

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Student Success Center, Room 208 and via Zoom
January 30, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Present in Person: Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Alan Riels, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker

Board Members Present Via Zoom: Jim Daniels, Jeremy Sparks

University Personnel Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Tracy Tucker, Bob Ware, Christy Pace

1. Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the October 12, 2023 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - Mr. Alan Riels was introduced. He and Mr. Heath Moncrief, who was unable to attend, were appointed to the Board of Visitors for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2027. Mr. Jeremy Sparks was reappointed to the Board, also for a four-year term.
 - A sample of the new band uniforms was presented. The Maxwell Family was a major contributor to this project.
 - UAM has received a gift of \$1.3 million to establish the Jonathan Hartley Endowed Scholarship for Forestry. Total gifts received by the Foundation for November, December, and January were \$2,471,248.42.
 - Mr. Ken Hunt has gifted monies to UAM for a Consultant of Grants, who will help bring new funding opportunities to UAM.
 - The UAM Investment Club has been set up by Mr. Kevin Stephenson, who has donated over \$10,000. The goals of this club include opportunities for students to hear speakers on types of markets and investments; experiential learning through choosing and managing an investment fund; and internship opportunities in the financial industry.
 - The Windgate Foundation has awarded UAM a third grant in the amount of \$298,924, which will be used for need-based scholarships; MAT scholarships; laptops, welding materials, and equipment at the Crossett campus; and TIG welders and nursing simulation equipment at the McGehee campus. The first grant of \$50,000

was awarded in 2020 to support visual arts, and the second grant of \$205,415 was awarded in 2022 for need-based scholarships, nursing instructors, and lab upgrades.

4. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley, Mr. Becker, Mr. Hughes

- Headcount is currently up 5% from the spring 2023 semester.
- Information was provided on student semester credit hours, noting that the overall undergraduate SSCH for the fall/spring semesters at the Monticello campus is at 98.83% of budget.
- There are currently 391 students in the residence halls, and admission applications are up 16% compared to last year, with a total of 981 applications.

5. Academic Affairs – Ms. Halley

- Fall Commencement was held Friday, December 8, 2023. There were 104 participants and 347 degrees were conferred. Spring Commencement will be held on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Details will be sent to Board members closer to the event.
- The following academic items were approved by the Board of Trustees at their meeting last week:
 - The Master of Education will be reconfigured to offer a Graduate Certificate in K-6/7-12 Special Education Resource and a Graduate Certificate in K-12 Special Education.
 - The following programs will transition to 100% online: Technical Certificate in Business Technology, Technical Certificate in Health Information Technology, Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Principles, and Certificate of Proficiency in Healthcare Office Skills.
 - The last two years of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing will be offered onsite at National Park College.

6. Crossett Campus – Dr. Tucker

The UAM College of Technology at Crossett will host a Career Exploration Camp for 8th graders from the Crossett and Hamburg School Districts on March 8. Approximately 200 students will be on campus to learn more about technical careers and opportunities.

7. McGehee Campus – Mr. Ware

The UAM College of Technology at McGehee received a \$175,000 Transportation-Related Research and Workforce Development Grant from ARDOT for a CDL fleet upgrade.

8. Finance and Administration – Mr. Becker

The following updates were given on campus projects: the Music Building towers have been repaired, the Head House renovation is close to completion, and the MCB parking lot is scheduled to be repaved during spring break.

9. Discussion, General Remarks, and Important Dates

The next Board of Visitors meeting, scheduled for Thursday, April 11, will be held at the Monticello campus, instead of at the College of Technology at McGehee. All Board members will be invited to a dinner following the meeting in honor of the Winthrop Rockefeller Distinguished Lectures Speaker.

10. The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.