

Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Arkansas at Monticello Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Spencer Gallery
Fine Arts Center
January 13, 2005
4:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Ian Beer, Jimmy Barrett, Cynthia Montgomery, Charlene Cavaness, Herbert Hutchison, Marilyn Johnson, Judy Kirkley, Rhonda Mullikin, Tommy Poole, Bennie Ryburn, III

University Administrators: Chancellor Jack Lassiter, Vice Chancellor David Ray, Vice Chancellor Mark Davis, Vice Chancellor Peggy Doss, Vice Chancellor Bob Ware, Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing

Ian Beer welcomed everyone and called meeting to order.

The Board approved minutes from the October 5, 2004 meeting.

David Ray announced that Jay Hughes has been hired as the Partnership Coordinator and instructor in the School of Education and Ed Brinson as an instructor in English.

David Ray reported that 317 students were included on the Dean's list from all three campuses. A grade point of 3.0 or better is required. He also reported that in the fall there were 88 students suspended for one semester and 37 for one year and reviewed the policy changes in suspensions.

David Ray informed the board that a committee on summer salary, adjunct salary, class limits and overloads has been formed and will meet for the first time tomorrow.

David Ray briefed the board on the problem with the P-4 Early Childhood/Special Education program. In the past students have been using an either/or option on the Praxis exam to complete Early Childhood or Special Education. As of May 2004, ADE ruled that students must successfully complete both Praxis exams to be licensed. The reason for having to complete both exams is that the UAM program is a "blended" program. This has placed several students in jeopardy by not being able to successfully complete the special education Praxis requirement. Several students were given a provisional license and those licenses are due to expire in May 2005. Jack Lassiter, David Ray, and

Michael Rosato have met with Ken James, Director, of the Arkansas Department of Education and his staff to resolve the problem. The matter is still in the resolution stage.

Jack Lassiter stated the Dr. Ken James has made recommendations that cannot be announced at this time and that students will be contacted as soon as a resolution is finalized.

Rhonda Mullikin stated that she has teachers with a provisional license and that it is strictly a paperwork issue and that the teachers are doing an excellent job in the classroom.

Peggy Doss provided a handout on the UAM Foundation Fund and reviewed the figures including recent Phon-a-thon pledges. She stated that there were 448 scholarships awarded in the Fall 2004 totaling \$235,849.00. She reviewed the list of scholarships recently endowed and recently established.

Peggy Doss stated that the official enrollment as of today is 2,730 which is up from Spring 2004 and explained how the figure includes technical and non-technical courses for all three campuses. She informed the board that there are ongoing efforts being made between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs to improve student retention.

Mark Davis reviewed the meetings and process being followed to finalize the new budget by May 2005.

Mark Davis updated the board on the status of the Campus Master Plan which includes facilities, roads and landscaping. It will be completed by April and upon it's completion a meeting between the Architects and the board will be arranged.

Mark Davis reviewed facility renovations being made on campus. Willard Hall renovations will include installing central heating and air, installing an elevator, renovating classrooms and bring the HVAC system up to code. A renovation will be made in the BBC to correct a water leakage problem in the first floor.

Jack Lassiter introduced Jim Hudgins and added that hot water will be added to three buildings as part of the renovations being made.

Bob Ware reviewed the programs on the McGehee campus and provided a handout with detailed information on all technical programs and courses being offered for spring 2005. He stated the Fall 2005 enrollment is expected to increase.

Linda Rushing gave a report on the enrollment for Spring 2005 for the Crossett campus and made a recommendation for Mr. Carlton Davis, Mr. Campbell Wilkerson, and Mr. Peter Whitneck to be added as UAM-CTC Advisory Board members.

Jack Lassiter stated Linda Rushing and Bob Ware are working on By-laws and guidelines for the advisory board for each campus. He relayed the information that Dr. Sugg

suggested the UAM-CTC advisory board recommendations be approved by the Board of Visitors before being presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Ian Beer made a motion that recommendations made by Linda Rushing be approved. Second was made by Ms. Cavaness.

Bob Ware stated that there were no current recommendations to be made for the Advisory Board on the McGehee Campus.

Jack Lassiter briefed the board on his meeting with the SEARK Legislative Delegation regarding two pieces of legislation that would affect UAM. The first is regarding Heavy Equipment and SEABEC and the second is recommended legislation to change the power to appoint the Board of Visitors from the Governor's office to the Board of Trustees. This change would make the appointment of UAM Board of Visitors consistent with all the other campuses.

Herb Hutchison made a motion that no action be taken at this time. No second, motion died.

Ian Beer made a motion that action be taken and the legislation be given approval by the board. No second, motion died.

Jack Lassiter told the about plans to have the board members participate in commencement and wear full regalia. Attendance is not required. Commencement is May 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Charlene Cavaness stated that she would like to see UAM commencement changed so that it would not conflict with local school districts.

Jack Lassiter stated that resolutions to the problem are being reviewed.

Jack Lassiter told the board about a recent meeting to discuss the creation of a Forestry Museum.

Tommy Poole stated that he would like to see more UAM publicity reach the newspapers in the surrounding communities. He seldom sees anything in the Chico Spectator.

Jack Lassiter explained to the board that Jim Brewer sends out the information to all the area newspapers but they use it as filler and do not publish most of what they receive. The Pine Bluff Commercial gives good coverage but it is a struggle to get information published in the Democrat Gazette.

The meeting was adjourned.