

## **Academic Program Proposals**

**April 15, 2011**

The following is a list of academic program proposals being considered for approval at the April 15, 2011, Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Meeting.

The Institution's Name, Program Title, and Program Summary are listed below. Contact ADHE for a copy of the proposals.

If you have concerns, objections, questions or comments concerning a specific proposal, please send them to **Cynthia Moten** ([Cynthia.Moten@adhe.edu](mailto:Cynthia.Moten@adhe.edu)) at ADHE no later than **March 1, 2011**.

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### **Arkansas State University-Jonesboro Associate of Applied Science in Nursing at Kennett, Missouri**

The College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) of Arkansas State University (ASU)-Jonesboro was contacted by Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) and requested to provide the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN) degree at the SEMO-Kennett site. The AASN degree currently is offered by ASU-Jonesboro School of Nursing at ASU- Beebe, ASU- Mountain Home and Mid-South Community College. The Kennett area in Southeast Missouri needs additional Registered Nurses as stated by the Chief Nursing Officer of the Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center. According to the Missouri Hospital Association the 2009 Registered Nurse vacancy rate in hospitals in southeast Missouri was 3.7%. The nurse shortage will become larger as the economy improves and baby boomer nurses retire. Place bound residents of the area need access to an entry level professional nursing program. Additionally, the AASN program provides a career and educational ladder for the graduates of practical nursing programs in Southeast Missouri. A further needs assessment is in progress with surveys sent to current students at SEMO-Kennett, students at practical nursing programs within 100 miles of Kennett, seniors at high schools in the SEMO-Kennett service area and employees of the Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center. The survey results are pending.

The SEMO-Kennett campus has classroom facilities with T-1 compressed video capabilities which will be utilized to deliver didactic courses. A 4-bed clinical learning skills laboratory is provided at the SEMO-Kennett campus. The skills laboratory is equipped with skills training equipment including manikins, IV arms and a virtual IV start trainer. Consumable supplies will be provided by ASU-Jonesboro through clinical supplies allocations. The classrooms and skills laboratory have internet access.

The SEMO-Kennett students will be granted privileges such as parking, library services, computer center services, student activities, etc on the SEMO-Kennett campus. In addition the students will have access to the ASU Ellis Library through off-campus access. Students will be able to purchase textbooks and required supplies from the SEMO-Kennett Bookstore or online through the ASU Bookstore.

Full-time and adjunct faculty will be provided by ASU-Jonesboro. Full-time faculty will hold a Master's degree in Nursing and adjunct faculty will hold at minimum a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Several full-time tenured ASU faculty living in the Paragould area have been identified to teach at the SEMO-Kennett campus. Adjunct faculty will be recruited from nurses in the ASU graduate nursing program, graduates of the BSN program and employees of the clinical facilities. The full-time faculty members are experienced in teaching via the compressed video network and with the Tegrity system. The program will be funded in the first year through start up support by SEMO. In subsequent years, the costs will be covered by tuition collections generated

by the program and carry forward of unused funds from the previous semester. See the attached budget form.

**Arkansas State University-Newport  
Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance  
Emphasis in Industrial Maintenance – Associate of Applied Science in General Technology**

Industrial maintenance workers in the complex manufacturing environment of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are required to be skilled not only in the traditional mechanical areas but also in computer control processes, computer security systems and have a general knowledge of welding. This program combines elements of the advanced manufacturing, telecommunications, and welding programs of study to provide the graduate with basic skills for all three areas. The existing Certificates of Proficiency in Advanced Manufacturing and Welding, and the Technical Certificates in Advanced Manufacturing, Telecommunications and Welding support the proposed program. By utilizing the existing library resources, faculty, classrooms, labs, and equipment, there will be no additional costs associated with the program.

**Arkansas Tech University  
Department of Occupational Therapy Assistant (Ozark Campus)**

The proposed academic unit will house the new associate degree in occupational therapy assistant offered on the ATU Ozark Campus.

**Arkansas Tech University  
Role and Scope Change Request – Doctor of Education in Executive Leadership**

In keeping with the vision of Arkansas Tech University to be a university of choice, a proposal to change the role and scope designation of the university will be requested with the proposal of an Ed.D. in Executive Leadership. Arkansas Tech University has a special role in serving students who are practitioners in the education field at the Educational Specialist level. This is a proposal in keeping with this role in expanding opportunities for students and for keeping students in Executive Leadership roles in Arkansas Public Schools. The market demand for an Ed.D. for the practitioner/scholar exists based on requests from Arkansas Tech University and Henderson Ed.S. students along with demand from employers and other practitioners.

The special feature of this proposal is to address the need and accessibility of Executive Leadership training for the scholar/practitioner. The change of the institution to seek this change in role and scope has been gradual in its development based on the success of the Ed.S program and demand from the Ed.S students. The careful planning of the proposed offering adds value to the advanced work completed through the Ed.S curriculum.

**Ozarka College  
Technical Certificate in Diesel Service Technology**

The Technical Certificate in Diesel Service Technology is designed for persons desiring positions in repairing diesel engines up to semi tractors, suspension and steering, brakes, electrical systems, drive train, heating and air conditioning, and other diesel related areas. The program will be housed temporarily within the automotive area with core program coursework accomplished in the evening when the automotive students are not there.

The program costs would consist of a faculty member, marketing of the program, and program specific equipment and tools. Some of the cost of tools will be offset by the availability of similar

tools in the existing automotive program. Ozarka College will also solicit local shops and dealerships for old engines and tractors to use in the lab environment.

There are no existing certificates or degrees that support the program, however, the similarity of the automotive program will facilitate the sharing of resources.

### **South Arkansas Community College Technical Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Process Technology**

South Arkansas Community College proposes an Associate of Applied Science and a supporting Technical Certificate in Process Technology. The degree program is designed to train refinery operators, chemical operators, and process technicians. These operators control and monitor the systems that run industrial plants. Operators gather information using instrumentation and lab equipment to maintain safe work areas and keep plants in compliance with regulatory requirements. Operators work both indoors and outdoors alongside engineers, chemists and other professionals. Operators use knowledge of computers, math, physics and chemistry to keep industrial plants running safely and efficiently. They require strong communications skills - the ability to write, express views orally and listen – in order to succeed at their jobs. Currently, these process operators from the “baby boom” generation are reaching retirement age and industry is facing the prospect of having to replace a substantial portion of this workforce within the next decade. Conventional methods of on-the-job training used by local industries in the past will not be adequate to replace such a large portion of this workforce within the timeframe required. Given the increasing educational requirements for operators, a structured program is needed. This is part of a larger national trend. The Center for Advancement of Process Technology (CAPT) notes that, “The projected high number of baby-boomer retirements over the next 5 to 7 years is expected to create a shortage of process technicians within the petrochemical, oil and gas production, and pharmaceutical industries.”

This program will require the addition of eight new courses and two internships to the curriculum. The addition of a full-time Program Director/Instructor will be necessary. Eventually, there will be a need for two to four additional sections to be taught by adjunct instructors each semester after the second- year courses are implemented.

Three suitable classrooms and sufficient office space will become available on the East Campus in February 2011 with the relocation of some health programs to a newly completed building on the West Campus. Only minor remodeling will be needed since the rooms were originally designed and wired to support technical programs.

The largest costs will be the addition of the full-time Program Director/Instructor and the acquisition of equipment. We are anticipating significant donations of equipment from local industry and some of their vendors. SouthArk continues to meet with industry to determine partnership possibilities. Eric Newby, President of the Gulf Coast Process Technology Alliance, is visiting SouthArk on Monday, February 7, 2011 to meet with industry representatives to also discuss partnership arrangements. The barebones level of equipment required to start up the program is about \$50,000 for essential models and simulators. Another \$50,000 would need to be added the second year in order to support upper level classes. In the third year, the college would see its state funding increase based on the additional FTE's generated by the program in its first year and additional equipment could be purchased to offer the students higher quality simulations and models. There is currently an appropriation of \$200,000 pending in Congress that would allow SACC to shift most of the equipment purchases to the first year. Given the current political climate, passage seems uncertain at best, and it is not included in our budgeted numbers.

The Program Director/ Instructor will be paid through increased tuition revenues. Well after our initial survey of employers, Georgia Pacific in Crossett approached us about enrolling 68 incumbent workers in the program with the goal of getting at least a Technical Certificate. Based on that relationship and the interest expressed by SACC students, we are anticipating having about 50 additional FTE's in year 1, 60 in year 2, and 35 in year 3. The tuition revenue generated by those numbers will easily cover the salary of the full-time position. We anticipate that the rest of the

courses can be covered by adjunct instructors recruited from the companies being served by the program.

Since the library is already supporting chemistry, physical science, industrial equipment maintenance, and business management courses, existing library resources will be adequate. Normal acquisition and replacement funds can fill any small gaps. The library relies heavily on on-line resources to support science and technology programs in order to have materials that are current.

Currently, SouthArk offers Technical Certificates in Welding and Industrial Equipment Technology. Courses from these programs will be used in the proposed program as electives so that students may customize their skill sets to fit the needs of specific local employers that utilize operators in outdoor settings to service equipment.

### **University of Arkansas at Little Rock Ph.D. in Engineering Systems**

It is proposed that the Engineering Science and Systems (ESS) area of the existing Ph.D. in Applied Science be reconfigured into a new Ph.D. program in Engineering Systems. Once this program is in place, admissions to the ESS area will be discontinued and students in that area will be given the opportunity to transfer into the Engineering Systems program. The proposed new program will predominantly use existing courses.

### **University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Ph.D. in Aquaculture and Fisheries**

The proposal is to add a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Aquaculture/Fisheries to the existing bachelor's degree in fisheries biology and master's degree in aquaculture/fisheries to strengthen aquaculture and fisheries work in Arkansas. UAPB has the only Aquaculture/Fisheries Center of Excellence in the state which has become a nationally and internationally-renowned source of research-based information in the areas of aquaculture and fisheries. The Center is charged with providing the teaching, research, and extension support to the aquaculture industry and to fisheries managers in the state. Academic programs in aquaculture/fisheries extend theory into practical applications and solutions to problems faced by stakeholders in the state and across the country.

Arkansas plays a unique role in aquaculture/fisheries in the United States. It is the birthplace of warmwater aquaculture in the country, is the second-leading aquaculture-producing state, and is home to many national leaders in aquaculture/fisheries. Aquaculture and fisheries have had significant impacts on the rural economies of the Delta, through the multiplier effects of expenditures in local communities by aquaculture businesses, and through expenditures by anglers who enjoy the excellent recreational fishing opportunities in the Natural State. Advancements in aquaculture production technologies and in understanding and managing the natural fisheries resources of the state have driven the growth and competitiveness of these sectors.

A student graduating from UAPB with a Ph.D. degree in Aquaculture/Fisheries will be trained comprehensively in the theory and practical application of aquaculture and fisheries sciences. The program of study requires satisfactory mastery of both subject matter areas as well as the ability to design, implement, analyze, and publish results of research designed to solve stakeholder-identified needs. Program graduates will be expected to compete for position on the faculty of universities, federal agency positions in research, extension or policy arenas, in international agencies, and in the private sector. Five students are expected to enroll each year. A Memorandum of Agreement has been signed with the Graduate School of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to allow Ph.D. students from UAPB to enroll in graduate-level courses that add depth of the aquaculture/fisheries coursework offered at UAPB.

### **Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC)**

The following applications for certification will be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the March 2011 ICAC quarterly meeting.

#### Anthem College, Phoenix, Arizona

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Business Management  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Healthcare Management

#### Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Arts in Business  
Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration  
Bachelor of Arts in Healthcare Administration  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in Social & Criminal Justice

#### Blue Cliff College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Initial Certification – Distance Technology and New Fayetteville Campus  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting

#### Bryan College, Springfield, Missouri

Initial Certification – New Little Rock Campus  
Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration and Management  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Administrative Specialist  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technician  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assistant  
Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice

#### DeVry University, Naperville, Illinois

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration  
Master of Public Health

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Master of Science in Educational Technology  
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Accounting and Financial Management  
Master of Human Resource Management

#### Everest University, Orlando, Florida

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Associate in Science in Business  
Associate in Science in Criminal Investigations  
Associate in Science in Criminal Justice  
Associate in Science in Medical Insurance Billing and Coding  
Associate in Science in Paralegal

#### Excelsior College, Albany, New York

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Science in Nursing  
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing

Franklin University, Columbus, Ohio

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Operations and Supply Chain Management  
Bachelor of Science in Public Relations

Initial Certification –Distance Technology  
Master of Science in Accounting  
Master of Science in Structural Design and Performance Technology

Graceland University, Independence, Missouri

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Doctor of Nursing Practice; Organizational Leadership

Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Master of Science in Leadership  
Master of Business Administration  
RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

ITT Technical Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana

Initial Certification – Little Rock Campus  
Associate of Applied Science in Mobile Communications Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Business Management  
Associate of Applied Science in Drafting and Design Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Communications and Design  
Associate of Applied Science in Network Systems Administration  
Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal

Initial Certification – Distance Delivery  
Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems Administration  
Associate of Applied Science in Computer Forensics  
Associate of Applied Science in Construction Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Web Design  
Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies  
Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration  
Associate of Applied Science in Business Accounting Technology  
Associate of Applied Science IN Criminal Justice  
Master of Business Administration

Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Public Administration  
Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Development  
Associate of Applied Science in Education Paraprofessional  
Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development  
Master of Laws, Small Business Practice  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Science in Environmental Policy  
Master of Science in Fire and Emergency Services  
Master of Science in Homeland Security & Emergency Management  
Master of Science in Education in Instructional Technology  
Recertification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Accounting  
Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice

Associate of Applied Science in Medical Office Management  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Transcription  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting  
Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies  
Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Arts in General Studies  
Associate of Applied Science  
Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management and Ethics  
Bachelor of Science in Ministry and Leadership

Strayer University, Washington, D.C.

Initial Certification – Distance Technology, Little Rock Campus  
Master of Science in Management

Recertification – Distance Technology, Little Rock Campus  
Bachelor of Science in Accounting  
Bachelor of Science in Information Systems  
Bachelor of Business Administration  
Master of Science in Accounting  
Master of Business Administration

Ultimate Medical Academy, Tampa, Florida

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Science in Health Sciences  
Associate of Science in Medical Billing and Coding  
Undergraduate Certificates:  
Medical Administrative Assistant  
Medical Billing and Coding  
Medical Office and Billing Specialist  
Pharmacy Technician

University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona

Initial Certification – Little Rock and Rogers Campus  
Master of Health Administration  
Concentrations in Education, Gerontology, and Informatics

Western International University, Phoenix, Arizona

Initial Certification - Distance Technology  
Associate of Arts in Business  
Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science  
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  
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Informatics IT  
Bachelor of Science in Management  
Master of Arts in Human Dynamics  
Master of Arts in Innovation Leadership  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Business Administration in Finance

Master of Business Administration in International Business  
Master of Business Administration in Management  
Master of Business Administration in Marketing  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Science in Information Systems Engineering

**Pending Review by Arkansas State Board of Nursing**

Excelsior College, Albany, New York

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
RN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
RN-Master of Science in Nursing  
Master of Science in Nursing

Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa

Initial Certification – Online  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Master of Science in Nursing

Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
RN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing

**Pending Review by Arkansas State Board of Examiners in Counseling**

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision