

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting
April 3, 2018

The Presidents Council met at 11:00 a.m. on April 3, 2018, at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) in the first floor boardroom. Executive Council members present by phone call were Steve Rook (co-chair), Debra West, Laurence Alexander, John Hogan, Karla Hughes and Houston Davis. Charles Welch (co-chair) was unable to attend.

Staff members present were Dr. Maria Markham, Nick Fuller, Dr. Jessie Walker, Alisha Lewis, Lillian Williams, Chandra Robinson and Nichole Abernathy.

Karla Hughes moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2018 meeting. Debra West seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Review of AHECB Agenda

Presidents Council members reviewed the agenda items for the April 20, 2018 Coordinating Board meeting. The finance agenda included the Economic Feasibilities for North Arkansas College, and the Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds.

The academic agenda included: Certificate of Proficiency in Diesel Engines, Certificate of Proficiency in Suspension and Steering, Certificate of Proficiency in Brakes, Certificate of Proficiency in electrical/Electronics and Technical Certificate in Diesel Technology by Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas; Master of Science in Nursing by Henderson State University; Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate in Culinary Arts by South Arkansas Community College; Bachelor of Science in Public Health by Southern Arkansas University; Associate of Applied Science in Nursing by Southern Arkansas University – Tech; Master of Design Studies with Concentrations in Resiliency Design and Retail and Hospitality Design by University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Associate of Applied Science in Unmanned Aerial Systems by University of Arkansas at Fort Smith; Certificate of Proficiency in Manufacturing Principles, Technical Certificate in Industrial Production Technology and Technical Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Advance Manufacturing Technology by University of Arkansas Monticello; Technical Certificate in Emergency Medical Sciences Paramedic and Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Sciences – Paramedic by University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College; Associate of Science in Health Information Technology by University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College; Associate of Science in Surgical Technology by University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College; Institutional Certification Advisory Committee Report; and the Letters of Notification and Intent.

The Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation, Annual Report on Credentials Awarded, Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation, Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes, Annual Report on Productivity of Recently Approved Programs, Report on Program Viability and the Advance Placement Credit Policy, were also included.

There were no questions.

John Hogan moved to approve the review of the agenda for the April 20, 2018 AHECB meeting. Karla Hughes seconded and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Funding Recommendations

Dr. Markham said that in preparation for the next funding recommendations in July, staff are taking feedback and concerns from institutions. Markham noted that there is a very tight deadline. Therefore, any changes made would have to go back through the rule promulgation process. Any changes would have to be made rather quickly.

Concurrent Enrollment

Several institutions had questions following a legislative request regarding concurrent enrollment practices on campuses, said Markham. ADHE has contacted the Bureau of Legislative Research for clarification.

Karla Hughes explained that the University of Arkansas, Monticello is in the process of preparing their budget and they have committed to no tuition increases for their four-year campus. Hughes asked what the governor's request was for two-year campuses.

Markham said Technical Centers should be put in the same category as two-year colleges. She noted that the Governor's intention was to hold all two-year tuition increases to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) – 2.1 percent. The Governor requested no increase for instate undergrad tuition at four-year institutions.

Houston Davis asked about instate graduate students. Markham said that is at the institutions discretion.

Announcements

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) will meet at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education on April 20, 2018.

The Council members agreed to cancel the May 1 and June 5 meetings. The next Presidents Council meeting will be July 10, 2018.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.