

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello
Fine Arts Center, Spencer Gallery

April 10, 2014

4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Bettye Gragg
George Harris
Michael Jones
Tommy Maxwell
Gregg Reep
Linda Rowe

University Personnel:

Jack Lassiter, Chancellor
Ranelle Eubanks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Linda Yeiser, Vice Chancellor
Jay Jones, Vice Chancellor
Linda Rushing, Vice Chancellor
Bob Ware, Vice Chancellor
Scott Kuttenkuler, Dean of Students
Chris Ratcliff, Director of Athletics

Mr. Tommy Maxwell called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

The Board approved the minutes from January's meeting.

Dr. Lassiter announced his retirement as of January 5, 2015. He also introduced Linda Rowe as a new member of the board.

Dr. Eubanks stated that during preregistration for the summer and fall terms on Monday, April 7th, 300 students signed up for classes and preregistration ends Friday, April 18th. She also stated that Monday, April 21st is Scholar's Day.

Dr. Eubanks announced that Dr. Richard Club has been promoted to Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities. She also noted the following faculty and staff retirements:

- Dr. William Shea, History
- Dr. Judith Howard, Social Work
- Mr. Lowell Lynde, Math
- Ms. Lanee Dunlap, Library
- Ms. Pam Beard, Education

Dr. Eubanks informed the board that summer and fall classes are listed online and that all general education classes will be offered online.

Dr. Eubanks reported to the board on Programing Reviews in History and Political Science. She stated that the School of Business will be seeking first accreditation with Association to Advance Collegiate School of Business and will submit the application this spring. She also announced that the Higher Learning Commission will be on campus October 20th through 22nd.

Dr. Eubanks stated that commencement will take place on May 9th at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. this year.

Ms. Rushing informed the board that a 6-month follow-up has been conducted on all 2013 graduates of the Crossett campus which indicated an overall job placement rate in the field of 87%.

Ms. Rushing reported that the Crossett campus will be hosting a job fair on Friday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thirty-eight businesses and industries have been invited from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Mr. Rushing stated that the Crossett campus will be expanding the concrete parking lot in front of the McGoogan building between the spring and summer semester, which will add approximately 30 new parking spaces.

Mr. Ware reported that 100% of the nursing students at McGehee passed their NCLEX test.

Mr. Ware stated that between January and March of this year, 276 students have been trained in the Arkansas Heavy Equipment Operation Training Academy program. He mentioned that they have started incorporating the theory part of CDL training and in the summer they want to include the driving section of the training.

Mr. Ware informed the board of a new diesel training program that they are in the process of building if it can be financially supported.

Ms. Yeiser informed the board of the following endowments:

- Gary Marshall "Mars Hall" Award
- Jennifer and Rick Futrell Endowment for Football Student Athletes
- Jack and Judy Lassiter Endowment for Students
- William D. Moss Scholarship
- Hazel Owen Dahms and Angie Faye Owen Waldrum Nursing Scholarship

Ms. Yeiser stated that they only lack three members to complete the Centennial Circle.

Ms. Yeiser reported to the board on the following university relations:

- gonfalons will be used at commencement in May
- new billboards are going up around the state
- a new design for the UAM website
- updates to the UAM Magazine

Ms. Yeiser stated the UAM alumni night at the Travelers game is June 9, 2014.

Ms. Yeiser mentioned that Brian and Sue Martin have donated a bronze statue to UAM that has been placed in front of Willard Hall. Lance Gasaway, a UAM alumnus, is donating a bronze bust of Tommy Barnes that will be placed in the front lobby of the indoor practice facility.

Jay Jones reported that March 31 represented the end of the 3rd quarter of fiscal operations for our fiscal year. He stated that we are expecting total revenues to be slightly below our original budget and our enrollment numbers have been slightly down.

Mr. Jones mentioned that by year-end, our actual tuition and fees collections will be about 2% below that line item's budget, which translates to about \$320,000. He stated that we have a very healthy contingency budgeted that will cover this shortfall in tuition and fees revenue.

Mr. Jones discussed a proposal submitted to the Board of Trustees for an increase in tuition and fees. He noted that we were required to submit different scenarios and how the funds would be allocated.

Mr. Jones reported that there were two representatives on campus for the Title IV programs review during the week of March 24th. The review team was pleased with the program and the staff. The final report will be issued within 90 days of the visit.

Mr. Jones stated that the check that was given to UAM in the amount of \$635,000 was committed by the Governor to an improved communications network between the three campuses and is intended to benefit specifically our two campuses of technology.

Mr. Kuttenkuler reported that on Monday April 21st the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities will be recognized. Qualifications to be nominated for the award includes 90 college credit hours and a 2.8 GPA. There were 120 students nominated and 24 students were selected to receive the award.

Mr. Kuttenkuler stated that student government elections will take place online again this year April 14th – 20th.

Mr. Kuttenkuler noted some student activities to take place at the end of this semester:

- late night breakfast
- crawfish boil

Mr. Kuttenkuler stated that the squires club will be chartered as a chapter of the order of Kappa Alpha during a ceremony on Friday, April 11th.

Mr. Kuttenkuler reported to the board that a consumer information webpage is being developed to make it easier to locate all the information that was needed for the Title IX review instead of having to go to multiple locations to find information.

Mr. Ratcliff went over the spring sports report for men's basketball. He stated that the golf season is about to start. He reported that the baseball team won 2nd place in conference this year and the cheer team finished second in the nation.

Mr. Ratcliff reported that the sports association has increased from 109 to 248 members and revenue increased \$12,000 to \$60,000 in the first year.

Dr. Lassiter reported on the changes in policy for general education coursework.

Dr. Lassiter stated that starting in the fall 2014 semester the UAM Monticello tuition and fees charges will apply to the general education classes offered in McGehee and Crossett.

Dr. Lassiter mentioned that on May 9th he would be requesting funding for the proposed heritage trail for southeast Arkansas from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Research Center.

Dr. Lassiter stated that Ken Mann from Jersey, AR will be recognized as the distinguished alumnus this year at commencement. He also mentioned that Cadet Bruce Hunt and Cadet Zackary Wisenor will be commissioned into the army on that day.

Dr. Lassiter stated that the July Board of Visitors meeting will be held at the McGehee campus and the October meeting will meet at the Crossett campus.

Mr. Tommy Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.