

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Fine Arts Center, Spencer Gallery
October 14, 2010
2:15 p.m.

Board members present:

Jimmy Barrett
Carlton Davis
Roger George
Reginald Glover
Scotty Holderfield
Tommy Poole
Bennie Ryburn, Chairperson
Pat Webb

University Personnel:

Jack Lassiter, Chancellor
Clay Brown, Vice Chancellor
Jay Hughes, Vice Chancellor
Jay Jones, Vice Chancellor
Linda Rushing, Vice Chancellor
Bob Ware, Vice Chancellor
Ranelle Eubanks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Chris Ratcliff, Athletic Director
Jim Hudgins, Physical Plant

The meeting began with Mary Whiting, Director of Admissions, and a member of her staff presenting five new UAM commercials which highlight academics, athletics, and the university mascot. These commercials are projected to help with recruitment while making UAM more visible to the public. A new billboard is also in place on I-30 which states UAM's new slogan "Do you have what it takes to be a Bollweevil."

The meeting began officially at 2:15 p.m. when Mr. Bennie Ryburn welcomed the group and called the meeting to order.

The Board approved the minutes from the July 8, 2010 meeting.

Vice Chancellor, Jay Hughes presented the information for the Office of Student Affairs. Residence Halls, Welcome Week, Jeanne Clery Disclosure Act, and Homecoming and the Boomtown Classic were among the topics discussed.

1. At present, there are 660 students in residence halls which calculate to a 90% occupancy rate.
2. Since the Bankston Hall renovation, Dean Kuttenkuler has reported that only 4 discipline incidents have taken place compared to past years of 60 plus.
3. Welcome Week was a big success with 600 students in attendance.
4. UAM students and their families totaled 700 attendees at the annual Parent/Family Appreciation Day which was held September 25. Activities included a reception, the announcement of Steve and Kim Burgess as the UAM Family of the Year, and the introduction of the 2010 Homecoming Court.
5. Mr. Hughes stated that the Jeanne Clery Disclosure Campus Security Act is now landmarked by the federal legislature requiring disclosure information. The Act requires all campuses to disclose crime information on or around each campus by October 1 of every year. Reports are updated and provided to students and employers. These reports include 3 years of data and can be obtained through the department of Public Safety.

6. Homecoming activities included the parade around campus, and a combined pep rally with Drew Central High School on the town square; area businesses also participated in the event.
7. The 2nd Annual Boomtown Classic will be held November 6 in El Dorado. This GSC game will be televised and begin at 2:00 p.m.; UAM will be the home team this year.

Dr. Clay Brown presented his report for the Office of Advancement. Agenda items were the Centennial Circle Update, Endowments, Homecoming, Future Functions and Marketing Initiatives.

1. Dr. Brown began his presentation citing his commitment to his new position with the Office of Advancement and also commended board member, Mr. Reginald Glover for his work.
2. The office is working to continually build membership to the Centennial Circle; they are recruiting 100 donors who will pledge \$10,000 each to raise \$1,000,000. At this time, there are 79.5 donors. On October 28, Dr. Lassiter, Dr. Brown, and Mr. Glover will visit with Crossett Alumni and Friends in hopes of securing a \$10,000 pledge.
3. An Endowment in the amount of \$68,000 was given to Maintenance for the care of the indoor practice facility in honor of Quentious Crews, Hall of Fame inductee.
4. Events at the October 15 Homecoming Alumni Dinner included the presentation of the Distinguished Merit and Achievement Awards given to Karen Eoff, Shay Gillespie, Sean Rochelle and Marvin Kauffman, and the Continuing the Connection Award given to Buddy Carson.
5. Future events include the presentation of Handel's Messiah in North Little Rock on December 3, a Valentines performance by the choir at the Country Club, and an alumni trip to Ireland. Dr. Brown asked the group to think about and suggest destinations for future trips.
6. Dr Brown mentioned that the commercial presentation by Mary Whiting is part of the promotion efforts in creating new marketing initiatives and recruitment for the university. In addition, full page ads are currently in Little Rock newspapers.
 - Mr. Ryburn commented on the UAM net list which sends athletic and event information to staff and some community members, citing that it was a good way for the community to stay in touch with UAM activities. Dr Lassiter mentioned that ideas for an Athletic Newsletter are also being reviewed at this time.

Dr. Ranelle Eubanks presented the report for the Office of Academic Affairs. This report included information on fall classes, enrollments, new and retiring faculty and staff, and UAM 2010-11 Program Reviews.

1. Graduates for August totaled 124; typically the smallest commencement for the academic year.
 - Degrees conferred = 13 MA, 52 Bachelor's, 48 Associate and 26 Technical Certificates.
2. Fall 2010 class registration data confirm 953 total classes with at least one student enrolled, an increase of 4.8% over 2009-10 and 17.5% from 2008-10.
 - On-line classes have increased slightly; 42 in 2009 and 44 currently; CIV classes have decreased from 16 to 12 enrollments for 2010.
 - Monticello, Crossett and McGehee campuses have a combined total of 81 classes offered in the late afternoon/evening.
3. Fall 2010 enrollments have increased 4.9% over 2009; from 3,479 to 3,650 for 2010.
4. Two on-line sections of Art Appreciation have been added to classes that have students concurrently enrolled for fall 2010. At this time, 78 classes have concurrently enrolled students.
5. Nine new faculty/staff members have been hired since April. UAM also welcomes two Fulbright Scholars, Elodie Macler from France and Gonzalos Espinosa from Argentina.
6. The School of Forest Resources will acknowledge three retirements during fall 2010. Lynn Thompson and David Patterson retired September 30 and Richard Kluender will retire December 31.
7. Dr. Eubanks reported on the trial run of Act 971, which began this fall in the School of Math and Sciences. This act requires clear exit standard examinations and is used state-wide as a placement test.
8. The ADHE requires Program Reviews to be completed every 10 years for each program. For 2010-11, reviews will be conducted on the School of Business and Computer Information Systems.
9. Chancellor Lassiter asked Dr. Eubanks to comment on May commencement.

- Dr. Eubanks stated that beginning 2011, May commencement will consist of two ceremonies, one at 9:00 a.m. and the second at 1:00 p.m. The event will also move to an indoor facility with a luncheon served between the ceremonies.

Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing presented her report on the Crossett campus and the renovation of the Hamburg Adult Education Center.

1. The Crossett campus has recently gained membership to the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) partnered with Phi Beta Lambda. FBLA is an education association which helps students prepare for careers in business. Ms. Rushing stated that Crossett student Sharon Nelson competed in the Customer Services division of state and national FBLA competitions and placed 2nd and 8th.
2. Newly hired personnel at the Crossett campus are as follows:
 - Tina Bardin, Career Support Services Facilitator
 - Loleta Myers, Administrative Assistant
 - Alisa White, Early Childhood Education Instructor
 - Rodney Pickens, Instructor of Correctional Law Enforcement
 Caleb Walsh, Director of Career Pathways has resigned; a search will be conducted to fill the position.
3. Ms. Rushing announced that they have received word that the Council on Occupational Education will grant accreditation to the Crossett campus for another 5 years.
4. Ms. Rushing brought up the training partnership they are hoping to develop with Georgia Pacific.
 - The partnership will allow students to be trained through the technical college.
 - Georgia Pacific will invest in the program. The campus has already received \$4,000 to be used towards the Electro-Mechanical Technology Program or to assist with scholarships and/or equipment.
5. The renovation of the Hamburg Adult Education Center is in process. The lowest bid for the construction came in at \$326,500. The renovation will be a complete refurbish of the center and is expected to be complete by January 15, 2011.

Athletic Director, Chris Ratcliff presented his information which detailed repairs to athletic facilities, events, and the new NCAA Division II Athletic Conference.

1. Repairs to the baseball field are underway and expected to be complete in the next 2 weeks; installation of new flooring in the weight room is also projected to be completed at that time.
2. Mr. Ratcliff announced the appointment of John Harvey as the new head coach for baseball.
3. Upcoming events for the department include:
 - “Trunk or Treat.” This annual Halloween event where UAM athletes dress up and pass out candy will be held on October 25.
 - “Halloween Havok” will be held on October 27; the 2010-2011 basketball players will be introduced at the event.
 - October 14 is the Hall of Fame Banquet. Inductees include the 1956 championship basketball team. This year the event will also include a silent auction.
4. A new website for UAM Sports will go live on October 18. This website will have up-to-date information on game statistics and events for the department. The information can be accessed through text messaging, email alerts, and RSS feeds.
5. Mr. Ratcliff stated that UAM is now out of the Gulf South Conference effective 2011-12 except for football. Due to the contract, the football team will have to play 3 more games.
 - The university presidents are currently collaborating on the name for the new conference.
 - Schedules are complete for all sports, and by July 1, the bylaws and budget will be configured. A candidate for the new conference commissioner has been identified.
6. Mr. Reginald Glover asked Mr. Ratcliff about the upcoming Boomtown Classic. He questioned if there is a commitment to keep this going in the future.
 - Mr. Ratcliff responded that at present there is a 2 year bill committed to it; Mr. Davis stated that after speaking with SAU faculty and graduates, the event has been very well received.

McGehee Vice Chancellor, Mr. Bob Ware presented his information on the McGehee and Warren Campuses and also reported information from a handout on UAM Special Projects.

1. Mr. Ware stated that due to the need for better security on campus, cameras have been installed.
2. The Special Projects report cited information on the 2010-11 Perkins Grant which carries a total budget of \$87,775.
 - For fall 2010, there are 691 students on the 3 combined campuses eligible for the Perkins Grant; up from 635 in fall 2009.
 - Purchases with the grant money included 10 new computers and 3 projectors.
3. New retention strategies have been implemented by Retention Specialist, Heather Groleske. These strategies include:
 - Early alert referrals on students not progressing well.
 - Tutoring activities such as better test-taking, studying, and resume writing skills, and stress management.
 - More faculty interaction with students during non-class times in student centers/labs.
4. Mr. Ware stated that they have implemented the use of a Student Evaluation Form. Feedback from students is encouraged to help resolve current or potential issues.
5. The FY 2010 Career Pathways Report was presented. The program has served 179 students, with 169 degrees and certificates awarded.
6. The McGehee campus received their annual evaluation report from Career Education. Information from the report was favorable, however, there were a few citations which included:
 - Very little office space and no revenue for rent or utilities.
7. Newly hired personnel are instructors: Gayla McWhorter, Tereza Harris, Jane Tubbs and Jaime Harper.
8. As of September 30, enrollments for the Adult Education program total 30 and non-credit classes totaled 348.
9. Mr. Ware stated that there are 24 students enrolled at the Warren campus. These students have been working on projects at the Monticello Airport and the Intermodal Facility; another 3 applications have been received for future projects.

Mr. Jay Jones reported the data for Finance and Administration. Items presented included the FY 2010 Financial Report, Weevil Net, Forest Recourses Building Project and the Energy Savings Initiative.

1. Mr. Jones stated that they are in the process of completing their exit interview with the auditors. He also stated that 2009-10 has ended with a surplus of \$500,000 in net assets.
2. At this time, 2 out of 3 of the modules for Weevil-net have been completed. The Finance and Student Systems are currently running; the Human Resources module should be in place by January 1, 2011.
 - At present, it is felt that staff is knowledgeable on entering data into the system; however, extracting data for reports is problematic.
3. Mr. Jones noted that ARE-ON will be in place soon. Once the equipment is installed, the university will have 3 times the bandwidth compared to DIS with one fifth less cost.
4. The School of Forestry Renovation Project is ongoing.
 - The architect and construction company are currently collaborating on the building.
 - The project will receive \$5,000,000 in state funding, and \$1,000,000 from private donors.
5. Mr. Jones commended guest Jim Hudgins, Director of the UAM Physical Plant, for his leadership in overseeing all the projects he and his staff completed over the summer.
 - Dr. Lassiter commented that Mr. Hudgins is directly responsible for the energy savings initiatives brought to the university which totals a projected savings of \$250,000.
 - \$117,000 was spent for temporary cooling units for the Math and Science Center. A new cooling system has been purchased for \$250,000 and should arrive around Nov. 14.
 - Mr. Hudgins mentioned that the campus is currently undergoing a lighting retrofit and major controls upgrade on the emergency management system, installation of a high efficiency boiler and chillers have also taken place.

6. Dr. Lassiter asked Mr. Jones to comment on the new State Vehicle Policy.
 - Mr. Jones responded that the new policy states that employees will have to show how taking state vehicles home is integral to their jobs. Employees using a commuting waiver will need to reapply. UAM will ask for exemptions to the policy.

Dr. Lassiter talked about the SEARK Delegation Report, 2011 Legislative Session, the Foundation Board and the Board of Visitors.

1. The ARE-ON Lighting Ceremony will take place October 26, a formal invitation and letter is forthcoming.
 - Dr. Lassiter stated that the ARE-ON bandwidth is a technological tool that will carry 10 times the data and 10 times the speed.
2. The legislative delegation was due to meet in November, however with Representative appointments still needed for Drew and Bradley Counties, the meeting will take place at a later date.
 - Dr. Lassiter stated that he has met with new Alzheimer Representative, Efreem Elliot. Representative Elliot is very focused on education and impressed with the Law Enforcement programs at the UAM Colleges of Technology.
3. Dr. Lassiter asked the Board of Visitors for a volunteer to serve on the Foundation Board. This board oversees the fiscal responsibility of the university.
4. The Governor will soon be appointing 4 members to the BOV; 2 members will be reappointed and 2 will be incoming appointments.
5. Dr. Lassiter stated that today's meeting is the last for board members Mr. Glover and Mr. Poole as their term on the board has ended. Dr. Lassiter thanked them for their years of service and stated that they will receive a brick on the walk with their name and dates of service.

Remarks:

- Mr. Ryburn commented on the half million dollars in assets. He asked Mr. Jones how much it would take to pay out a 1% increase in faculty and staff salaries.
- Dr. Eubanks stated that the President of the Faculty Assembly, Scott Lykens, will be in attendance at further BOV meetings; due to the earlier meeting time, he was unable to attend.
- Mr. Glover stated that it has been a pleasure to serve on the Board.

Mr. Ryburn requested old/continuing business:

- Mr. Ryburn made a comment regarding recruitment efforts in admissions. He stated that past administration made it difficult for the admissions office to expand on updated opportunities for recruitment and marketing, and is pleased with the current administration that supports better marketing and recruitment initiatives.

Mr. Ryburn requested new business: None requested.

Mr. Ryburn adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.