

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Special Meeting
July 26, 2017

Minutes of Meeting

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board held a special meeting on Thursday, July 26, 2018, at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Chair Dr. Charles Allen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Coordinating Board present:

Dr. Charles Allen, Chair
Dr. Jim Carr, Vice Chair
Keven Anderson
Al Brodell
Greg Revels
Dr. Michael Stanton

Coordinating Board absent:

Sam Sicard, Secretary
Dr. Olin Cook
Chris Gilliam
Lori Griffin
Sherrel Johnson

Department staff present:

Dr. Maria Markham, Director
Nick Fuller, Deputy Director
Dr. Jessie Walker, Senior Associate Director for Academic Affairs/Research & Analytics
Ann Clemmer, Senior Associate Director for Governmental Relations
Sonya Hazelwood, Associate Director for Research & Analytics
Alisha Lewis, Associate Director for Communications
Nichole Abernathy, Executive Assistant

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

Chairman Allen welcomed presidents and chancellors to the special board meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Agenda Item No. 1
Report on the College-Going Rate
of Public School Graduates

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' assessment of the value of attending college

when compared to working, entering the military or following other pursuits.

The public high school student college-going rate for all Arkansas public and independent institutions for the 2017 Fall term was 48.2 percent. This represents a decrease of 1.5 percentage points from the previous fall term. Arkansas experienced a 3.2% decrease (from 51.4% to 48.2%) in the College-Going Rate of public high school graduates over the past five years.

Data showed the number of public high school graduates entering into their institution of choice for the 2017 Fall term. The top three 4-Year Universities were UAF, ATU, and UCA. The top three 2-Year Colleges were NWACC, PTC, and ASUB. The top three Private/Independent Institutions were OBU, HC, and LC.

Data for 2015 showed that Arkansas is #11 out of 16 SREB states for the percentage of 18-24 year olds attending higher education institutions. Data for 2016 has yet to be published.

Keven Anderson asked if ADHE knew what percentage of Arkansas's public school population is home schooled or private. Sonia Hazelwood said she didn't have that data but would check with the Department of Education to see if they do.

Dr. Charles Allen asked if charter schools were included in the data. Hazelwood said she believed they were.

Al Brodell asked if the data captured students that go outside the state. Hazelwood said it did not.

Agenda Item No. 2 Report on Annual Review of Faculty Performance

Dr. Jessie Walker presented a summary report on the Annual Review of Faculty Performance. Arkansas Code Annotated §6-63-104 and Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) policy 5.5 require that each college and university conduct an annual performance review of faculty members. Pursuant to this statute, Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) staff is required to monitor the faculty evaluation processes adopted at public institutions, and make a report to the Coordinating Board and Legislative Council each year. Each institution must 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.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 3 Academic Program Review

Dr. Walker presented the periodic report on academic program review and program viability Arkansas. Code §6-61-214 requires that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) review existing academic programs at Arkansas public

colleges and universities to identify certificate and degree programs not meeting minimum standards of quality and viability, and to establish schedules for either resolving these concerns or removing the programs from the AHECB approved program inventory. The existing academic program review policies (AHECB Policy 5.2) were adopted in 1988 and revised in 1995 and 1998. Institutions have been conducting program reviews for more than 20 years. Beginning Fall 2010, Arkansas colleges and universities were required to employ external consultants to review all certificate and degree programs over a period of 7-10 years with the findings from the reviews reported annually to the Coordinating Board. Accredited, licensed and state certified programs followed the usual review practices and the schedule of the accrediting/approval body. These programs did not require further ADHE staff review.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 4 Program Viability Report

Dr. Walker presented a summary report on academic programs reviewed by the institutions for program viability purposes. The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) adopted new program viability standards for Arkansas colleges and universities in October 2008. The program viability standards, based on a 3-year period, are as follows:

- 12 graduates (4 graduates per year) for career and technical education (CTE) certificates and associate (AAS) degree programs;
- 12 graduates (4 graduates per year) for bachelor's degrees in science, mathematics, engineering, computer science, foreign languages, middle school education, and secondary education programs for licensure in science and mathematics;
- 18 graduates (6 graduates per year) for transfer associate degrees (Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Sciences in Teaching) and bachelor's programs;
- 12 graduates for master's, specialist, and first-professional programs; and,
- 6 graduates for doctoral programs.

There were no questions.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Sam Sicard, Secretary