

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello

Fine Arts Center, Spencer Gallery

April 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Tim Chase
Carlton Davis
Roger George
Bettye Gragg
George Harris
Tommy Maxwell
Jeff Owyong

University Personnel:

Jimmie Yeiser, Provost/Vice Chancellor
Clay Brown, Vice Chancellor
Jay Hughes, Vice Chancellor
Jay Jones, Vice Chancellor
Linda Rushing, Vice Chancellor
Bob Ware, Vice Chancellor
Scott Kuttenkuller, Dean of Students
Chris Ratcliff, Athletic Director

Mr. Tommy Maxwell called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Dr. Yeiser stated Dr. Lassiter is in Little Rock at the President and Chancellor's meeting. He mentioned that commencement is on May 10th this year at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. He also went over the UAM Points of Pride.

Dr. Brown discussed the following advancement/alumni details and events:

- Homecoming is October 26, 2013
- Spring Spectacular starts April 12
- Arkansas Travelers baseball game is Tuesday, June 18
- New endowments named the Kenneth D. Mann Endowed Scholarship and the K. Michael Baker Memorial Scholarship
- Italy Trip for alumni will be November 11 – 20, 2013

Ms. Rushing reported that the new Crossett campus sign has been constructed and they have received many positive comments from students and the community.

Ms. Rushing also stated that the fiber optic cable to increase the Crossett campus' broadband (40 megabits of bandwidth) has been completed and they are ready to connect once Windstream finishes the Monticello connection.

Ms. Rushing shared with the Board that the Georgia Pacific Corporation has donated another \$3,000 to be utilized for enhancing the instruction in the Electromechanical Technology-Instrumentation program.

Mr. Ware stated that he met with the Dermott School District Board and will know after tonight if the Chicot and Lincoln county Adult Education Programs will merge with UAM Adult Education Program.

Mr. Ware mentioned that he would be making a presentation to the Star City on April 25 and will find out if they will merge with UAM or not.

Mr. Ware shared with the Board that Perkins would have a 5% budget cut from last year.

Mr. Ware also mentioned that from the December graduates of the nursing program, seven have taken the test and all passed.

Dr. Yeiser shared with the Board that we have three ongoing reaccreditations on campus, one in the music department, the nursing department, and one for the entire campus.

Dr. Yeiser went over many of the master degrees and online courses that UAM offers and mentioned that UAM currently offers 80 online classes.

Dr. Yeiser also stated that currently we have a little over 500 in concurrent enrollment.

Mr. Jones went over the 3rd quarter financial report and mentioned that we are on course right now with finances. He stated that he believes we will be where we were for 2013 as far as money goes. He said he has ideas of ways to adapt in case the budget was to change. He mentioned that the deadline to turn in the budget is May 6.

Mr. Jones explained to the Board how the student loan default rate is determined. It is determined by taking the number of students who for the last 8 months have not made a payment on their loan and divide that in to the number of students who have entered the student loan program in a given year. UAM's rate for many years has been between 8 and 15 percent.

Mr. Jones informed the Board about our telephone system and how it was 30 years old. He said the system died on January 20. Mr. Jones told the board as of April 10 they had full service restored.

Mr. Hughes mentioned that the faculty nominated 130 students for Who's Who, and out of those 130 students, 72 filled out applications and 26 students were awarded.

Mr. Hughes informed the Board that the student government association is in campaign mode right now, and will have an online election soon. He also stated that there have been about 50 student activities that have taken place since the last Board of Visitors meeting and some of the activities were as followed:

- Black History Month
- International Week
- Mardi Gras
- Wellness Fair
- Career Fair – over 40 businesses on site
- Crawfish Boil
- Mud Olympics

Mr. Hughes discussed the UAM alert system, and stated that now, if needed; we can communicate with just the students and faculty that live on campus.

Mr. Hughes mentioned that the Wellness Center is coming along real well and they feel good about being able to finish the project by the first part of June. He stated that the Information Technology Department believes they will be completed with their part of the project by the end of July. Mr. Hughes mentioned that about \$100,000 worth of new equipment was donated to the university by Mr. Randy Risher.

Mr. Kuttenkuler updated the Board on the construction of Bankston Hall. He stated that it is scheduled to be completed by August 1, 2013. Mr. Kuttenkuler stated that they have started demolition on the southeast wings and new footings are being poured.

Mr. Kuttenkuler let the Board know that starting in the fall of 2013, Royer Hall will become a men's dorm. He mentioned that the 2nd floor of Bankston will be scholars housing, and will be available to incoming freshmen scholars and returning scholars. He also stated that they will offer free laundry in the dorm.

Mr. Ratcliff reported that phase one of the baseball facility is complete. He also mentioned that the 2nd phase is bleachers for the baseball and softball field, and it has started.

Mr. Ratcliff stated that Tommy Barns' brother as started an endowment in his name.

Mr. Ratcliff mentioned softball struggled some this year finishing 4th or 5th in conference when they normally finish 1st or 2nd. He also stated that baseball is doing well, they have a record of 25 wins and 14 loses, and they are in 4th place in their conference. Mr. Ratcliff mentioned that women's golf is also struggling this year.

Mr. Ratcliff informed the Board that the Athletic Banquet will not be open to the public this year.

Dr. Borse stated that the Assembly would meet again on the 25th of April.

Dr. Borse stated that they have just hired new professors in the English, Education, and Archeology Departments.

Dr. Borse mentioned that the State Board visited last week to hold its official meeting and it went well.

Mr. Maxwell stated that he and Dr. Lassiter met with the Governor and legislators. Mr. Kuttenkuller also commented about the meeting with the government and discussed some of the bills that have already been passed and ones they were still working on.

Dr. Yeiser stated that a 5.4% increase in tuition has been proposed which would go toward faculty raises and scholarships.

Chairman Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 5:45p.m.