

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**July 25, 2014**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The July 25, 2014, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was held at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) in Little Rock, Arkansas. Chairman Hodges called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all Coordinating Board members present.

Coordinating Board present:

Kaneaster Hodges, Chair  
Bob Crafton, Vice Chair  
Sarah Argue, Secretary  
Dr. Charles Allen  
Dr. Joe Bennett  
Dr. Olin Cook  
Horace Hardwick  
Sherrel Johnson  
Florine Milligan  
Ben Pickard  
Greg Revels  
Mary Anne Salmon

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Director  
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs  
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability  
Tara Smith, Senior Associate Director for Finance  
Janet Lawrence, General Counsel  
Jeanne Jones, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs  
Lillian Williams, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs  
Alana Boles, Program Specialist for Academic Affairs  
Chandra Robinson, Program Coordinator for Institutional Finance  
Callan Callaway, Program Coordinator for Institutional Finance  
Jake Eddington, Program Specialist for Institutional Finance  
Brandi Hinkle, Communications Coordinator  
Nichole Abernathy, Executive Assistant

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

Chairman Hodges introduced Director Shane Broadway, for a welcome. Director Broadway welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the AHECB meeting.

Chairman Hodges thanked Broadway for his welcome.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Approval of Minutes

Greg Revels moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Horace Hardwick seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2  
Report of Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (Chair- Dr. Joe Bennett, Mary Anne Salmon and Horace Hardwick) recommended the following slate of Board officers for 2014-15 (Horace Hardwick as Vice Chair and Finance Committee Chair).

Dr. Joe Bennett moved to accept the 2014-2015 nominations. Greg Revels seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3  
Agency Updates

*ADHE Staff Changes*

Director Broadway began by introducing ADHE's new financial aid employee Steven Bell and new receptionist Tracye McKeown. He announced that Angela Lasiter moved from the ADHE finance department to the academic affairs department.

*Faculty Performance Report*

According to Arkansas law and ADHE policy, each institution is required to perform faculty reviews. ADHE staff is required to monitor faculty evaluation processes adopted at Arkansas public institutions and report annually to the AHECB and Legislative Council, said Broadway. All institutions conducted faculty performance reviews during 2013-14 using a variety of methods including assessment by students, classroom visits by administrators, peer review, and self-evaluation activities.

*ADHE Newsletter*

ADHE has re-implemented our newsletter. The newsletter will feature institutions and the positive things going on across the state. It will be sent electronically to people throughout Arkansas higher education, the legislature and to other stakeholders, prior to our quarterly board meetings.

*April Tornadoes*

Director Broadway expressed how proud he was of ADHE staff for their efforts after the Vilonia and Mayflower tornadoes on April 27. There were some unbelievable stories of some of the students affected that lost everything. Some of the students' determination to finish school was very inspiring, he said.

*Miss Arkansas*

Director Broadway introduced Miss Arkansas, Ashton Campbell. Campbell's platform is higher education, said Broadway and she has set an ambitious goal of talking to 75,000 people this year.

Campbell began by thanking the Coordinating Board for giving her the opportunity to address everyone. Ashton stated that since the age of four, she knew she wanted to go to college, specifically the University of Arkansas. At the age of 14 she started pageants as a way to pay for college. In college, she learned that Arkansas was ranked second in child poverty. That prompted her to focus on education to combat these issues. Her platform is "Aim Higher, Setting Our Sights on Higher Education."

Agenda Item No. 4  
Report on 2013 Fall College-Going Rate

The college-going rate measures the proportion of students enrolling in postsecondary education in the fall semester after finishing high school, in most cases, immediately after high school. Since most students enrolling in postsecondary education do so immediately after completing high school, the college-going rate is an indicator of the total proportion that will or did enroll in postsecondary education. The percentage, therefore, reflects the accessibility of higher education as well as students' assessments of the value of attending college when compared to working, entering the military, traveling, or following other pursuits.

The college-going rate (CGR) for all Arkansas public and independent institutions for the 2013 Fall term was 54.3 percent. This represents an increase of 1.4 percentage points from the previous fall term. The share of CGR students at 4-Year Universities has decreased from 33.0 percent to 32.8 percent (a decrease of 0.2 percentage points). The share of CGR students at 2-Year Colleges has increased from 18.2 percent to 18.5 percent (an increase of 0.3 percentage points). The share of CGR students at Private/Independent Institutions has increased from 1.7 percent to 3.0 percent (an increase of 1.3 percentage points). The majority of CGR students attend 4-Year Universities.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Clarification of Concurrent Enrollment Policy  
Approval of Institutional Plans for  
Concurrent Enrollment Program

Arkansas law allows for the enrollment of high school students in college-level courses under certain conditions. Concurrent enrollment allows students to obtain credit toward a high school diploma at the same time they earn college credit.

The concurrent enrollment policy was first approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) in October 1998 with the latest revision in July 2013.

***RESOLVED***, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the clarification statements for concurrent enrollment policy implementation effective August 2014.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the policy amendment on concurrent enrollment effective Fall 2013. The concurrent enrollment policy outlines the guidelines for concurrent program participation; however, Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities are not required to participate in a concurrent enrollment program; and a high school/school district may choose to partner with more than one Arkansas college/university for concurrent courses.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That any Arkansas state-supported college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program with a public school district, private high school, or home-school student shall implement and administer the concurrent program in accordance with the policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the rules of the Arkansas State Board of Education. *[An out-of-state college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program with a public school district, private high school, or home-school student must be authorized to offer college courses to Arkansans under Arkansas Code §6-61-301 and AHECB Policy 5.2-ICAC Rules; and shall implement and administer the concurrent program in accordance with the policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the rules of the Arkansas State Board of Education.]*

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That any college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) or must be authorized by Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board no later than August 1, 2015. A college/university not offering concurrent courses currently must have AHECB's initial authorization for the

institutional concurrent enrollment program prior to the offering of concurrent courses.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities will not participate with Arkansas Early College High School (AECBS) in the delivery of blended AP/concurrent courses for college credit.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities will not participate with AECBS in the offering of single courses for multiple higher education institutions.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That ADHE staff will review, in cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Education, the blended AP/concurrent course offerings throughout the state to determine if these courses are in keeping with the concurrent enrollment policy as outlined in this agenda item.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the ADHE staff to submit an annual report on concurrent course enrollment to the Board which will include institutional data on concurrent course offerings and locations, and could include ADHE Executive Staff Recommendations for policy amendments on the administration, continuance, and funding of the concurrent enrollment program. *[The report also could include proposed clarification statements for concurrent policy implementation.]*

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to provide a copy of the amended policy to presidents and chancellors, academic affairs officers, student affairs officers, and institutional research officers at Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities.

Cynthia Moten asked that the Coordinating Board delay consideration of Agenda Item No. 5 until a later date. She explained that numerous questions have been received and the delay will give all parties involved time to respond.

Chairman Hodges said he hopes ADHE will take their time and get this right. This is too critical an issue for students.

Agenda Item No. 6  
Operating Recommendations  
for 2015-17 Biennium

A.C.A. §6-61-224 establishes the process and key components for formula development for funding public institutions of higher education.

At its April 25, 2014 meeting, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the funding models for the two-year colleges, universities, and the technical centers (former technical institutes merged with universities). These models had been developed in conjunction with presidents and chancellors after meetings and revisions. The 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.

**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 2015-17 biennium as included in Tables 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E.

**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 2015-17 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.

Director Broadway said that because of current discussions regarding the Fast Track Initiative, the two-year institutions might be back during the October fiscal session to look at some of the elements of the two-year model that they want to discuss further and possibly change.

Bob Crafton commented that this is a lot of overwhelming information and asked Ms. Smith what happens next.

Ms. Smith said the ADHE staff will take this in conjunction with several of the next agenda items and provide a budget recommendation to the General Assembly and the Governor for their consideration.

Greg Revels moved to recommend the approval Agenda Item No. 6 to the full Board. Dr. Joe Bennett seconded and the Committee approved. Chairman Kaneaster Hodges voted no.

Agenda Item No. 7  
Personal Services Recommendations  
for Non-Classified Personnel

A.C.A. §6-61-209 requires the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to present a consolidated budget request from the state-supported colleges and

universities to the General Assembly and the Governor prior to each regular session of the General Assembly. As part of this process, the quantity of positions, titles, and line-item maximum salaries for all non-classified administrative, academic, and auxiliary positions at each Arkansas public institution of higher education have been reviewed, and changes were recommended.

These recommendations, to be effective July 1, 2015, recognize the varying structures and sizes of institutions, while maintaining reasonable consistency among similar positions at institutions. The primary objective of the ADHE staff was to maintain relative uniformity in titles and line-item maximums for similar positions in comparable institutions, while recognizing the varying missions and structures of institutions, priorities of the new biennium, and FTE enrollment growth.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommended number of positions, titles, and maximum salaries for non-classified positions in academic, administrative, and auxiliary positions for the 2015-17 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 2015-17 biennium.

Director Broadway noted that the process for our review for ADHE staff started in March. Therefore, the institutions had to start their process last year. Basically they have to determine what personnel they will need, three years in advance, he said.

Dr. Joe Bennett asked how Arkansas salaries compared to SREB salaries. Ms. Smith said Arkansas is on the lower end.

Dr. Bennett asked if the legislators were concerned by the salary discrepancy. Director Broadway said that some are concerned on the two-year level. He noted that some high school teachers make more than some two-year instructors and professors.

Greg Revels moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 7 to the full Board. Sherrel Johnson seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 8  
Recommendations for State Funding  
of Capital Projects: 2015-17 Biennium

From a total of over \$500 million appropriated, the Governor and the 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly have provided to date allocations totaling \$65.5 million for distribution from the General Improvement Fund (GIF) for various capital projects at institutions of higher education. For the 2009-11 biennium, almost \$35 million was distributed for capital projects. For the 2007-09 biennium, almost \$59 million was distributed, and \$16.5 million was distributed for capital projects in the 2005-07 biennium.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the staff recommendations for state funding of capital projects totaling \$225.6 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.

Chairman Hodges inquired about the maintenance funds and how they were used. Ms. Smith explained that ADHE would present the Maintenance Report during the October Coordinating meeting. She also noted that each institution was required to use their funds for critical maintenance across their campus as they deemed necessary. Chairman Hodges requested to see the last Maintenance Report.

Greg Revels asked, regarding the capital project recommendations, what percentage was funded last biennium. Director Broadway said that thanks to Senator Lamoureux and legislators, there was more money allocated to the institutions right off the top.

Florine Milligan said two institutions had made about four or five requests. Is there a particular criteria that isn't being met, she asked. Ms. Smith said many times you will see that institutions will have many requests. We asked them to prioritize their requests. Many times you will see repeat requests because of lack of funding for that project. Therefore the institutions will request from biennium to biennium hoping to get enough funds to complete that project, said Smith.

Greg Revels moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 8 to the full Board. Dr. Joe Bennett seconded and the Committee approved.



Agenda Item No. 9  
Performance Based Funding  
(Outcomes-Centered) Measures

Act 1203 of 2011 repealed Arkansas Code § 6-61-223 and amended §6-61-224, §6-61-228, §6-61-229, and §6-61-230. The act directs the Department of Higher Education to develop an outcome-centered component of the funding formula for colleges and universities by December 31, 2011. Beginning in 2013-14, the funding recommendations will be based on the need component of student enrollment and the output components of student success and other performance measures. The proportion of the funding recommendation will begin with five percent based on outcome-centered measures, increasing by five percent each year to reach 25 percent in 2017-18. The Director and staff at the Department of Higher Education worked with the presidents, chancellors and key staff at the universities and colleges, along with the Executive Director and key staff at the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges, to develop the university and college performance measures.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the amendment to the performance measures described in this agenda item for outcome-centered components in implementing the provisions of Act 1203 of 2011.

Director Broadway added that ADHE consulted with Complete College America (CCA). Going forward the plan will be to separate those out into a different field (reverse transfer field), so they aren't included in the normal associate degree field and they won't create a spike.

Greg Revels said that should become a non-issue soon, because the spike due to reverse transfer is a one-time thing. Director Broadway said it should be a one-year spike. However, the problem is it affects institutions for three years.

Sherrel Johnson moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 9 to the full Board. Horace Hardwick seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 10  
Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets  
for 2014 - 15

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.

Other than the educational and general transfer, the use of auxiliary profits is the most sensitive source of income for financing athletic budgets. Other auxiliary

profits are included as a revenue source for intercollegiate athletic programs; however, the use of auxiliary funds to support intercollegiate athletic programs should not undermine sound fiscal management of those auxiliary enterprises.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures Budgeted for 2014-15 as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

Sarah Argue asked why a 20 percent raise was necessary for SAUM. Trey Berry, Provost at SAU replied that SAU has some new facilities. Mainly because of compliance and title nine, they are working on using the fees towards that. He also noted that SAU hasn't had an increase in a while.

Dr. Joe Bennett commented that there are three two-year institutions that don't charge an athletic fee, Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas (CCCUA), North Arkansas College (Northark) and Midsouth Community College (MSCC). Tara Smith explained that these are really small athletic programs and generally they have very limited facilities that are dedicated to athletics. Therefore, they might not see a need to charge their students an athletic fee.

Dr. Olin Cook noted that none of the three institutions have a football program.

Dr. Jackie Elliott, President of Northark explained that they do charge a student activity fee, which helps support athletics as well as other organizations.

Ben Pickard asked if Northark covered their scholarships out of their student activity fee. President Elliott said yes.

Dr. Charles Allen moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 10 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Joe Bennett seconded and the Committee approved. Kaneaster Hodges voted no.

Agenda Item No. 11  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
Arkansas Tech University – Ozark

Arkansas Tech University – Ozark Campus requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$6 million with a term of up to thirty (30) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 5.0 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. Arkansas Tech University Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on May 15, 2014.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas Tech University – Ozark Campus to issue bonds in an amount not to

exceed \$6 million with a term of up to thirty (30) years at an estimated interest rate not to exceed 5.0 percent to construct and equip the Allied Health Building and complete the Roofing Project for the Technology and the Academic Support Building.

**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 Arkansas Tech University of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

There were no questions.

Dr. Joe Bennett moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 11 to the full Board. Sherrel Johnson seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 12  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
NorthWest Arkansas Community College

Northwest Arkansas Community College requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$3 million with a term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 4.0 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. The Northwest Arkansas Community College Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on June 9, 2014.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Northwest Arkansas Community College to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3 million with a term of twenty (20) years at an estimated interest rate of 4.0 percent to purchase 20 acres of land in Springdale, Arkansas.

**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 Northwest Arkansas Community College of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

There were no questions.

Horace Hardwick moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 12 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Charles Allen seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Technical Certificate in Hospitality Management  
Arkansas State University – Mountain Home

The technical certificate in Hospitality Management prepares students for entry-level management positions in the front office, reservations, purchasing, dining rooms and marketing at hotels, resorts, and restaurants. Mountain Home High School began offering courses in hospitality, travel and tourism during the 2013-14 school year. This proposed program will provide an opportunity for these local high school students to continue their education in this field of study.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Technical Certificate in Hospitality Management (CIP 52.0401, 32 semester credit hours) offered by Arkansas State University - Mountain Home, effective Fall 2014.

**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 System, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University–Mountain Home of the approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 14  
Doctor of Occupational Therapy and  
Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Arkansas State University – Jonesboro

There are no Occupational Therapy (OT) programs in the northeast or eastern regions. The proposed OT and occupational therapy assistant (OTA) programs are designed to meet the occupational health care needs of persons in these regions and beyond. ASUJ has not been in a position to develop the degree until now, and a consultant was hired to help develop the curricula. Additionally, in October 2013, 300 OT/OTAs were invited to ASUJ for an informational meeting to discuss program development. Area healthcare administrators also were surveyed on employer need and clinical placement support. The results were overwhelming that OT/OTAs are needed and jobs are available. St. Bernard's Medical Center, Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center, Health Management Associates-Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center, Mid-South Health Systems, Harris Hospital, Health South Rehabilitation Hospital of Jonesboro, NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital are some of the employers that have need for OT/OTAs. A report from the Arkansas Center for Rural Health indicated a need for 600 OTs through 2016.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant (CIP 51.0803, 63 semester credit hours) and the Doctor of Occupational

Therapy (CIP 51.2306, 120 semester credit hours), offered by Arkansas State University – Jonesboro, effective Summer 2015.

**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 System, and the Chancellor of Arkansas State University – Jonesboro of the approval. Program continuation is contingent on ASUJ obtaining and maintaining program accreditation with the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.

There were no questions.

Agenda Items No. 15 & 16  
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 15-1 through 15-87 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 16-1 through 16-26 of the agenda book.

Ms. Moten noted that at the October 31, 2014 Coordinating Board meeting, the Board would be asked to consider a request from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to establish a degree center at the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope (UACCH), Texarkana campus. This center will allow the university to offer bachelor degree completion programs for the Texarkana students. It would not preclude other universities from offering course work with UACCH, Texarkana campus.

Agenda Item No. 17  
Off Campus Instruction Center in Sheridan, Arkansas  
College of the Ouachitas

The administration and Board of Trustees of the College of the Ouachitas (COTO) request Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognition of an off-campus institutional site in Sheridan, Arkansas, to be called the College of the Ouachitas-Grant County Center and commonly referenced as COTO-Sheridan, and Coordinating Board approval to offer remedial/developmental education courses and a limited number of general education core courses and business courses leading to associate degree programs. Since 2009, COTO has offered an Adult Education program in Sheridan that allows Grant County residents to complete the GED. This adult education program will be relocated to the proposed prime location for COTO on Rock Street (directly across from Walmart) which will allow adults completing the GED to enroll in college courses at the same site. There will be modest costs for the renovation of the Sheridan facility. One

administrative staff person will be housed at the Sheridan site, and adjunct faculty will be employed. Annual enrollment for the first year is projected to be 50-100 students and increase to 500 students in 10 years. Tuition will cover the cost of instruction.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) approves the establishment of the College of the Ouachitas, Grant County Center in Sheridan, Arkansas (COTO-Sheridan), and the offering of selected courses leading to associate degree completion along with the offering of remedial/developmental education courses effective immediately; contingent on off-campus center accreditation or recognition by the Higher Learning Commission.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) to inform the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the College of the Ouachitas of the approval.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the ADHE Director to notify the administrations of the College of the Ouachitas and Southeast Arkansas College that the unnecessary duplication of courses is to be avoided; and that the ADHE Director must inform the AHECB of disputes that arise between any Arkansas public colleges and universities regarding off-campus course offerings.

Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker, President of the College of the Ouachitas (COTO), said that they serve a five county region of the state. They are the only two-year college with a service district to include Hot Springs and Clark counties. To date, COTO has only one official campus location and that is in Malvern, Arkansas. Next, President Schoonmaker presented information on the Program Career Center, the Sheridan High School and concurrent enrollment courses, as well as the Grant County Adult Education Program. He noted that Dr. Steve Hilterbran, President of Southeast Arkansas College, has been very supportive of this program.

Chairman Crafton asked when the center would open and would it require additional facilities. President Schoonmaker said that with approval, they are looking at starting in January. He said they have identified a building location that can house both their adult education and college course offerings. The facility will need some work which will prevent them from starting in traditional fall – maybe late fall. They will definitely have a spring semester start.

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 17 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Olin Cook seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 18  
Role and Scope Change  
Doctor of Education in School Leadership  
Arkansas Tech University

In March 2012, a review team visited the ATU campus to evaluate the institution's request for a change in role and scope from an institution offering degrees up to the specialist degree to one that also offers doctoral degrees. The reviewers requested additional information from ATU related to institutional readiness and identified topics for further consideration by the ATU faculty and administrators. Over an 18-month period, ATU addressed the areas identified by the reviewers and the reviewers' final report was favorable to the ATU request. Two Arkansas universities questioned the need for another doctoral degree program in educational leadership.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the role and scope change for Arkansas Tech University to offer the Doctor of Education in School Leadership (CIP 13.0401, 33 semester credit hours beyond the Educational Specialist) effective August 2014. Program continuation contingent on Higher Learning Commission accreditation/recognition of doctoral degrees at ATU.

**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 the conditions of the role and scope approval for the offering of doctoral degree programs.

Dr. Robin Bowen, President of Arkansas Tech University (ATU), introduced ATU faculty and supporters that helped with the Doctor of Education in School Leadership proposal; John Watson, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mary Gunter, Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Sherry Field, Dean of the Education Department, Dr. Mona Chadwick, Chair of the Center for Leadership and Learning and Dr. Andrea Martin, Superintendent of Alpena.

President Bowen explained ATU's long history of offering graduate degree programs. She explained that offering this doctorate would be a natural transition and next step in their institution's evolution.

Dr. Olin Cook praised ATU for their hard work in getting to the approval part of this process.

Sarah Argue said that she is excited about this program and a little curious considering UCA is only a few minutes away from ATU. However, she believes the more options there are available, it tends to encourage a lot of creative thinking. She also noted that she appreciated how thoughtfully this proposal had been done.

Dr. Olin Cook moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 18 to the full Board for consideration. Ben Pickard seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 19  
Role and Scope Change  
Master of Science in Healthcare Administration  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

In April 2014, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) approved an amendment to AHECB Policy 5.20 to allow one external review panel to consider the role and scope change request and the new program proposal that required the change request during a single on-campus visit which allows the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) staff to present a recommendation on both the role and scope change and new program proposal in one agenda item. In accordance with AHECB policy, the ADHE Executive Staff recommendation on the role and scope designation and initial master's degree for the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith is presented at this Coordinating Board meeting for information and discussion purposes only. AHECB members will vote on the recommended role and scope designation and proposed master's degree program at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the role and scope change for the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith to offer the Master of Science in Healthcare Administration (CIP 51.0701, 33 semester credit hours, 100 percent by distance technology) effective January 2015. Program continuation contingent on Higher Learning Commission accreditation/recognition of master's degrees at UAFS.

**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-Fort Smith of the conditions of the role and scope approval for the offering of master's degree programs. A status report must be submitted to ADHE on how the campus has addressed the basic standards and practices required for graduate instruction as outlined in the reviewers' report.

Dr. Paul Beran, Chancellor at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (UAFS), began by thanking ADHE staff for the phenomenal job they did while working with UAFS during the change in role and scope for the master of science in healthcare administration proposal process. Dr. Beran said that UAFS is on the verge of becoming a comprehensive regional university that serves the region and the city in such a way that they are focusing on putting people in the work place and getting them jobs.

Dr. Carolyn Mosley, Dean of the College of Health Sciences stated that she has been very impressed with UAFS's ability to respond to the community. Their hospitals, doctors and community have all asked for this program, she said. She then introduced several health care professionals representing the Fort Smith area that came to support the Master of Science in Healthcare Administration program.



Agenda Item No. 20  
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

**Initial Program Certification-Distance Technology**

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial program certification to the institutions listed on pages 2-7 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of three years through December 31, 2017.

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

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

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

Argosy University, Orange, California

Arizona State University, Scottsdale, Arizona

Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wisconsin

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

Mid-America Christian University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska

University of Saint Mary, Leavenworth, Kansas

**Institutions offering Initial Programs in Arkansas by Distance Technology**

Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

Columbia Southern University, Orange Beach, Alabama

Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas

Freed-Hardeman University, Henderson, Tennessee

Grantham University, Lenexa, Kansas

Northcentral University, Scottsdale, Arizona

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

**Initial Program Certification at Off-Campus Location in Arkansas**

New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, New York

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) grants initial certification for the offering of the Master of Science in Medical/Health Care Simulation, Master of Science in Neuromusculoskeletal Sciences, and the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine by the New York Institute of Technology at an off-campus facility leased on the campus of Arkansas State University-Jonesboro. This certification is for a period of three years through December 31, 2017; contingent on New York Institute of Technology obtaining and maintaining institutional accreditation for an off-campus location in Arkansas, and the New York Institute of Technology-College of Osteopathic Medicine obtaining and maintaining programmatic accreditation and hospital approval by the American Osteopathic Association-Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation to meet professional licensing requirements by the Arkansas State Medical Board

under Arkansas Code 17-91-101. New York Institute of Technology must provide an update on institutional and program accreditation to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education prior to enrolling students in any degree programs. The projected initial enrollment date is August 2016.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, New York, that the certification to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents 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; (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas; (4) change in home state authorization; (5) a change in institutional accreditation status; or (6) a change in program accreditation or hospital approval status.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, New York, that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Department of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

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

New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, New York

**State Authorization for a New Arkansas Independent Institution of Higher Education**

**Institutional Planning and Development to Establish an Arkansas Independent College to Offer Medical and Health Education Degrees**

Proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Smith, Arkansas

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) grants certification for institutional planning and development for the establishment of a new Arkansas independent college to be chartered as the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and doing business as the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, to offer initially the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. This certification for institutional planning and development is for a period of three years through December 31, 2017; which requires the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education, d/b/a Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, to obtain pre-accreditation status for the doctoral program in osteopathic medicine prior to the submission of an application for certification to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) to obtain

AHECB authorization/recognition of the proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine as an Arkansas independent institution of higher education offering the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and other health education degrees.

The application for institutional authorization/program certification must be submitted to ADHE no later than October 1, 2015, for a projected enrollment date of August 2016; or by October 1, 2016, for an enrollment date of August 2017. Prior to admitting or enrolling students in any degree programs, the proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine must obtain institutional authorization/recognition as an Arkansas institution of higher education and initial program certification for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and must provide written documentation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools of the status/timeline of institutional accreditation review/approval.

AHECB authorization/recognition is contingent on the proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Smith, Arkansas, obtaining and maintaining institutional accreditation from a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education such as the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the proposed Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine obtaining and maintaining program accreditation and hospital approval by the American Osteopathic Association-Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation to meet the professional licensing requirements of the Arkansas State Medical Board under Arkansas Code 17-91-101.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the Board of Directors and administration of the proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Smith, Arkansas, that the certification for institutional planning and development to establish an Arkansas independent institution of higher education to offer medical and health education degree programs requires the proposed 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 proposed institution; (3) changes in the proposed method of operation of the institution and the proposed programs; (4) status of the institution's application and approval for program accreditation by the American Osteopathic Association and other appropriate program accrediting agencies; or (5) status of the institution's application and approval for institutional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission or other recognized regional accrediting agency.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director to notify the administration of the proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health

Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Smith, Arkansas, 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:

Proposed Arkansas Colleges of Health Education-Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Smith, Arkansas

Dr. Charles Welch, President of the Arkansas State University System briefly spoke on the Master of Science in Medical/Health Care Simulation, Master of Science in Neuromusculoskeletal Sciences, and the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine by the New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) on the campus of Arkansas State University-Jonesboro. He then introduced Dr. Barbara Ross Lee, an Osteopathic Family Physician and Vice President for Health Sciences and Medical Affairs for the NYIT. Dr. Lee explained that the purpose of this proposal is to educate osteopathic physicians for Arkansas, in Arkansas. Arkansas happens to be one of the biggest shortage areas when it comes to physicians, she said. Our goal is to enhance the community by becoming a part of it, not just being in it.

Dr. Joe Bennett asked how this is going to work. Training medical students is a massive process. We have to be careful not to be too hasty about this, he said.

Dr. Lee explained that Arkansas currently has Osteopathic representatives on their medical board. She foresees no problems in recruiting professors to teach Osteopathic Medicine in Arkansas, said Lee.

Dr. Bennett asked how this program would be paid for if not by Arkansas funds. Dr. Lee explained that most Osteopathic programs are tuition dependent.

Florine Milligan said she is a firm believer that Arkansas needs this program.

In closing, Dr. Welch said that he would provide the board with a copy of the feasibility study.

Kyle Parker, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education presented information on the proposed medical school in Fort Smith. He also introduced Dr. Ken Heiles, a Doctor of Osteopathic (DO) medicine at the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education.

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 20 to the full Board for consideration. Ben Pickard seconded and the Committee approved. Dr. Joe Bennett voted no.

#### Report of the Committees

Bob Crafton presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 6-12. Greg Revels seconded the motion and the Board approved. Chairman Kaneaster Hodges voted no.

Sarah Argue presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20. Dr. Olin Cook seconded the motion and the Board approved. Dr. Joe Bennett voted no.

Remarks by Presidents and Chancellors

Dr. Steve Hilterbran, President of Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK), addressed the Board regarding concurrent enrollment problems, specifically what he called intrusions into concurrent enrollment service areas by other institutions. Most four-year institutions serve the entire state and students from out-of-state. Most two-year institutions, serve their communities – hence the name community colleges. When a university or another institution takes over enrollment in a community, it hurts the local community colleges, said Hilterbran. After further discussion, Hilterbran closed by asking everyone to help prevent a trend that pits institution against institution.

Chairman Hodges announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting would be hosted by the Department of Higher Education on October 31, 2014.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Sarah Argue, Secretary