

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Main Administrative Building, McGehee Campus
July 10, 2014
4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Roger George
George Harris
India Holt
Linda Rowe
Gregg Reep
Michael Jones
Lynn Rodgers

University Personnel Present:

Jack Lassiter, Chancellor
Jimmie Yeiser, Provost/Vice Chancellor
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

Dr. Lassiter called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

Dr. Yeiser introduced Dr. Michael Moore, Vice President of Academic Affairs at the University of Arkansas System.

Dr. Michael Moore introduced Tammy Harrison, Director of Student Onboarding and Records, Linda Wilson, Director of Student Experience, and Harriet Watkins, Director of Online Learning. He discussed the University of Arkansas System's *eVersity* which is a 100% online university that offers high-quality, affordable, accessible, and relevant degrees to be offered at the certificate, associate, baccalaureate and graduate level. He stated that classes would start in the fall 2015 semester.

The Board approved the minutes from April's meeting.

Dr. Yeiser reported on graduation and stated that UAM awarded more degrees this year than ever before. He mentioned that 495 Associate degrees were awarded.

Dr. Yeiser discussed enrollment for the summer semesters and informed the Board that the number of sections of courses being offered were reduced but the number of students remained the same. He reported on the following subjects:

- face-to-face and online students at each campus
- total number of sections of classes offered at UAM
- percentage of UAM students that are only face-to-face, only online, and both
- the UAM online presence in other states

Dr. Yeiser also stated that UAM has been and will remain highly committed to face-to-face instruction and recognize online instruction as an important component of the future. UAM will continue to offer and delete courses in response to student demand and success. UAM student's interest in online courses is growing and they like the flexibility resulting from mixing online and face-to-face courses.

Ms. Rushing shared that the Crossett Career Pathways program is receiving a budget increase of \$71,125 over last year's award. The fiscal year 2015 grant award will be \$216,719.

Ms. Rushing reported that the first bid opening for the parking lot on the Crossett campus was on May 13. The bid was awarded to Johnsville Company with a bid of \$94,000 and completion date of August 15, 2014.

Ms. Rushing noted that during the 2013-2014 year the Crossett campus awarded graduates a total of 157 Technical Certificates and Associate of Applied Science Degrees. Although, not counted as graduates 162 Certificates of Proficiency were earned by students.

Mr. Ware updated the Board on the Adult Education Program and stated that June 30 completed all mergers that were started last July which included Ashley, Lincoln, and Desha County. He stated that the 2014-2015 budget is \$883,255. After the merger they have one full-time director over all areas, 3 full-time instructional staff, 17 part-time faculty, and 4 full-time administrative assistants. He noted the increase of number of people each area has served after the merge.

Mr. Ware gave an update on Career Pathways and stated that the McGehee campus also received a raise putting their new yearly budget at \$233,158. In July 2014, the McGehee campus started a five-week, short-term training program in CDL License and truck driving. Mr. Ware reported that it cost Career Pathways \$15,000 for the truck driving and it cost students \$1,000 to \$1,200 to take the class.

Mr. Ware updated the Board on non-credit classes and gave a list of the classes that will be offered which will cost between \$900 and \$1,200.

Ms. Yeiser reported to the Board of the following gifts that were donated to the University:

- an unrestricted endowment of \$30,000 from the Hornaday family
- a Baby Grand Piano by the estate of Dr. Robert Madison Farrar, Jr. in memory of Mrs. Mary Eugenia Sizemore Farrar and Dr. Robert Madison Farrar, Jr.
- a collection of jazz music that was donated to the University by Mr. William L. Craig of El Dorado

Ms. Yeiser stated that the Centennial Circle currently has 99 donors and only needs one more to be complete.

Ms. Yeiser reported on the following events:

- alumni reception in Russellville at the home of Doris and Bill Lawrence
- Family Night at Travelers game is August 21st
- Homecoming reception on October 10th
- Homecoming is October 11th
- Lassiter Farewell is November 20th from 2:30p.m. - 5:30p.m. in the University Center
- alumni reception in Dallas at first of year, details to be announced later

Mr. Jones gave a financial report on UAM's FY2014 which ended on June 30, noting that the focus was on the improvement and replenishing of reserves that were used in FY2013 with the unexpected replacement of our phone system and other expenses. He also discussed FY2015 budget highlights, stating that a very conservative approach was taken in constructing this budget.

Mr. Jones discussed the Microwave Tower project that will connect the McGehee and Crossett campuses to Monticello by providing the COTs with fiber internet access available in Monticello as well as internal networking connections between all three locations. Information will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval. The funding of \$635K for this project was provided with General Improvement Funds given to the University by the Governor.

Mr. Jones also discussed the Xenophon Overton Pindall law office project which is located in Arkansas City. It was given to the University by Speaker Robert Moore. UAM also received a \$150K grant to restore this property to its original condition and has begun the process of interviewing prospective architects for the design work of this project.

Mr. Jones gave a report on an advisory committee that the UA System has formed to study a number of aspects of the University's retirement plan. Among the tasks that the group will be asked to address are the design of the plan and the retirement readiness of plan participants.

Mr. Hughes reported on the following three new hires in his department:

- Rebecca Smith, Director of Student Programs and Activities
- Thomas Bedward- Aramark Food Service Director
- Brian Cherry - Aramark Head Chef

Mr. Hughes stated that the Board of Trustees approved 18 summer camps this year and 10 have already taken place. He mentioned that there were 350 junior band camp kids this year and 1,500 students from all the summer camps combined.

Mr. Hughes gave an update on housing mentioning that Wi-Fi was at the top of the list of what the students wanted on campus. He stated that 659 applications have been submitted for the coming fall semester and that the residence halls can hold 800 students.

Mr. Hughes mentioned that all Title IX Compliance policies have been approved.

Mr. Hughes discussed the following events:

- Resident halls open on August 17th
- Parent and Family Day is September 6th
- Higher Learning Commission will be on campus October 20th -23rd

Mr. Ratcliff mentioned the following new hires in his department:

- Nicole Trawick ,Assistant Women's Basketball Coach
- Kyle Tolin, Men's Basketball Head Coach
- Micheal Cyprien, Assistant Men's Basketball Coach

Mr. Ratcliff gave a report on spring grades. He also announced the Sport Association's Annual McGehee football fundraiser will take place on September 4th.

Donna Hunnicutt informed the Board of the decrease in faculty participation in the assembly meetings.

Dr. Lassiter stated that Mr. Maxwell's term has expired and he will not be able to be reelected. George Harris, India Holt, and Michael Jones will be up for reappointment if they are willing to serve.

Dr. Lassiter informed the Board that the University was able to give a 1% increase to the salary of classified staff.

Dr. Lassiter reported that the ANCRC gave \$180,000 in additional funding for the Taylor House.

Dr. Lassiter discussed the disagreement over concurrent enrollment with SEARK College in Pine Bluff.

Dr. Lassiter adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.