

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
October 26, 2012**

Minutes of Meeting

The October 26, 2012, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was held at the Arkansas State University-Beebe, Heber Springs Campus. Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Dr. Olin Cook, Chair
Dr. Charles Allen, Vice Chair
Sarah Argue, Secretary
Bob Crafton
Kaneaster Hodges
Sherrel Johnson
Florine Milligan

Coordinating Board absent:

Dr. Joe Bennett
Horace Hardwick
David Leech
Dr. Tim Langford

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Interim Director
Harold Criswell, Interim Deputy Director
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Tara Smith, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Support

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

Chairman Cook introduced Dr. Charles Welch, President of the Arkansas University System, for a welcome. Dr. Welch welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Dr. Chris Boyett, Chancellor of the ASU-Heber Springs campus. Dr. Boyett also thanked everyone for coming and welcomed them to the Heber Springs campus.

Chairman Cook thanked Dr. Welch and Dr. Boyett for their welcomes.

Agenda Item No. 1
Approval of Minutes

After it was noted that Dr. Olin Cook's name had been incorrectly spelled on page 1-11, Kaneaster Hodges moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1, upon correction. Florine Milligan seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2
Agency Updates

Shane Broadway, Interim Director for the Department of Higher Education (ADHE) began by announcing that Katherine Morris is the new ADHE receptionist. He also announced that the Department would be moving to their new location in time to host the February Coordinating Board meeting.

Next, Director Broadway discussed the 11th day enrollment numbers. He noted that the average headcount was down .8 percent while FTE was up .8 percent. He said that institutions with increases in enrollment have attributed it to robust recruitment efforts and Academic Challenge Scholarship availability.

Agenda Item No. 3
Higher Education Coordinating Board
2013 Meeting Schedule

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meets quarterly to act upon Board initiatives and to respond to campus proposals.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board agrees to the following dates for regular quarterly meetings during 2013: February 1, April 26, July 26, and October 25.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board expresses its appreciation and accepts the invitations to meet in February at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education in Little Rock, in April at the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope, in July at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education in Little Rock, and in October at North Arkansas College in Harrison.

Sarah Argue moved to approve Agenda Item No. 3. Dr. Charles Allen seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4
Appointment of Nominating Committee

Chairman Olin Cook appointed members of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board nominating committee. The nominating committee will recommend Board officers for 2013-14 at the February 1, 2013 meeting. The members included: Florine Milligan (Chair), Sarah Argue and Dr. Joe Bennett.

Sarah Argue moved to approve Agenda Item No. 4. Dr. Olin Cook seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 5
Policy Amendment
Conditional College Admission

In October 2003, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted the policy on Conditional Admission for High School Graduates in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §6-60-208. The intent of this agenda item is to amend the current AHECB policy on conditional admission to include the requirements of Act 1184 of 2011.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board amends the policy on Conditional College Admission as presented in this agenda item.

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the ADHE Director or designee is authorized to make administrative and technical changes and corrections when necessary to the policy on Conditional College Admission, and to consider the institutional comments on proposed administrative and technical changes and corrections for at least 30 days prior to the effective date.

Sarah Argue moved to approve Agenda Item No. 5. Florine Milligan seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 6
Policy Amendment
Program Admission for Students
With Academic Ability-to-benefit
In Associate and Baccalaureate Degrees and
Career and Technical Education Programs

Act 1244 of 1991 (Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-53-203) required the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to define the requirements of appropriate degrees and certificates at two-year colleges. As part of this requirement, the Board established policies regarding the admission of qualified students to a program of study leading to the awarding of an associate degree or certificate.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board directs each ~~technical~~ college *or university* to establish minimum admission requirements for all *career and technical education (CTE)* programs, and an appropriate assessment program

~~for determination of student ability-to-benefit in these CTE programs. to provide an appropriate remedial or development studies program, and to establish articulation guidelines between the developmental studies program and each curriculum program.~~

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Coordinating Board directs any state-supported college or university admitting first-time associate or bachelor's degree-seeking students under the ability-to-benefit guidelines (outlined in AHECB Policy 5.14) to establish and implement a state-approved conditional admission plan.*

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board adopts all guidelines contained in the amended policy on Program Admission for Students with Academic Ability-to-Benefit in Associate, Bachelor's and CTE programs.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to notify the presidents and chancellors, chief academic officers, chief student affairs officers, and institutional research officers of the state-supported colleges and universities of this policy.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the ADHE Director or designee is authorized to make administrative and technical changes and corrections when necessary to the policy on Program Admission for Student Ability-to-Benefit, and to consider the institutional comments on proposed administrative and technical changes and corrections for at least 30 days prior to the effective date.

Sherrel Johnson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 6. Dr. Charles Allen seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 7
Policy Amendment
College Mathematics Courses for
General Education Core Curriculum

During 1987-88, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education asked mathematics department heads at state-supported institutions of higher education to develop a college algebra content guide and guidelines for development of courses "as sophisticated as" college algebra to facilitate transfer of mathematics course credit. The mathematics course content guide was developed in response to concern expressed by presidents and chancellors regarding the impact of the Freshmen Assessment and Placement Program on transfer of mathematics course credit.

The proposed policy amendment has been reviewed by the chief academic officers and chief student affairs officers at the Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the updated mathematics course content guide included in the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS), and instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to assist the state-supported colleges and universities in resolving questions regarding transfer of credit for mathematics courses identified for the general education core curriculum.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board adopts the guidelines for the development, approval, and implementation of college-level, non-remedial mathematics courses for a general education core course in Associate of Applied Science degrees and career and technical education degrees as outlined in this policy, with this mathematics core course requirement effective for Fall 2013.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education or designee is authorized to make administrative and technical changes and corrections when necessary to the Guidelines for College Mathematics Course Content for the General Education Core Curriculum.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board instructs the ADHE Director to notify the presidents and chancellors, chief academic officers, chief student affairs officers, and institutional research officers of all Arkansas state-supported institutions of higher education of this policy amendment.

Dr. Charles Allen moved to approve Agenda Item No. 7. Sarah Argue seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Public Hearing

Agenda Item No. 8 Policy Amendment Institutional and Program Certification Rules

Arkansas Code Annotated (ACA) §6-61-301, §6-2-107, §6-61-135, and §6-61-136 empower the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (Coordinating Board) to establish the criteria required for certification of non-public, for-profit, and out-of-state colleges and universities offering courses and degrees to Arkansans, and to create rules governing the operations of those institutions. To assist with these

responsibilities, ACA §6-61-302 authorizes the Coordinating Board to appoint an advisory committee, known as the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC). The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) staff consults with the ICAC members on higher education policies, legislative issues, and public concerns to insure that certification rules (ICAC Rules) are implemented.

The ICAC Rules amendment addresses the following areas:

- Recognition of state and national certification activities and practices.
- Clarification of ICAC rules and processes already in place.
- Incorporation of recent legislation (Act 205 of 2011) related to institutional accreditation, accrediting agencies, and false academic credentials.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the amendment of the Rules for Institutional and Program Certification (ICAC Rules) presented in this agenda item.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That by the adoption of the amendment, the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education or designee is authorized to promulgate these ICAC Rules for implementation in January 2013.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education or designee is authorized to develop and modify the ICAC application forms as needed, and to make administrative and technical changes and corrections when necessary to the Rules for Institutional and Program Certification.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That ADHE must notify the ICAC and institutions offering courses/degrees certified or exempt from certification by the Coordinating Board of the ICAC Rules amendment, of any administrative and technical changes and corrections to the ICAC Rules, and of the development and modification of ICAC application forms at least 30 days prior to the effective date. ***ADHE must consider the ICAC and institutional comments on proposed administrative and technical changes and corrections and the ICAC application forms during the 30-day notification period.***

Ms. Moten said that after reviewing the program certification fee structure for several states, ADHE staff decided not to recommend a fee increase. She noted that the certification and recertification period would be extended to a three-year period.

John Scheel, President of Lighthouse Christian College, said that to force a bible college to reapply for an exemption from certification is unfair when there are no significant changes in institutional operation. The Board is trying to regulate non-academic training, he said. President Scheel also urged the Board not to adopt policy on the establishment of accrediting agencies in Arkansas.

Dr. Charles Allen moved to approve Agenda Item No. 8. Sherrel Johnson seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 9
Overview of Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

Currently, no institution in Arkansas offers the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). Cynthia Moten presented information regarding the expectations of healthcare providers to demonstrate the need for two or more DNP programs in Arkansas. Bob Crafton asked if ASUJ or UAMS already offer the Master's degree in the nursing practice program. Cynthia Moten said they do.

Agenda Item No. 10
Doctor of Nursing Practice
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

There has been a dramatic evolution in the provision of health care with increasing demands for advanced practice nurses and other non-physician providers to address increasing provider shortages. As a result of health care provider shortages, there is a great need for practice-focused doctoral level education of advanced practice nurses to: provide care at the advanced levels, especially in rural areas; participate in development of infrastructure and development of health care policy; evaluate current healthcare delivery models with a focus on improving outcomes; and to serve as faculty for the training of new nurse providers. Support for this proposed Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program is widespread throughout Arkansas healthcare organizations as evidenced from letters of support from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, St. Vincent Health System, Arkansas Department of Health, and nursing programs at Arkansas State University and the University of Central Arkansas. The proposed DNP program will provide graduates with training in informatics, leadership, policy, healthcare finance, and evidenced based practice that will advance healthcare in Arkansas. This training will be invaluable to large and small organizations to enable them to thrive in the current healthcare atmosphere.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Doctor of Nursing Practice (CIP 51.3818, 37 semester credit hours beyond the master's degree) at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, effective Spring 2013.

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

Sarah Argue moved to recommend Agenda Item No.10 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Olin Cook seconded and the Committee approved.

Dr. Dan Rahn, UAMS Chancellor thanked the Higher Education Coordinating Board for approving the DNP program.

Agenda Item No. 11
Doctor of Nursing Practice
Arkansas State University-Jonesboro

Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) has the only master's level nurse anesthetist program in Arkansas. The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education (COA) which accredits nurse anesthesia programs has revised the Standards for Accreditation, effective January 2012, as follows: *A student accepted into an accredited program on January 1, 2022, and thereafter must graduate with a doctoral degree.* Because of mandates from the COA, the proposed DNP program is particularly significant to ASUJ in that the College of Nursing would no longer be able to continue its current graduate program for nurse anesthetists without advancement to the doctoral level. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) could not be licensed without the DNP degree.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Doctor of Nursing Practice (CIP 51.3818, 41 semester credit hours beyond the master's degree) at Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, effective Fall 2013.

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-Jonesboro of the approval; and that program continuation is contingent on ASUJ maintaining national nursing program accreditation for nurse anesthetist.

Dr. Olin Cook moved to recommend Agenda Item No.11 to the full Board for consideration. Florine Milligan seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 12
Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality Services
Technical Certificate in Culinary Services
Technical Certificate in Food Service and Management
Arkansas State University-Newport

Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) has developed the Hospitality Services, Culinary Services, and Food Service and Management programs in response to employers in the hospitality field in Jonesboro and the Northeast Arkansas region. The employers cited a shortage of trained employees, competition among hospitality employers, and high turnover rates in their request for the programs. ASUN established a Hospitality Services Advisory Board to

formalize the relationship and communication between the institution and the employers during the program development process. Members of the Advisory Board include: Fowler Foods, Inc., Piero Restaurant and Club, 501/Oman's, Sodexo, Loretta's Catering to your Needs, St. Bernard's Medical Center, NEA Baptist, and Hytrol Conveyor.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality Services (CIP 12.0504; 14 credit hours) Technical Certificate in Culinary Services (CIP 12.0504; 33 semester credit hours) and the Technical Certificate in Food Service and Management (CIP 12.0504; 33 credit hours) on the Jonesboro Campus of Arkansas State University-Newport effective August 2013. The emphases in culinary services and hospitality management are approved for inclusion in selected associate degree programs.

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-Newport of the approval.

Agenda Item No. 13
Associate of Performance and Media Arts
South Arkansas Community College

As part of its long-range economic and cultural development plan, a group of community leaders are leading an effort to rebrand and revitalize the city of El Dorado into a regional destination for art and theatre lovers. The El Dorado Chamber of Commerce, the El Dorado Economic Development Board, El Dorado Festivals & Events, Inc., and the Mayor are leading this effort. From MusicFest in the Fall to Bugs, Bands & Bikes, and the Mayhaw Festival in the Spring, El Dorado is fast becoming known as an entertainment destination. The goals of the revitalization plan are to have up to 40 festivals each year; have a downtown theatre center with five stages; and to host a Southern Theatre Festival with a variety of dramatic productions during the year to make downtown El Dorado "The Festival City" and a magnet for tourists. As this part of the city's economic development plan takes shape, jobs will be created for performers and technicians.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Associate of Performance and Media Arts degree with Emphases in Music, Theatre, and Film (CIP 50.0101, 60 semester credit hours) at South Arkansas Community College, effective Spring 2013.

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 the approval.

Agenda Item No. 14
Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Only four states (Arkansas, Maine, Nevada, and Wyoming) do not offer a doctoral degree in pharmaceutical sciences. Because pharmaceuticals are increasingly being used to cure, treat, manage, or provide relief for many human afflictions, the lack of doctoral-level researchers in the state of Arkansas limits the potential economic growth of the state in drug development and the contribution on pharmaceutical policy. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences has dramatically increased its focus on research in the College of Pharmacy by the recruitment of several faculty members over the past five years. Further, Arkansas has engaged in multiple programs at the state level to encourage and attract the pharmaceutical industry and related businesses to the state. The recent most visible type of activity is the beginnings of the Technology Corridor under development in Little Rock.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences (CIP 51.2002, 61-63 semester credit hours beyond the master's degree) at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, effective Fall 2013.

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

Dr. Olin Cook commented that the doctor of philosophy in pharmaceutical sciences is long overdue.

Agenda Item No. 15
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee
Report and Resolutions

ADHE Executive Staff Recommendation

Initial Program Certification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1-4 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of two years through October 31, 2014.

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

Regional Accreditation: Western Association of Schools and Colleges

State Authorization: Illinois Board of Higher Education

Master of Arts in Industrial Organizational Psychology

Master of Arts in Sports Exercise Psychology

Master of Science in Human Resource Management

Master of Science in Non-Profit Management

Baptist College of Health Sciences, Memphis, Tennessee

Regional Accreditation: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

Program Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Program Approval: Tennessee Board of Nursing, Arkansas State Board of Nursing
RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program

Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan

State Authorization: Michigan Department of Education

Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Master of Science in Administration

Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics

Graduate Certificate in General Administration

Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs, Colorado

State Authorization: Colorado Department of Higher Education

Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Program Approval: Arkansas State Board of Nursing

Bachelor of Science in Accounting

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Science in Finance
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Doctor of Computer Science

Columbia College, Columbia, Missouri

State Authorization: Missouri Department of Higher Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Associate of Science in Human Services
Master of Arts in Teaching

DeVry University, Naperville, Illinois

State Authorization: Illinois Board of Higher Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

Everest University, Orlando, Florida

State Authorization: Florida Commission for Independent Education
National Accreditation: Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Science

Jones International University, Centennial, Colorado

State Authorization: Colorado Department of Higher Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Master of Arts in Business Communication
Master of Business Administration
Doctor of Business Administration

Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

State Authorization: Massachusetts Board of Higher Education
Regional Accreditation: New England Association of Schools and Colleges

Bachelor of Science in Business Management Degree Completion Program
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology Degree Completion Program

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

State Authorization: Virginia Council of Education
Regional Accreditation: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Program Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
Program Approval: Arkansas State Board of Nursing

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing

National American University, Rapid City, South Dakota

State Authorization: South Dakota Board of Regents
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Associate of Applied Science in Accounting
Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration
Associate of Applied Science in Business Logistics
Associate of Applied Science in Computer Security
Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Management
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Administrative Assistant
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Staff Services Management

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

State Authorization: Incorporated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Regional Accreditation: New England Association of Colleges and Schools

Master of Business Administration
Master of Science in Finance
Master of Science in Taxation
Master of Science in Health Informatics

Rasmussen College, Bloomington, Minnesota

State Authorization: Minnesota Office of Higher Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Bachelor of Science in Business Systems Analysis
Bachelor of Science in Digital Design and Animation
Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship
Bachelor of Science in Game and Simulation Programming

South University, Savannah, Georgia

State Authorization: Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
Regional Accreditation: Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Health Science
Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Western International University, Phoenix, Arizona

State Authorization: Arizona State Board for Private Secondary Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Behavior
Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management
Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies
Bachelor of Arts in Professional Communication
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Management

Western New Mexico University, Silver City, New Mexico

State Authorization: New Mexico State Board of Education
Regional Accreditation: Higher Learning Commission and North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
Program Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
Program Approval: Arkansas State Board of Nursing

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Arts in Rehabilitative Services
Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies

ADHE Executive Staff Recommendation

Initial Institutional Certification

RESOLVED, That pursuant to ACA §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) grants initial certification for institutional planning and development expiring October 31, 2014, for South University, Savannah, Georgia, to establish a branch campus in Little Rock, Arkansas, contingent on prior approval and accreditation of the South University Little Rock branch campus by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That AHECB certification will be withdrawn for the South University Little Rock branch campus if institutional accreditation or candidacy status is not obtained from an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation during the two-year certification period.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of South University, Savannah, Georgia that the certification for institutional planning and development 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 institutional operations in Arkansas, including the status of institutional accreditation.

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.

The Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) Report begins on page 15-6 of the Agenda book.

Agenda Items No. 16 & 17
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Department of Higher Education received notice from 11 institutions on 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 65 out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice list appears in the Letters of Notification on pages 16-1 through 16-33 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 17-1 through 17-16 of the agenda book.

Agenda Item No. 18
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Arkansas State University

Arkansas State University – Jonesboro requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$7.3 million with a maximum term of up to thirty (30) years at an estimated annual interest rate of 5.0 percent. Proceeds from the issue will be used for the auxiliary purposes of completing new housing facilities including Greek housing facilities and a new honors dormitory and for improvements to the Kays Hall dormitory including a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. The Arkansas State University System Board of Trustees approved this action at its meeting held October 24, 2012.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the staff recommendations for state funding of capital projects totaling \$213.1 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.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas State University to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$7.3 million with a term of thirty (30) years at an estimated interest rate of 5.0 percent for the auxiliary purposes of completing new housing facilities including Greek housing facilities and a new honors dormitory and for improvements to the Kays Hall dormitory including a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system.

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 State University of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No.18 to the full Board for consideration. Sherrel Johnson seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 19
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Arkansas Tech University

Arkansas Tech University requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$6 million with a term of 30 years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 5.25 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used to renovate and expand Chambers Cafeteria on the campus of Arkansas Tech University. The Arkansas Tech University Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on September 20, 2012.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas Tech University to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6.0 million with a term of thirty (30) years at an estimated interest rate of 5.25 percent to renovate and expand the Chambers Cafeteria.

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.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No.19 to the full Board for consideration. Florine Milligan seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 20
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
Ozarka College

Ozarka College (OZC) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3.0 million with a maximum term of up to 30 years at an estimated average annual interest rate of 4.5 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used to construct, equip, and furnish a student services building on the Melbourne campus, establish pedestrian walkways and additional parking facilities. The Ozarka College Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting held on September 20, 2012.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Ozarka College (OZC) to issue bonds not to exceed \$3.0 million for a period of 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate of 4.5 percent for the construction of a student services center at the Melbourne location.

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

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 20 to the full Board for consideration. Kaneaster Hodges seconded and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 21
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue
University of Arkansas at Monticello

The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$8.99 million with a term of twenty-five (25) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 4.50 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for auxiliary purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on September 7, 2012.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$8.99 million with a term of twenty-five (25) years at an estimated interest rate of 4.50 percent.

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 University of Arkansas of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Florine Milligan moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 21 to the full Board for consideration. Sherrel Johnson seconded and the Committee approved. Horace Hardwick voted no and Kaneaster Hodges abstained from voting.

Agenda Item No. 22 Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds

According to the provisions of A.C.A. §6-61-801 through §6-61-808, there is established the Arkansas Research Development Program for providing Arkansas Research Development Program Grants to publicly-supported universities in Arkansas by the Department of Higher Education. Act 1065 of 2011 provides that after the sum of \$13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, the next \$10,000,000, or as much as is collected, is to be transferred to the Higher Education Research Development Fund to be used as provided by law.

RESOLVED, That after review by the Legislative Council, the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to distribute up to \$1,000,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for expenses associated with the connection of all public universities to ARE-ON.

Kaneaster Hodges asked how many institutions have yet to be connected to ARE-ON. Melissa Rust said that all of the four-year institutions have been connected except SAU. The two-year institutions are anticipated to be done by July 2013.

Kaneaster Hodges moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 22 to the full Board for consideration. Florine Milligan seconded and the Committee approved.

Report of the Committees

Dr. Charles Allen presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 10 - 15. Sarah Argue seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Bob Crafton presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 18 - 22. Kaneaster Hodges seconded the motion and the Board approved.

Chairman Cook opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Chairman Cook announced that the next Coordinating Board meeting would be hosted by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education on February 1, 2013.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Sarah Argue, Secretary