

**Tentative Agenda Items
July 28, 2023, 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, April 4, 2023, Special Meeting
Minutes, April 27, 2023, Special Meeting
Minutes, April 28, 2023, Regular Meeting

EXECUTIVE SECTION

- **Agency Updates**

This agenda item will include updates on new employees, legislation, and current events.

- **Report on Faculty Performance Review 2022-2023 (AHECB Policy 5.5)**

A summary report on the Annual Review of Faculty Performance will be presented.

- **Report on Academic Program Review 2021-2023 (AHECB Policy 5.12)**

A summary report on academic programs reviewed by the institutions for program viability purposes will be presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- **Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets for 2023-24**

A.C.A. §6-62-805 directs institutions of higher education having intercollegiate athletic programs to certify annually that their intercollegiate athletic programs will generate sufficient revenues to meet budgeted expenditures, or that separate institutional, board-sanctioned student athletic fees will meet any athletic deficit.

Each institution having an intercollegiate athletic program responds with submission of both ADHE Form 21-2 and a copy of its Board resolution approving the athletic operating budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

- **Economic Feasibility for National Park College**

National Park College (NPC) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$6.675 million with a term of thirty (30) years and an interest rate not to exceed 6.7 percent. Proceeds from the issue will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. Proceeds will be used to construct a new 160-180 bed residential housing facility for students. The National Park College Board of Trustees approved this financing at its May 24, 2023, meeting.

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

Arkansas State University (ASUJ) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to secure a loan of \$2.9 million with a term of ten (10) years and an estimated annual interest rate of 0.0 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. Proceeds will provide needed campus-wide energy improvements that include re-roofing and updating air handling systems of existing buildings. Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved this financing at its June 8, 2023, meeting.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Consent Agenda

- **Arkansas State University
College of Veterinary Medicine and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine**

The proposed 153 credit-hour Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program will prepare students to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases affecting the health of domestic and wild animals. In addition, this program will enable students to engage in the prevention of transmission of non-human animal diseases to humans and ensure a safe food supply by monitoring and maintaining the health of food-producing animals.

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program will be housed in the proposed College of Veterinary Medicine. This new administrative unit will consist of 40 new faculty and staff dedicated to the DVM program. The university will utilize existing facilities, including classrooms, laboratories, and A-State farm facilities to meet the needs of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine faculty and students. Startup operating expenses and facility renovations and updates will be funded by a combination of philanthropy, bonds, and internal funds.

The program's enrollment is projected to be 120 students in each cohort, with 50% Arkansas residents and 50% non-residents, and retain 98% of those students each year.

- **Northwest Arkansas Community College
Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate in Biotechnology**

The proposed Certificate of Proficiency in Pre-Biotech: Molecular and Cellular Biology and Technical Certificate in Biotechnology will provide students with instruction in a study of technology based on biology and chemistry especially pertinent to agriculture, food science, medicine, and forensics. Students will gain knowledge in a combination of areas such genetics, cell biology, molecular biology, biochemistry, and microbiology.

The 20 credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency in Pre-Biotech: Molecular and Cellular Biology and 31 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Biotechnology offers hands-on experience with biotechnology equipment, processes, and techniques to create a needed skilled workforce. Students wishing to continue their education can move seamlessly into the already approved Associate of Applied Science in General Technology offered at Northwest Arkansas Community College.

These proposed programs will rely on existing infrastructure. No new faculty will be required given that current faculty already have experience in the biotechnology area, with additional training offered to further their knowledge. Additionally, new equipment needed for instruction will be funded by grants received by the College.

- **Southeast Arkansas College
Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate in Medical Assistant Technology**

The proposed Medical Assistant Technology program will prepare students to work in a hospital and outpatient clinic settings. The program will offer credentials in either Administrative or Clinical assistance.

The 19 credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency in Administrative Medical Assistant will provide training in communication and patient relations, medical law and ethics, scheduling, medical record and privacy practices, and general clinic office practices including basic medical coding and insurance billing. In addition, the 30 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Clinical Medical Assistant offers students a broad foundation in basic medical assisting skills, including classroom, skills lab, and practicum hours, in a medical setting under the supervision of a physician or other clinic personnel.

By utilizing existing coursework and facilities, no new faculty will be required for this program. Only three new courses of the CP and four new courses of the TC will be required.

- **University of Arkansas Monticello**
Graduate Certificate in Forest Business

The proposed Graduate Certificate in Forest Business will prepare individuals to work in the areas of consulting forestry, forest industry logistics and supply chain management, and finance and investment in forests. Coursework will consist of instruction and hands-on experience in forest finance, timber appraisals, business leadership, forest operations and forest products supply chain management.

The 15 credit-hour program can be completed in 2 semesters. All courses will be offered in a hybrid format, simultaneously in-person and on-line. The proposed Graduate Certificate is efficiently integrated into the existing graduate Forest Resources program and, therefore, will use existing faculty, resources, and facilities.

- **University of Arkansas Pine Bluff**
Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity at the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff will combine knowledge acquired in computer science, mathematics, science, information technology, and criminal justice to prepare students as cybersecurity professionals ready to detect and prevent cybersecurity attacks. Students successfully completing this program will possess the technical knowledge and hands-on skills necessary for an entry-level career in the high-demand field of Cybersecurity.

Through the UA System Consortium in Cybersecurity, known as CyberLearn, this proposed 120 credit-hour program will offer high-quality, standardized coursework in cybersecurity leading to stackable, transferable undergraduate certificates and degrees that will be valued by Arkansas industry and employers. Graduates of this program could pursue a masters degree in cybersecurity, computer science, law, and other related fields.

Although this consortium-based program is not unique to the state, similar educational opportunities within the cybersecurity field are unique to southeast Arkansas and the state's only public HBCU.

- **University of Arkansas Pine Bluff**
Bachelor of Science in Engineering

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Engineering will be the first of its kind at the state's only public Historically Black College or University. This program of study will offer underrepresented minorities in the Arkansas Delta region an educational opportunity in the areas of STEM.

This 123 credit-hour curriculum will include two tracks, Construction Project Management, or Industrial Manufacturing. The Construction Project Management track will provide students with a general engineering background needed to solve construction related problems. It will also provide the management skills necessary to serve as a liaison between the owner and contractor, with an understanding of what is safe, efficient, aesthetic, and amenable for all parties involved. The Industrial Manufacturing track will prepare students with applicable knowledge in mathematical and scientific principles in the management and design of systems, execution of new product designs, improvement of manufacturing processes, and the management and direction of the physical or technical functions of an organization.

The proposed program will use existing facilities and coursework, with the need to develop only six new courses. UAPB plans to hire two new, doctorate-level faculty members to teach and conduct research in the Engineering program.

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

The following applications may be reviewed by ADHE for consideration at the AHECB meeting in July 2023.

Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, California

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Clinical Psychology

Post-Doctoral Certificate in Neuropsychology Specialization

Post-Doctoral Certificate of Respecialization in Clinical Psychology

University of Massachusetts Global, Irvine, California

Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Graduate Certificate in Medical Product Quality

Graduate Certificate in Regulatory and Clinical Affairs

Master of Science in Health Systems Management Engineering

Master of Science in Materials Engineering (Machine Learning)

Master of Science in Operations Research Engineering

Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering - Digital Oilfield Technologies

Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering (Geoscience Technologies)

Master of Science in Management of Drug Development

Master of Science in Medical Product Quality

Master of Science in Regulatory Science

- **Letters of Notification**

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

- **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.