

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Fine Arts Center
Spencer Gallery
October 2, 2008
4:00 p.m.

Board members present: Reginald Glover
 Cynthia Montgomery
 Rhonda Mullikin
 Tommy Poole
 Bennie Ryburn, III
 Frank Wilson

University Personnel: Chancellor Jack Lassiter
 Provost David Ray
 Vice Chancellor Kathy Berry
 Vice Chancellor Clay Brown
 Vice Chancellor Jay Jones
 Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing
 Vice Chancellor Bob Ware
 Carrie Ashcraft, Director of Alumni Affairs
 Marsha Clayton, Chair of the Assembly
 Ranelle Eubanks, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
 Louis James, Dean of the School of Business

Visitors: David Leech, Vice Chair, AHE Coordinating Board
 Tim Wooldridge, Executive Director, AAPU

Ms. Cynthia Montgomery welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

The Board approved the minutes from the July 10, 2008 meeting.

Chancellor Jack Lassiter introduced David Leech, Vice Chair of AHE Coordinating Board and Tim Wooldridge, Executive Director of AAPU.

Provost David Ray gave a preliminary report for fall 2008. He stated that there are 61 classes offered at Crossett, 66 at McGehee, and 770 at Monticello, including 86 Early College High School, with a total of 897 classes being offered this fall.

Mr. Ray announced that two new faculty have been hired in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Rejena Saulsberry and Walter Everett. He also announced the promotion of three faculty members:

 Ms. Amy Huffman, Social & Behavioral Sciences – promoted to Assistant Professor
 Dr. Glenn Manning, Math and Natural Sciences – promoted to Assistant Professor
 Dr. Donna Hunnicutt, Education – promoted to Assistant Professor

Mr. Ray discussed Early College High School/Concurrent Enrollment. He stated that UAM accepted students from a number of high schools outside the SEARK Cooperative area this year. This was to make sure students and schools would not be disenfranchised late in the year, due to some colleges not participating in ECHS. There are currently 402 ECHS students enrolled in 86 classes.

Mr. Ray discussed the legislative task force on remediation, retention, and graduation rates. The final task force report was presented to the Governor and Arkansas Legislators at a Capitol press conference on August 15. The K-16 recommendation areas are: strengthening the Arkansas education pipeline, preparation, remediation, financial aid, retention and graduation, funding and governance, data needs, and recommendation of economic development.

Mr. Ray discussed the WICHE Non-Traditional No More Initiative. He stated that the Western Interstate Conference for Higher Education received a Lumina Foundation grant to improve the college going and graduation rates of students that had previously attended college. The states selected for the grant included Arkansas, Colorado, and Nevada. Mr. Ray reported that the Arkansas team met in June and September to create prototype action plans that will increase the number of "adult ready" students that can complete baccalaureate and associate degrees. Mr. Ray noted that UAM is already developing a Bachelor of General Studies degree to achieve some of the goals of the WICHE grant.

Vice Chancellor Kathy Berry provided a handout pertaining to the Advancement office. She discussed the following year-to-date gifts to UAM:

- Centennial Circle - 64 commitments have been pledged.
- Alumni Dues - \$12,920 has been received, which surpasses last year's total.
- Phonathon - \$10,000 was committed, and \$15,000 has been received.

Dr. Berry introduced Carrie Ashcraft, Director of Alumni Affairs. Ms. Ashcraft discussed the Centennial Celebration.

Vice Chancellor Jay Jones discussed the FY 2008 financial report. He stated that our legislative auditors have been here since July 28 and will leave on October 8.

Mr. Jones gave an update on campus construction. He reported that the Wells/Sorrells project is 95% complete. The first floor of Wells has already been completed, which is where the data center is located. Mr. Jones stated that classes should resume by spring 2009. He also stated that the indoor practice facility is 35-40% complete, with a completion date of mid-February.

Mr. Jones gave an update on information technology. He reported that the committee met and gave a recommendation to proceed with the process of a software selection. The estimated cost is \$3.6 million.

Vice Chancellor Bob Ware provided a newsletter that included 2008 statistics on the Arkansas Small Business Development Center.

Mr. Ware stated that construction on the McGehee campus has been completed. He announced that there will be an Open House on October 23, from 12:00-2:00, with a program beginning at 12:30 p.m. Invitations will be sent to all board members.

Mr. Ware gave an update on the childcare center. They are working on an agreement with a licensing agency, CB King School. If the agreement is signed, the operation of the childcare center will be turned over on October 15. The facility will still be on the McGehee campus.

Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing discussed that there are 25 students in the new Health Information Technology program.

Ms. Rushing gave an update on personnel. She stated that a candidate for Hospitality Services was interviewed yesterday, and interviews have begun for the Crossett and McGehee Associate Vice Chancellor for Technical Education position.

Ms. Rushing announced that there will be an Open House on the Crossett campus on October 23, from 10:00-12:00, with a program beginning at 10:00 a.m. Invitations will be mailed.

Vice Chancellor Clay Brown provided a handout on fall enrollment. He stated that the headcount is up 121 students from last fall. He noted that there are also more students living in residence halls.

Dr. Brown reported on CUBIT, College University Behavioral Intervention Team. This is a team of university personnel who meet to discuss students who may seem depressed or lonely.

Dr. Brown provided a draft proposal of the smoke-free campus policy. The current policy is tobacco-free facilities and no smoking within 25 ft. of a main building. The proposal will be no smoking on University grounds or in University vehicles. Dr. Brown noted that we are the only four-year campus that has not passed a smoke-free proposal.

Dr. Brown announced the hiring of Mindy Holcomb, Director of Student Activities.

Dr. Brown gave a report on Parent/Family Appreciation Day. There were 887 parents who registered for the event. Dr. Lassiter commended everyone for their work.

Dr. Marsha Clayton announced that the UAM Assembly will meet on October 22 and December 4. She provided a handout which included contact information for the 2008-09 Assembly Officers.

Dr. Lassiter discussed Board of Visitors appointments. He provided a copy of a letter sent to the Governor recommending reappointment for three board members.

Dr. Lassiter discussed proposals from Arkansas Department of Higher Education:

- Bond Feasibility Criteria (for new buildings and renovations) – The proposal will be calculated on net tuition and fees as opposed to gross tuition and fee collection.
- Scholarship Limits – The proposal will limit distribution of scholarships to 15%, and if that percentage is exceeded, there will be a reduction in recommended funds from the state formula.
- Program Viability – The proposal will require the use of out of state consultants and will require programs to be reviewed based upon a standard of degrees awarded.

Dr. Lassiter discussed faculty and staff salaries and the state revenue projections. He stated that UAM is continuing to delay a salary increase, until new state revenue projections are given.

Dr. Lassiter announced that the SEARK Legislative Delegation meeting will be held on October 20, from 9:30 – 1:00. He stated that an invitation and agenda will be mailed to all board members.

Dr. Lassiter discussed two proposed resolutions:

- Hazard Mitigation Plan for Drew County – This resolution involves an emergency warning and plan of action for Drew County. There was a motion, second and all were in favor, so the motion passed.
- Hope for Arkansas – This resolution is a scholarship program that is funded by a lottery. A motion was made, but no second, so the motion died.

Dr. Lassiter made a recommendation to appoint Jeff Owyong to the UAM COT-McGehee Advisory Board. He announced that Ian Beer, who was on the Advisory Board, has moved to Wisconsin. Mr. Ware provided a letter from Franklin Healey. The Board recommended that Mr. Healey replace Boyd Bergum, who is retiring.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the election of officers. He asked that this be postponed until new appointments are made.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the January meeting date. He asked that it be moved to January 15, 2009.

Ms. Montgomery requested old/continuing business. None requested.

Ms. Montgomery requested new business. None requested.

Ms. Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.