

**Tentative Agenda Items  
April 15, 2011 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 for those committees that will be placed in the Executive section will be considered by the full Board and not during the committee meetings.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

- Introductions
- Minutes, February 3, 2011 Special Meeting
- Minutes, February 4, 2011 Regular meeting
- Minutes, February 25, 2011 Special meeting
- Announcements

**AGENCY UPDATE**

**EXECUTIVE SECTION**

- **Annual Report on Credentials Awarded**

The Credentials Awarded report is provided as an information item. This report reviews the number of total credentials awarded by public and private institutions and is segmented by the credential degree level.

- **Annual Report of Student Retention and Graduation**

The annual report on Graduation and Retention Rates will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item. The report provides fall-to-fall retention rate and success rate calculations on cohorts of students. In addition, the Graduation Rates calculations have been revised to provide an IPEDS-based methodology for calculating graduation rates along with corresponding retention and success rates. The graduation rate data is also segmented by gender, race, and age.

- **Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes**

The annual report on retention and graduation of intercollegiate athletes will be presented to the Coordinating Board.

- **Annual Report on Productivity of Recently Approved Programs**

Degree productivity of certificate and associate degree programs approved by the Coordinating Board in 2006-07 (after three years) and baccalaureate and graduate degree programs approved by the Coordinating Board in 2004-2005 (after five years) will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

- **Academic Challenge Scholarship**

This action will amend the rules of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship as a result of changes made during the 2011 legislative session (Act 201). The changes are minor and include changing completed to successfully completed, defining scholarship hold for traditional students, clarifying eligibility requirements for non-traditional students, and correcting minor technical problems.

## **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

- **Arkansas State University-Newport  
Associate of Applied Science and Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance**

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.

- **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  
Associate of Applied Science and Technical Certificate 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. 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.

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 Science and 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/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 have been reviewed by ADHE for consideration at the March 2011 ICAC quarterly meeting.

DeVry University, Naperville, Illinois

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

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 of Applied Science in Business  
Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Investigations  
Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Insurance Billing and Coding  
Associate of Applied 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

Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Master of Science in Leadership  
Master of Business Administration  
RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Master of Science in Nursing: Nursing Education  
Master of Science in Nursing: Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems

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

Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Master of Laws, Small Business Practice  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Science in Environmental Policy  
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

Strayer University, Washington, D.C.

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 Applied Science in Health Sciences  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Billing and Coding

Undergraduate Programs:

Medical Administrative Assistant  
Medical Billing and Coding  
Medical Office and Billing Specialist  
Pharmacy Technician

University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona

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

- **Letters of Notification**
- **Letters of Intent**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- **Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds**

The Department of Higher Education recommends that up to \$1 million from the Higher Education Research Development Fund be allocated to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for expenses associated with the connection of all public universities to the e-corridor.

- **Economic Feasibility of an E&G and Auxiliary Bond Issue for UAF**

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$130.42 million with a term of up to 30 years at an estimated annual interest rate not to exceed 5.6 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for E&G and Auxiliary purposes.