

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Fine Arts Center
Spencer Gallery
January 17, 2008
4:00 p.m.

Board members present: Ian Beer

Reginald Glover
Herb Hutchison
Marilyn Johnson
Judy Kirkley
Lorraine McCullough
Cynthia Montgomery
Rhonda Mullikin
Tommy Poole
Bennie Ryburn, III
Frank Wilson

University Administrators:

Chancellor Jack Lassiter
Vice Chancellor Jay Jones
Vice Chancellor Linda Yeiser
Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing
Vice Chancellor Bob Ware
Assistant Vice Chancellor Ranelle Eubanks

Chairman Ian Beer welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m.

The Board approved the minutes from the October 11, 2007 meeting.

Chancellor Jack Lassiter announced that Provost David Ray was out of town. He introduced Dr. Ranelle Eubanks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Dr. Eubanks provided the report for Provost Ray.

Dr. Eubanks discussed High School Redesign. She stated the next meeting will be January 23, 2008 with Governor Beebe and Ken James in Little Rock. Both she and Provost Ray will attend.

Dr. Eubanks stated that the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Higher Education has had numerous meetings. Recommendations on higher education will be made during the next two meetings that will be taken to the Legislature.

Dr. Eubanks stated that there were 215 December graduates. Of these, there were 77 baccalaureate degrees, 73 associate degrees, 61 technical certificates or certificates of proficiency, and 4 master's degrees.

Dr. Eubanks reported on spring classes. She stated there are 857 classes this semester. Of these, 49 are on-line, 57 are early college high school, 8 are CIV, and 78 are late afternoon/evening classes. Dr. Eubanks reported that there were 619 first-time full-time freshmen in the fall of 2007 and 80% returned in the spring. Dr. Eubanks stated that preregistration for summer and fall starts April 7, 2008.

Dr. Eubanks reported that progress has been made on the Bachelor of Liberal Arts program. It should be ready to send to ADHE soon.

Dr. Eubanks announced the following Accreditation dates:

- Nursing, January 28, 2008
- Music, March of 2009
- Education, March and April of 2009

Vice Chancellor Linda Yeiser reported on the Centennial Circle. She noted that this campaign seeks 100 people pledging \$10,000 each to form a \$1,000,000 endowment for the centennial celebration. There are now 37 pledges.

Ms. Yeiser reported that the Campaign for Athletics now has \$557,750 in pledges or gifts.

Ms. Yeiser reported on the following new endowments: Robert C. Kirst Agriculture Scholarship, Boyce Davis Award, Tommy Matthews Athletic Scholarship, Curtis W. Kyle, Sr. Forestry Scholarship, Carolyn Hibbs Thompson Chemistry Scholarship, Dean's Scholarship of Forest Resources, Peggy Doss Endowed Education Scholarship, Shay Gillespie Phi Beta Sigma Leadership Scholarship. She stated the following future endowments have just begun: Juanita Louise Moss Scholarship, and A.D. and Nellie Leonard Scholarship. Ms. Yeiser stated that other major gifts include: D. John Nichols has given \$100,000 to the Loran Johnson Scholarship and Maxine Clippert has given \$1,000,000 for the construction of the new Forestry building.

Ms. Yeiser reported that the Foundation has net assets of \$13.2 million.

Ms. Yeiser gave the results of the Centennial Slogan Contest. There were 138 slogans entered. The slogan selected by the committee was, "UAM - Celebrating a Century of Opportunity," written by Jim Brewer, Director of Media Services.

Ms. Yeiser discussed the following Alumni activities:

- 25 people have signed up for the Rockies Rail Highlights trip.
- There will be a UAM night on April 12, 2008 at the Northwest Arkansas Naturals baseball game in Springdale.
- The Alumni Directory will be distributed in April, 2008.
- Homecoming will be October 18, 2008.

Ms. Yeiser announced that Ms. Sandra Lawhon of San Diego donated 3 additional pieces of the Paul Maxwell art to the University in December, 2007.

Vice Chancellor Jay Jones discussed the second quarter financial reports. Mr. Jones stated as of December 31, 2007, revenue exceeded expenses by about \$3.8 million. He announced that on March 28, 2008, the Board of Trustees will meet and consider the tuition and fees proposal. Mr. Jones announced that the Executive Council will work on finalizing the budget in April. The Board of Trustees will give the final approval of the budget at the June 6th meeting.

Mr. Jones provided a handout which gave the following update on campus constructions:

Project	Estimated Completion Date
Wells and Sorrells	October, 2008

Indoor Athletic/Band Practice Facility	December, 2008
Stadium Press Box	June, 2008
Agri-Barns/Metal Buildings	February and June, 2008
Crossett Building	February, 2008
McGehee Building	March, 2008

Mr. Jones provided a handout on the Information Technology Committee, which is broken into 5 categories: educational technology, institutional database, administrative software, infrastructure planning, and campus communications. Mr. Jones discussed the progress of these committees.

Mr. Jones discussed the energy savings performance contract. He stated a contract has been made with TAC, an engineering firm specializing in energy savings. Final recommendations have been submitted regarding improvements in electrical, heating, cooling, and other ways to save energy. These recommendations are being considered and will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Jones reported that a NCAA audit was performed in December, 2007 and there were no audit findings.

Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing discussed the practical nursing evaluation conducted on October 21, 2007. The Arkansas State Board of Nursing granted continued full approval of the Practical Nursing Program until 2012.

Ms. Rushing reported that a letter of intent has been submitted to ADHE for a new technical certificate program related to health information technology. The curriculum and details are currently being developed.

Ms. Rushing gave an update on personnel. There are 4 vacant positions: Instructors for Electromechanical Technology-Instrumentation, Computer Maintenance/ Networking, and Mathematics, and a Director of Instruction. Ms. Rushing reported that a part-time security officer has been hired to monitor the campus during evening hours.

Vice Chancellor Bob Ware reported that there are 12 students enrolled in the new hospitality program.

Mr. Ware gave an update on construction for the McGehee campus. He stated that the bookstore is 99% complete, the front office is 95% complete, and the new building is 76% complete. The completion date is scheduled for March 20, 2008.

Mr. Ware announced the following scholarships being developed for students attending the McGehee campus:

- First National Bank, \$1000 to a business student pursuing a degree
- Harvest Rice, \$1000 to any student pursuing a technical certificate or degree
- McGehee Hospital Auxiliary, between \$500-\$1000, based on fundraiser

Mr. Ware announced that there will be state-wide forums concerning the career readiness certificate. The southwest forum will be January 29, 2008 and the southeast forum will be February 7, 2008.

Mr. Ware reported that there are 29 students enrolled in the heavy equipment program. He stated they have purchased 2 new vehicles for the program.

Mr. Ware announced that enrollment is up 20% from spring of 2007.

Dr. Marsha Clayton, Assembly Chair, reported that the UAM Assembly had their second meeting of the fall semester on November 27, 2007. The Assembly heard and approved reports of the Curriculum and Standards committee, which had acted on several proposals regarding catalog changes and the Student Affairs committee which recommended three new student organizations for official recognition. Reports were also made from other standing committees.

Dr. Clayton stated that the Assembly officers had a working lunch with Chancellor Lassiter and Provost Ray at the end of the semester to discuss assembly issues and plans for the remainder of the year.

Dr. Clayton announced that tentative dates for the next Assembly meetings are February 28 and April 29.

Dr. Clayton stated that the reports submitted to the North Central Association on Assessment and Planning had been very favorably received.

Dr. Lassiter announced that Dr. Clay Brown has been elected President of the Southern Association for College Student Affairs. He is out of town attending a meeting.

Dr. Lassiter provided Dr. Brown's report. He stated that the improvements on the Patio Café have been completed.

A handout was provided on preliminary enrollment for the spring semester. Dr. Lassiter stated that there were 3,116 students for the Spring 2008 semester.

Dr. Lassiter gave an update on student activities:

- Christmas tree lighting ceremony in November
- Canned Christmas food drive in December
- Martin Luther King celebration on January 22, 2008
- Black history month in February
- Rockefeller Lecture Series will have Julian Bond as speaker in March

Dr. Lassiter reported that the campus is actively involved in the recycling program.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the emergency notification system. This is a statewide system that will send a prerecorded message to students, faculty and staff by email, text messaging, and cell phone calls.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the appointment of new board members. He stated that the Governor's office assured him today that appointments would be made in the very near future.

Dr. Lassiter stated that more information will be discussed at the next meeting concerning tuition and fee history. He stated that options are being explored on how costs can be reduced or maintained.

Dr. Lassiter stated that the funding formula for colleges of technology will be similar to the Monticello campus.

Dr. Lassiter stated that preparation is being made for the 2009 Legislative session. He announced that on January 30, all 10 four year institutions will meet with the Governor to talk about ideas developed concerning incentive funding.

Dr. Lassiter stated that he will be attending a Higher Education Coordinating Board meeting on February 1st at Henderson State. He announced that Jim Purcell is the new Director of Higher Education.

Dr. Lassiter announced that David Leech of Stuttgart has been assigned as the Institutional Representative for this campus. This will provide interaction and communication between Board of Visitors and Coordinating Board.

Dr. Lassiter announced that he has been appointed to the Council of State Representatives of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Lassiter announced that on February 4, Governor Beebe will be coming to campus to deliver the general improvement funds for the School of Forest Resources.

Dr. Lassiter announced that the Annual Trustee Conference will be February 19 in North Little Rock. He invited all members to attend.

Mr. Beer requested if any new business needed to be discussed.
None discussed.

Mr. Beer requested if any old business needed to be discussed.
None discussed.

Mr. Beer adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.