

**Arkansas State University
Board of Trustees
August 2, 2004**

The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees met by telephone conference call on Monday, August 2, 2004, in the conference room of the President's Office on the Jonesboro campus. Mr. Mike Medlock, Chair of the Board of Trustees, was present and called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. A telephone roll call confirmed the presence of the following board members: Florine Tousant Milligan, Vice Chair; Richard Bell, Secretary; Dallas Wood, and Mike Gibson.

Mr. Medlock moved to the first item on the Consent Agenda:

- Resolution Approving ASU-Jonesboro to Offer an Existing Program, Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, at Mid-South Community College.

President Les Wyatt introduced Dr. Susan Hanrahan, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and commended her efforts to expand instruction across eastern Arkansas and the surrounding states. Dr. Wyatt explained that this program has been requested by Chancellor Glen Fenter of Mid-South Community College in response to the needs of the medical community, including those of Ms. Ross Hooper at the primary healthcare facility in West Memphis. Because of the distance between Jonesboro and West Memphis, students will be able to matriculate with an associates degree into the Jonesboro program if they choose to pursue additional studies. A grant has been obtained by the citizens of West Memphis to provide partial funding for this program.

Upon motion by Florine Milligan, second by Colonel Wood, Resolution 04-33 was approved.

AYES: Medlock, Milligan, Bell, Wood, and Gibson

NAYS: None

- Resolution Approving ASU-Jonesboro to Offer an Existing Program, Master of Business Administration, at Arkansas Tech University.

Because Arkansas Tech has seen academic growth, the demand for this type of program has increased. Consultation for expansion of the business program and guidance for area businesses has been provided through Mr. Mark Young, Director of the Delta Center for Economic Development, who will continue to assist in this effort. The program will become effective January 2005 if approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board in October. Instructors from ASU-Jonesboro and Arkansas Tech will be teaching the courses following guidelines dictated by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business for accredited programs. ASU-Jonesboro faculty will travel to the Arkansas Tech campus to deliver instruction similar to faculty traveling to ASU-Mountain Home. ASU no longer participates in the University Center at the community college in Fort Smith because the program was absorbed into the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith and they now have assumed responsibility for business instruction.

Upon motion by Mr. Bell, second by Colonel Wood, Resolution 04-34 was approved.

AYES: Medlock, Milligan, Bell, Wood, and Gibson

NAYS: None

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Richard Bell, Secretary

Mike Medlock, Chair
Arkansas State University
Board of Trustees
August 2, 2004
Resolution 04-33

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Dr. Susan Allen 870-972-2030

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University (ASU) requests approval to offer an existing program, the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, at Mid-South Community College, effective January 2005.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the offering of any new degree or any new option of an existing degree prior to submission to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND:

The College of Nursing and Health Professions currently delivers their traditional AASN degree to the ASU-Mountain Home campus. At the request of Dr. Glen Fenter, Mid-South Community College President, we would like to deliver the same degree program to the West Memphis campus beginning January 2005. The traditional AASN is a 73 credit hour program which contains 19 general education hours, 43 hours of professional courses, and 11 credits in required support courses. Most of the courses would be delivered by compressed video from the Jonesboro and Mountain Home campuses, but one full-time nursing faculty member would be on site at the community college.

The purpose of the associate level is to prepare graduates to function in acute- and community-based settings. No previous degree in nursing is required. Students who graduate from this program are eligible to take the RN examination. This program will provide a new pool of nurses into the West Memphis market. Budget cuts three years ago forced Dr. Fenter to close the nursing programs at MSCC. Hospitals and health care agencies in the area have been working with Dr. Fenter to bring nursing education back to that campus since that time.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to offer an existing program, Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, at Mid-South Community College, effective January 2005.

Richard Bell, Secretary

Mike Medlock, Chair

Arkansas State University
Board of Trustees
August 2, 2004
Resolution 04-34

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University Jonesboro (ASU-J) requests approval to offer an existing program, Master of Business Administration, at Arkansas Tech University, effective January 2005.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the offering of any new degree or any new option of an existing degree prior to submission to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND:

Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is proposing to offer the Master of Business Administration degree at Arkansas Tech University. This MBA will be the same as presently offered on the ASU-J campus. The purpose of the program is to extend accessibility of the degree to persons living in the area served by Arkansas Tech.

More than half of all new jobs created this year will require some post-secondary education or training, and the need for more business employees in management positions who have earned an MBA continues to grow. The MBA will increasingly become the degree of choice among employers seeking to fill managerial and professional positions. Without question, career growth, competitive wages, and lifelong education will be permanently linked in the years to come. And, for the adult learner, the traditional practice of expecting the student to relocate and to live on or near campus while the university provides education and service within rigid parameters is not practical.

Arkansas Tech University does not offer an MBA program. According to Dr. Robert Brown, President of Arkansas Tech, there is a great need for an MBA program to meet the needs of adult learners throughout the region served by the University. Having such a program at Arkansas Tech will allow students wishing to pursue an MBA to do so without having to travel to other sites offering MBA programs—many of whom cannot do so due to career and/or family responsibilities.

The ASU-J MBA delivered on site by faculty members will replace the compressed video MBA previously available at Arkansas Tech.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to offer an existing program, Master of Business Administration, at Arkansas Tech University, effective January 2005.

Richard Bell, Secretary

Mike Medlock, Chair