr. Wheeler expressed that although developing the System is a cooperative effort with the approval resting with the Legislative Council; ADHE staff and all representatives involved are seeking the Coordinating Board's endorsement.

Board members expressed that this system appears to address many of their concerns including effectively communicating higher education's needs to the legislature, meeting proposed institutional challenges, retention issues, and consideration of educating parents on how they can contribute to higher education. Dr. Beene added that this system will definitely present a clear picture of accomplishments in higher education and it goes a long way toward informing legislators. Dr. Wheeler responded that the system would be web-based, allowing instant access for anyone who wants it. Dr. Beene added that additional efforts to provide web- and computer-based mentor sites beginning at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level are being researched. Chancellor Joel Stubblefield commented that this system was great work and requested that two more items be considered as measurements – qualitative information and job placement of students. Mr. Hodges motioned to endorse the System with Chancellor Stubblefield's additions. Mr. Carter seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 40  
Report on 2003 College Going Rate

The college going rate measures the proportion of college students enrolling in postsecondary education in the fall semester immediately after finishing high school. Current data are based on the fall 2003 student cohort that enrolled first time, full-time, and on-campus at an Arkansas public or independent institution after graduating from one of the state's public high schools in spring 2003.

Dr. Steve Floyd presented the data and stated that the college going rate for the past year was 60.8%, the highest it's ever been, and a 25% increase since 1990. Dr. Floyd also stated that according to the ACT report, retention rates at college would be higher if students were better prepared when entering college. Dr. Floyd concluded that Arkansas is making progress but can still do better.

Chairman Ford opened the floor for public comments but there were none. He then asked the audience one more time for any comments on the agenda items. With none, he announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting will be hosted by Arkansas State University at Jonesboro on October 21-22, and a Joint Board meeting hosted by the State Board of Education will be held on September 13<sup>th</sup> in Fayetteville. Chairman Ford appointed an Adhoc committee to work with legislators and staff in preparation for the 2005 Session and asked Kaneaster Hodges and David Leech to be members. They agreed. Mr. Hodges said he felt there was a reasonable chance to secure additional funding for higher education. Chairman Ford added that everyone must get organized, stay together and make a case to the legislature.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p. m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Fedrick  
Betsy Thompson, Secretary