#### **ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FOUNDATION**

Contact: Philip Jackson, 870-972-2775

For the period ending September 30, 2017 (unaudited), the Arkansas State University System Foundation recorded gifts and other support of \$904,901.

Contributions were designated as follows:

ASU-Jonesboro	\$458,743
ASU-Mountain Home	147,901
ASU-Beebe	52,555
ASU-Newport	245,653
ASU System Foundation	<u> </u>
Total	\$904,901

The Foundation reported net assets of \$69,749,612, representing an increase of 2.96% for the period ending September 30, 2017.

The market value of the ASU System Endowment Pool for the period ending September 30, 2017, was \$69,004,988.

The net rate of return for the period ending September 30, 2017, was 4.21%.

Endowment balances designated per campus are as follows:

Jonesboro	\$61,705,219	89.42%
Mountain Home	3,572,915	5.18%
Beebe	1,469,759	2.13%
Newport	1,810,720	2.62%
System Foundation	446,374	0.65%
Total	<u>\$69,004,988</u>	

#### ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM Capital Projects Report December 8, 2017

Arkansas State University campuses have several capital projects under way in various stages of programming, design, and construction.

#### **ASU-JONESBORO CAMPUS**

PROJECT TITLE	FUNDS AVAILABLE	<u>STATUS</u>
Marion Berry Parkway - Phase III	\$1,868,754	Construction Phase
Village Apartments Repairs and ADA Modifications	\$6,343,509	Construction Phase
V. C. Kays House Restoration - Phase II	\$200,000	Substantially Complete
Convocation Center Fire Alarms and Sprinkler Systems	\$943,250	Substantially Complete
Aggie Road Resurface	\$850,000	Substantially Complete
Library Envelope Waterproofing & Roof Repair - Phase II	\$620,000	Construction Document Phase
Campus Site Lighting - Phase I	\$538,555	<b>Construction Document Phase</b>

#### 1. Marion Berry Parkway - Phase III

Engineer:	Jacobs Engineering
Contractor:	Asphalt Producers
Expected Completion:	July 2017
Funding:	Design - University Reserves
	<b>Construction - University Reserves</b>

<u>Status</u>: Phase III work provides for the extension of University Loop West under the north bridge to connect with West Aggie Road. The Phase III design was delayed, and, therefore, a temporary road was constructed in August 2012. This project was re-bid on June 21, 2016, with a contract issued to Asphalt Producers. The project was substantially complete in August 2017. The Multi-Use Trail is under construction. The anticipated substantial completion of the Multi-Use Trail is December 15, 2017.

#### 2. Village Apartments Repairs and ADA Modifications

Architect/Engineer: Contractor:	Cromwell Architects - DCI Engineering In-house - Village Interior/Exterior Repairs Phase I Baldwin & Shell Construction - Village Interior ADA Modifications Phase II Bailey Construction - Village Interior ADA Modifications Phase III Construction Network - Village Exterior ADA Modifications
Expected Completion:	Village Interior ADA Modifications - February 2017 Village Exterior ADA Modifications - February 2015 Village Exterior Repairs - September 2019
Funding:	University Reserves

<u>Status</u>: The project scope addresses the following three distinct areas: the Village Apartments' interior ADA modifications; the Village Apartments' exterior ADA modifications; and the Village Apartments' exterior repairs. Phases I and II are complete.

The interior ADA scope was competitively bid and awarded to Bailey Construction. The work scope began in August 2014 and was completed in November 2016 ahead of schedule.

The exterior ADA scope was awarded through competitive bidding to CNI Construction. Construction began in June 2014. Exterior ADA sidewalks and ramps were completed by the deadline of February 2015.

Exterior building repairs to the Village began in June 2014 with an ASU projects crew. This work will be phased over multiple years, but the projected completion date is planned for third quarter 2019.

#### 3. V.C. Kays House Restoration - Phase II

Architect:	Brackett & Krennerich
Contractor:	Baldwin & Shell
Expected Completion:	Summer 2017
Funding:	Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council Grant

<u>Status</u>: The Phase II project funding will address interior restorations and improvements for ADA accessibility. Brackett & Krennerich issued interior drawings in February 2017, contractor bidding/pricing occurred in February 2017, the P.O. was issued to Baldwin and Shell Contractors in June of 2017, and it is substantially complete.

#### 4. Convocation Center Fire Alarms and Sprinkler Systems

Engineer:	Pettit & Pettit
Contractor:	<b>Bailey Contractors</b>
Expected Completion:	September 2017
Funding:	University Reserves

<u>Status</u>: A new sprinkler system will provide fire protection for the area covered by retractable seating around the perimeter of the arena floor. The fire alarm system will be upgraded to meet current fire-protection and mass-notification code requirements. The fire alarm system is substantially complete. The sprinkler project is substantially complete.

#### 5. Aggie Road Resurface

Architect / Engineer:	Pickering Firm, Inc.
Contractor:	Asphalt Producers
Expected Completion:	Summer 2017
Funding:	University Reserves

<u>Status</u>: The scope of this project is resurfacing Aggie Road from Red Wolf Boulevard to University Loop, adding new campus standard lighting and improving drainage. This project is substantially complete.

#### 6. Library Envelope Waterproofing & Roof Repair · Phase II

Architect / Engineer:	Morris and Associates
Contractor:	Bailey Contractors
Expected Completion:	Summer 2018
Funding:	University Reserves

Status: The Phase II project will address exterior restorations to the brick, windows, and joint sealants on the lower three floors. Morris and Associates issued the design drawing in February 2017, and Bailey Contractors completed Phase I in July 2017. Phase II of the project is scheduled to be complete in September 2018.

#### 7. Campus Site Lighting · Phase I

Architect / Engineer:	Pettit and Pettit
Contractor:	In-house Projects Crew/JOC Contractors
Expected Completion:	Summer 2018
Funding:	University Reserves

Status: The Phase I project funding will address exterior lighting improvements on campus. Pettit and Pettit Engineers has provided a design plan. ASU in-house Projects crews, along with JOC contractors, will execute the work. Phase I of the project is scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2018.

#### **ASU-BEEBE CAMPUS**

PROJECT TITLE	FUNDS AVAILABLE	STATUS
ASUB Energy Performance Contract	\$5,238,065	In progress

#### 1. ASUB Energy Performance Contract

Architect/Engineer:	Johnson Controls, Inc. & Others
Contractor:	Johnson Controls, Inc. & Others
Expected Completion:	June 2018
Funding:	Capital Lease/ADHE Revolving Loan Fund/ABA Loan Fund

<u>Status</u>: This project is a campus-wide investment grade energy audit and performance contract per the regulations of A.C.A. §19-11-1201. Johnson Controls, Inc. was competitively selected to execute a campus-wide energy audit and performance contract. The project scope includes lighting retrofits and replacements, water conservation, and HVAC upgrades. Work on the project began in October 2017, and substantial completion is expected by June 2018.

#### **ASU-NEWPORT CAMPUS**

#### PROJECT TITLE

FUNDS AVAILABLE \$3,951,078 STATUS In progress

**ASUN Energy Performance Contract** 

1. ASUN Energy Performance Contract

Architect/Engineer:	Johnson Controls, Inc. & Others
Contractor:	Johnson Controls, Inc. & Others
Expected Completion:	June 2018
Funding:	Capital Lease/ADHE Revolving Loan Fund

<u>Status</u>: This project is a college-wide investment grade energy audit and performance contract per the regulations of A.C.A. §19-11-1201. It encompasses the three campuses of ASU-Newport. Johnson Controls, Inc. was competitively selected to execute a campus-wide energy audit and performance contract. The project scope includes lighting retrofits and replacements, solar power generation, and HVAC equipment and HVAC controls upgrades. Work on the project began in September 2017, and substantial completion is expected by June 2018.

#### **ASU-MOUNTAIN HOME CAMPUS**

PROJECT TITLE	FUNDS AVAILABLE	<b>STATUS</b>
Integrity First Hall Third Floor Renovation	\$160,000	Complete

#### 1. ASUMH Integrity First Hall Third Floor Renovation

Architect:	Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects
Contractor:	ASUMH
Expected Completion:	July 2017
Funding:	Workforce Implementation Grant (50%)
	Auxiliary Funds (25%)
	Private Funds (25%)

<u>Status</u>: This project will revitalize the learning environment of the third floor of Integrity First Hall to allow students more opportunities to collaborate and to encourage working in teams. Moving away from the old cookie-cutter-style classroom of desks or tables and chairs only, the new space will help to motivate, stimulate, communicate, and encourage creativity while learning. The new configuration is designed to support Project Based Learning. ASUMH received a \$358,258 Regional Workforce Implementation Grant (Programming/Mobil Development Degree) providing the financial means for faculty salary, travel, training and/or supplemental educational opportunities, and equipment. Faculty members have been trained in Project Based Learning, and soft-skills job-preparedness education will be infused throughout this new degree plan. This project was completed in August 2017.

## Report to the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University from Kelly Damphousse, Chancellor Arkansas State University-Jonesboro December 8, 2017

## **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

## Advancement Services:

For the first quarter of FY July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017, the University recorded a total of 5,613 gifts and commitments from 2,463 individual donors for a total of \$6,701,631. The overall giving amount includes outright donations of cash, gifts-in-kind, planned gifts, and new pledges. Included is a \$5,000,000 commitment by First National Bank to name the First National Bank Arena, which was facilitated by David McClain and secured by Terry Mohajir.

### Alumni Relations:

- The fall phonathon has been completed and efforts now are directed to collecting on the pledges that have been received. To date, the fulfillment rate is 59 percent, and total pledges amount to 70 percent of the phonathon FY18 goal. Spring phonathon will commence in February 2018.
- Applications for the 2018 entering freshmen License to HOWL scholarships are now being accepted. Five recipients will be selected to receive \$5,000 annual awards with an option to renew in successive years if they continue to meet the criteria. In addition, ten entering freshmen will be awarded \$1,000 one-time grants. These scholarships are funded by the official Red Wolves license plates offered by the Department of Motor Vehicles in Arkansas. More than \$120,000 was collected in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2017.
- The second annual Pancakes and PJ's with Santa and Howl, an engagement event targeted to alumni with younger families, was held Saturday, December 2. The event sold out in 72 hours with 475 tickets sold.
- Events booked for the Cooper Alumni Center are 10 percent above the 2016 calendar year with several weeks remaining before December 31, 2017.

#### Marketing and Communications:

- Special events, in support of the new chancellor's initiatives with students and his new marketing placements focused on increasing traditional student enrollment, were at the heart of the efforts from the Marketing and Communications office during the third quarter of 2017.
- A digital advertising campaign, designed to solicit responses from our surrounding states, was created and launched during the third quarter. Custom 15 second appeals to residents of Illinois, Missouri, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas were placed on Facebook, Instagram, and through over-the-top (OTT) television set-top providers. Similarly, our standard University commercial was recast into a 15 second version that was placed through OTT and digital geofencing to support our regular over the air placements in Arkansas.

- The Digital Creative team produced 47 videos during the third quarter, including a new on-location format for the chancellor's First Friday. We have also identified and implemented a new email vendor, Emma, which will replace Constant Contact this fall.
- Among the design projects undertaken was the rollout of a new logo for the A-State Alumni Association and the quiet phase work for a renaming of the Convocation Center. In all, Creative Services completed 367 jobs for various campus areas.
- Social media numbers continue to track upward, but at a less dramatic pace than the previous year's third quarter. At 110,000 followers on Facebook, we continue to be the largest in the state for an official university feed and in our pursuit of ULL's 130K as the top Sun Belt in our region. Our total reach was essentially the same as last third quarter 34.2K compared to 31.3K. Along with the eclipse video, top social posts were the performance of the alumni choir at the football opener (54K people viewing), Campus Queretaro highlights (32K views), and Chancellor Damphousse's statement on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (49K people viewed).
- One example that reveals how our collaboration leverages certain achievements is the recognition of Arkansas State becoming the fourth institution in the state – and the largest – to achieve Storm Ready Community status from the National Weather Service. Our Storm Ready designation is now being marketed to parents in recruiting materials. It was leveraged with local media sponsorships, as A-State is one of four pre-roll video sponsors for one of the region's highest traffic mobile apps – KAIT's weather app.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

## **Financial Aid and Scholarships**

- Financial Aid and Scholarships disbursed more than \$50 million to students for the 2017 fall semester.
- Aid will be awarded to more than 10,000 students by the start of Fall 2018.
- Department staff members attended additional training concerning the new *Arkansas Futures Program*.
- Financial Aid and Scholarships hosted 47 area high school counselors for a financial aid workshop on November 1. Department staff members made presentations at high school financial aid nights at the following schools: Nettleton, Brookland, Bay, Jonesboro, Tuckerman, Buffalo Island Central, Valley View, and Truman.
- Financial Aid and Scholarships began sending award information to returning and new students in November and December. This will be the earliest the department was able to process financial aid.
- Online submission of private scholarship applications began December 1.

#### **Recruitment**

 Recruiters currently are visiting high school seniors, juniors, and sophomores at high schools in Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, and Mississippi.

- Recruiters attended college fair events in Missouri, Tennessee, Illinois, and across the entire state of Arkansas.
- Recruitment hosted Transfer Preview Day on October 27, and 117 transfer students attended.
- Recruitment has received 1,241 on-campus visitors since August 26.
- Construction on the Centennial Bank Welcome Center is currently underway with a projected opening in early spring.
- An increase in social media marketing has resulted in 5,600 followers of the Office of Recruitment Facebook page.
- Contact with high school seniors continues via printed pieces, e-mails, and phone calls.
- Contact with high school juniors continues via printed pieces and e-mails.
- Leads for 201860 (fall 2018) were purchased from NRCCUA and ACT:
  - 1,739 names for the St. Louis/Central Illinois area (NRCCUA)
  - 4,665 names from the state of Arkansas (ACT)
- Events Hosted
  - Local Admitted Student @ Centennial Bank Stadium
  - Salt Bowl
  - Senior Preview Days (2)
  - Junior Preview Days (2)
  - ACT Workshop
  - Red Wolves Rising (Central Arkansas)
  - Red Wolves Rising (Northeast Arkansas)
  - NEA College and Career Fair
  - Transfer Preview Day
  - Faculty Appreciation Luncheon

## **Testing Center**

- Rosemary Freer, Testing Center director, travelled to Campus Queretaro in August to attend the firstever, first-year convocation at the new Arkansas State University location. During the week, several A-State administrators spent time testing more than 200 new students for class placement, worked on the class schedules, met with new faculty, and interacted with the new student class.
- All Testing Center staff sat for the Pearson VUE certification test, an annual recertification to administer the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).

## **Career Services**

- Student Engagement/Involvement
  - Career Services professionals presented 33 workshops and interacted with 841 students. They conducted 45 mock interviews and reviewed 581 resume reviews, cover letters, and graduate application letters.
- Employer Engagement
  - Campus Interviews Seven employers have interviewed 49 students.

- Career Fairs
  - Part-time Job Fair, September 13 32 recruiters, 20 companies, and 197 students
  - STEM/Agriculture Fair, October 18 97 recruiters, 46 companies, and 345 students
  - All Majors Fair, October 25 118 recruiters, 70 companies, and 618 students

## **Counseling Center**

- Emphasis Weeks
  - Suicide prevention emphasis was held September 5-6. Activities included *Gatekeeper* training and *Suicide Prevention 101*.
  - The Counseling Center sponsored an event in September, emphasizing the prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence. A candlelight vigil was held September 12, memorializing Arkansans who died due to domestic violence during the past year.
  - An event emphasizing Depression and Anxiety Awareness was held October 2-5. An alcohol awareness and abuse prevention event was held October 23-26.
- Classes Taught by Counseling Center Staff
  - One hundred fifty-nine online mental health screenings were completed between August 26 and November 3.

### **Dining Services**

- Stop Hunger Food Drive
  - Dining Services conducted the annual *Stop Hunger Food Drive* to collect non-perishable food items to be donated to the Arkansas State Food Pantry. This will be the third year that Sodexo and Dining Services have partnered with the Campus Food Pantry.
- Events
  - Dining Services hosted a series of events for the quarter including a monthly *Birthday Bash Cupcakes, National Cookie Day, Thanksgiving Dinner,* and *the Semi-annual Late Night Breakfast*.

## **Disability Services**

- Faculty Communication: Approximately 1,366 accommodation letters have been sent to faculty members recommending academic accommodations for students in the classroom.
- Ghostwriter/Note-taking Program: Fifty-two note-takers have been recruited to serve as ghost writers for the 2017 fall semester. Note-taking requests have been fulfilled in 54 classes.
- Alternative Testing: Students with disabilities have made 1,141 testing requests through Disability Services.
- Adaptive Technology Program: Approximately 30 adaptive equipment items have been issued to students to accommodate their needs in the classroom.
- Alternative Text: Of the 223 requests for books in alternative format, 126 requests have been fulfilled. Disability Services (DS) has produced 35 textbooks in alternative format.
- Comfort Animal Approvals: Fifty-six students have been approved for comfort animals.
- Academic Success and Access Program (ASAP): There currently are 48 students in the ASAP *Program.* Of that number, 98% of students have ongoing contact with the ASAP coordinator and the

DS intern as required. The ASAP coordinator and DS intern work with at-risk students reported by the Starfish Program.

- Transportation: Thirty-seven people are transported on the DS golf carts to and from 34 buildings on campus. Nine student employees are trained to serve as golf cart drivers.
- Outreach: *Beyond the Stigma* is a new program implemented within Disability Services and co-created with SOTA, a student organization within the Occupational Therapy Department. Beyond the Stigma, Delta Sigma Omicron (DSO), and Disability Services sponsored a Halloween Mixer on October 23 at the A-State Pavilion. There were approximately 45 guests in attendance.
- Interventions:
  - Department staff participated in interventions to facilitate student success with faculty from several departments.
  - Department staff members have consulted with the Counseling Center in an effort to enhance students' academic, emotional, and social well-being on the A-State campus.

# Multicultural Center

- Multicultural Programs
  - The Multicultural Center (MC) held the first *Multicultural Monday Trivia* event on August 28. The event highlight was *Diversity Awareness Month*.
  - An interest meeting for our Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO) was held on September 12.
  - The Multicultural Center assisted the Black Student Association (BSA) with its annual *Fall Explosion* event on September 13.
  - The annual *Hispanic Heritage Kick-Off* was hosted on September 14. Students who attended the event enjoyed cultural games to assist with learning about Hispanic heritage.
  - On September 14, the Multicultural Center assisted the Wilson Advising Center with the first Transfer Resource Fair. Spokespeople from 20 departments on campus spoke about events and happenings from their department.
  - In collaboration with the Office of Global Initiatives, the Multicultural Center hosted a DACA forum on October 3. The purpose of the event was to discuss the recent executive order surrounding the DACA program.
  - The Multicultural Center, in collaboration with the Counseling Center, hosted a depression awareness panel on October 4 to discuss depression, anxiety, and other mental health diagnoses in an effort to end the stigma associated with discussing mental health issues and asking for help.
  - The Semi-Annual Non-Traditional Student Fall Fest was developed and hosted in collaboration with A-State Residence Life. The Non-Traditional Student Lunch and Learn event was held on October 10. Special guests from Career Services offered tips on preparing for job interviews, obtaining an internship, improving one's resume, and more.
  - Dr. T.J. Jourian served as the guest lecturer for the *Annual LGBT*+ and *Gender Identity Lecture* on October 17 and discussed how to support and include transgender and gender nonconforming students in everyday practices.
  - The Multicultural Center held a kick-off for *Native American Heritage Month* on November 1.

- On November 6, the Multicultural Center hosted Multicultural Monday Trivia, an event with questions on Native American Heritage. Career Services, Multicultural Center, and The Black Professionals Network of Jonesboro collaborated to host *Natural Hair Forum*, held on November 8. This event was designed to celebrate natural hair in all its forms. Local hairstylists shared information on hair maintenance, styling, and more.
- *Transgender Day of Remembrance* was hosted by the Multicultural Center on November 16. The goal for the event was to bring awareness to the more than 20 individuals who have lost their lives due to violence related to their transgender identity.
- $\circ$  On November 12, the Center hosted a Day of Thanks Dinner for students on campus.
- A graduation reception for underrepresented students at A-State was held December 4, in celebration of contributions by underrepresented students and the diversity they bring to A-State.
- Multicultural Education
  - On October 26, Dr. Evette Allen conducted a diversity training session in a freshman seminar course taught by Melissa Jackson. Students discussed diversity versus inclusion and social justice, identities, biases, and macroaggressions.
  - On November 1, Dr. Allen conducted diversity training in a freshman seminar course taught by Jerrod Lockhart. Students discussed diversity versus inclusion and social justice, identities, biases, and macroaggressions.
- Student Success and Leadership
  - Multicultural Ambassadors are student leaders who have a passion for diversity and inclusion and want to assist with programs and other educational sessions to advance understanding about diversity, inclusion, and social justice. The 2017-2018 Multicultural Ambassadors team held a retreat on September 1-2.
  - The Thompson Scholarship Committee met on September 8 to select Thompson Scholarship recipients for 2017-2018. Students were selected based on financial need, academic achievement, essay response, and A-State campus and community service.
  - The 2017-2018 Multicultural Leadership Council is gearing up to launch the 2018 spring semester. During October, Joycelynne Williams, the Leadership and Success Coordinator for the Multicultural Ambassador team, reached out to all student organizations that focus on the success of underrepresented students on campus.
- Community Outreach
  - Along with the Multicultural Center, the mayor of the City of Jonesboro hosted a youth summit for high school students in the Jonesboro area.

## Parking Services

• The pay stations in the parking deck and Reng Student Union were recently upgraded to ensure PCI/DSS compliance through the end of year 2021.

### **Residence Life**

- October was *Safety and Security Month* in the residential communities. Programs focused on tips for preventing sexual assault, alcohol and drug abuse, and self-defense.
- Apogee is A-State's new television cable provider. Apogee is the nation's largest provider of satellite delivered cable television to college campuses. Our residents have access to 95 channels of cable programming, including HBO and Cinemax, through traditional coaxial cabling. Additionally, residents are able to stream 80 channels to devices such as laptops, smart phones, and tablets while within the campus boundaries.
- Residential communities now have a new wireless network similar to their wireless environment at home. Each resident has a private wireless network that allows them to connect most devices including laptops, tablets, smartphones, Apple TV, Chromecast, gaming consoles, and smart televisions.

## **Student Conduct**

- Office of Student Conduct has reported 883 cases:
  - $\circ$  347 were information-only cases.
  - $\circ$  95 cases were Title IX related
  - $\circ$  440 were related to conduct infractions
  - $\circ$  one case was related to academics.
- The average turnaround time from case creation to adjudication is 6.8 days for fall semester 2017.

# **Student Health Center**

- The *Annual Flu Shot Clinic was* held September 26 with 1,000 free influenza vaccinations made available to the campus community and general public.
- *Turn It Teal Tuesdays* Weekly events were held in recognition of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.
- The Pregnancy Resource Center Mobile Unit provided services to students on campus on October 2.
- *Think Pink Week*, October 16-20 was commemorated with a variety of events, including free breast exams, in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness month.
- *College Diabetes Week*, on November 13-17, provided opportunities for students to learn about the risks, research, and reality of diabetes. Free glucose screenings were made available.
- Health screenings were provided for groups of students from Mexico on November 13.
- *Wear The Red Ribbon*, on December 1, coincided with World Aids Day to raise awareness, show support for people living with HIV, and commemorate those who have died from the disease.
- *It's Not Too Late to Vaccinate*, on December 4 was held in observance of National Influenza Vaccination Week.

# **Student Leadership and Development**

• *High School Leadership Conference* was hosted in October. Seven area high schools participated in this event facilitated by A-State student leaders.

• Student Government Association hosted the state student government meeting in Little Rock in October. Four-year institutions across the state met at the ASU System Office to discuss relevant topics affecting college student leaders.

### **Red Wolf Center**

- Established Club Sports
  - A-State Spirit Squads are expanding recruiting efforts into the northwest part of the state, visiting potential students from the University of the Ozarks and Fayetteville High School. The A-State Cheer Squad will showcase its Nationals routine on January 9, 2018.
  - State Rugby hosted University of Memphis and Lindenwood-Belleview, winning both games.
  - The newly formed A-State Swimming Club has competed at Ohio State and North Carolina this fall.
  - Ultimate Frisbee recently won top collegiate team at a Southern Illinois University tournament.
  - A-State Softball recently went 6-0 at conference, playing at Maryville University of St. Louis and St. Louis University.

## **Student Affairs Technology Services**

- General status update: Implemented a service request tracking system.
- A wireless upgrade was completed in all residence halls. All computers in the Counseling Center lab and Multicultural Center Mac lab were scheduled for replacement during fall break.

## **University Police Department**

- University Police Department and A-State Student Patrol logged 437 on-campus safety escorts between August 19 and November 2.
- The University Police Department provided the multiple Student Involvement/Safety Education Sessions during this reporting period.

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND RESERACH

- <u>Enrollment</u>: Arkansas State University online programs had a 10% increase in enrollment from Fall 2016 to Fall 2017. The fastest growing undergraduate program during this time was the RN to BSN with a 33% increase. The Masters in Reading was the fastest growing graduate program with a 57% increase from Fall 2016 (133 students), to fall 2017 (311 students). In spring 2018, online programs will launch two new undergraduate certificate programs, Leadership and Social Media Management, and a Masters in Early Childhood Education. Live chat sessions are now being offered to improve customer support services, response time and accessibility of staff.
- Under the direction of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Retention and Completion, Dr. Jill Simons, A-State is refocusing its management of initiatives for supporting student success. A Student Outreach Coordinator has been chosen to respond to student questions, make referrals for service,

and assist students with academic needs. A simple inquiry to <u>PackSupport@astate.edu</u> gets the process started.

- A-State is focusing on high-impact and experiential opportunities for its students. The Academic Expo is the culminating First Year Experience (FYE) event for almost 70 sections of the FYE course. The Expo showcases the class project centered on the common reader theme of "Mindful Conservation" based on the reader, *The Secret World of Red Wolves.*
- The Creative Commons is a newly created, faculty-directed board designed to support creative, interdisciplinary, and experiential works of students and faculty. The goal is to end this academic year by awarding 50 faculty or students with a Creative Commons distinction.
- International Students hosted the International Food Festival November 13 with more than 750 individuals in attendance. Under the leadership of Sodexo Food Services, the students were trained in food handling and then prepared their native foods under the supervision of one of A-State's chefs.
- The Doctorate in Occupational Therapy program had a successful accreditation review in September and the AAS/BS Clinical Laboratory Science program leaders are expecting reaffirmation in spring 2018. The Teacher Education CAEP review took place in early November and the College of Education and Behavioral Science will address and respond to CAEP's concerns.
- The campus continues to prepare for the HLC comprehensive visit scheduled for March 2018. The next phase of preparation is to meet with all assessment leaders throughout the campus to prepare them for potential HLC interviews.

## Accreditation and Program Reviews:

 The following programs are preparing for accreditation or program reviews, as required by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, during 2017-2018: Clinical Lab Science (AAS and BS), Music Programs, Teacher Education, Master of Arts in Teaching, Occupational Therapy (Doctoral), School Counseling (MSE), and School Psychology (Ed.S.).

# ATHLETICS

## Volleyball:

- Six student-athletes earned one of the Sun Belt Conference Weekly "Player of the Week" awards a combined 11 times.
- Arkansas State earned the No. 4 seed in the Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Tournament, which it hosted in November.

## **Baseball:**

• Senior Alex Howard was named a Rawlings Honorable Mention Summer Collegiate All-American by Perfect Game.

### Women's Soccer:

- A-State earned a College Team Academic Award from the United Soccer Coaches for posting at least a 3.0 team GPA in the classroom for the 2016-17 academic year.
- A school-record three players were named All-Sun Belt Conference, including second team choices Sarah Sodoma, Kelsey Ponder, and Riley Ebenroth. Additionally, Sodoma also became the first A-State player to ever be named the league's Freshman of the Year.

## Football:

- Senior cornerback Blaise Taylor was named a National Football Foundation (NFF) & College Hall of Fame National Scholar-Athlete and one of 13 finalists for the William V. Campbell Trophy. He was also named a semifinalist for both the Wuerffel Trophy and inaugural Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year award.
- Junior quarterback Justice Hansen was named one of the top-20 candidates for the 2017 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, presented annually to the nation's top college quarterback.
- Sophomore punter Cody Grace was named to the Ray Guy Award list of candidates.

## Women's Bowling:

• A-State was ranked third in the National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Preseason Poll.

## Men's Basketball:

 Recent A-State graduate Deven Carter was selected by the Long Island Nets in the second round of the 2017 NBA G League Draft by the Long Island Nets with the third pick of the second round (29th overall).

## Men's & Women's Basketball:

• The Sun Belt Conference announced that a total of 16 men's and women's basketball games will air on ESPN3 as part of the league's television package.

## Men's Golf:

• Golfstat announced its first NCAA rankings for the 2017-18 season, and A-State men's golf team was named number 46 in the nation.

## Academics:

• The Athletics Department set new school records for its Graduation Success Rate (83) and federal graduation rate (60), percentages that also tied the third highest in the Sun Belt to match both 2011 and 2012 for its best-ever ranking among its conference peers.

## **Red Wolves Foundation:**

 In recognition of a \$5 million contribution by First National Bank to the Red Wolves Foundation, the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees a request to rename A-State's multi-purpose facility, formerly known as the Convocation Center, to "First National Bank Arena."

#### FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### **Budget Planning/Development:**

All E&G and auxiliary budgets were monitored on a monthly basis to protect the institution's financial outcomes for the fiscal year. The early stages of preparation for the FY19 operating budget has begun. Due to changes in the enrollment mix and unanticipated declines in on-campus students, forecasted tuition & fee revenue for FY18 fiscal year-end is currently estimated to be short \$3.6M. The Executive Council implemented a budget reduction plan to \$2.2M (60% of anticipated shortfall) for the fall semester with possible additional cuts in the spring.

### **Office of Diversity:**

• Dr. Lillie Fears was appointed to serve as faculty liaison. The office developed the A-State ADVANCE initiative for tenure-track faculty and hosted the first cohort members. It awarded approximately \$15,000 in grants to faculty and students to support efforts to advance diversity and inclusion on the A-State campus.

#### Human Resources:

• HR processed new graduate assistantships' new-hire packets in Taleo beginning in August. Expected benefit changes for health insurance for 2018 were released in October. The annual Benefits Fair was held November 2, 2017.

## Office of Affirmative Action (OAA)

• The OAA facilitated Title IX training for Residence Life (Graduate Hall Directors, Residence Assistants, and Desk Assistances). It is currently developing a campus sexual assault climate survey and preparing to submit data for the annual Affirmative Action plan.

#### **Training and Development**

• Implementation of Taleo Learn has begun and will continue through March 2018.

#### **University Safety and Emergency Management (USEM):**

 USEM accepted StormReady University recognition from NWS; finalized updates to Centennial Bank Stadium EOP; began coordinating weather briefings for football game weeks; resident hall fire drills were conducted; finalized updates to A-State and First National Arena's EOPs; finalized updates to Emergency Procedures Handbook; conducted fire drills for the sororities; worked with Greek Life to guide fraternities through conducting their own drills to ensure proper documentation for Clery compliance; and held fire extinguisher training for all FM employees

## Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)

• EHS completed laboratory inspection and laboratory door signage in ABI. This was the first internal inspection of laboratories completed at the university in eight years. Feedback from the inspection

process by faculty has been overwhelmingly positive. This process will continue through January before the committee will decide on how to formulate a Request for Proposal for a chemical inventory tool for the university.

### Information and Technology (ITS):

 IT Security continues as a major focus. The department is developing educational information and training that will be scheduled for all campus IT users. The startup at ASUCO went well. There are several IT-related tasks that need to be addressed before the next fall semester, including a dedicated secure connection between MX and ASUJ and coordinating with the Registrar to print transcripts live in MX from ASUJ.

## Fiscal Operations:

- Legislative Audit has completed its work on the Jonesboro campus, as well as the System audit.
- Accounts Payable has submitted the annual unclaimed property to the states of Arkansas, Iowa, Ohio, and Washington.
- Implementation of the Marketplace software has begun with three pilot projects. We have utilized First Collection Services to begin calling students who currently have an outstanding balance, so that they can make arrangements prior to registration for the spring semester; this is in addition to the monthly billing notifications that are sent to students. Testing for Banner 9 is underway, with implementation for our area expected June 1.
- Work continues with the Bookstore, Faculty, and ITS to bring Open Educational Resources (OER) to campus. The Bookstore and its partner, Lumen Learning, met with faculty in the Psychology and Counseling department to demonstrate Lumens OER solution for the Introduction to Psychology course. Plans are being made to run a pilot of this course in Spring 2018.
- A transition from Coca-Cola Refreshments to Corinth Coca-Cola occurred in October. This means our campus will be serviced locally, rather than from the distribution in Memphis, TN.
- The new US Bank Departmental travel cards, which replaced the ghost card program, have been issued.
- The Managed Print Services (MPS) contract with Xerox continues with the installation of machines campus wide.

Arkansas State University Board of Trustees Report December 8, 2017

Chancellor's Report Arkansas State University-Beebe

#### 90th Celebration Events

During the months of September, October, and November, ASU-Beebe celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We have noted this special year with a book signing and lecture in Searcy by nationally recognized author and speaker, Cara Brookins, a Climb & Dine event on the Heber campus, a free community concert by American Idol Kris Allen in Beebe, and our fourth and final event, a salute to veterans and their families, recognizing the long history that ASU-Beebe has enjoyed with our partners at the LRAFB. This final event took place on November 9, on the Beebe campus following an open house on the evening of November 8 at the LRAFB location. The celebration at Beebe included a patriotic salute to our armed forces members and their families, displays of military aircraft and equipment, demonstrations by the ASU-Beebe ROTC detachment, and an address by keynote speaker Lt. Governor Tim Griffin.

#### **ASUB** Website

On October 24, 2017, ASU-Beebe launched its new, and greatly improved, website. The new website is scalable and feature rich. Students will be able to navigate this site in a much more intuitive manner. The all new site will enhance the institution's ability to serve the rapidly evolving needs of today's students.

#### **Investing in New Technology**

ASUB-Beebe has invested in "Zoom Cart" technology at each of our four campus locations. This technology, coupled with our new increased broadband capabilities, will enable instructors in Beebe to deliver live classroom streaming to the Heber, Searcy, or LRFB campuses via the Internet. The system may also be used to conduct meetings or live-stream guest speakers and other events across all campuses.

#### **ACC Recognitions**

ASU-Beebe was proud to honor its outstanding student, alumnus, faculty, and staff members at the annual Arkansas Community Colleges (ACC) conference in October. They are the following:

- Academic All-Star Bao Van
- Outstanding Alumnus Tom Brannon
- Outstanding Faculty Teddy Davis
- Outstanding Staff Linda Yelder

#### **Aspen Recognition**

ASU- Beebe was again recognized as being in the top 10% among the nations two-year community colleges. This is fourth time that ASU-Beebe has achieved this honor.

## ACC Student Leadership Academy

On November 2 and 3, ASU-Beebe sent five students and two advisors to the ACC's fourth Annual Student Leadership Academy. The event took place at the 4-H Center in Little Rock and included nearly 70 students in leadership training and other activities. The students were placed into groups based on the results of a leadership personality assessment. The groups were assigned the task of analyzing a current piece of legislation. They were told to devise and present an action plan demonstration how to implement the newly mandated training. The topics were the following: 1) Act 943 of 2015 – Unplanned Pregnancy Prevention; 2) Act 488 of 2017 – Domestic Violence Awareness in Cosmetology Programs; 3) Act 922 of 2017 – Human Trafficking Awareness in CDL Programs; and 4) Act 1007 of 2017 – Suicide Prevention and Awareness.

## **ASU-Beebe Academic Program Notifications**

Curriculum Revision of Existing Certificate or Degree Program:

- 1) CP in Industrial Electronics: Renamed "CP in Industrial Technology"
- 2) TC in Industrial Electronics: Renamed "TC in Industrial Technology"

**Program Deletions:** 

- 1) Certificate of Proficiency in Crime Scene Investigation
- 2) Technical Certificate in Crime Scene Investigation
- 3) Associate of Applied Science in Crime Scene Investigation
- 4) Certificate of Proficiency in Law Enforcement Administration
- 5) Technical Certificate in Law Enforcement Administration
- 6) Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement Administration
- 7) Certificate of Proficiency in Public Procurement
- 8) Technical Certificate in Creative Arts Enterprise
- 9) Associate of Science in Environmental Science
- 10) Associate of Arts in Teaching

Purpose/Rationale:

- The credentials in Crime Scene Investigation and Law Enforcement Administration were offered in cooperation with the Criminal Justice Institute and will not affect our other Criminal Justice offerings.
- No interest has been shown in the CP in Public Procurement, and there are currently no students enrolled in the program.
- No interest has been shown in the TC in Creative Arts Enterprise, and there are currently no students enrolled in the program.
- The Associate of Science in Environmental Science was created specifically for transfer purposes prior to the state approval of the Associate of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences (ASLAS), which was specifically designed for articulation purposes. The ASLAS has replaced the AS in Environmental Science.

- The state-wide agreement for the Associate of Arts in Teaching is no longer in effect, and there are no students enrolled in the program.
- Programs must maintain a certain number of graduates to continue to be approved by ADHE. All of these programs have no students enrolled, and therefore no longer meet the standards set forth by ADHE.

### Arkansas State University Board of Trustees Report December 8, 2017

#### Chancellor's Report Arkansas State University-Mountain Home

### 1. Long Range Planning

ASUMH has concluded the Long Range (five years) Goal setting process this fall. The process involved the inclusion of approximately 400 students, staff, and community members in a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis and goal-setting workshops. These meetings were held throughout the fall semester and more than 150 goal statements were collected during the process. These goals were then sent back out to the participants via a survey and votes were tabulated for each statement. The goals receiving the most votes were identified as the priority goals and will comprise our Long Range Goals for the 2018-2023 years. Staff will now develop annual strategic plans and budget requests designed to achieve the Long Range Goals. ASUMH also conducted a mission review this fall and made changes to several purpose statements, although it did not change the mission statement.

#### 2. <u>Retention Day</u>

ASUMH recently held a Retention Day workshop for all employees. This day-long event provided every employee an opportunity to explore ways in which they could impact student retention. The culminating event of the day provided for each operational area of the institution to identify specific strategies in which they would engage in the coming year to increase retention. The compilation of these strategies will be the institutional retention plan.

#### 3. Higher Learning Commission

ASUMH will host a visiting team from the Higher Learning Commission in April 2018. We will undergo our periodic evaluation for continuing accreditation. Our accreditation argument and the evidence file that accompanies it are nearly complete. They will be loaded into the HLC system after the first of the year, and links to the documents will be sent to the BOT for review. Our HLC liaison will be on campus on November 30 and a mock visit conducted by representatives from other ASU System schools will occur in early spring.

## 4. ASPEN Award

ASUMH has recently been named as an Aspen Institution for the second year in a row. This biennial designation is awarded to the top ten percent of community colleges nationally, based on a number of metrics including enrollment trends, retention rates, and graduation rates. We are proud of the great work of our employees for, once again, earning this distinction. A comprehensive data submission has subsequently been completed, and a second round of analysis will be conducted in 2018 to narrow the designation to the top ten community colleges in the nation based on the Aspen metrics.

# 5. Veterans Day Celebration

ASUMH recently held its annual Veterans Day Celebration on November 9. This year's event was a great success, with more than 2,000 attending an afternoon patriotic choral concert, a veterans' fair, a veterans' dinner, and a concert by country artist Ashley McBride.

### Arkansas State University Board of Trustees December 8, 2017

#### Report of the Chancellor Arkansas State University-Newport

#### **Strategic Priority 1: Student Success**

- Aaron Gatewood, ASUN Student President of the Beta Nu Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, was one of only 207 PTK members, chosen from nearly 1,000 applicants, to be honored as a "2017 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar."
- The Commercial Driver Training program has been recognized by Maverick Transportation for training its "Rookie Driver of the Quarter." This marks the second consecutive "Rookie Driver of the Quarter" trained at ASUN.
- At the Arkansas Phi Beta Lambda Fall Leadership Conference, ASUN student Megan Cantara was elected Director of Programs for 2017-2018.
- A new gravel parking lot has been constructed at the ASUN Jonesboro campus to alleviate parking issues and safety concerns. The 50 additional parking spaces have eliminated the need for students to park on Krueger Drive. Future plans include paving the new parking lot.
- ASUN hosted the Arkansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers' College Planning Day. This event afforded the 200 students from Newport and Cedar Ridge high schools the opportunity to meet with recruiters from various colleges and universities around the state. This was ASUN's first time to host the event.
- ASUN's Enrollment Management Council has collaborated with ACT to implement two new practices that will increase student enrollment, retention, and success. These new associations are directly linked to ASUN's Strategic Priorities:
  - ACT's Education Opportunity Service's "Get Your Name in the Game" program exists to generate awareness and broaden access for students who otherwise may go undetected in the college recruitment and enrollment funnel, due to economic status and lower ACT scores. The program allows ASUN to partner with high schools in our service area, communicate opportunities to their students, and introduce them to post-secondary education and training. This collaboration with ACT permits ASUN to create meaningful partnerships with our service area schools and affords us a creative method to target new and diverse students at little cost to the institution.
  - ACT's ENGAGE Assessment was developed to mitigate student attrition. The ACT ENGAGE assessment detects personal challenges, academic attitudes, and behaviors that standardized academic tests do not measure. ASUN's Student Success Coordinators utilize personalized ACT ENGAGE reports to create better academic plans and solutions for their students. This practice creates an integrated, student-centered experience that will yield an increase in retention, completion, and transfer rates. Additionally, using this assessment tool further establishes a cycle of continuous improvement and accountability in our Center for Academic Retention and Success.

### **Strategic Priority 2: Institutional Excellence**

- Every year at its Annual Conference, the ACC recognizes an Outstanding Alumnus and an Academic All-Star from each of the two-year colleges. This year the ACC award for ASUN Academic All-Star was awarded to Megan Martin. The ACC award for Outstanding Alumnus was awarded posthumously to Patrick Weatherford and accepted by his wife, Kristen Weatherford.
- The ASUN Marked Tree campus has been providing education to Northeast Arkansas for 50 years. Delta Vocational Technical School, one of the first post-secondary vocational technical schools established in the state, originally contained 22,079 square feet, seven vocational programs, a staff of 17, and an enrollment of 71. Today, after a series of transitions, the ASUN Marked Tree campus has grown to 101,489 square feet, offers 11 associate degrees in addition to industry-relevant technical certificates, has a staff of 25 with approximately 30-40 part-time employees, and has an enrollment of 260 students. There have been in excess of 11,000 graduates in the full-time programs from 1968-2017. ASUN kicked off its celebration with an employee storytelling breakfast, campus and dignitary luncheon, and afternoon community open house highlighting student learning.

## **Strategic Priority 3: Community Engagement**

- The ASUN Hospitality Department had the honor of judging the Newport Depot Days BBO Competition. ASUN employees also participated in the Marked Tree Cotton Pickin' Jubilee, Lepanto Terrapin Derby Days, and NEA Fair.
- The 2017-2018 Patrons Series kicked off this fall with a virtual sell-out! "Chicks with Hits," featuring Terri Clark, Pam Tillis, and Suzy Bogguss, was an amazing show. On February 15, 2018, ASUN will be featuring "Jack Wright: The Songs and Stories of Neil Diamond." On April 17, 2018, we will be featuring "Let's Hang On!" America's #1 Frankie Valli Tribute Show.
- The University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana donated two metal lathes to the ASUN Advanced Manufacturing program. The lathes have been incorporated into the milling curriculum and have allowed us to increase student engagement.
- Instructor of Agriculture Technology Matt Hardin spoke at the Jackson County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at ASUN. Mr. Hardin talked about the college's agriculture program, E.A.T. Farm Bureau presented ASUN with a check for \$1,000 to support the program.
- ASUN presented four consecutive programs at the Newport Rotary Club during the month of October. System President Charles Welch discussed major initiatives within the ASU System; Adam Adair provided an update on the ASUN solar array and energy project; Director of Hospitality Services Kevin Gee, Advanced Instructor of Hospitality Services Lana Holt, and student Ashtyn Hayse spoke about the ASUN Hospitality Services program; and Teriann Turner discussed ASUN's Advancement program, showcasing two student scholarship recipients.
- ASUN hosted its annual brunch for high school counselors and administrators in our service area.
- ASUN hosted the Northeast Arkansas Migrant Student Advisory Council meeting in the Fowler Family Hospitality Building on our Jonesboro campus. Arkansas has four Migrant Education Service Cooperatives, which provide comprehensive instructional and health programs for the children of migrant workers in our state.

- ASUN scholarship recipients and donors attended the college's annual Scholarship Luncheon. The luncheon, hosted by Student Affairs, connected scholarship recipients from all three campuses with the donors who funded their scholarships.
- The Stop the Bleeding Foundation held a memorial medical class on the ASUN Newport campus for every law enforcement officer in Jackson County. The Foundation donated a public access bleeding-control kit, valued at \$1,000, in recognition of the recent renaming of the Criminal Justice Department to the Lieutenant Patrick Weatherford Criminal Justice Department.

### **ASUN Academic Program Notifications**

ASUN maintains a strong relationship with our local high schools as a means of ensuring affordable and accessible educational pathways. As we expand those opportunities through additional programs and course offerings, we realize that our accrediting bodies play a strong role in guaranteeing a high level of quality and sustainability. To that end, we find ourselves approaching a time when it would be beneficial for us to apply for entrance into the Higher Learning Commission's Notification Program for "Additional Locations." This request requires notification to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees.

### Arkansas State University Board of Trustees Report December 8, 2017

#### Report from Chancellor Debra West Arkansas State University Mid-South

## **Twenty-fifth Anniversary Events Announced**

On Monday, October 23, ASU Mid-South hosted a community and campus-wide reception to officially kick off the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of receiving approval from the State Board of Higher Education to convert from a technical college to a community college. Plans for the yearlong anniversary celebration were unveiled and include the following: a guest editorial series in the *Crittenden County Evening Times*, featuring community member perspectives on the college and its impact on the county and region; monthly Mid-South Milestone email blasts commemorating significant events in the history of the college; a commitment from students, faculty, and staff for 2,500 hours of community service during the year; a Lunch and Learn presentation on the history of the college by founding President Glen F. Fenter on February 16; special recognitions for students at May commencement; a week-long celebration welcoming our 25<sup>th</sup> class of entering students in August 2018; and finally a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and Mid-South Hall of Fame Induction, celebrating "Twenty-five Years on Broadway," in Fall 2018.

#### **On Your Terms**

ASU Mid-South launched its first eight-week mini term this fall, titled "On Your Terms," to great success. Class offerings were selected from our most in-demand classes and resulted in an additional 52 enrollments and 247 SSCH. Another eight-week mini term will be offered in the spring, with hopes of moving to two mini-terms per regular semester by Fall 2018. In addition to giving students extra time to address tuition and fee payment and financial aid issues, moving to multiple start dates helps alleviate declines in enrollment caused by the elimination of late registration. We are looking to expanding our flexible delivery options through the development of a weekend associate degree program in the near future.

#### 2017 ASU Mid-South Halloween Bash

On the afternoon of Tuesday, October 31, ASU Mid-South hosted its first-ever community-wide Trick or Treat for children of ASU Mid-South faculty, staff, and students, as well as any student in grades K-3 in the Earle, Marion, and West Memphis school districts. Each department, division, and student group on campus was invited to dress in costume and decorate one of the 24 trick-or-treat stations lining the interior perimeter of the Donald W. Reynolds Center. Hundreds of pounds of candy were donated by faculty and staff and distributed to area children, while parents received information on college programs and services. We welcomed more than 800 parents and children to the event, which we plan to make an annual tradition.

#### **Program Review and Revision**

Two of ASU Mid-South's Technical Programs have recently undergone on-site industry reviews. A review of the Aviation Maintenance Technology program, conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration, resulted in a recommendation for revisions to the Curriculum and Operations Manuals. A review of the Diesel Technology Program, conducted by the Arkansas Trucking Association, resulted in recommendations for changes in classroom processes and equipment procurement. We are appreciative of our industry partners and the expertise and experience they provide to us. Their input helps to ensure that our programs continue to meet their industry standards and fulfill their needs with regard to a skilled workforce.

#### **Professional Drone Pilot Class**

ASU Mid-South is partnering with DARTDrones, Inc., the national leader in drone training, to offer a 16hour, instructor-led course on January 29-30. This class will prepare participants to take the Part 107 FAA License test and will provide hands-on training in flying Phantom or Inspire GPS-equipped drones. In addition, participants will receive six-months, free access to a library of online courses, including Drones for Beginners, Online Part 107 Test Prep, Aerial Photography, Starting a Drone Business, Drone Insurance, and Business Operations. DARTDrones' instructors are licensed, manned aircraft pilots, and their students have a 99% pass rate on their first attempt when taking the Part 107 exam.

#### **Community Update**

On November 15, Dr. Debra West was elected President of the West Memphis Chamber of Commerce for 2018. She has served on the Executive Board of the Chamber for the past three years.

#### SAVE THE DATE: 2018 Wild Game Dinner & Auction

The third annual Tommy Goldsby Memorial Wild Game Dinner & Auction is scheduled for Saturday, March 10, 2018.