

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
October 22, 2004

Minutes of Meeting

The October 22, 2004 regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held in the Fowler Auditorium on the campus of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Chairman Phil Ford called the meeting to order at 10:20 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
Jim Creech
David Damron
Kaneaster Hodges
Dr. Lynda Phillips Johnson
David Leech
Dr. Anne Trussell

Coordinating Board absent:

Bob Cheyne
Bill Johnson

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
Ron Harrell, Associate Director for Planning & Accountability
LeAnne Bird, YOU Program Coordinator
Jeanne Jones, Coordinator of Institutional Certification
Shelia Maupin, Coordinator of Federal Programs
Dr. Suzanne Mitchell, P-16 Coordinator
Cynthia Moten, Coordinator of Academic Affairs
Monieca West, Coordinator of Federal Programs
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. Les Wyatt, President of Arkansas State University – Jonesboro. President Wyatt welcomed his colleagues, faculty, ADHE department staff, and others to the campus. He thanked the members of the Coordinating Board for not only representing everyone's interests but for their willingness to do so in a voluntary capacity.

Chairman Ford thanked Dr. Wyatt for hosting the meeting and introduced Lucretia Norris, Governor's Policy Advisor for Higher Education. He then introduced

Col. Jim Creech from Pocahontas, newly appointed Coordinating Board member. Col. Creech is a former trustee of Black River Technical College and will complete Sandra Kennett's unexpired term until May 2006.

Agenda Item No. 1
Approval of Minutes

David Leech motioned to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2004 meeting, Kaneaster Hodges seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2
Report of the Director

Dr. Beene reported that the State Teacher Assistance Resource Program (STAR) that targets subject and geographic area shortages, held a news conference and its first meeting on August 19, 2004. She stated the STAR program, chaired by Lt. Governor Win Rockefeller, awarded 264 scholarships for 2004-05.

Dr. Beene reported that the Coordination Commission for Educational Efforts held its first meeting on August 20, 2004. Dr. Beene stated that the commission was created by Act 109 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003, with the purpose of forging a discussion of public education, early childhood representatives and higher education. John Bacon, Principal of Dunbar Magnet Middle School was elected Chair and other higher education members include Dr. Charles Dunn, Dr. Glen Fenter and Dr. Milo Shult.

Dr. Beene reported that the Concurrent Enrollment Approval Panel Meeting was held on October 19, 2004. The Panel was created by Act 102 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003 and the stated purpose is "to ensure that each student has an adequate education... and access to a rigorous and substantially equal curriculum." The Panel consists of three appointees by the Department of Education and three appointees by the Department of Higher Education. The next meeting is scheduled for early December.

Dr. Beene reported that the Two-Year College and Technical Institute Study Committee met over a six-month period and will soon release a "Moving Forward" report that includes the history of the state's current system of colleges and universities, as well as an overview of technical institutes & two-year colleges; an examination of the current system of institution funding, etc., and P-16 partnerships.

Dr. Beene reported that the Higher Education Subcommittee, chaired by Senator Baker and Representative Jacobs, met on October 12, 2004 and proposed a set of draft recommendations to the committee. There was a lot of discussion but no decisions were reached. The next meeting is scheduled before mid-November.

Dr. Beene introduced new agency personnel - George Smith, Communications Officer; Monroe Carlton, Institutional Finance; Monieca West, Coordinator for Federal Programs; Lila McCauley, Assistant Coordinator for Academic Affairs; Nicole Abernathy, Administrative Support for Academic Affairs; Jeanne Jones in her new role as ICAC Coordinator; Judy McAinsh in her new role as Institutional Finance Personnel Manager; and Lajuana Erekson in her new role as Web Designer/Data Collection.

Dr. Beene stated that the Trustee Conference is scheduled for December 14, 2004 and will provide an opportunity to energize trustees for the upcoming Legislative Session. Governor Huckabee is confirmed to speak and "Save the Date" postcards were mailed to trustees.

Dr. Beene reported that the funding, capital & personnel recommendations (A & B) books were delivered to the Governor and Legislature and institutional budget hearings will be held on October 26-27. Dr. Beene thanked the Institutional Finance staff for all their hard work and preparation.

Dr. Beene thanked the 45 campuses for their support in reporting their IPED data in a timely manner. Dr. Beene also thanked Ron Harrell for his work in identifying and establishing a comprehensive data collection & analysis system. Mr. Harrell, who has been instrumental in both projects, asked that any changes be reported to him by November 5, 2004.

Chairman Ford announced that Dr. John Sullins, President at Arkansas Northeastern College, will be retiring at the end of December and Dr. Kathy Matlock, President at South Arkansas Community College, will be moving to North Carolina. Chairman Ford also announced that Bob Cheyne, Coordinating Board member, has undergone some medical tests and an update will be provided when results are received.

Report of Committees

Dr. Dan Grant presented the report of the Academic Committee and motioned to adopt Agenda Items 3-17. Kaneaster Hodges seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

David Leech presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 19-20. Anne Trussell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3
Master of Science in Environmental Sciences
by Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University (ASU) request approval to offer the Master of Science in environmental sciences 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.

The required 30-credit hour curriculum is the same as for candidates in the Ph.D. program and includes a core curriculum in the sciences, analysis of environmental systems and change, and economics with an area of specialization. Initially, specialization choices in the proposed program will be limited to ecorisk and environmental chemistry to fully utilize current faculty expertise. Additional areas of specialization may be developed in the future as new faculty are added. The degree will require six credit hours of practicum/internship or a thesis. The practicum may be conducted on-site and will include the examination of an approach to solving a problem through practical application. The internship may be conducted off-site and involve practical experience associated with a business. Each student must complete an original research-based project, which represents a significant contribution to the field of environmental sciences.

Dr. Grant asked if there is any other master's degree program that does not require a thesis. Dr. Jerry Farris from ASUJ responded that the program is integrated as well as multidisciplinary, and they felt a need for an option for a practicum that doesn't necessarily generate a thesis. He added that the practicum will have a problem-based approach, which is in demand in environmental science, and it still falls under a master's degree.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in environmental sciences (CIP 03.0104) to be offered at Arkansas State University – Jonesboro 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 the Arkansas State University of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 4
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering &
Mechanical Engineering at University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
by 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 Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith effective fall 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 UA Board of Trustees approved the proposal on September 17, 2004. The University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS) will offer the first two years of the degree plan, and UAF will offer the junior and senior-level engineering courses in Fort Smith. Students enrolled on the Fort Smith campus must meet the same degree requirements as students on the UAF campus. A combination of on-site and distance technology methods will be used to deliver the junior and senior-level courses with UAF faculty providing the instruction.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves offering the existing Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (CIP 14.1001) and the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (CIP 14.1901) by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 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 Chancellors of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 5
Master of Business Administration
Offered Via Distance Technology
by Henderson State University

The administration and Board of Trustees of Henderson State University (HSU) request approval to offer the existing Master of Business Administration (MBA) via distance technology, effective January 2005. HSU is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The HSU Board of Trustees approved the proposal on August 26, 2004.

The Henderson School of Business proposes to offer the existing MBA program by distance delivery. The instructional process will be a combination of limited classroom direct instruction and web teaching, enhanced by using specialized teaching software,

Tegrity, which allows lectures to be viewed and heard over the Internet. An added feature is one that allows students to view the lecture via Internet at any time and for as many times as needed. Students will take one course at a time lasting five to six weeks. The MBA degree requires a total of ten courses, thirty credit hours that can be completed in 16 to 18 months. There will be an initial six to eight-hour Saturday class at either the HSU campus or a site that can host a minimum 15-member cohort, taught in person by HSU faculty, with the remainder of coursework completed via the web-based teaching model.

Dr. Grant asked how this particular program would differ from what the University of Phoenix offers. Dr. Gary Lynn from Henderson State University responded that HSU offered the program at a lower cost and is accredited by AACSB, whereas the University of Phoenix is not.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Master of Business Administration (CIP 52.0101) via distance technology by Henderson State University 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 Henderson State University of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 6
Technical Certificate in Medical Coding
Technical Certificate in Medical Transcription
South Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of South Arkansas Community College (SACC) request approval to offer a Technical Certificate in Medical Coding and a Technical Certificate in Medical Transcription. The institution is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on July 20, 2004.

The one-year technical certificates are designed to prepare individuals for diagnostic and procedural coding or medical transcription positions in hospitals, physician offices and clinics, long-term care facilities, insurance companies, home care agencies, managed care organizations and surgical centers. The medical coding program consists of 37 semester credit hours of course work and the medical transcription program consists of 33 semester hours. The goal of the programs is to provide marketable skills that may lead to national certification with the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) or the American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT).

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in medical coding (CIP 51.0713) and the Technical Certificate in medical transcription (CIP 51.0708) to be offered at South Arkansas Community College, 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 South Arkansas Community College of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 7
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing
at Mid-South Community College
by Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University request approval for Arkansas State University--Jonesboro (ASUJ) to offer the existing Associate of Applied Science in Nursing at Mid-South Community College (MSCC) effective January 2005. Both institutions are 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 August 2, 2004.

The staff for the Arkansas State Board of Nursing has reviewed the program proposal and recommended approval. The Nursing Board will consider the recommendation at its regularly scheduled meeting in November 2004. Registered nursing (RN) programs must be approved by the State Board of Nursing prior to implementation.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (CIP 51.1601) at Mid-South Community College by Arkansas State University--Jonesboro effective January 2005, contingent on the Arkansas State Board of Nursing granting approval of the program by January 15, 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 President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Mid-South Community College of this approval, ~~and the conditions that must be met prior.~~ **to program implementation.**

Agenda Item No. 8
Master of Information Systems
at Bentonville, Lowell, and Springdale
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 Information Systems at Bentonville, effective fall 2004, Lowell, effective August 2005, and Springdale effective January 2006. 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 June 4, 2004.

The Master of Information Systems (MIS) degree is designed to provide professional preparation for positions in business and industry management in information systems. MIS students have the option of specializing in information technology management, telecommunications management, software engineering management, and transportation/logistics technology management.

Dr. Grant noted the effective date of Fall 2004 for this program and questioned if it is already being offered. Jeanne Jones responded that some off-campus classes are being offered but the program will only be offered until approved.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the existing Master of Information Systems (CIP 11.0501) by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in Bentonville effective fall semester 2004, Lowell effective August 2005, and Springdale effective January 2006.

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. 9
Certificate of Proficiency, Technical Certificate
and Associate of Applied Science
in Environmental/Health & Safety Technology
East Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of East Arkansas Community College (EACC) request approval to offer a Certificate of Proficiency, Technical Certificate, and an Associate of Applied Science in Environmental/Health & Safety Technology.

The new program is consistent with the role and scope of EACC. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredits EACC. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on July 8, 2004.

The program will position graduates for entry-level employment, and provide an opportunity for currently employed personnel to update and broaden their knowledge and skills for career advancement. Recently there have been announcements of plants locating in eastern Arkansas, as follows: Eakas Manufacturing Company in Wynne; Hino Motors Manufacturing U.S.A., Inc. in Marion; Denso Manufacturing Company and Systex Manufacturing Company in Osceola. Graduates of the program could be employed as safety officers, industrial hygienists, inspectors and lab technicians at these plants.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Certificate of Proficiency, Technical Certificate, and Associate of Applied Science in Environmental/Health & Safety Technology (CIP 15.0507) at East Arkansas Community College, 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 East Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 10
Master of Science in Education
in advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning
University of Central Arkansas

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) request approval to offer the Master of Science in Education (M.S.E.), in Advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning. The proposed program is consistent with the role and scope of UCA. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredits UCA. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal on August 13, 2004.

The objective of the program is to provide advanced teaching and learning skills to candidates who have earned a teaching license, and have two years of teaching experience.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning (CIP 13.0101) at University of Central Arkansas, effective Spring 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 University of Central Arkansas of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 11
Bachelor of Science in Education in Elementary Education,
P-4 at 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 Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.E.) in elementary education, P-4 at NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC). UAF is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The UA Board of Trustees approved the proposal April 2, 2004. The UAF College of Education and Health Professions is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and the program of study has been reviewed by the Arkansas State Board of Education.

The proposed program will allow UAF to offer junior- and senior-level coursework required for the B.S.E. at NWACC. Graduates of the program will be eligible for initial teacher certification/licensure in elementary education for pre-kindergarten through fourth grade (P-4). The B.S.E. curriculum will consist of a minimum of 129 semester credit hours. The first two years of the program will include general education and prerequisite courses currently offered at NWACC. Four new junior/senior-level courses will be added to the curriculum. UAF currently offers all other courses required for the degree. A one-year internship is required during the senior year.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science in Education in elementary education, P-4 (CIP 13.1209) at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and via distance technology at NorthWest Arkansas Community College, 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, the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of NorthWest Arkansas Community College of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 12
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing
Offered Via Distance Technology by
Consortium of Six Two-Year Colleges in Arkansas

The administration and Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, Black River Technical College, Ozarka College, South Arkansas Community College, and the University of Arkansas System request approval to establish the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC) for the six member institutions to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing via distance technology, effective January 2005. The ARNEC member institutions are Arkansas State University--Newport, Black River Technical College, Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, Ozarka College, South Arkansas Community College, and the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton. All of the institutions are fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Boards of Trustees of each institution have approved the proposal.

Ms. Betsy Thompson asked if there was any new data reflecting whether the state is meeting the shortage of nurses in the state. Cynthia Moten stated that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing has a five-year moratorium on new nursing programs. She added that with the proposed program there would be 60 additional students enrolled and available for licensure, but it's not significant because there is a shortage of faculty available to teach additional students and insufficient clinical instruction sites. Ms. Moten added that programs must have a 75% pass rate in order to continue and occasionally will close because they do not maintain this rate.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the establishment of the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium and the offering of the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (CIP 51.1601) via distance technology by consortium member institutions – Arkansas State University--Newport, Black River Technical College, Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, Ozarka College, South Arkansas Community College, and the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton effective January 2005, contingent on the Arkansas State Board of Nursing granting approval of the program by January 15, 2005.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to inform the Presidents, Chancellors, and Chairs of the Boards of Trustees of the six consortium institutions of this approval.

Agenda Item No. 13
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee
Resolution for Appointment of New Member

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.

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee met on October 5, 2004, and recommended Dr. Walter Roettger to fill the vacancy as one of the two positions for Independent (Non-public) Postsecondary Institution Chief Administrators. Dr. Roettger is the president of Lyon College in Batesville. This term will expire on October 22, 2008, and completes an unexpired term.

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to ACA §6-61-302, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board appoints Dr. Walter Roettger, as a member of the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee to represent Arkansas Independent Postsecondary Institutions. This term expires on October 22, 2008.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board expresses appreciation to Dr. Roettger 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. Roettger.

Kaneaster Hodges motioned to recommend Agenda Items 3-13 to the Full Board, Jodie Carter seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 14
Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Foundations:
Educational Statistics and Research Methods
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval to offer a Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Educational Foundations: Educational Statistics and Research Methods at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF), effective spring 2005. UAF 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.

The proposed 63-credit hour program in educational foundations will build upon the existing master's program to develop professionals who can lead in the areas of educational research and statistical methods. The increased emphasis on educational accountability and data-driven school improvement both in Arkansas and the nation has led to greater demand for experts in educational statistics and research methods.

Coordinating Board members expressed concern regarding recruitment efforts throughout the state and prospective jobs for graduates of this program. Dr. George Denny of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville responded that the recruitment efforts would come from mathematics, psychology, and some science undergraduate majors statewide. He also stated that there is grant funding in place for graduate assistantships which will attract students and the graduates would have lots of options for jobs.

Jodie Carter asked if this program would enhance previous efforts regarding data collection to improve test score strategies in regards to No Child Left Behind. In addition, Kaneaster Hodges asked where the first graduates of this program would be hired. Dr. Denny responded that they anticipate graduates from these programs will be hired as specialists for school districts in research, measurement, or statistics. They would be able to understand and evaluate educational policy issues as well as provide analyses of the data collection needed for No Child Left Behind.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Foundations: Educational Statistics and Research Methods (CIP 13.0603) to be offered at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective spring 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 Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, of this approval.

Kaneaster Hodges motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 14 to the Full Board, Lynda Johnson seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 15
Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy
in Space and Planetary Sciences
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval to offer the Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in space and planetary sciences at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF), effective spring 2005. UAF 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 November 20, 2003.

Graduates of the proposed program will be employed as research scientists, consultants and administrators with aerospace companies such as Boeing and Lockheed-Martin, and with federal agencies such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Jodie Carter asked what type of industry prospects are on the horizon for this program in Arkansas and Dr. Collis Geren of University of Arkansas, Fayetteville stated that a growing interest for the program exists in Arkansas but there are currently no major jobs. Chairman Ford questioned the need for a master and a doctoral degree in the same discipline. Dr. Geren explained that science & technology based programs require that students either start with a bachelor degree and go for a doctorate or with a master degree and go directly for a doctorate. He stated there is no additional burden as far as courses, but most students would go for the doctorate.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Master of Science and Ph.D. in space and planetary sciences (CIP 40.0203) at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, effective spring 2005.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board approves the new concentration in space and planetary sciences in the existing master's degrees in geology (DC 6250) and geography (DC 5330), and the existing Ph.D. degrees in biology (DC 6125) and physics (DC 7350), effective fall 2004.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 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.

Kaneaster Hodges motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 15 to the Full Board, Jodie Carter seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 16
Revision Of Criteria And Procedures For Establishing
New Certificate And Degree Programs And Organizational Units

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-61-208 charges the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) with the responsibility to evaluate proposals for all new units of instruction, research, and public service, consistent with established role and scope designations, and to approve programs and organizational units based on established policies. ADHE staff began working with a committee of two- and four-

year chief academic officers (CAOs) in spring 2004 to revise academic policies related to new program proposals.

The policy revision committee and staff presented drafts of the proposed changes at three CAO meetings and at various stages in the process via e-mail. As presented, the goal of the revision process was to create a policy statement that ensured the integrity of institutional and staff review and AHECB consideration of new programs. The proposed changes are *italicized and underlined* in the document beginning on page 16-2 of the agenda book.

Cynthia Moten outlined the changes and modifications for Agenda Item No. 16 and stated that the information was comparable to other states and represents many of the comments received from CAOs. Coordinating Board members stated that the report was excellent and long overdue.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the Criteria and Procedures for Establishing New Certificate and Degree Programs and New Organizational Units as presented in this agenda item.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the presidents, chancellors, and chief academic officers of public colleges and universities of this policy.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board repeals the Criteria and Procedures for Preparing Proposals for New Programs adopted on October 20, 2000.

Dr. Lynda Johnson motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 16 to the Full Board, Jodie Carter seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 17
Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Bioinformatics
Offered by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock
and University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

The administration and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) to offer a joint Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Bioinformatics. The University of Arkansas at Little Rock will confer the degrees awarded. Student recruitment, selection, and admission will occur during the spring 2005 and classes will begin in fall 2005. Both institutions are 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 program June 4, 2004. If approved, this joint program will be added to the role and scope of UALR.

Dr. Karen Wheeler stated that the quality of the program is high and there is a need for the program. Additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 17 can be found on pages 17-1 through 17-9 of the agenda book.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the M.S. and Ph.D. in Bioinformatics (CIP 26.1103) offered by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences effective spring 2005.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adds the Ph.D. in Bioinformatics to the role and scope of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

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 Chancellors of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences of this approval.

Kaneaster Hodges motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 18 to the Full Board, Lynda Johnson seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 18
Report on Annual Review of
Faculty Performance

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-63-104 and AHECB policy require that each college and university conduct an annual performance review of faculty members. Pursuant to this act, ADHE is required to monitor the faculty evaluation processes employed at the various institutions and report to the Coordinating Board and to the Legislative Council each year. Board policy requires that each institution have on file with ADHE a plan detailing the procedures for faculty evaluation at each institution; significant amendments to these plans are to be submitted for Board approval.

Institutions were required to submit a report to ADHE that describes the process followed during the 2003-2004 academic year. The summarized reports from the institutions begin on page 18-2 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 19
Report of 2003-2004 Intercollegiate Athletic
Revenues and Expenditures

Act 245 of 1989 (A.C.A. §6-62-106) directed the Coordinating Board to develop and establish uniform accounting standards and procedures for reporting revenues and expenditures and, based on these standard definitions and formats, to collect the financial data and provide a uniform report of each institution's athletic revenues and expenditures. In addition, the Coordinating Board must provide a report to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and the public by November of each year on each institution's actual athletic costs for the previous fiscal year.

Athletic revenues and expenditures for 2003-2004 for each institution have been collected according to uniform standards and compiled in a summary report that follows this agenda item beginning on page 19-1 through 19-3 of the agenda book.

Dr. Stanley Williams reported that the four-year institutions spent \$72.3 million and two-year institutions spent \$203,500 on athletics for the 2003-04 year. He also reported that total expenditures increased by 4.6%, or \$3.2 million, over last year. Dr. Williams noted that athletic expenditures represented an average of only 3.7% of the institutions 2004-04 budgets. The Board asked how high the percent had been in the past and Dr. Williams stated he couldn't remember exact years but we traditionally had been trying to keep it to no more than 5%. Kaneaster Hodges asked that future reports include the preceding three years in order to see trends.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Report of 2003-2004 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board authorizes the Director to transmit the Report of 2003-2004 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee according to the provisions of Act 245 of 1989.

Dr. Anne Trussell motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 19 to the Full Board, David Damron seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 20
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Pulaski Technical College

Pulaski Technical College (PTC) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds totaling \$17,030,000 with a maximum term of up to 28 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.6%. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. The Pulaski Technical College Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting held on August 30, 2004.

The E&G issue will be approximately \$17,030,000 with annual debt service of \$1,093,901. Proceeds from the issue will be used to purchase and renovate buildings located at 8901 Kanis Road and the Little Rock Expo Center along with 22.87 acres of land. 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.

Dr. Bakke stated that the renovation of the Kanis Road and Little Rock Expo sites would provide better access and allow for better training of those who are unable to travel to the current site.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the Pulaski Technical College (PTC) to issue bonds not to exceed \$17,030,000 for a period of 28 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.6% for E&G purposes.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President of PTC of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Dr. Anne Trussell motioned to recommend Agenda Item No. 20 to the Full Board, Phil Ford seconded and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 21
Higher Education Coordinating Board
2005 Meeting Schedule

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meets quarterly to act upon Board initiatives and to respond to campus proposals. The proposed 2005 schedule for these regular quarterly meetings follows:

February 4, 2005

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, Arkansas

April 29, 2005

Rich Mountain Community College
Mena, Arkansas

July 29, 2005

Mid-South Community College
West Memphis, Arkansas~~October 28, 2005~~~~Southern Arkansas University Magnolia
Magnolia, Arkansas~~

Kaneaster Hodges motioned to **approve the first three dates** of the proposed 2005 quarterly meeting dates. Dr. Lynda Johnson seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. Due to a schedule conflict, Board members agreed to discuss another date for the October 2005 quarterly meeting.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board agrees to the following dates for regular quarterly meetings during 2005: February 4, April 29, and July 29.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board expresses its appreciation and accepts the invitations to meet in February at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in April at Rich Mountain Community College, and in July at Mid-South Community College.

Agenda Item No. 22
Annual Report on Retention and Graduation
of Intercollegiate Athletes

This report complies with Act 267 of 1989 that requires reporting retention and graduation rates for entering freshmen who participate in Arkansas intercollegiate athletics. This information is produced from data submissions through the Arkansas Higher Education Information System for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking student athletes participating in football, basketball (men's and women's), cross country/track programs and others sports programs. Information related to initial athletic scholarship status also is included. Table 1A (shown on page 22-3 of the agenda book) provides a statewide overview of athletic retention one year after entry, followed by institutional summaries at the one-year and six-year points after entry into college.

Ron Harrell reminded the Coordinating Board members that this report is informational only. He stated the retention rates for this report are somewhat different from the NCAA study in the respect that they only look at scholarship athletics, and it does not include tracking of one institution to another. Mr. Harrell added that the overall retention rate has increased to 72.2% (up 3.6%) for the past year.

Agenda Item No. 23
Report on Program Deletions
Academic Year 2003-04

This report provides summary and detailed information about program deletions during the 2003-04 academic years. Table 1 shown on page 23-2 of the agenda book summarizes the number of program deletions for the academic year by level of program and by level of institution. Twenty-nine (29) programs were deleted in 2003-04 compared to 27 program deletions in 2000-01, 36 in 2001-02, and 36 in 2002-03. All of the program deletions were at the undergraduate level. Table 2 shown on page 23-3 of the agenda book shows the specific details of the programs that have been deleted for each institution. Five institutions deleted programs during this academic year.

Dr. Grant asked if the overall retention percentages for “good” sports, i.e., tennis, golf students who have good grades could hide rates for one or two “minor” sports percentages. Ron Harrell stated that it would not be noticeable, but some specific information for rates by sport could be found beginning on page 22-3 of the agenda book. Additional information regarding Agenda Item No. 23 begins on page 23-1 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 24
Report on
Measuring Up 2004

On September 15, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education issued the third national report card on higher education, *Measuring Up 2004*. Dr. Steve Floyd reviewed a copy of a summary of the report and distributed copies of his PowerPoint presentation. He informed the Coordinating Board that the report is an assessment of higher education from a state perspective; and the methodology compares states on categories as well as the indicators within the categories against top performing states. One weak area for Arkansas was performance; some good indicators showed an increase in 8th grade algebra, an improvement in scores for advance placement courses, and an in-migration increase to find jobs.

Coordinating Board members agreed that the report is good in terms of raising awareness about creating jobs for graduates. Kaneaster Hodges stated that previously pursued policies are such that things are not going to get any better if there is no coordinated effort with Economic Development and others; as well as making sure the Legislature realizes that it defeats the purpose when student costs are steadily increasing. Mr. Hodges added that he hopes that higher education will use this report to refocus their issues and thoughts.

Dr. Lynda Johnson asked if the affordability category reflected financial aid. Dr. Floyd stated that the information included in the report reflects tuition plus room & board minus financial aid.

Dr. Beene asked Board members to consider the position of the institutions regarding tuition increases of the last two years, and reminded them that part of the need is due to the fact that institutions have been late in knowing what their budgets would be for that year. She mentioned the delay in clearing all the institutions' appropriation bills of the 2003 Extraordinary Session, which left a short window in which institutions could make decisions. She added that the largest portion of their budget is contractual obligations to faculty & staff that cannot be changed in a short period of time.

Chairman Ford reiterated Kaneaster Hodges' statement that it is incumbent upon everyone to work together to communicate the benefits of higher education to Economic Development professionals and the Legislature.

Agenda Item No. 25
Letters of Notification

Between July 21, 2004 and October 6, 2004 the Arkansas Department of Higher Education received notice from institutions of six new certificate programs, one new program option, thirteen name changes, one an off-campus program termination, two inactive programs, seven deleted programs, and five deleted organizational units, none of which require Board approval. Notification of items requiring Board approval included one new program option, two certificate programs, seven associate degree programs, two bachelor degree programs, four master degree programs, and two doctoral programs. During this period the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests for recertification of three degree programs, decertification of one degree program, initial certification for eighteen degrees, and initial certification of two institutions. The complete list of these notices appear on pages 25-1 through 25-5 of the agenda book.

Chairman Ford opened the floor for public comments and Dr. Ed Coulter encouraged everyone to support Amendment #2. Jim Creech distributed to the Board some information on mega trends. He asked the staff to do some more research and report back to the Board at some point.

The Board approved adjournment at 11:35 a.m. on motion by Jodie Carter and a second by Lynda Johnson.

APPROVED: _____
Mary Fedrick

Betsy Thompson, Secretary