

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello

Student Success Center, Room 102

February 2, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Present in Person: Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Scott Saffold

Board Members Present Via Zoom: Jim Daniels, Gregg Reep, Jeremy Sparks, Mike Walker

University Personnel Present or Via Zoom: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Moses Goldmon, Crystal Halley, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Christy Pace

1. Chair Mellie Jo Owen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the October 20, 2020 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - Spring Enrollment/SSCH – An enrollment report was given for the spring semester. There was a slight decrease in undergraduate and an increase in graduate SSCH (student semester credit hours). All offices were commended for working together to help with both enrollment and retention. First-time full-time freshmen retention has continued to increase in the past three years.
 - COVID Response – Overall, everyone has been responsible and resilient. Classes have been offered in several delivery methods including synchronous, hybrid, remote, and face-to-face. UAM hosted a vaccination clinic on campus the past two days and will continue to hold clinics when possible, including at the McGehee and Crossett campuses. Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Mainline Health Systems and the local pharmacies were commended for their assistance in helping UAM receive and give the vaccines.
 - Spring Athletics – Last week the GAC voted to begin allowing each coach, assistant coach, and player four tickets to home games only. Hopefully by the fall semester, all sporting events will be back to normal.
 - McGehee Nursing Program – The McGehee LPN program had a 100% NCLEX pass rate for the 8th year.
 - Workforce Development Grants – Two grants have been received since the last Board meeting. Crossett and McGehee will receive a \$248,000 grant for healthcare, which will be used to update the SIM labs. McGehee will receive a \$85,000 grant for transportation, which will be used for heavy equipment rentals.
 - Hospitality Services – The former bookstore space has been renovated with a fully furnished commercial kitchen for use by the hospitality program. An open house will be held soon.

4. Stimulus Funding – Mr. Becker

Information regarding the CARES and CRRSSA stimulus funds was discussed. Meetings will be held soon to discuss how the funds will be distributed to students and used by the university.

5. Approval of CNA at Chapel Woods/Warren – Mr. Ware

The McGehee campus has been approved by the Office of Long-Term Care to offer a 90-hour course, three days/week for six weeks. The first class sponsor is Chapel Woods Health and Rehab in Warren, who wanted the program offered at their site. Other facilities can also request information on sponsoring a class.

6. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello

Student Success Center, Room 102

April 22, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Present in Person: Mellie Jo Owen, Gregg Reep, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker
Board Members Present Via Zoom: Jim Daniels

University Personnel Present or Via Zoom: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Crystal Halley, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Michael Davila, Christy Pace

1. Chair Mellie Jo Owen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the February 2, 2021 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Search – As a reminder, Dr. Phil Tappe retired as dean of the CFANR in December. Dr. Rob Ficklin has served as interim dean. There was an excellent pool of candidates for this position, and three were chosen for interviews. An offer has been made and a news release announcing the new dean will be made soon.
 - Forestry Business Center – Due to many letters of support received by community members and legislators, UAM has received a one-time funding of \$842,000 for a Forestry Business Center. This will economically enhance the state of Arkansas, especially in the southeast. Dr. Matthew Pelkki will serve as chair of the Center.
 - Fall 2021 – UAM is looking forward to a normal fall semester, including holding sporting events and student activities.
 - Commencement – UAM will hold commencement exercises on Friday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Terry Alexander has been selected as this year's Distinguished Alumnus.
4. Academic Affairs Update – Ms. Halley
 - Pre-registration Event for Fall – UAM recently hosted pre-registration and 73% of students who were eligible, have pre-registered. Registration will continue throughout the summer.
 - Retention Update – For the fall of 2020, UAM retained 74.8% of students who attended in the fall of 2019. There has been an increase in retention rates since 2015 and UAM currently ranks 4th in the highest retention among four-year institutions.

- New Degree Programs – The Master of Science in Nursing and the Post Master’s Certificate in Public Health will be on the May agenda for Board of Trustees. These programs will then be sent to the Coordinating Board for approval in July.

5. Advancement an Alumni – Mr. Weaver

- UAM Alumni Board – The following individuals have been appointed to the Alumni Board: Rodney Block, Fara Bottoms, Brian Hargis, Ginger Tarver Johnson, Brad Koen, Mark Owen, Jimmy Sledge, Debbie Tiner, Lezeme Winn, and Wendy Young. Upcoming alumni events were mentioned, including the Arkansas Travelers Game on July 8, Homecoming the week of October 11-16 and Oaklawn UAM Day at the Races on February 21, 2022.

6. Student Engagement – Mr. Davila

- Recruitment Update – An update was provided on recruiting. UAM staff have been attending high school senior awards programs to present awards to students who have applied to UAM and earned scholarships. Changes have been made to scholarships that will make it easier for students to apply and allow more opportunities. Pre-registration events will be held in May, June and July. A team has already begun working diligently to prepare for the fall semester.

7. New Business

- Approval of Proposed Meeting Dates – The following meeting dates were proposed and approved by the Board:

July 27, 2021 – Monticello Campus
October 28, 2021 – Crossett Campus
January 25, 2022 – Monticello Campus
April 14, 2022 – McGehee Campus

8. The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello

Student Success Center, Room 208

August 4, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Present in Person: Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Gregg Reep, Mike Walker

Board Members Present Via Zoom: Roger George, Scott Saffold, Jeremy Sparks

University Personnel Present or Via Zoom: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Crystal Halley,
Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Christy Pace

1. Chair Mellie Jo Owen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the April 22, 2021 meeting.
3. Introduction of Interim Athletic Director, Coach Hud Jackson

Coach Jackson gave an update on athletics and introduced new staff:

Patrick Golden, Associate AD for Game Operations and Facilities

Catie Lusby, Assistant AD for External Operations

Garrett May, Assistant AD for Compliance

Connor McGinnis, Assistant AD for Athletic Communications

Garianna Pace, Administrative Assistant III

4. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - An update was given on vacant positions across campus.
 - Professional Development Week will begin Monday and students will begin arriving the following week. Classes start on August 18.
 - UAM has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Mainline Health Systems to provide behavioral health services on campus to students, faculty and staff.
5. Colleges of Technology Updates
 - Crossett Campus – Ms. Rushing
 - ♦ The overall job placement rate for 2020 UAM-CTC graduates was 87%, and 74% in a field related to their study.
 - ♦ The 5-year job placement rate average for UAM-CTC graduates was 88%, and 80% in a field related to their study.
 - ♦ A total of 74 students in welding and electromechanically programs earned NCCER certifications.
 - ♦ The NCLEX pass rate average for practical nursing graduates was 96%.
 - ♦ The new HVACR program is doing well and had 11 graduate with a technical certificate

- ♦ Crossett and Hamburg concurrent high school students enrolled in the welding program competed virtually in the Arkansas Skills USA competition and won total of 6 medals.
 - ♦ The renovation of the welding facility will be completed by August 18, and will now be able to accommodate 29 welding booths.
- McGehee Campus – Mr. Ware
 - ♦ The adult education program has been awarded \$1,219,623 for the 2021-22 grant year. For the 2020-21 year, 322 students were served and they had over 18,300 attendance hours. A total of 60 students graduated with a GED. Students in the program also completed OSHA 10/Forklift training, became Servsafe certified, and received WAGE certificates. The adult education program has 32 employees in five counties (Ashley, Chicot, Drew, Desha and Lincoln).
 - ♦ The practical nursing program had a 100% NCLEX pass rate for the 8th consecutive year.
6. Advancement and Alumni Report – Mr. Weaver
- New endowments, as well as other large donations made to the UAM Foundation were mentioned.
 - Nominations are being accepted for the annual alumni awards: Alumni Achievement and Merit, Continuing the Connection, and Young Alumni Rising Star.
 - There were 135 in attendance at the Arkansas Travelers Game on July 8. Upcoming events include Homecoming – the week of October 11-16, and Oaklawn UAM Day at the Races on February 21, 2022.
7. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley
- As of today, the total headcount is 2300, compared to 2320 at this time last year. Concurrent students have not yet registered; however, UAM continues to partner with 11 high schools, and expects the same number to enroll as last year. Registration continues through August 20.
 - Measures that are being taken to help increase enrollment include: contacting new and returning students, contacting students who did not return from the previous academic year, and encouraging students to enroll in 15 hours. Superscoring of ACT scores for scholarship awards was recently approved, which will help recruit students.
8. Stimulus Funds Report – Mr. Becker
- The amounts of stimulus funds received and the distribution of those funds was discussed.
9. The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello

College of Technology at Crossett

October 28, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Present in Person: Roger George, Michael Jones, Gregg Reep, Scott Saffold

Board Members Present Via Zoom: Jim Daniels, Jeremy Sparks, Mike Walker

University Personnel Present or Via Zoom: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Crystal Halley, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Christy Pace, Misty Paschall, Dawn Reed

1. Vice Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the August 4, 2021 meeting.
3. Year End Financials – Mr. Becker

UAM financial statements have been audited by Legislative Audit and there have been no audit findings. There was an increase in net position assisted by university investments recovering value in FY 21.

4. Crossett Campus Report – Ms. Rushing
 - Ms. Alice Lindsey and students in the hospitality program were thanked for the refreshments they provided.
 - Crossett Advisory Board member, Lynn Rodgers was introduced as well as employees at the Crossett campus: Misty Paschall – Assistant Vice Chancellor, Dawn Reed – Director of Student Services, and John Chambless – IT Coordinator.
 - Campus data was discussed. There are 50 employees. The operating budget totals \$2.7 million. Enrollment for this semester is 187 FTE, compared to 203 FTE last fall. The job placement rate of graduates is 87%.
 - Campus news included the following:
 - ♦ The 2021 practical nursing graduates had a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX).
 - ♦ The Arkansas Rural Health Partners received a \$1.5 million grant, which will include the Health Information Technology program. Up to 40 students in the program can receive assistance with tuition, fees, textbooks, laptops and internship stipends.
 - ♦ A grant in the amount of \$150,000 has been received for electromechanical technology.
 - ♦ The DRA Grant Welding Project added 8 welding booths, making a total of 29.
 - ♦ The welding program was featured on Good Morning Arkansas on October 12, 2021.
 - Welding instructor, Donnie Dubose was introduced. He discussed the welding sculptures that were displayed, which won medals at Skills USA.

5. Homecoming Report – Mr. Weaver and Dr. Goldman
 - A schedule of homecoming activities was provided. The events had good attendance and were successful.
 - Students appreciated all of the activities that were held.

6. Productivity Update – Mr. Becker and Ms. Halley
 - UAM's productivity score increased 2.67% in the latest cohort, which will result in additional state funding for fiscal year 2023. This cohort did not include the last academic year, so we are not sure how COVID will impact productivity moving forward.
 - Effectiveness is 80% of the formula and includes Credentials (32%), Progression (24%), Transfer Success (12%), and Gateway Success Course (12%). UAM showed an increase in the areas of Credentials and Transfer Success. Affordability is 20% of the formula and includes Time to Degree (10%) and Credits at Completion (10%). UAM showed an increase in both of these areas. The remainder of the formula is essentially extra credit.

7. Final Census – Ms. Halley

Enrollment is slightly down with a total headcount of 2372, which is 1.9% less than last year. The retention rate of first-time freshmen from fall 2020 to fall 2021 is 60.82%.

8. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss

Campus updates included the following:

 - Athletic Performance Center – This capital campaign, projected at \$1.7 million, focuses on enhancing the support of student-athletes through major facility improvements. Pledges have already been received for equipment.
 - Future projects and renovations of buildings will include the Science Center, Agriculture Building, and lights at the softball/baseball fields.
 - Windgate Foundation – UAM is working on a new grant proposal.
 - Jazz Band One – UAM's jazz ensemble will perform at the 2021 Midwest Clinic International Band, Orchestra and Music Conference in Chicago on December 16.
 - Beefmaster Bull – Under the leadership of Greg Montgomery, farm manager, UAM won the title of Grand Champion Beefmaster Bull at the Arkansas State Fair.

9. Important Dates:
 - UAM Commencement will be held Friday, December 10, 2021.
 - The next Board of Visitors meeting will be Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at the Monticello campus.

10. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.