

Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Arkansas at Monticello Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Spencer Gallery
Fine Arts Center
October 12, 2006
4:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

- Ian Beer
- Reginald Glover
- Herbert Hutchison
- Judy Kirkley
- Lorraine McCullough
- Cynthia Montgomery
- Rhonda Mullikin
- Tommy Poole
- Frank Wilson

University Administrators:

- Chancellor Jack Lassiter
- Provost David Ray
- Vice Chancellor Linda Yeiser
- Vice Chancellor Clay Brown
- Vice Chancellor Jay Jones
- Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing
- Vice Chancellor Bob Ware

Ian Beer welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

The Board approved the minutes from the July 13, 2006 meeting.

Ian Beer introduced Dr. Jack Lassiter.

Jack Lassiter made the following introductions:

- Lorraine McCullough, Board of Visitors Member
- Jay Jones, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration
- Rachel Burks, Administrative Assistant II/Chancellor's Office

Ian Beer welcomed Ms. Lorraine McCullough to the Board and introduced Provost David Ray.

David Ray informed the Board that there are a total of 773 classes being offered this fall at all three campuses with Crossett offering 51, McGehee offering 65, and Monticello offering 657.

David Ray reported that the spring 2007 schedule of classes is currently under development.

David Ray stated that it is important to offer night classes, especially for non-traditional students. Currently, 63 night classes are being offered. Provost Ray said the university was excited about the variety of classes being offered and looks forward to extending that in the spring.

David Ray reported on Early College High School enrollment. He informed the Board that there are currently 450 students participating in the program (high school students taking college level courses) this year. There are 20 school districts that are participating in this program, including 12 in the surrounding area and 8 in other areas. Dr. Lassiter stated that the program was originally intended for schools in the Co-op area (16 schools), but then it became a statewide

program. He also stated that next year, the university will go back to the original plan and offer the program in the immediate area. The Co-op plans to partner with other institutions and try to get them to partner with the Early College High School program in their immediate areas.

David Ray reported that the university is trying to develop a Bachelor of Applied Science Program, so students who have completed coursework focused on a technical career may continue to work toward a Bachelor's Degree.

David Ray informed the Board that the new catalog will be larger. The university has a new catalog every 2 years, and it has been determined that about 60 pages will need to be added due to Act 1014 (8 semester rule). Provost Ray also stated that the university plans to offer the catalog on CD as well as a hard copy. He mentioned that a short video advertisement could be included on the CD to help better promote the university. He also informed the Board that the catalog is online as well.

Ian Beer introduced Dr. Clay Brown.

Clay Brown introduced new employee Lindsey Kight, Director of Student Activities and Programs.

Clay Brown reported on the fall 2006 enrollment. He distributed an enrollment report to the Board which includes the following data. Enrollment has been on the rise since fall 2003. For all campuses, the fall 2005 number of students enrolled in non-technical courses was 2,738. This fall 2006 number is 2,910, which reflects an increase of 172 students enrolled in non-technical courses at all campuses. The fall 2005 number of students enrolled in technical courses at Crossett and McGehee was 169, and now the fall 2006 number is 197. That reflects an increase of 28 students enrolled in technical courses at the Crossett and McGehee campuses. The number of students enrolled in a combination of technical and non-technical courses in fall 2005 was 52, and now the fall 2006 number is 72, which reflects an increase of 20 students. The total number of students enrolled in fall 2005 was 2,959, and now the fall 2006 number of students enrolled is 3,179, which reflects an increase of 220 students. Dr. Brown commended Mary Whiting and the admission counselors for doing a wonderful job recruiting students from all over the state and even from out of state. He stated that the university had the 2nd largest enrollment increase in the state of about 7.4%.

Clay Brown updated the Board on renovations in the cafeteria/dining hall. The flooring, lighting, and countertop areas have all been updated. Also, there are new bar-type (high) tables, booths with new fabric, and chairs with new fabric. The dining hall has not been changed since it was built in 1982, so this is a major improvement.

Clay Brown updated the Board on the occupancy of the residence halls. He stated that in the five years he's been here, the number is the highest that he's seen it at 646. He stated that the residence halls are at capacity, and even a few single rooms had to be taken away. A few more single rooms could be taken away, but the rooms in Bankston Hall are just too small for two. Dr. Brown stated that research in higher education has shown that college students that live on campus, work on campus, and are involved in one or two activities are the most successful students.

Clay Brown recognized and welcomed Steve Davis, Special Events Coordinator.

Ian Beer introduced Mr. Jay Jones.

Jay Jones stated that he is pleased to be at UAM and has had a great experience with moving to the community. He also stated that he is looking forward to working with the staff at UAM. He's glad to be working with such a strong financial staff with experience. He stated that one thing that

attracted him to UAM was Dr. Lassiter's vision for the institution. He's glad to be here and be a part of that.

Jay Jones presented to the Board the 4th Quarter Report. He stated that Legislative Audit has been at the university. The fiscal year-end was June 30th. Legislative Audit spent about 3 months auditing financial records. Their deadline to report the audit information to the university system office is October 13, 2006.

Jay Jones updated the Board on the budget. The budget for fiscal year 2006, which ended June 30, 2006, was about \$32 million. The unrestricted educational and general revenues for that period were about 102%. The revenues for tuition were just within less than ½ percent from where the budget was. The state appropriations came in at just a little bit above budget for the year. Expenses for the year came in just under the \$32 million budget.

Jay Jones reported to the Board on the campus construction that is underway. He stated that there is a lot of construction starting at UAM over the next few years.

Ian Beer introduced Ms. Linda Yeiser.

Linda Yeiser updated the Board on the following Homecoming events:

- Artist's Reception for Terry Williams (UAM Forestry graduate) on Wednesday, October 25, 2006.
- The following three groups are being honored at Homecoming:
 - 1) Class of 1956 – 50th Anniversary – currently, 72 people are coming
 - 3 AIC Championship Teams
 - 1955 Football Team
 - 1956 Football Team
 - 1956 Basketball Team
 - 2) A Cappella Reunion Choir – currently, 125 people are coming (those that were in the A Cappella Choir under the direction of John Dougherty)
 - 3) Alpha Chi Honorary Society – 50th Anniversary on UAM campus

Linda Yeiser announced that the recipient of the Achievement and Merit Award is Mr. Frank Wilson and that he will be recognized at the alumni dinner on Friday during Homecoming.

Linda Yeiser announced that the recipient of the Continuing the Connection Award is Mr. Jim Trimm of Colorado. This award is not given every year, but it is given to acknowledge alumni who strive to preserve the memories of Arkansas A&M College, while at the same time work to improve and develop UAM.

Linda Yeiser updated the Board on the "Name That Brick" campaign. The construction around Weevil Pond includes building a walking trail. One section of that will be red engraved pavers. There will be 4,000 of those, of which 463 are sold. They are arranged in 19 sections with about 300 bricks in each section. Also, within each section, there are 2 white 16"x16" stones that are engraved. The bricks are \$100 each and the stones are \$1,000 each. The stones have been popular and there are 38 stones total. The Foundation has raised about \$84,000 from this campaign, plus the city has a grant for over \$30,000 to share with UAM.

Linda Yeiser reported on several recent alumni receptions:

- Friday, July 21, 2006 – Hot Springs alumni reception at Pat Scavo's Blue Moon Gallery. Ms. Scavo closed the gallery to be open only for the UAM Alumni Reception.
- Friday, September 8, 2006 – Alumni reception in conjunction with the UAM vs. Sam Houston State University football game. The reception was hosted by UAM alumnus Randy Risher at the Bentwater Yacht and Country Club in Montgomery, TX.

- Saturday, September 30, 2006 – Alumni tailgate in conjunction with the UAM vs. Northwestern State University football game in Natchitoches, LA.

Linda Yeiser provided a Foundation report to the Board. There is one new scholarship, the Betty A. Matthews Women's Athletic Scholarship. This is the first scholarship that has reached endowment status for women's athletics.

Linda Yeiser reported to the Board on the UAM license plate sales. So far, 87 have been sold, and another 200 need to be sold to break even. The university gets \$25 every time someone renews one of these plates. The Alumni Association needed either 500 signatures or \$5,000 to get the plates, so the association went ahead and fronted the \$5,000. The proceeds from the next 200 sold will be used to reimburse the Alumni Association.

Linda Yeiser informed the Board that she has submitted a grant proposal to an Arkansas foundation for the stadium renovation.

Linda Yeiser reported on meetings with the Highway Department. There is a Safe Routes to School grant that requires you to be within 2 miles of a K-8 school. What the university is hoping to do is take the walking trail from the pond up to Drew Central, then back to the Monticello School District by the hospital, then in front of the Presbyterian Home and connect to the city park.

Ian Beer introduced Ms. Linda Rushing.

Linda Rushing informed the Board of a new welding instructor that just retired from GP, Jimmy DuBose. He is certified by the American Welding Society and a welder inspector. He does some work at the McGehee campus as well.

Linda Rushing updated the Board on the Crossett Master Plan. The land was being surveyed today and she has met with the engineers. The plans should be finalized by the first week in November.

Linda Rushing updated the Board on the non-credit training that the Crossett campus does for the business industry and other areas. They've had 311 people who have gone through training since July 1, 2006.

Linda Rushing stated that the Crossett campus started the CDA program (Child Development Association), which has 14 students enrolled.

Ian Beer introduced Mr. Bob Ware.

Bob Ware announced that they have 2 new instructors at the McGehee campus. Rhonda Williams is a new instructor for Arts and Humanities. She works at the Monticello campus as well. The other is new Biology instructor Joe Carter. He teaches AP Anatomy and Physiology. Also, they're looking for another general education instructor to work with the School of Education. This instructor will teach Nutrition for McGehee and some courses for Dr. Doss, including a wellness course, a physical education course, and the nutrition course that's online.

Bob Ware updated the Board on the McGehee Master Plan. They met with the architects and engineer yesterday and are still in the planning stage. They are trying to acquire a property from McGehee Estates, which is the area they're planning on building a new facility for Nursing and Allied Health.

Bob Ware reported on the non-credit offerings of the UAM COT – McGehee. 39 non-credit classes are being offered, with 316 enrolled in those classes, which is a total of 4,443 hours.

Bob Ware discussed handouts he distributed on the Arkansas Small Business Development Center. He stated that the Small Business Program is doing great community service. The UAM SBDC only receives about 25% of the funding for this program from the Small Business Administration with the remainder coming from the McGehee budget. It's not supported by students. Mr. Ware reported the following statistics for what the program has accomplished from January to September of 2006:

Ian Beer introduced Dr. Russ Nordeen (Vice Chair of the UAM Assembly standing in for Dr. Kate Stewart, Chair).

Russ Nordeen stated that the Assembly hasn't met yet this year.

Ian Beer introduced Dr. Jack Lassiter.

Jack Lassiter pointed out to the Board the Act 1 brochures placed in each board member's binder. He stated that the election is on November 7 and that Act 1 would bring \$4.1 million to this campus, therefore, he's encouraging everyone to vote. Dr. Lassiter said it would be used for technology upgrades. He stated that this campus is working on a software system that is 22 years of age, and he emphasized the need for the software to be replaced. He also pointed out that there will be no new taxes required if you vote for Act 1. The act would allow UAM to be 1 of 10 locations in the state of Arkansas to have the e-corridor. He asked the Board for their support. Dr. Lassiter recognized Anissa Ross and the committee of about 16 working on this issue, and he commended them on their hard work. He stated that they've met every Tuesday to discuss the campaign. Dr. Lassiter recognized Reginald Glover for appearing on a TV commercial where he is advertising the campaign and Commercial Bank. He stated that Judy Kirkley announced tonight that she received a check to help support some of the cost with the associated press. He stated that they're using newspaper advertisements, radio, and other means to get the word out. He informed the Board that Ms. Rushing, Mr. Ware, and Dr. Brown are having a phone-a-thon starting on the 22nd to encourage people in the region to vote.

Jack Lassiter pointed out the new 2006 – 2007 strategic plan distributed to each board member. He stated that it's been about 10 years since the last strategic plan was formed for the university. Dr. Lassiter recognized that everyone worked together to develop this strategic plan for this institution. He stated that it's a rough draft and will be updated and polished each time it's published. He said the university plans to have an annual publication of the strategic plan. The plan covers a 5 year period. It gives individual goals and objectives that are directed toward a common goal and objective for the institution. Dr. Lassiter commended Debbie Bryant for chairing the process.

Jack Lassiter informed the Board that Drew Central approached UAM about leasing the football stadium for their football program. If feasible, UAM will provide the facility for them on the terms of a lease agreement.

Jack Lassiter stated that he will be meeting with the Legislative Delegation on October 30th at 10:00 a.m. This includes Senator Jimmy Jeffress, Senator Jerry Taylor, Representative Gregg Reep, Representative Allen Maxwell, Representative Robert Moore, Representative Eddie Cheatham, and Representative David Rainey. They've all agreed to come to campus that day. They will discuss the Arkansas Heavy Equipment Operator Training Academy (AHEOTA) that

UAM took over supervision for in July 2005. Thanks to Senator Jeffress and Representative Reep, UAM received some one-time general improvement funds to help support this program. Dr. Lassiter stated that the program is very expensive, and UAM can't charge students the amount of tuition to cover it. UAM has requested non-formula funds for that program and will ask the Legislative Delegation to support that request. If there is not funding for the program, then the program will need to be eliminated. The Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved the recommendation for about \$226,000. That's just enough to be able to charge a normal tuition to students for the program. UAM COT – McGehee received a \$1.6 million grant for the timber portion of that program. There are currently 12 students.

Jack Lassiter discussed the Board of Visitors appointment process. He stated that this Board was created out of legislation. This is the only campus in the University of Arkansas System where the Board is appointed by the Governor. He stated that each member has been re-appointed to the Board, but the process of re-appointment is very cumbersome. He also said that it took over 7 months to get everyone re-appointed. Everyone's terms actually expired in July, but it was September before everyone got re-appointed. Dr. Lassiter stated that this is not the Governor's fault, but the difficulty of the appointment is the process that has to be followed. He wants to propose to the Legislative Delegation that this Board be appointed in the same manner as the other Boards in the University of Arkansas System. That basically means that the Board of Trustees makes the appointments to the Board. He offered to discuss any questions or concerns with the members at anytime. He stated that currently, 4 members will have to be re-appointed next year. Board members will be appointed every year from now on. Mr. Glover said, as a Board member, he is not opposed to changing the appointment process to what the other institutions have. Dr. Lassiter stated that he likes the make-up of this board. It ensures that the 7 counties in our area are represented. It also ensures that 7 members are alumni and that 2 are from the College of Technology Boards. He would not propose changing that, only changing the appointments from the Governor to the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. They simply put the names forward to the Board of Trustees. Ian Beer asked if any Board members wanted to make a motion to move forward with Dr. Lassiter's proposal. The Board made a motion to agree to move forward with the recommendation to change the appointment process for the Board of Visitors from the Governor to the Board of Trustees. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Jack Lassiter conducted the drawing for terms and the Board drew as follows:

Judy Kirkley – 1 year
Lorraine McCullough – 3 years
Tommy Poole – 1 year
Reginald Glover – 1 year
Ian Beer – 2 years
Cynthia Montgomery – 2 years
Rhonda Mullikin – 3 years
Herb Hutchison – 1 year
Frank Wilson – 3 years
Marilyn Johnson – 3 years (Clay Brown drew)
Bennie Ryburn – 2 years (Linda Yeiser drew)
Jimmy Barrett – 2 years (Jay Jones drew)

The Board discussed the Act 1 and the upcoming election.

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.