

**Arkansas State University
Board of Trustees
September 19, 2014**

The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees met on September 19, 2014, in McMullin Lecture Hall in Dryer Hall on the ASU-Mountain Home campus. Mr. Dan Pierce, chair of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Board members present were: Dan Pierce, Charles Luter, Howard Slinkard, Ron Rhodes, and Tim Langford. Mr. Kyle Davidson, Associate Pastor at Baptist Collegiate Ministries of Mountain Home, delivered the invocation.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Luter, second by Mr. Rhodes, the minutes of May 16, 2014, were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

ASU System – Charles Welch, President

- All campuses as well as the System office have been involved in long term strategic planning efforts. Information will be forthcoming that will include dashboard indicators and long term plans for each campus and System office.
- The renovation of the new System office space continues with the punch list to be received on October 15; however, there may be a delay of six weeks if the fire pump has not been installed and approved by the fire marshal.

ASU-Mountain Home – Robin Myers, Chancellor

- Student ambassadors, Karena Riggs, Tonya Jones, Nick Wilhite, and Sara Hubbard were introduced. ASUMH has a total of 12 ambassadors who assist with events and activities on campus.

- Rosalyn Blagg, Christy Keirn, John Davidson, and Martin Eggensperger were introduced and recognized for their efforts as members of the Chancellor's cabinet.
- The ASUMH Technical Center's dedication and open house was held on Thursday, September 18. The center is a partnership of the university and community in developing technical programs. The creation of the center was a team effort because of the contributions of the following individuals or companies:
 Representative Karen Hopper \$200,000 in GIF for equipment; Senator Johnny Key \$25,000 in GIF for equipment and \$250,000 in GIF to remodel the building;
 Representative Kelley Linck \$19,000 in GIF for equipment; Department of Career Education \$66,000; heat and manufacturing grant of \$43,000; Micro Plastics \$20,000 in equipment; Ultimate Auto Group \$80,000 in automotive equipment; Carrier \$22,000 in air conditioning/refrigeration equipment; and Baxter Lab \$125,000 for a piece of robotic equipment.

ASU-Jonesboro – Tim Hudson, Chancellor

- Over 7,000 people attended the Pack Pride pep rally.
- ASUJ has been nominated for an Apple Innovation award for the iPad initiative.
- Based on a nomination by ASUJ, Curt and Chucki Bradbury will receive the Governor's Patron of the Arts award.
- ASUJ received a transformative gift from the Johnny Allison family to renovate the football stadium.
- Dr. Welch, Dr. Jason Penry, and Mr. Jeff Hankins, along with representatives of the New York Institute of Technology, traveled to Chicago to petition the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA), the national body that accredits medical education for osteopathic medical schools. Accreditation is a lengthy

process requiring informal and formal feedback. A second meeting will be held in December to present further information.

- Enrollment is down slightly this year. However, with the new admission standards in place, remediation rates have been cut in half and persistence rates have increased dramatically over the past five years. This year's freshman class is the largest in history since the admission standards were implemented.
- A video of campus highlights was shown.
- Dr. Len Frey, vice chancellor for Finance, was recognized for his community involvement as past chairman of the board of the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce.
- Almost 900 students are currently enrolled in the Honor's College, with an average ACT of 29. Incoming freshmen have an average ACT of 24, which is the highest ever, and is above state and national averages.

ASU-Beebe – Eugene McKay, Chancellor

- Dr. Ruth Couch, a long-time faculty member, recently passed away. Dr. Couch made many significant contributions to ASU-Beebe.
- ASUB received a five-year full accreditation for the Veterinary Technology program.
- At the Workforce Summit to be held in Little Rock, the ASUB John Deere program is going to be a model program. Seventy-four students are enrolled in the program this fall. John Deere dealerships sponsor students, provide equipment, and provide internships. Because of the growth of the program, a larger building is being considered.

ASU-Newport – Sandra Massey, Chancellor

- Enrollment increased by 19%. Dr. Marti Schull, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Jacqueline Faulkner, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, were recognized for their leadership efforts.
- A grant of \$40,000 was received from the DENSO North America Foundation for the purchase of training simulators.
- ASUN was selected by ADHE to participate in a joint Program of Study in Engineering and will work with pipeline high schools for the pilot project.
- A total of 742 students were advised and enrolled throughout the summer at new student orientation sessions.
- A Developmental Education Program pilot has been created which encompasses freshman math, freshman English, and Freshman Seminar. The pilot program will be monitored to judge the effect on retention. Retention with remedial students has increased by 13% over the past few years.
- A \$10,000 grant was received from the Academy for College Excellence through partnership with Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges.
- New staff member Dr. Holly Ayers was introduced. She will be focusing on the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation visit in 2016.
- The Fowler Hospitality Services program continues to grow. An additional 20 students have enrolled with 16 of the previous students continuing in the program. If the number of students increases, additional classroom space may be needed.

ASU System Resolutions:

- Resolution 14-35 approving ASU-System to sell property in Craighead County, Arkansas.

Dr. Welch explained this is a sale of 2.93 acres adjacent to the old Services Center. At the sale approved earlier by the board, ASU was a minority partner with other state entities. Because of confusion in the number of owners involved, the 2.93 acres was inadvertently omitted. The original intent of the owners was to purchase all of the property and has agreed to purchase the 2.93 acres.

- Resolution 14-36 approving ASU System to proceed with the Northeast Campus Chilled Water Plant capital project at ASU-Jonesboro.

This is the first project to be considered by the board under the capital project process. The process requires board approval for any project in excess of \$1 million dollars. This project long-term will allow the ASUJ campus to be more efficient and cost effective.

- Resolution 14-37 approving ASU System to amend the Early Retirement Benefits Policy.
- Resolution 14-38 approving ASU System to offer an optional voluntary retirement program for System Office employees.

Revisions were made to the Early Retirement Benefits Policy to offer a voluntary window of opportunity to employees considering early retirement. In addition, an optional voluntary retirement program will be available to system employees. ASUJ had a similar program in place that worked well. After approval, all employees eligible for the voluntary retirement program will be notified.

Upon motion by Mr. Slinkard, second by Dr. Langford, Resolutions 14-35 through 14-38 were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

NOTE: Mr. Pierce recused himself from voting on Resolution 14-35 due to a conflict.

ASU-Jonesboro Resolutions:

- Resolution 14-39 approving ASU-Jonesboro to establish an application fee for study abroad programs.
- Resolution 14-40 approving ASU-Jonesboro to contract with Arkansas State University CQ, A.C. for establishment of a campus in Queretaro, Mexico.

Dr. Welch stated because of Mexican governmental regulations, the name of the former foundation needed to be changed to a name more directly linked to ASU. The name change has no effect on terms of the contract approved in 2012.

- Resolution 14-41 approving ASU-Jonesboro to amend the Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures.
- Resolution 14-42 approving ASU-Jonesboro to offer two new emphases, Instrumental and Vocal, in the Master of Music in Performance degree.
- Resolution 14-43 approving ASU-Jonesboro to revise the major in Business Technology, Bachelor of Science in Education.
- Resolution 14-44 approving ASU-Jonesboro to delete the Early Childhood Education Option for the Master of Arts in Teaching.

Upon motion by Mr. Rhodes, second by Mr. Luter, Resolutions 14-39 through 14-44 were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

ASU-Beebe Resolution:

- Resolution 14-45 approving ASU-Beebe to offer the Associate of Science in Education.

Upon motion by Dr. Langford, second by Mr. Rhodes, Resolution 14-45 was approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

ASU-Mountain Home Resolutions:

- Resolution 14-46 approving ASU-Mountain Home to establish student Tool Rental/Purchase fees for the Automotive System Repair and the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning programs.
- Resolution 14-47 approving ASU-Mountain Home to offer the Associate of Science in Education.

Upon motion by Mr. Luter, second by Mr. Slinkard, Resolutions 14-46 and 14-47 were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

ASU-Newport Resolutions:

- Resolution 14-48 approving ASU-Newport to offer the Associate of Science in Education.

- Resolution 14-49 approving ASU-Newport to offer the Certificate of Proficiency in Behavioral Health Technology.
- Resolution 14-50 approving ASU-Newport to offer the Certificate of Proficiency in Construction Technology.

Upon motion by Mr. Rhodes, second by Mr. Slinkard, Resolutions 14-48 through 14-50 were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Upon motion by Mr. Luter, second by Mr. Rhodes, the board voted to retire into executive session at 10:45 a.m.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Mr. Pierce announced: "This body has voted to retire into executive session to consider the personnel action items. We will reconvene in public session following this executive session to present and vote on any action arrived at in private."

The board reconvened at 11:45 a.m.

Upon motion by Mr. Rhodes, second by Mr. Luter, the ASU-Jonesboro academic appointments, academic reassignments of duty, non-academic appointments, and non-academic reassignments of duty were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Upon motion by Mr. Luter, second by Dr. Langford, the ASU-Beebe academic appointments, academic reassignment of duty, non-academic appointments, and non-academic reassignment of duty were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Upon motion by Mr. Slinkard, second by Mr. Rhodes, the ASU-Mountain Home academic appointments were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Upon motion by Dr. Langford, second by Mr. Luter, the ASU-Newport non-academic appointments and non-academic reassignment of duty were approved.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Upon motion by Mr. Rhodes, second by Mr. Slinkard, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

AYES: Pierce, Luter, Slinkard, Rhodes, Langford

NAYS: None

Howard L. Slinkard, Secretary

Dan Pierce, Chair