

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
McGehee College of Technology
Main Building
April 8, 2010
4:00 p.m.

Board members present: Jimmy Barrett
Carlton Davis
Reginald Glover
Tommy Maxwell
Lorraine McCullough
Jeff Owyong
Pat Webb

University Personnel: Chancellor Jack Lassiter
Vice Chancellor Clay Brown
Vice Chancellor Jay Jones
Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing
Vice Chancellor Bob Ware
Ranelle Eubanks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Chris Ratcliff, Athletic Director
Sharon Cantrell, Project Coordinator

Mr. Reginald Glover welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

The Board approved the minutes from the January 20, 2010 meeting.

Dr. Ranelle Eubanks provided a report for Provost David Ray. She stated that preregistration began on April 5 and will end on April 16. She noted that the summer term classes will meet four days per week, which will result in less commuting expenses for students. Dr. Eubanks also noted that Scholar's Day will be held April 26 and registration for first-time freshman will take place June 14-15 and July 12-13.

Dr. Eubanks discussed faculty vacancies and new hires. She stated that there are two positions open at this time: Dean for the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Rodeo Coach. Dr. Eubanks announced that Mr. Keith Milstead has been hired as Instructor of Speech and Assistant Director of Forensics, and Mr. Mark Windham will fill the position of Instructor of Music and Coordinator of Marching Bands.

Dr. Eubanks discussed the summer and fall schedules. A total of 202 classes are being offered Summer I, with 33 being on-line. There are 15 intersession classes that will start May 17 and at least 2 field trip courses that will be offered. In Summer II, there are 99 classes scheduled, with 32 being on-line. For the fall semester, 898 classes will be offered. Of these, 75 are sponsored by Crossett, 91 are sponsored by McGehee, 42 are on-line, and 28 are late afternoon/evening. Early College High School classes will be added at a later date.

Dr. Eubanks provided an update on program assessments. She stated that all units were assessed by the CASAA Committee in the fall and spring of 09-10. Dr. Eubanks noted that assessment serves to let us know where we plan to go with students, if our plan worked, and how we will improve for the next year. She further noted that all units are making successful strides in achieving student learning outcomes.

Dr. Eubanks stated that as of April 7, there were 429 candidates for May conferral of awards. She noted that approximately 301 of these students will participate in Commencement, which will take place on Friday, May 14 at 9:30 a.m., at the Convoy Leslie Cotton Boll Stadium. Dr. Eubanks stated that Commencement for the

McGehee campus will be June 11 in the UAM Fine Arts Center Auditorium at 6:30 p.m., and Commencement for the Crossett campus will be June 17 at the Crossett City Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Eubanks discussed Act 971. She noted that ADHE had previously insisted that a student must score equivalent to a 19 on the ACT in order to progress from remedial classes. ADHE has now decided that the students will take the test, but the test results cannot keep a student from progressing. She noted that UAM will conduct a pilot test this spring in developmental English and Intermediate Algebra.

Vice Chancellor Clay Brown reported that there are currently 75 members of the Centennial Circle.

Dr. Brown stated that a new initiative around campus includes new ID cards for students, faculty, and staff, which is needed to comply with the software associated with WeevilNet.

Dr. Brown stated that the Office of Advancement will offer a UAM ID card to donors of \$1,000 or more, as an added benefit. This card will allow access to university services including the fitness center, athletic events, library, computer labs, and discounts at the UAM Bookstore.

Dr. Brown announced that a discount on the bricks for Weevil Walk will be offered to new graduates from May 1 – June 15. The bricks can be purchased for \$75.00.

Dr. Brown provided information on scholarships. He noted that scholarship funds for the 2010-2011 year will total \$292,000. He also stated that over \$1 million will be given through institutional scholarships.

Dr. Brown discussed the Alumni Association trip to Ireland that will take place October 29 – November 4. The cost will be approximately \$3000 per person. He noted that an interest meeting will be held on May 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the Library Conference Room A and a webinar will be held on May 20. Dr. Brown stated that all alumni and friends are invited to attend.

Dr. Brown provided a handout and discussed spring enrollment. The total headcount for Spring 2010 is 3474, which is up 241 students from last spring.

Dr. Brown discussed ArMOM, Arkansas Mission of Mercy. This is a free dental clinic that will be held in the University Center at UAM on May 21-22, from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dr. Brown noted that volunteers are needed in order to accommodate the approximately 2,000 patients who are anticipated to need services. He stated that the event has been coordinated by Dr. Tim Chase in Monticello. Dr. Brown added that UAM will serve breakfast and lunch to all volunteers.

Dr. Brown provided a copy of an email sent to netlist and students, which detailed the following events to be held on campus: Relay-for-Life, 5-A State High School Baseball Tournament, UAM Commencement, ArMOM, Babe Ruth Baseball World Series, and Master-Gardener State Conference.

Vice Chancellor Jay Jones discussed the FY 2011 budget preparation. He provided a handout of the operating budget timeline. Mr. Jones detailed the process which began in early February and is scheduled to conclude in May, with approval from the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Jones reported on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). He noted that there are two components of the funding, operational and capital. The operational funding totaled \$469,645 for all three campuses, and will primarily be spent on retiring principal on outstanding debt. The capital funding will be used to pay for energy savings projects that were identified as a part of an investment grade audit conducted by an energy service company in 2007.

Mr. Jones reported that the University has met with a company to discuss the construction of a retirement village on the Monticello campus. The retirement village would provide an opportunity for friends of the University and others to enjoy independent living on the UAM campus.

Athletic Director Chris Ratcliff gave a report on Athletics. Mr. Ratcliff discussed a new drug policy being implemented, an arrest policy, and a study to increase scholarships and to determine equity among genders.

Mr. Ratcliff discussed planning on renovations to athletic facilities. He stated that the Steelman Fieldhouse needs to be renovated to include locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, and catering facilities. Renovations to the baseball field will be completed this summer. The area still needs bleachers. The weight room will also be upgraded.

Mr. Ratcliff stated that a change will be implemented in the way corporate sponsors are addressed. He noted that a sponsorship packet is being created, which will be distributed to all sponsors. This will allow sponsors to choose the type of sponsorship they prefer.

Mr. Ratcliff stated that the student athletic committee is developing a slogan for athletics, in order to create an identity for UAM. He also noted that a scholarship campaign for endowments will be a future goal of the department. Mr. Ratcliff announced that 31 athletes achieved the Chancellor's list or Dean's list status.

Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing gave a report on the Crossett campus. She stated that the Council on Occupational Education (COE) accreditation visit went well, with only one recommendation being made which involved the program advisory committees. COE accreditation standards require that at least 50% of the advisory committee membership be present for each meeting. To assure that this standard is met in the future, Ms. Rushing noted that all program advisory committees will be restructured to better assure the requirement is met in the future. Ms. Rushing added that the Crossett campus held a community reception for the members of the COE visiting team and the turn-out was exceptional.

Ms. Rushing announced that spring enrollment for the Crossett campus has increased. She noted that starting in the fall, two programs new to the campus will be offered, Early Childhood Education and Correctional Law Enforcement.

Ms. Rushing stated that the Crossett campus, along with the Monticello and McGehee campuses will execute a four-day class schedule in Summer I and II. She further noted that the Crossett campus will continue this schedule in the fall semester, in an effort to reduce expenses.

Ms. Rushing announced that the Hamburg Public Schools donated the Adult Education Facility to UAM. She relayed that Crossett will be renovating the facility, which is currently estimated to cost approximately \$250,000. Ms. Rushing said the facility will also be utilized to offer other classes in Hamburg.

Vice Chancellor Bob Ware gave a report on the McGehee campus. He provided a handout detailing the buildings on the campus and how the campus has grown since its construction in 1974. Mr. Ware noted that the recent installation of security cameras by the maintenance department saved the campus an estimated \$7,000. He added that Mr. Bobby Hoyle recently met with the IT and maintenance departments to discuss the installation of the wireless internet equipment, which was purchased by Career Pathways. The anticipated completion date is June 30.

Mr. Ware stated that enrollment has continuously increased, which has made parking an issue. He noted that temporary parking was created, but new parking has been budgeted.

Mr. Ware stated that businesses are requesting training through non-credit programs and the Small Business Technology Development Center. He noted that the Delta Technology Center in Dumas is underway and will

house classroom space for four colleges, UAPB, SEARK, UAM, and PCCCU. Mr. Ware added that the Department of Workforce Services obtained a \$250,000 grant to begin the process.

Chancellor Jack Lassiter gave the Assembly report for Dr. Marsha Clayton. He announced that the assembly held two meetings this year and that they are in the process of accepting nominations for officers. Dr. Lassiter noted that the election will take place during the meeting on April 22. Dr. Lassiter announced that Dan and Charlotte Hornaday donated \$30,000 to the University, to fund the Faculty Excellence Award.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the FY 11 budget. He praised the unit heads for their successful budget preparation. Dr. Lassiter announced that tuition and fees would increase by \$8.00 on the Monticello campus. He noted that UAM still remains the lowest cost of attendance in the state of Arkansas.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the Academic Challenge Scholarship which will be funded by the lottery. He stated that this scholarship will offer \$5,000 for 4-year institutions and \$2,500 for 2-year institutions. He noted that the deadline to apply is June 1. Dr. Lassiter mentioned it is estimated that 28,000 students will be served; however, he noted that 167,000 students are enrolled in higher education.

Dr. Lassiter stated that during the budget process, it was decided that all faculty and staff would receive a 2% salary increase. He noted that this would be in addition to the increase determined by the salary study. This will have to be approved by the Board of Trustees in May.

Dr. Lassiter discussed a new policy in which UAM will now handle all lending/loans through the Financial Aid office. He noted he was concerned about the additional duties of the Financial Aid staff, because they are already overloaded.

Dr. Lassiter stated that an architect has been hired to develop plans to renovate the BCM into an exercise center and infirmary.

Dr. Lassiter discussed dates for future Board of Visitors meetings. A motion was made to change the January meeting to the third Thursday. The motion carried.

Mr. Glover requested old/continuing business. None requested.

Mr. Glover requested new business. None requested.

Mr. Glover adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.