

**Tentative Agenda Items  
October 25, 2024, AHECB Meeting**

**BOARD BUSINESS (Introductions, announcements, minutes)  
EXECUTIVE SECTION  
AGENCY UPDATES  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT\*  
FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT\*  
OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS**

\*The Academic Affairs and Finance Committees will continue to meet before the full Board meeting. However, agenda items that will be considered by the full Board will be placed in the Executive section.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

- Introductions
- Minutes, July 26, 2024, Regular Meeting
- **Approval of 2025 Coordinating Board Meeting Schedule**  
The proposed 2025 schedule of the regular quarterly meetings will be recommended to the Board.
- **Appointment of Nomination Committee**  
Chair Graycen Bigger will appoint members of a nomination committee, which will recommend the officers for the upcoming year at the January board meeting.
- Announcements

**EXECUTIVE SECTION**

- **Commissioner's Report**  
  
This agenda item will include updates on new employees, legislation, and current events.
- **Prevention of Sexual Assault on Campus**  
  
An update on the activities by ADHE to address the prevention of sexual assault on our college and university campuses, pursuant to Act 563.
- **Prevention of Unplanned Pregnancies on College Campuses**  
  
An update on the activities by ADHE to prevent unplanned pregnancies on Arkansas college campuses among young adults, pursuant to Act 943.
- **Report on Academic Program Status**  
  
A report detailing program status changes during the 2023-2024 Academic Year will be presented indicating the number, level, and type of programs that were changed. An academic program's status can be one of six possible values: active, active future, inactive, future inactive, delete, phase-out/delete. The information will also be summarized by institution. This report was previously called the report on academic program deletions.
- **Report on Concurrent Enrollment**  
  
The annual report on Concurrent Enrollment and Credit will be presented. Concurrent enrollment allows students to obtain credit toward a high school diploma at the same time they earn college credit. The report will focus on the state of concurrent education among Arkansas postsecondary institutions in academic year (AY) 2023-2024 and comparison data from AY2019 through AY2024.
- **Annual Report on Credentials Awarded**  
  
The Credentials Awarded report provides multi-year trend data on credentials awarded by our public and private institutions, including trend data by award level, institution type, STEM and high demand. The 2024 report will include students receiving credentials in the 2023-24 academic year as reported last month by all institutions.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

- **Bond/Loan Feasibility Update**

This update consists of the actual terms for bond and loan issues receiving AHECB approval that occurred from October 2023 through October 2024. This update was requested by the AHECB during the July 30, 2010, quarterly meeting.

- **Report on Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures for 2023-24**

Act 245 of 1989 (A.C.A.6-62-106) directed the Coordinating Board to develop and establish uniform accounting standards and procedures for reporting revenues and expenditures and, based on these standard definitions and formats, to collect the financial data and provide a uniform report of each institution's athletic revenues and expenditures. In addition, the Coordinating Board must provide a report to the Legislative Joint Audit Committee and the public by November of each year on each institution's athletic costs. In this agenda item, institutions have submitted reports of their actual intercollegiate athletic program revenues and expenditures for 2023-24 in the required format.

- **Recommendations for State Funding of Capital Projects: 2025-27 Biennium**

Capital funding recommendations were based on institutional E&G square footage need, condition of existing facilities, enrollment, deferred maintenance needs and replacement of equipment & library. Recommendations include funding for renovation, new construction, and technology infrastructure.

- **Economic Feasibility for Arkansas State University Jonesboro**

Arkansas State University Jonesboro requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds of approximately \$30 million with a term not to exceed thirty (30) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used to construct, furnish, and equip the building to house the College of Veterinary Medicine. The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on September 19, 2024.

## ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

### Consent Agenda

- **North Arkansas College  
Technical Certificate and Certificate of Proficiency in Energy Management**

The proposed 17 credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency and 35 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Energy Management are designed to prepare students for an entry-level career in energy management, building science, and related fields, with a focus on sustainable practices and green technologies. The program will also focus on workforce training for local and regional businesses, partners, and contractors in the renewable energies industry. The proposed program will stack into the existing Associate of Applied Science in General Technology for those students wishing to further their education.

- **Arkansas State University Newport  
Associate of Science in Data Science-Data Analytics**

The proposed, fully online Associate of Science in Data Science – Data Analytics will equip students with the skills needed to navigate artificial intelligence, automation, and the rapid pace of technological advancement in order to make timely, data-driven decisions and improve business processes and outcomes, develop new products, and make strategic marketing decisions. This high wage, high-demand employment sector provides students with a positive outlook for employment prospects, internship and apprenticeship opportunities, and overall long-term program viability. The proposed

program's curriculum consists of 68 credit hours and allows students to also earn a Certificate of General Education as they progress through the program. Upon approval of the proposed program, ASUN will sign a 2+2 agreement with the UAF and has had a verbal commitment for a 2+2 agreement with both Arkansas State University and Lyon College.

- **Southern Arkansas University Tech  
Associate of Science in Data Science**

The proposed, 62 credit-hour Associate of Science in Data Science program will prepare students with the necessary skills to identify, clean, transform, model, and present data to identify relationships, inform conclusions, and support decision making. The program will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of data science principles, tools, and techniques, equipping them with the skills necessary for a career in data analysis, data management, and related fields. The program will emphasize practical experience and interdisciplinary applications to prepare students for both immediate entry into the workforce and transfer to four-year institutions.

- **University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Health Sciences**

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Health Sciences will offer students advanced study in the field of environmental health science, or the study of how chemical, physical, and biological exposures cause adverse effects on individuals, communities, and the environment. The program will take a multidisciplinary approach to provide students with an advanced understanding of the impact of the environment on human health, how humans interact with the environment, and the importance of improving and maintaining healthy environments in communities and workplaces. The proposed program will be comprised of 75 graduate credit hours, a candidacy exam, and a dissertation. The competency-based curriculum will emphasize exposure assessment of single or geospatial sources and lifestyle factors, pharmaceutical-induced toxicity, public health microbiology, and food safety. Students will gain experience conducting research in the field of environmental health science, drawing meaningful interpretations from the results, and publishing their research findings.

- **University of Arkansas Monticello  
Role and Scope Change  
Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Resources**

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Resources will increase the state's forestry and natural resources scientific workforce, and importantly, do so through applied, in-depth education and research on Arkansas forestry and natural resource issues. Given that Arkansas has never offered a Ph.D. in forest resources, it has been entirely reliant on doctoral programs of other states. This doctoral program will be offered by UAM's College of Forestry, Agriculture, and Natural Resources (CFANR). The CFANR also houses the Arkansas Forest Resources Center of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture which provides funding for research that bolsters the ability of

the CFANR to deliver the program. The proposed Ph.D. in Forest Resources will require 72 post-baccalaureate credit hours, of which a minimum of 48 hours will be coursework and up to 24 hours of credit for research/dissertation preparation and defense. Additionally, the degree requirements include the completion of an entrance seminar, comprehensive exams, a dissertation, one semester of instruction of a lower-level undergraduate course or lab, and a dissertation defense. Over the first five years, UAM expects to enroll at least fourteen students into the proposed doctoral program.

- **Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification**

Programs included in the Arkansas Public Institution Letters of Notification have been approved by the ADHE Director and must be included on the AHECB agenda prior to program initiation. The programs are reasonable and moderate extensions of existing certificates and degrees.

- **Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent**

A Letter of Intent informs the AHECB of institutions that plan to offer new programs or organizational units that require a proposal and Coordinating Board approval. Chief academic and chief executive officers can comment on the proposed programs and organizational units before the proposals are considered by AHECB.

- **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions**

The following applications may be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the AHECB meeting in October 2024.

**Initial Certifications – Distance Technology**

AMDA College of the Performing Arts, Los Angeles, California  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre

Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal, Missouri  
Bachelor of Science in Education  
Master of Science in Education  
Pepperdine University, Malibu, California  
Master of Science in Education

University of California, Davis, Davis, California  
Master of Management

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California  
Master of Education in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs  
Master of Science in Analytics  
Master of Social Work: Advanced Standing

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Master of Science in School Counseling – Dual Degree

- **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Notification**

Programs included in the Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions' Letters of Notification have been approved by the ADHE Director and must be included on the AHECB agenda.

- **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Intent**

A Letter of Intent informs the AHECB of institutions that plan to offer new programs or applications for recertifications that require proposals and Coordinating Board approval.