

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Fine Arts Center, Spencer Gallery  
**July 8, 2010**  
**4:10 p.m.**

Board members present:

Carlton Davis  
Reginald Glover  
Tommy Maxwell  
Lorraine McCullough  
Cynthia Montgomery  
Jeff Owyong  
Tommy Poole  
Bennie Ryburn, Chairperson

University Personnel:

Jack Lassiter, Chancellor  
Jay Jones, Vice Chancellor  
Linda Rushing, Vice Chancellor  
Bob Ware, Vice Chancellor  
Ranelle Eubanks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs;  
Jay Hughes, Office of Student Affairs  
Chris Ratcliff, Athletic Director  
Scott Kuttenkuler, Office of Advancement

Mr. Bennie Ryburn welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order; Dr. Jack Lassiter began the meeting with introductions of new members and personnel.

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

Dr. Ranelle Eubanks presented the report for the Office of Academic Affairs. This report included information on faculty/staff vacancies and new hires, pre-registration, degrees conferred, concurrent enrollments, the 2011-2013 campus catalog, Professional Development Week, and Distance Education.

1. Dr. Carol Strong has agreed to remain as Interim Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences until a new dean is hired.
  - Newly hired faculty are: Rusty Jones, Keith Milstead, Mark Windham, Barbara Johnson and Lynn Fox.
2. Registration has steadily increased: Summer I up 8% over last year, Summer II, increase of 1% from 2009 and Fall Pre-registration is currently at 2,291 with another 122 registrations expected next week. Of the 2,291 registered, 558 are incoming freshman.
3. 2009-10 was a record year for graduates with a 25% increase in degrees conferred. 876 total graduates through June which included 53 at the master's level; this does not include the Technical Certificates that will be awarded for Summer I.
4. Students concurrently enrolled for fall 2010 come from 18 area high schools and will be pursuing their education in English, Mathematics, History, Spanish and French.
5. Professional Development Week is August 16-20 which will include WeevilNet training.
6. UAM will submit to ADHE and the Board of Trustees, information on offering the MA in Ed degree on-line beginning January, 2011.

Vice Chancellor Linda Rushing presented data detailing information for the Crossett campus. This data included Adult Education and Career Pathways, personnel, and the renovation of the Hamburg Adult Education Center.

1. FY 2010 saw 62 students receive their GED down from 2009 and 2008. Enrollment for FY10 was also down from the 2 previous fiscal years.
2. Adult Education funding has decreased, steadily declining from 2008 to present.
3. The Career Pathways Program received grant funding of \$230,170 for FY 2011. This represents a continued decrease in funding since 2008. Even with the decrease in funding, Ms. Rushing stated that the Program is still meeting its minimum of state enrollments and that much of the grant goes toward assisting the students with expenses for the Program.
4. Vacant positions at the Crossett campus are for two Administrative Specialist openings and the Career Support Services Facilitator. The campus is hiring for the newly created positions of Workforce Ed Instructor in Early Childhood Education and Correction Law Enforcement.
5. The Hamburg Adult Ed Renovation Project is currently in the works. Upon the recommendation of Architect, Mike Steelman, the Hamburg building will need to be completely renovated. Shields & Associates have submitted the lowest bid and the information is currently being reviewed. Funds for the project will be taken out of the cash reserve, but will later be recouped from the Adult Education grant for the building lease.
  - Mr. Maxwell asked if the program was currently running operations out of the building; Ms. Rushing responded that they will vacate the premises by July 15. Fountain Hill Elementary School has agreed to store the furnishings until the renovation is complete.

Mr. Bob Ware gave a report on the McGehee campus. Items brought forward included personnel updates, AHEOTA Grant and the HE O course option. Information on the Career Pathways program was to be presented, but due to personnel illness, Mr. Ware requested the Board allow the information to be offered at the next meeting.

1. Mr. Ware is still trying to fill the open positions of Automotive, Heavy Equipment and Welding Instructors. The Adult Education instructor position is also open due to the current instructor moving to the Project Coordinator position.
2. 27 students were enrolled in the HEO summer course. The curriculum was changed to allow students to complete the fieldwork within a 6-week summer course; previous coursework was completed in two semesters.
  - Students helped prepare a parking lot for paving which resulted in a probable savings of \$135,000 for the campus if a contractor had to be hired.
  - 17 students graduated from the Heavy Equipment Program and 20-25 are expected to pre-enroll for fall.

On behalf of Dr. Clay Brown, Mr. Jay Hughes presented the information for the Office of Student Affairs. Enrollment, registration, Bankston Hall renovation, ARMOM Report and important dates for fall 2010 were among the topics discussed.

1. Election of recent scholars for the institutional scholarships was made by Mrs. Whiting. 160 students attended scholar's day.
2. Pre-registration was held June 14 and 15. 289 students attended and completed registration during the event. The second session of pre-registration will be held July 12 and 13.
3. The Bankston Hall renovation will remodel the entire 48 rooms on the first floor. The remodel will include new paint and furniture.
  - Rooms will go from double to single occupancy and will be targeted to the new scholars on campus as an incentive to get more quality students.
  - Dr. Lassiter stated that there will also be 200 new apartments built in Monticello which should help with prospective students.
4. The ARMOM Clinic event was a great success with 1254 Arkansan's in attendance. Dr. Lassiter and Dr. Chase were very pleased with the turnout and the many volunteers who donated their time. Because

of this, they have agreed to host the event again. The clinic will most likely be held in a 3-4 year annual cycle.

5. Important dates for fall, 2010: Family Appreciation Day is September 25, and Homecoming is October 16 with the week's events starting on October 13.
6. Summer camps have been on-going; they included Athletics, Band, Jazz Band, Forensics, Upward Bound and Special Olympics.

Mr. Jay Jones reported the data for Finance and Administration. Items presented included FY 2010 Financial Report, Weevil Net, American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Projects, and the School of Forest Resources Addition/Renovation contract.

1. Mr. Jones stated that with the fiscal year ending June 30, it is difficult to report accurate data at this time due to adjustment of journal entries and the close-out process.
  - The two major revenue parts of the budget are tuition/fees, and state appropriations. Enrollment increases led to greater budget collections in tuition and fees, and expenses came out below the budget resulting in a modest surplus of funds for the end of the fiscal year. It was also discovered that UAM received an additional \$217,000 which was deposited in our account June 30.
2. We are officially in the “go-live” stage of the WeevilNet system but have experienced a few minor set-backs, however, progress continues and the issues will soon be worked out.
  - The Student and Finance phases of the system went live July 1 and the Human Resources module will commence on October 1.
3. The American Reinvestment Recovery Act currently houses 24 million dollars in funding with UAM receiving 2.51 million for mechanical upgrades such as automation controls and lighting fixtures. These upgrades can result in savings of \$250,000 – \$300,000 in energy costs.
4. The School of Forestry Renovation Project is in the works. UAM has received Legislative appropriations and private contributions to fund the project and Dr. Lassiter appointed a committee to review prospects for architects and contractors. The request for James H. Comb to work on the construction will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the July meeting. Groundbreaking is expected to be late fall, 2010.

Athletic Director, Chris Ratcliff presented his information for the Department of Athletics discussing new hires, the proposed new NCAA Division II Conference and game ticket information.

1. Three new coaches have recently been hired and candidates have been identified for the Director of Compliance and GA for Game Day Promotions positions.
2. Meetings continue for the new Athletic Conference. At this time, there are 6 Arkansas schools in Division II as well as 3 Oklahoma schools. The move will result in a cost savings for travel as well as student class-time savings.
  - August 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to determine whether UAM should stay in the current conference or move.
  - Mr. Owyong questioned what year the new conference would take place, and Mr. Ratcliff responded that we are looking at a 1 – 2 year period.
  - Dr. Lassiter also commented that UAM facilities and budget are currently in the bottom quarter of the division. With the proposed move, UAM standings could move to the top half or even top quarter of the conference. He also stated that the main issue of moving to the new conference is class release time for the athletes; in some cases, it takes up to 3 days for travel.
3. For the 2010-2011 academic year, UAM will host 5 football, 11 volleyball and 13 men's/women's basketball home games.
4. Facility renovations are to include: new banners, replacing the gym floor and tile, leveling the practice field, and new grass, fencing and signage for the baseball field.
5. Due to a record season for the Softball team, UAM will now charge an admissions fee.
  - Pricing changes are also in the works for box seat sales and an all-sports pass. Promotional ticket sales will move to once a year slated for July 1.

Dr. Lassiter talked about Professional Development Week, the recent Legislative Session, organizational changes and the proposed Retirement Center.

1. Activities will change somewhat for Professional Development Week which will now incorporate WeevilNet training. The session will begin on Monday with the State of University Address and luncheon, and include the annual faculty/staff picnic on Thursday.
2. Salary increases were budgeted for 2%, but at this time the state has not approved the raise. Money has been set aside for the increases and will be put in escrow until it is approved.
  - A salary study was done in 2006, and it was determined that a 25% increase is needed to complete the funding of salary inequities.
3. Dr. Lassiter stated that he recently attended 2 meetings of the SEARK Legislative Session; one with Robert Moore, incoming Speaker of the House and the other regarding the upcoming election in Warren. The delegation will meet again in early November.
4. Due to restructuring of administration, new organizational changes are as follows:
  - Mary Whiting, Director of Enrollment Services is now Dean of Enrollment Services.
  - Jay Hughes, Dean of Students; now Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Dean of Students.
  - Debbie Gasaway and Lathan Hairston are now Associate Vice Chancellors.
5. Board Retirements:
  - Mr.'s Glover, Davis, Poole and Owyong have terms that are expiring. Dr. Lassiter asked these members if they would like to be reappointed for another term; Mr. Glover declined and Mr. Poole cannot be reappointed as he has already served 2 terms.
6. The proposed Retirement Center for adults aged 55 and over will consist of 62 – 100 units. At this time, the terms of agreement are in the works and discussions have been held with the vendor.
  - Because the center will be built on campus property, it is thought that the retirees will attend more university activities and volunteer for campus events.
7. Upcoming Events:
  - 7/13/10 is the Weevil Night alumni function in North Little Rock with 125 attendees expected.
  - 8/25/10 – 10/8/10 the Lewis and Clark Exhibit will be on display in the library.

Remarks:

- Mr. Ware thanked the BOV members who participated in the McGehee centennial celebration and 5k walk.
- Mr. Owyong invited members to attend the dinner for Speaker of the House Robert Moore. The dinner will be held July 26 in Dumas.

Mr. Ryburn requested old/continuing business: None requested.

Mr. Ryburn requested new business: None requested.

Mr. Ryburn adjourned the meeting at 5:19 p.m.