

**ASU SYSTEM FOUNDATION**

**Contact: Philip Jackson, 870-972-2775**

For the period ending September 30, 2019 (unaudited), the Arkansas State University System Foundation recorded gifts and other support of \$1,570,290.

Contributions were designated as follows:

ASU-Jonesboro	\$1,214,357
ASU-Mountain Home	99,192
ASU-Beebe	3,660
ASU-Newport	252,747
ASU System Foundation	334

The Foundation reported net assets of \$90,104,196, representing an increase of 1.29% for the period ending September 30, 2019.

The market value of the ASU System Endowment Pool for the period ending September 30, 2019, was \$84,459,891.

The net rate of return for the period ending September 30, 2019, was .34%.

Endowment balances designated per campus are as follows:

Jonesboro	\$74,937,006
Mountain Home	4,671,350
Beebe	1,848,091
Newport	2,120,490
System Foundation	882,954
Total	<u>\$84,459,891</u>

This report provides a description of key activities in progress within Strategic Research:

- Continuing the work of the Strategic Research Working Group
- Reviewing the Arkansas Department of Higher Education productivity funding outcomes
- Maintaining System-wide data management and governance
- Reviewing academic productivity at Henderson State University

### **Strategic Research Working Group**

The Strategic Research Working Group (SRWG) has continued to work through possible additions to mandatory state reporting, which will enhance the understanding of System operations and evaluate student outcomes. Background tables have been created that will supply information on each institution, other campus locations, and academic program offerings.

Additionally, the SRWG has begun planning for the next meeting to discuss financial aid data, followed by admissions and human resources. Institutional representatives from each of these areas will be invited to join the SRWG at each meeting. These meetings will provide valuable insights to determine the information needed to measure institutional efficiency efforts.

### **Arkansas Division of Higher Education Productivity Funding**

The ADHE has released the results for Year Three of the productivity funding model. The data was reviewed prior to finalization, and ongoing reviews are being conducted to ensure academic time-to-degree and credits-to-degree metrics are aligned with institutional program exceptions. The ADHE has committed to meeting with each Arkansas public institution, and it is my intent to attend each of these meetings to work with institutional leadership regarding the structure of the formula and preparing for Year Four.

### **System-wide Data Management and Governance**

As we progress with the System-wide implementation of the Ellucian Banner enterprise resource planning and student information system, consistent data definitions and infrastructure will be key to ensuring effective operations. Planning is underway for a System-wide data governance workshop that will assist in understanding the data infrastructure within each institution. After the workshop, each institution will have administrative personnel engage in working through consistent data policies, procedures, and controls.

### **Academic Productivity at Henderson State University**

An analysis and review of course-related data and faculty assignments are ongoing for Henderson State University. Included in the analysis are reviews of course sections assigned, course enrollment, and the structures for compensating instructional staff (e.g., adjunct, overload, etc.).

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**  
**Capital Projects Report**  
**December 6, 2019**

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

**ASU-JONESBORO**

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Marion Berry Parkway - Phase III	\$1,868,754	Project Closeout
Village Apartments Repairs and ADA Modifications	\$6,343,509	Construction Phase
Caraway Road Safety Enhancement Project – Phase 1	\$793,700	Design Phase
Library Envelope Waterproofing & Roof Repair - Phase II	\$620,000	Substantially Complete
Campus Site Lighting - Phase I	\$538,555	Construction Phase
Campus Site Lighting - Phase II	\$450,000	Design Phase
North End Zone/Football Operations Building	Red Wolves Foundation	Project Closeout
Armory Roof	\$1,000,000	Substantially Complete
Armory Electrical Upgrades	\$225,000	Design Phase
Fine Arts 3-D Studio	\$7,000,000	Bid Review Phase
Kays Hall Chiller	\$772,852	Project Closeout
Student Union Acansa Dining Room	Food Svc Contract	Project Closeout
Acansa Dishwasher	\$775,078	Construction Phase
Imboden Open Pavilion	\$144,000	Substantially Complete
Dyess Research Center	\$512,000	Design Phase
Agri Boiler Replacement	\$256,135	Design Phase
Fine Arts ADA	\$280,000	Design Phase
Campus Building Entrance Security – Phase I	\$475,300	Construction Phase
HPSS Basketball Court HVAC Replacement	\$400,000	Bidding Phase
College of Education & Communications Roof Replacement	\$350,000	Design Phase
Campus Learning Spaces Renovation	\$250,000	Planning Phase

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

Architect/Engineer: Jacobs Engineering  
Contractor: Asphalt Producers  
Expected Completion: December 2019  
Funding: Design - University Reserves  
Construction - University Reserves

Status: Phase III work provides for the extension of University Loop West under the north bridge to connect with West Aggie Road. The roadway project was substantially complete in August 2017. The Multi-Use Trail is substantially complete. Final close out with the Arkansas Department of Highway and Transportation will be completed by July 2020.

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

Architect/Engineer: Cromwell Architects - DCI Engineering  
Contractor: 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 Exterior Repairs – November 2022  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project scope addresses the following three distinct areas: the Village Apartments' interior ADA modifications (Phase I); the Village Apartments' exterior ADA modifications (Phase II); and the Village Apartments' exterior repairs. Phases I and II are complete. 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 November 2022.

## **3. Caraway Road Safety Enhancement Project – Phase I**

Architect/Engineer: Crafton Tull  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: Caraway Road is a north/south street that originally bisected the campus core. The street was closed pre-2010 to accommodate the high volume of pedestrians crossing the street at multiple locations. The completion of the Campus Welcome Center, along with the high volume of visitors accessing campus from the Red Wolf Boulevard entrance, warrants the need for convenient vehicular access to the North Parking Garage. The scope of work will address an improved and safe pedestrian and bicyclist crossing and the reopening of vehicular access to the parking garage from Aggie Road. Design development drawings are under review.

## **4. Library Envelope Waterproofing & Roof Repair - Phase II**

Architect/Engineer: Morris and Associates  
Contractor: Bailey Contractors  
Expected Completion: December 2019  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The Phase II project funding will address exterior restorations to the brick, windows, and joint sealants on the lower three floors. Phase II will commence Summer 2019 with completion planned for December 2019.

## **5. Campus Site Lighting - Phase I**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit and Pettit  
Contractor: RGB Contractors  
Expected Completion: March 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The Phase I project funding will address exterior lighting improvements on East University Loop and East Aggie Road. ASU in-house projects crews, along with JOC contractors, will begin work Summer 2019 with completion by December 2019.

**6. Campus Site Lighting - Phase II**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit and Pettit  
Contractor: RGB Contractors  
Expected Completion: December 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The Phase II project funding will address exterior lighting improvements on Marion Berry, West Aggie Road, and portions of the west parking lot. ASU in-house projects crews, along with JOC contractors, will begin work Summer 2020 with completion by December 2020.

**7. North End Zone/Football Operations Building**

Architect/Engineer: AECOM  
Contractor: Ramsons  
Expected Completion: August 2019  
Funding: Red Wolves Foundation Funds

Status: The project will provide a 64,777-square-foot, football-operations facility in Centennial Bank Stadium. The new football operations building will house a locker room; strength, conditioning, and sports medicine centers; a players' lounge; equipment room; coaching and administrative offices; team meeting rooms; a history and heritage showroom; and a team film room. The new North End Zone will house loge seating, outdoor restrooms, and food and beverage venues. The North End Zone was substantially completed in September 2018 with the football operations building substantially completed in August 2019. Project closeout will be complete by March 2020.

**8. Armory Roof**

Architect/Engineer: Morris and Associates  
Contractor: Wallace Construction  
Expected Completion: July 2019  
Funding: Arkansas Sustainable Building Design Revolving Loan Fund

Status: This project scope is to remove and replace the lower flat roofs on the Armory and add a standing seam metal roof to the existing barrel roof. This project was substantially completed in July 2019.

**9. Armory Electrical Upgrades**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit and Pettit  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project scope is to upgrade electrical service to meet capacity needs and safety code compliance. Design documents are complete with contractor pricing is due by the end of 2019.

**10. Fine Arts 3-D Studio**

Architect/Engineer: WER  
Contractor: Clark Contractors  
Expected Completion: December 2020  
Funding: Arkansas State University Foundation

Status: The new three-dimensional arts facility is a pre-engineered building that will house the 3-D Arts Program at A-State. The building will accommodate studios for ceramics, wood shop, sculpture, and metal fabrication; faculty offices; student studios; an indoor art gallery; and outdoor service yard. Total heated/cooled square footage is anticipated to be 17,500 square feet with 8,500 square-feet being comprised of a partially covered, outdoor service yard. Clark Contractors completed sub-contractor bidding and provided an amended Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) in October 2019. Pending GMP acceptance, construction is anticipated to begin in December 2019.

**11. Kays Hall Chiller**

Architect/Engineer: Cromwell  
Contractor: RGB  
Expected Completion: August 2019  
Funding: Capital Renewal Fund

Status: The project scope is to remove the existing water-cooled chiller and replace it with two new air-cooled chillers outside the building with provisions to connect the district chilled-water loop to Kays Hall. The project was substantially complete in July 2019.

**12. Student Union Acansa Dining Room Renovation**

Architect/Engineer: Xcelerated Concepts  
Contractor: Clark Contractors  
Expected Completion: August 2019  
Funding: Food Service Contract

Status: The project scope includes complete renovation of the Student Union Acansa dining area, which services all meal-plan and non-meal-plan students, and A-State faculty and staff. It is funded and managed by the A-State food service provider, Sodexo. Work began immediately following Spring 2019 semester and was substantially complete by August 2019.

**13. Acansa Dishwasher**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett – Krennerich  
Contractor: Baldwin and Shell  
Expected Completion: January 2020  
Funding: Student Union Maintenance / Internal Loan

Status: The project scope is to replace the existing dishwasher and associated equipment, along with repairs to the sewer lines, ceiling, and floor tile. The dishwasher was substantially complete by August 2019. The remaining work is scheduled to occur during winter break 2019.

**14. Imboden Open Pavilion**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett – Krennerich  
Contractor: Baldwin and Shell  
Expected Completion: October 2019  
Funding: Grant Funded

Status: The project scope is to build an open pavilion, road, and parking lot to be used for swift-water training at the site. This project was substantially complete in October 2019.

**15. Dyess Research Center**

Architect/Engineer: Cahoon Steiling  
Contractor: Bailey Contractors  
Expected Completion: July 2020  
Funding: Grant Funded

Status: This project will renovate an existing home to provide a 2,000-square-foot research center with archive storage, an archive reading area, and temporary living area for researchers. It is currently being designed and is scheduled to be complete in July of 2020.

**16. Agri Boiler Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: Petit & Petit  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: March 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project scope is to replace the boilers and update the heating water system controls for the Agri Building. This project is in design phase.

**17. Fine Arts ADA**

Architect/Engineer: WER Architects & Planners  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: TBD  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is early design phase.

**18. Campus Building Entrance Security – Phase I**

Architect/Engineer: NA  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: September 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project scope is to upgrade the campus building entrance with access controls and electronic lock latches.

**19. HPSS Basketball Court HVAC Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: Petit & Petit  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: May 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project scope is to replace the HVAC rooftop units for the HPSS basketball courts. Designs are complete and final contractor pricing is due by December 2019.

**20. College of Education & Communication Roof Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: TBD  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: TBD  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is in early design phase. Planned completion is Summer 2020.

**21. Campus Learning Space Renovations**

Architect/Engineer: TBD  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: August 2020  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is in the planning phase. Its scope will address multiple student-learning-space renovations and upgrades.

**ASU-BEEBE**

**PROJECT TITLE**

None at this time

**FUNDS AVAILABLE**

**STATUS**

**ASU-MOUNTAIN HOME**

**PROJECT TITLE**

ASUMH Walking/Biking Trail  
ASUMH Amphitheatre

**FUNDS AVAILABLE**

\$375,000  
\$300,000

**STATUS**

Design Phase  
Planning



**1. ASUMH Walking/Biking Trail**

Architect/Engineer: Polk, Stanley, Wilcox  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Spring 2020  
Funding: Grant, Auxiliary, University Reserves

Status: ASUMH received notice in December 2018 of a grant award of \$76,000 from the Arkansas Department of Transportation for the creation of a walking/biking trail on the main campus. This trail was originally conceived in the 1999 Master Plan for the campus. The trail is anticipated to be approximately one mile in length. It will be a ten-foot wide asphalt surface with a biking-lane stripe. Architect/engineering selection is underway. The total cost for design and construction is anticipated to be under \$375,000. The balance of the funding necessary to complete the project will come from the auxiliary fund (\$100,000) and the plant and loan fund (\$200,000). A pending planned gift will provide repayment of funds to auxiliary and University Reserves in the future. Project completion is expected in early 2020.

**2. ASUMH Amphitheatre**

Architect/Engineer: TBD  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2020  
Funding: Private Donations

Status: A \$200,000 private gift has been received with an anticipated additional \$100,000 donation to construct an amphitheater. Two sites are being considered. If funds are adequate to proceed, anticipated completion date is Summer 2020.

**ASU-NEWPORT**

<u>PROJECT TITLE</u>	<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
None at this time		

**ASU MID-SOUTH**

<u>PROJECT TITLE</u>	<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
None at this time		

**Arkansas State University-Jonesboro**  
**Chancellor's Report**  
**December 6, 2019**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH**

**Academic Affairs and Research:**

- There are currently three dean searches underway for the Neil Griffin College of Business, the College of Agriculture, and the Graduate School. Search committees have been formed and given their charges, and these have been posted and are receiving applications. Also, the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research position has conducted Zoom interviews for three candidates and is currently setting up on-campus interviews for the first part of November for the two candidates chosen by the search committee.
- We have established a student research grant to provide funding for students to engage in faculty-mentored research and creative endeavors. Monies are used to purchase supplies, equipment, and travel necessary to conduct the research.

**Student-learning Assessment Update:**

- Students (non A-State Online Services Program graduates) who graduated in 2018-19 reported 94.37% found their major academic program to be effective or very effective (38.48% and 55.89% respectively) on the *Leaving the Den* survey (36% return rate).
- Alumni who graduated in 2017-18 with an associate or bachelor degree reported the following on the Higher Education Data Sharing alumni survey (9.8% return rate):
  - 83.48% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied (38.53% and 44.95% respectively) with their undergraduate education at A-State.
  - 76.85% of respondents secured their first paying job either while enrolled or within the first six months after graduation (50% and 26.85% respectively).
- Licensure pass rates continue to be high for nearly all programs at A-State. Highlights include the following:
  - Doctorate of Physical Therapy Class of 2019 has a licensure pass rate of 91.7%
  - BS Nursing majors first-time pass rate is 95.7% for calendar year 2018
  - M of Communication Disorders has a 100% first-time pass rate for 2018-19
  - BSE Physical Education has a 100% first-time pass rate for 2018-19
  - MSE Reading has a 96% pass rate in 2018-19

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Actions:**

- The following were approved by AHECB for A-State at the October 25, 2019, meeting:
  - Existing Degree Program Offered by Distance Technology
    - DNP, Nurse Anesthesia (less than 50% online)

- **Program Deletion/Inactivation or Reactivation**
  - Deleting AAS, Crime Scene Investigation
  - Deleting AAS, Law Enforcement Administration
  - Deleting CP, Crime Scene Investigation
  - Deleting CP, Law Enforcement Administration
  - Deleting TC, Crime Scene Investigation
  - Deleting TC, Law Enforcement Administration
  
- The following will be submitted to the AHECB for A-State at the January 31, 2020 meeting:
  - **New Certificate Program**
    - Undergraduate Certificate, Bone Densitometry
    - Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, Medical Imaging and Therapy
  - **Existing Degree Program Offered by Distance Technology**
    - Certificate of Proficiency, Swift Coding (100% online)
    - Graduate Certificate, Nursing Administration (100% online)
  
- Upcoming HLC Reviews
  - Fall 2021: Multi-Site Report for Mexico, West Memphis, Mountain Home, and Beebe
  - Academic year 2023-24: Comprehensive 10-year review
  
- **External Academic Reviews**
  - Specialized Accreditation – 2019-20 Site Visits
    - GC in Play Therapy
    - BS Radiologic Sciences
    - All Nursing programs
    - M Athletic Training
    - BS Social Work
  - 2020-21: Self-study process begins in 2019-20
    - AAS Occupational Therapy
    - BA Theatre
    - BS Multimedia Journalism
  - ADHE Program Reviews
    - 2019-20: Site visit and self-study
      - MS and PhD Environmental Sciences
      - MS and PhD Molecular Biological Sciences
      - MA and PhD Heritage Studies
    - 2020-21: Self-study planning begins in 2019-20
      - BS Creative Media Production
      - MS Media Management
      - MS Journalism/Radio TV
      - BS Communication Disorders

## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

### Online:

- Fall Enrollment – 5.169
- Active Military Personnel Scholarship – Launched a scholarship targeting active military personnel and spouses.
- Corporate Partnerships – Signed corporate partnerships with DENSO and Hytrol; working on partnerships with Butterball and St. Bernards.

### International Programs:

- The Chancellor went to Changchun, China, to sign a transfer program with students from the College of Humanities and Sciences of Northeast Normal University.
- Signed a 3+1 MOU in Health Studies with Anhui Medical University.

### Study Abroad:

- The following faculty-led programs are schedule for Summer 2020:
  - Art in Paris, Dr. Katherine Baker, Art and Design
  - The Alps-Germany and Switzerland/Global Student Leadership Program, Leadership Center
  - Global Classroom, Counseling (one week program), Dr. Rebekah Cole, Psychology and Counseling
  - Global Classroom, Multiple Disciplines (three week program)
    - Business—Patricia Robertson
    - Media—Mary Jackson Pitts
    - History—Ed Salo
    - Strategic Communications—Manu Bhandari
    - Service Learning—Courtney Bracy and Lisa Bonds-Brown
  - Healthcare in South Korea, Sarah Davidson, Nursing
  - History of Terrorism in Ireland, Kelly Damphousse, Chancellor/History
  - Spanish Immersion in Costa Rica, Gabriel Horowitz, World Languages
  - London: The City Experience, Cherisse Jones-Branch and Sandra Combs, History and Media and Journalism
  - Economics in France, Gauri Guha, Business
  - International Sport Venues in Greece, Mitch Mathis, Physical Education

### University Center

- A-State submitted requests to ADHE to open University Centers at ASU-Newport and ASU-Three Rivers.
- Cookout events were held at ASU-Beebe, ASU-Mountain Home, ASU-Newport, and ASU-Three Rivers.

### Mexico:

- The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dean of Science and Math, Dean of College of Engineering and Computer Science, and the Dean of Neil Griffin Business and Administration visited ASUCQ campus.

- The Vice Rector of ASUCQ will be stepping down at the end of the fall semester. A search has been launched to hire a new ASUCQ Vice Rector.

## **DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **Notable Achievement**

- Received the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award for the second year in a row; A-State is still the only school in Arkansas to receive the award.

### **Speaking Engagements/Meetings:**

- Provided diversity training for three active dean searches
- Attended League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Gala as a University partner
- Presented workshop for Arkansas National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Leadership
- Attended partnership meeting with the SEED Foundation Charter School Network
- Presented at the Beck Center for Veterans Board meeting

### **Strategic Diversity Initiatives:**

- Hosted more than 150 African-American males from across Arkansas on campus for the annual Arkansas Summit on African-American males
- Student Diversity Recruitment team visited four Arkansas high schools yielding 120 information cards from prospective students
- Hosted the Strong-Turner Alumni Chapter Scholarship Reception

### **Community Engagement:**

- Provided sponsorship for the following community events:
  - Jonesboro chapter of the NAACP Freedom Fund Gala
  - Second Annual Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Classic Golf Tournament
- Provided resources for a Sigma Gamma Rho sorority meeting

### **Multicultural Affairs and Inclusive Excellence:**

- Events/Programs
  - Hosted a non-traditional and veteran student welcome-back grab-and-go lunch
  - Conducted diversity training for resident assistants
  - Hosted the first-ever Green Zone training that provides participants strategies to assist military and veteran students
  - Hosted Viva la Noche to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month
  - Hosted several events as part of LGBT History Month
  - Provided a campus workshop on microaggressions
- Developed a military and veterans affairs advisory committee
- Continued to work on the relocation of the Office of Military and Veteran Student Success

### **Access and Accommodation Services (formerly Disability Services):**

- The emotional support animal policy to align with campus policy is being revised.
- Continuing the note-taking process, with fifty-seven percent of the classes on campus having note-takers, which is the highest percentage the campus has ever had.
- The Gold Cart accommodation policy is being updated to reflect changes in policy and procedure.
- Working with the Safety Office to develop emergency plans for AAS students.
- Presenting a workshop on working with students with disabilities.

## **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT REPORT**

### **Admissions:**

- The ASU System Transfer Taskforce group was formed and meets monthly via WebEx. The 30-member group includes representatives from ASU's two-year schools, and has met twice this semester – September 24 and October 22.
- Local media outlets, KAIT8 and KLEK 102.5 FM, interviewed Admissions staff about Transfer Student Services and about the Transfer Game Day Experience Tailgate event.
- The campus visit program is undergoing continuous updates to better serve our prospective students.
- Admissions is currently building a database of A-State alumni who are interested in volunteering their time to assist with or host Admissions events. An advertisement was placed in the latest edition of the Alumni Association's *Voices* magazine to determine interest.
- Admissions staff participated in numerous recruitment and outreach events, including the following:
  - Attended and hosted a booth at the Arkansas Community Colleges Conference in Little Rock, October 13-15;
  - Presented scholarships to 22 Academic All-Stars from each of the community colleges across the state;
  - Hosted *Pack Preview*, held October 26, which was homecoming weekend at A-State. Every college, several student-services offices, and numerous student organizations were represented at the information fair. Nearly 800 people, made up of students and their parents/guests, enjoyed lunch in the Student Union and were provided tours of the campus, residence halls, and Honors Living-Learning Community. Student guests were provided an opportunity to attend academic sessions to learn more about their area of interest. In preparation for the event, Chancellor's Ambassadors attended a sales-leadership training session with Dr. Katie Hill, on October 23.
- Admissions' transfer student services staff engaged in a variety of recruitment and outreach efforts to students attending Arkansas two-year schools, especially those within the ASU System, including the following:
  - Collaborated with the A-State Global Engagement and Outreach Department to host the Transfer Tailgate Game Day Experience on October 17. Three hundred-eighty guests registered for the event including students, faculty, staff, and administrators, plus other guests. Special transfer events also were held during the month of November on the ASU-Mountain Home and ASU-Newport campuses;

- Met with ASU Mid-South and ASU-Newport staff members in October to discuss the process for transferring to A-State and to learn how the transition can be improved for all students. This was a joint effort by Admissions staff and A-State Global Engagement and Outreach team members;
- Attended the College of the Ozarks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Malvern, on October 22, to promote A-State transfer opportunities;
- Hosted training for transfer coaches on November 6 at the ASU System Office in Little Rock;
- Hosted *Transfer Preview Day* on November 14 on the A-State campus.
- Communication with prospective students and their families is ongoing:
  - Applications continue to increase over last year's number, nearing 5,000 as compared to 4,200 in a year-over-year comparison;
  - Multiple mass communications for events and press releases have gone out to prospective students;
  - A new bi-weekly newsletter, entitled *The Ridge Report*, is created and distributed to A-State's Executive Council members, academic deans, and department chairs, and several members of the alumni community to inform them of weekly happenings from the Enrollment Management Division;
  - Mailed the *You Can Afford Your Future* affordability marketing piece to more than 1,700 Pell grant applicants, highlighting the new 870 Plan.

### **Financial Aid and Scholarships:**

- Financial aid processing and outreach activities took place throughout the fall semester. General accomplishments include:
  - Disbursed more than \$50 million to current students for Fall 2019;
  - Awarded Priority Date Scholarships for 2020-2021;
  - Currently contacting all freshman students with outstanding balances to help find means to pay off accounts;
  - Began awarding 2020-2021 federal student financial aid for the 2020-2021 academic year;
  - Collaborated with Wilson Advising Center to provide financial aid information to Restart Program students;
  - Participated in First Year Experience classes during the fall semester, providing financial aid information to the new students;
  - Select staff members attended the U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid Conference;
  - One staff member attended regional training for federal financial aid.
- Financial Aid and Scholarships staff presented financial aid information events to high school counselors and students and parents in cities and towns throughout the area, including the following:
  - *Financial Aid Night* at Crowley's Ridge Academy, Marked Tree High School, Trumann High School, Jonesboro High School (2), Nettleton High School (2), Rector High School, Brookland High School, and Piggott High School
  - Financial aid workshop for local high school counselors, held on the A-State campus
  - First in the Pack (FITP) and FAFSA presentations, A-State Student Support Services
  - FAFSA Completion, Honors Dorm phone presentation
  - *Transfer Thursday* at Greene County Tech High School and Valley View High School
  - *Registration Day* at A-State Library (2), ASU-Mountain Home University Center, and ASU Mid-South University Center

### **Registrar:**

- A new transfer tool in Degree Works was successfully launched on October 17. The tool allows potential transfer students to select a possible major and enter courses they have completed. Each student receives a degree plan indicating how their course will transfer for the desired degree.
- Wait-listing was successfully launched on October 28. This registration tool allows students to be added to a wait list when a class is closed. When a spot opens in the course, usually due to another student dropping the course, the student is sent an email letting them know the course is open and so they may register.
- Review is underway for students who will be graduating in December.
- Spring 2020 registration opened on October 28.

## **DEAN OF STUDENTS**

### **Residence Life:**

- Residence Life hosted the regional Southwest Association of College and University Housing Officers (SWACUHO) conference in November. More than 300 conference attendees participated representing colleges/universities from Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Mexico. The conference focuses on best practices in the field of residence life and student development.
- Residence Life and the Student Activities Board hosted a Halloween Haunted House in Arkansas Hall. Student volunteers decorated floors four and five of Arkansas Hall with spooky decor and scary costumes. Hundreds of students participated in the event.
- Residence Life and Non-Traditional Student Services partnered to host Non-Trad Fall Festival. Events are designed for non-traditional students and family members.

### **Leadership Center:**

- Greek Life hosted the annual Trick-or-Treat with the Greeks on Halloween. The event included carnival games, a photo booth, and candy.
- Kynlee Cunningham of Bryant, AR, was voted the 2019 Homecoming Queen, and Andrew Elmore of Maumelle, AR, was voted the 2019 Homecoming King.
- This year's Homecoming theme was the "Strength of the Pack." Events included a magician, the *Lion King* movie on the football field, Downtown Homecoming Parade, Downtown Block Party, Yell Like Hall, a banner competition, and an office decorating competition.
- Family Day was hosted in September. The annual event included a cookout at the Chancellors house, residence hall open houses, family photos on campus, a family movie, and A-State football.
- The Circle of Sisterhood philanthropy sponsored by Panhellenic raised \$3,012 toward the cause. This donation allows 54 young girls to experience a full year of school in one of the participating impoverished countries abroad.
- The Student Government Association introduced the Veo Ride scooter to the campus community.
- Students enjoyed a free viewing of the movie *Harriet* at the local Malco Theater.



- Volunteer A-State hosted the following events this fall: annual Blood Drive to benefit the local Red Cross, various canned-food drives to benefit the A-State Food Pantry, a coat drive, and a campus clean-up.
- The Student Activities Board is hosting a Winter Wonderland in December. Events will include an ice-skating rink and other festive holiday activities. The event will be held in conjunction with Sodexo's annual Late-Night Breakfast.
- Our Student Government Association is hosting a Census 2020 training for student leaders in November.
- The Student Government Association is working with Parking Services to add 100 additional commuter parking spaces for the 2019-2020 year.

### **Campus Recreation:**

- Additional Fall Fitness Classes were added to meet student demand. These classes include: spin, body fit, Zumba, yoga, abs, and cardio mashup. Classes are offered five days a week for students.
- October 50 Challenge: students are encouraged to record their daily workouts, fitness classes, and rock wall climbing.
- Turkey Mountain Challenge: students are challenged to climb the rock wall and log for the most use.
- Rugby Club Sport defeated the University of Arkansas during a historical match-up at Centennial Bank Stadium.

### **Student Conduct:**

- Educational speaker Nathan Harmon presented to the campus community in November. Nathan is the founder and keynote speaker of Your Life Speak. Nathan shared his story of how the choices he made resulted in the loss of his passenger in a drinking-and-driving accident. He focused on accountability and decision making.

## **SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE CHANCELLOR**

### **Counseling Center:**

- Counseling Center activities for this time period include the following:
  - *College Survival 101*, a recruitment and adjustment program for prospective and transfer students, designed to introduce student services available at A-State, September 23;
  - *Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Week* with daily educational offerings, a Candlelight Vigil in remembrance of 2018 victims, and a speaker from the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence, September 23-27;
  - Provided stress management training to A-State Restart students, September 25;
  - *Depression and Anxiety Awareness Week* with daily educational offerings and live depression and anxiety screening, October 7-11;
  - *Alcohol Awareness/Prevention Week* with daily educational offerings for students, October 14-18;

- Provided ongoing clinical services to 375 clients in person and via Tele-mental health, September 21 through November 8;
- *Stress Management 101* course offering, a one-hour credit course offered through Undergraduate Studies, October 10 through December 17.

**Student Health Center:**

- Campus collaboration activities for this period included:
  - The annual campus-wide free flu shot clinic with collaboration from the Department of Nursing and Craighead County Health Department. On September 24, more than 1,100 influenza vaccines were given to reduce effects of flu activity during peak season;
  - Worked with Residence Life throughout September to provide safe-sex programming and free condom distribution for all residence halls.
- Educational events hosted this period included:
  - Breast Cancer Awareness and Education Month kick-off was held the first week of October. Promotional items, free breast exams, and educational tools were made available to students throughout the month.
  - November was Influenza Awareness month to highlight the importance of influenza vaccinations. Flu shots are still available.
  - Ashlee Gill attended the Nurse Practitioner Health Education Conference, which focused on pharmacology, suturing, and documentation;
  - Victoria Williams attended the Big 4 Conference at the University of Tennessee, which featured highlights of the latest screening guidelines and treatments for cancers caused by HPV.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**First National Bank Arena (FNBA):**

- Upcoming events:
  - ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas” - Christmas Broadway Play - December 10, 2019
  - Harlem Globetrotters – February 2, 2020
  - Foreigner – February 4, 2020
  - Arkansas Sport Show – February 7-9, 2020
  - Jason Aldean – February 29, 2020

**Facilities Management (FM):**

- Hotel & Conference Center: The record 2018/2019 precipitation delayed the Hotel completion date. Planned opening is December 2019.

**Budget Planning/Development:**

- Minimum wage rates increase to \$10 per hour beginning January 1, 2020. Due to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) changes that become effective January 1, 2020, the budget office will be

working with payroll and HR staff to incorporate the appropriate changes for the employees affected prior to January 1, 2020.

#### **Office of Title IX & Institutional Equity (OAA):**

- Completed one-hour of in-person Title IX training for approximately 1,400 incoming first-year students at A-State.
- Actively participated as a member of a campus-wide program, Fresh Check Day, alongside 15 other departments, which brought a positive spin to mental health awareness concerning a variety of hot-button topics on our campus. We solicited more than 300 anonymous, positive “messages in a bottle” of support to victims/survivors of sexual assault. Those messages were donated to the Sexual Assault Survivors Support Group on campus facilitated by the Counseling Center.

#### **Employee Training and Development:**

- Hosted 80 new staff members for Part 1 and Part 2 of orientation for the months of August, September, and October
- Published training manuals and videos for TimeClock Plus users and supervisors

#### **Environmental Health and Safety (EHS):**

- Delivered a presentation on laboratory safety at the annual conference for the Collegiate Safety, Health and Environmental Management Association in Indianapolis
- Developed a plan to deal with hazardous waste from small entities that are tenants on our campus
- Purchased a program for chemical inventory for our academic and research departments on campus

#### **Human Resources:**

- Held our annual Employee Benefit’s Fair with approximately 500 participants
- Introduced the new high-deductible and health-savings account insurance plan to the campus

#### **Payroll Services:**

- Implemented a new time-keeping system, Time Clock Plus, on September 2, 2019

#### **Red Wolf Wellness:**

- The A-State Faculty & Staff Team Step Challenge began, with nineteen teams across campus participating in the four-week challenge. Gift cards are awarded to top teams and individuals along with weekly random drawings
- Began the Red Wolf Wellness Achievement Program, with categories that include earning achievements in fitness, health screenings, wellness check-ups, health risk assessment, wellness goal setting, and event participation. As many as 425 \$50 gift cards are being awarded for earning all of the required achievements in the program.
- Provided body composition testing demonstrations with our Inbody Body Fat Machine to exercise science students.

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

- Conducted an earthquake response seminar with UPD, FM, and the Arkansas National Guard (ARNG)
- Conducted sidewalk access test for emergency responders and coordinated campus-wide participation in the Great Central U.S. Shake Out Drill, which included promotional events supported by student clubs, building safety committees, the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management (ADEM), and the NEA Red Cross
- USEM part-time training support personnel organized a volunteer-focused Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training session for 28 employees. This featured nine guest speakers, including members of the ARNG, A-State Counseling Center, CNHP, ADEM, St. Bernards, and USEM.

### **Information and Technology (ITS):**

- Uniform ERP for System Campuses – The budget/cost forecast, which shows monthly cost totals was completed and sent out to all campuses. Presentations at each campus were scheduled for the first week of November. Our data standardization/governance process has begun and we will combine efforts with Eric Atchison, System Office Strategic Researcher. Our business area system analysis is occurring on the Jonesboro campus to optimize Banner operations and to prepare best practices with the five-system campus cohort.
- Henderson State University – We are working with the Admissions Director to define new Customer Relation Management (CRM) software for interim use until Banner can be implemented. The existing CRM vendor is filing bankruptcy, and, therefore, software will no longer be available after July 2020. We continue working with Ellucian to define Banner costs and implementation at HSU, once a merger is finalized and budget/funding is defined.
- Campus Projects – (1) We are three months into the transition to the Ellucian cloud for the Banner roll-out. This is a requirement to transition to a shared technology solution for all campuses. Progress is steady and on track for completion in June 2020. (2) Audio visual upgrades have been finalized for Centennial Hall and the Student Union Auditorium to replace the current 15-year-old equipment. This will be complete by the end of December 2019.
- ASUJ CIO continues to host weekly meetings with the other system campus IT leaders. The group continues to create opportunities to leverage investments between campuses and to better contain costs.
- IT Security – Please continue to be diligent and on the lookout for suspicious emails and malicious websites. If in doubt, don't click.

### **Fiscal Operations:**

- Controller's Office - The ASU System audit has been completed and the exit conference is scheduled for November 18. Accounts Payable has completed the annual unclaimed property process for several states.
- Treasurer's Office - Registration for the spring semester has begun, and the office is working diligently, whenever possible, to assist students in enrolling. More streamlined operations and better communication with students and between offices appear to be clarifying processes and providing better and more responsive customer service.

- Business Services and Risk Management - Work is underway to implement a campus-wide policy management initiative that will enhance our ability to collaborate internally to keep policies and procedures up-to-date and accurate, and make them more accessible and useful to campus constituencies through an updated online platform.
- Procurement/Contract Administration and Strategic Sourcing - The department is continuing work on moving Pcard reporting to Concur and implementing the contract management software.

#### **Delta Center for Economic Development:**

- A project management online course and grant-writing course will begin in January 2020. These will be the first two offerings from the Executive Education, non-degree training at the Delta Center.
- The Delta Center has submitted three proposals to communities requesting economic impact studies and strategic planning.

#### **University Police Department (UPD):**

- UPD members provided 78 hours of safety education to approximately 2,900 members of the campus this semester. The presentations included active shooter response, general safety awareness, and alcohol awareness education.
- All sworn members completed the mandatory training, as required by Act 920 of 2019 concerning the Investigation of Unidentified and Missing Persons.

#### **Auxiliary Services Unit Report:**

- ASU Dining Services (Sodexo) – Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner, served by faculty/administrators was held November 19. The semi-annual late-night breakfast will be held on December 9 and will be served by faculty and staff. Overall, we have seen a 2.6% increase in commissions from Sodexo for the first quarter.

### **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

#### **Advancement Services:**

- For the first quarter of the fiscal year, July 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, the University recorded a total of 5,626 gifts and commitments from 2,168 individual donors for a total of \$2,271,612. The overall giving total includes outright donations of cash, gifts-in-kind, planned gifts, and new pledges.

#### **Alumni Relations:**

- The fall Phonathon campaign is underway and will wrap up around November 22. To date, \$42,300 has been pledged. Spring Phonathon will commence in February 2020.
- Applications for the 2020 entering freshmen License to HOWL scholarships are now being accepted. Seven 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. These scholarships are funded by the sale of

official Red Wolves license plates offered by the Department of Motor Vehicles in Arkansas. License plate sales numbers increased four percent from FY18 to FY19.

- Alumni Association membership numbers continue to grow. The 1924 Sustaining Life Membership has increased by 15.45 percent since FY18. This brings our total number of 1924 members to more than 1,000.
- The fourth annual Pancakes and PJ's with Santa and Howl, an engagement event targeted to alumni with younger families, will be held December 7. The event sold out in less than 12 hours with 500 tickets sold.
- Events booked for the Cooper Alumni Center are on par with the 2018 calendar year with several weeks remaining before December 31, 2019. Estimated attendance for 2019 is five percent higher than 2018.

### **Career Services:**

- Career Services interacted with 1,011 students through the following activities: faculty-invited classroom presentations, after-hours Registered Student Organizations and Greek Life Organizations workshops, special events, and programs.
- 102 students were interviewed for internships and full-time positions as Career Services hosted the following companies on campus: Rural Sourcing, Arkansas Department of Transportation, Sodexo, Windstream, Bell and Company, Landmark CPAS, Jones and Company, BKD, and EPG.
- Career Services is piloting the Future Interns Program during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Fifty students elected to participate. This cohort will attend employability-skills training and will network with employers.

### **Marketing and Communications:**

- Marketing and Communications assisted with the roll-out of a new system of student recruitment via both Slate and Common Application, promoted the launch of the new Esports team, and assisted with the ribbon-cutting for the Disaster Training area near Imboden.
- Digital Creative completed the launch of a new Daily Digest for campus curating and streamlining the primary internal communication system. Going forward, we will have open rates and other data related to communication with our students, faculty, and staff.
- Marketing and Digital Creative invested considerable time in the final formatting and composition of new communications for Enrollment Management. Until its Slate-based email system was fully functional, the Emma email system for campus handled and sent several contact and retouch emails to more than 45,000 prospects.
- Digital Creative produced 38 packages, including two notable research-focused stories by faculty that highlighted a major work on climate impact on rice production and global competition.
- Our established social media maintained the following: Facebook at 115,925; Twitter at 46,200, and Instagram remained the emerging social media platform. Vimeo and YouTube traffic also remained steady. Facebook's new video statistics showed significant traffic increase with 98,900 total minutes viewed.

- Creative Services completed 353 jobs, which is a slight decrease from this time period last year (377); however, creation of new looks for both athletics and admissions consumed more time per job than last year's updates and reissues.
- In the area of special projects, negotiating and launching ride-share electric scooters on campus was a significant item completed.

## **ATHLETICS**

### **Football:**

- Senior wide receiver Omar Bayless was added to the watch list for the Biletnikoff Award, issued annually to the nation's outstanding Football Bowl Division (FBS) receiver, regardless of position.
- Sophomore kicker Blake Grupe was named one of 20 semifinalists for the Lou Groza Award, as well as a nominee for the Burlsworth Trophy.
- Offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Keith Heckendorf was named a Broyles Award nominee.

### **Cross Country:**

- The women's team won its second all-time Sun Belt Conference championship, and the men's team took runner-up honors for its best finish in school history at the league's championships.
- Jesse Duvall was named the Sun Belt Conference Women's Coach of the Year, while Pauline Meyer, Elizabeth Gillette, and Sophie Leathers were each tabbed all-conference selections.
- Bennett Pascoe and Seth Waters were named Men's Cross Country All-Sun Belt Conference selections.
- Both the men's and women's teams had their best performances in school-history at the NCAA South Central Regional Championships as they each posted sixth-place finishes.

### **Soccer:**

- The Red Wolves claimed a 2-1 victory over Kansas State, marking their first victory over a team from a Power 5 conference since defeating Mississippi State in 2011.
- Junior Sarah Sodoma was named a First Team All-Sun Belt Conference selection.
- The women's soccer team tied the school record for victories (11) and advanced to the Sun Belt Conference Tournament championship game for the first time in A-State history.
- Megan McClure, Hailey Furio, Sarah Sodoma, and Olivia Smith were named to the Sun Belt Conference All-Tournament Team.

### **Men's Golf:**

- Senior Julien Sale was twice named the Sun Belt Conference Men's Golfer of the Week.

### **Athletics:**

- The Sun Belt Conference announced the members of its 2018-19 Commissioner's List and Academic Honor Roll, and Arkansas State accounted for 187 honorees, the third most in the conference.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
December 6, 2019**

**Chancellor's Report  
Arkansas State University-Beebe**

**National Manufacturing Day**

The ASU-Beebe Searcy Campus joined with hundreds of industry and manufacturing centers across the nation in celebrating and recognizing National Manufacturing Day on October 4, by hosting an industry expo at the campus. Area industry and manufacturing entities displayed their equipment, products, and materials at the college. Students and the public had the opportunity to hear directly from the companies regarding training/education, the current job market, potential salaries, and more. Participants also were able to tour the campus and talk with students and instructors in the various shops and training programs. The Be Pro Be Proud mobile workshop trailer, a joint project of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and the Associated Industries of Arkansas, provided site demonstrations and tours.

**Students Support Sunshine Rodeo**

Also on October 4, ASU-Beebe student organizations and departmental teams gave back to the communities around Beebe as they provided manpower, support, and encouragement for children with special needs as part of the annual Sunshine Rodeo event. Held at Two-Bar Two-Arena at the Crossroads Cowboy Church in El Paso, this was the 23rd year for the annual rodeo-themed field trip for the area schools with special-needs programs. Approximately 300 of these children and their school instructors, assistants, and parents attended the rodeo. The Sunshine Rodeo enables children to experience competitions, including calf roping, saddle-bronc riding, barrel racing, and horseback riding, all in a controlled environment under close supervision and encouragement.

**ASU-Beebe Family Day**

ASU-Beebe Family Day, a new initiative from Student Life, designed to improve student and family engagement at ASUB, was celebrated on October 5. Parents and family members of students at ASUB were special guests of the college. The event was held in conjunction with the downtown Beebe Fallen Blackbird Festival. Campus events began at 1:30 p.m. with students and families having the opportunity to meet ASUB Chancellor Dr. Jennifer Methvin, after which faculty and staff hosted parent panels focused on parent-support for their children in college. Following the parent panels, faculty and staff joined students and their families for a free picnic-style dinner in The Grove. Family Day concluded with ASUB inviting the community to attend a concert on-campus in the Owen Center Gym, featuring country music artist John King. The concert was a part of the ASUB Lecture-Concert Series.

**Parent & Family Engagement Newsletter**

To build on the momentum of Family Appreciation Day, the Advising and Learning Center and the Office of Student Life have launched a bi-monthly newsletter targeting the parents and families of ASU-Beebe students. The newsletter will include timely student success tips, highlights of upcoming campus events,



and a “student spotlight.” The first issue of the Parent & Family Engagement Newsletter was published on October 15, and was sent by email to families of on-campus residents and the families who registered for Family Appreciation Day. The current mailing list totals 334 emails. The second issue is planned to be published on November 25.

### **ASU-Beebe Hosts ArkACRAO**

ASU-Beebe hosted the Arkansas Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (ArkACRAO) College and Career Fair, on October 8, on the Beebe campus. Students and counselors from area school districts were invited to attend and talk with representatives from colleges across the state of Arkansas.

### **ACC Honorees**

ASU-Beebe students, faculty, staff, and alumni were honored at the Arkansas Community Colleges (ACC) fall conference held at the State House Convention Center in Little Rock on October 13-15, 2019. Matthew Sparks, of Cabot, was named the ASU-Beebe Academic All-Star; John Hayes was named recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award; Eddie Supratman, Assistant Professor of History and Comparative Religion, was named recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award; and Student Support Services Academic Coach Jennifer Trujillo was presented the Outstanding Staff Award.

### **Vanguard Development Day**

Vanguard Employee Development Day was held on October 18. All ASU-Beebe faculty and staff from all campuses gathered for a day of learning and planning. Dr. Jeff Standridge, with Innovation Partners in Conway, AR, provided the keynote address and led the day’s sessions. These sessions centered on the ASUB strategic priority of “stabilizing and growing enrollment” while remaining steadfastly focused on the core mission of “transforming lives through quality learning experiences.” Dr. Standridge gifted each employee with a copy of his book, *The Innovator’s Field Guide: Accelerators for Entrepreneurs, Innovators, and Change Agents*.

### **Scholarship Reception**

Many excited students, family members, donors, and guests turned out for the ASU-Beebe Scholarship Reception on October 24, at the Dr. Eugene McKay Student Center. Thanks to our generous donors, ASUB awarded 65 private scholarships worth almost \$78,000, a \$17,000 increase over 2018-2019. Dr. Jennifer Methvin, ASUB Chancellor, and Andrea Cole, Development Officer/Major Gifts, welcomed donors, scholarship recipients, and their families to the annual event. Guest speakers were alumni Teddy Davis, Interim Dean of Arts & Humanities, and students Ronnie Grice and Kaira Yates. Rose Mary Jackson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, recognized donors and scholarship recipients.

### **U.S. Army Field Band & Soldiers' Chorus**

ASU-Beebe was proud to bring the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus to present a free concert at the Heber Springs High School Performing Arts Center during its fall concert tour on the evening of

October 26. Since its creation in March of 1946, the Field Band has appeared in all 50 states and in more than 30 countries on four continents. The concert was a part of the ASUB Lecture-Concert Series.

### **Iconic Monsters of Halloween**

Dr. Brent Bristow, Professor of Music, presented “The Iconic Monsters of Halloween” on October 31. This is a study of the history of specific monster characters associated with the holiday and the horror genre in general, including their origins in literature and film. He discussed the historical events that led to these characters becoming iconic images, and how they have affected popular culture.

### **ASU-Beebe Musical**

The theater department at ASU-Beebe presented the musical *Pipe Dream*, by Rodgers and Hammerstein, on November 7-9 in the Owen Center Theatre. The cast enjoyed a packed house each of the four performances. *Pipe Dream* is the first musical presented at ASU-Beebe in seven years.

### **Grant Award**

The ASU-Beebe Computerized Machining Program received a grant of \$5,000 from the Gene Haas Foundation. This is the fourth grant that ASU-Beebe has received from the Haas Foundation, and this funding will be used for scholarships, National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification testing, and to help defer costs for students to attend the national SkillsUSA competition.

### **CNC Accreditation**

The ASU-Beebe Career Education Division proudly announced that its Computerized (CNC) Machining Program at the ASUB-Searcy Campus received national accreditation by NIMS.

### **Steve Storm Memorial Scholarship**

ASU-Beebe, along with the Steve Storm Family, recently transitioned the annual Steve Storm Memorial Scholarship, established in 2011, into a legacy endowment to honor Steve Storm. The endowment allows a math or science major each year to receive this scholarship in Storm’s memory. Storm was the first instructor of math and science at ASUB-Heber Springs, which was established in 1999. He taught physics, physical science, earth science, calculus, college algebra, and developmental algebra.

### **Harvest Queen and King**

Students selected the 2019 Harvest Queen and Harvest King during the annual Harvest Social held October 29 at the Dr. Eugene McKay Student Center. Students paid tribute to more than 70 years of ASU-Beebe Harvest Royalty. Sara Hampton, an agriculture major from Beebe, representing the Alpha Deere Omega organization, was crowned as the 2019 Harvest Queen, and Austin Gossen, a John Deere Agriculture Equipment Technology major from Rayne, LA, representing Alpha Deere Omega organization, was crowned as the 2019 Harvest King. The students were crowned by Matthew Sparks, Student Government Association President, and outgoing 2018-19 Harvest Queen Sara Turner, of Little Rock.

### **Bridge to College**

ASUB-Heber Springs continues its successful Friday Bridge to College events on Fridays for area high schools. ASUB-Heber Springs' staff and faculty have volunteered to be Success Coaches for the almost 500 seniors who attend the Bridge to College program. The Success Coaches are helping the students become successful in meeting their goals after high school.

### **#MoreThanTheClassroom**

ASU-Beebe students have had many opportunities to experience #MoreThanTheClassroom via presentations on campus or through electronic means. These have included a simulcast presentation in September by Dr. Jorge Dominquez, a physician in Venezuela, who spoke to Eddie Supratman's World History class and Dr. Kayla Sapkota's macroeconomics class regarding the political and economic conditions of that country. Future Educator's Club welcomed Anitha Kobusingye to speak about her book, *Born Anonymous: One Woman's Journey of Hope and Love in Rwanda*. Several classes engaged in a dialogue via video conference with the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador regarding global issues in Central America. Spanish instructor Susan Spradlin brought some Spanish Halloween traditions into her Spanish classes this Halloween, which is known as Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrated on November 1. She dressed as la Caterina, an iconic Día de los Muertos figure from Spanish lore, and built a sample Día de los Muertos shrine to help her students appreciate a unique cultural tradition attached to the language they study.

ASUB has been ASUBeConnected with our communities since the last Board meeting by participating in, attending, or hosting the following events:

- Heber Springs Chamber of Commerce Business Expo, October 3
- Beebe Fallen Blackbird Festival, October 5
- Ozark Trails Festival, October 5, ASU-Beebe Heber Springs received awards for "Best Float" and "Best Music."
- Cabot Fest
- Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce Banquet

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
December 6, 2019**

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

**1. Aspen Institute 2021 Designation**

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named ASU-Mountain Home as one of the 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges. This award is based on student outcomes including learning, completion rates, employment rates, earnings, and equity. Only the top 15 percent of the community colleges nationwide are invited to apply for the Aspen Prize as result of this designation.

**2. WalletHub Designation**

WalletHub, a personal finance website, released its annual list of the best community colleges in the United States. Last year ASUMH was designated the number one community college in the nation. This year WalletHub rated ASUMH as the number two community college in the nation. This designation is based on a numeric scoring of 17 variables involving student success, costs, and employment outcomes.

**3. Amphitheater Gift**

ASUMH has received a pledge of a gift of land that will be used to fund the creation of an amphitheater on campus. This gift will be worth approximately \$200,000 to \$250,000. When sold, the proceeds will be directed to the building of an amphitheater. This is the second gift this year for the construction of an amphitheater, with the first one being \$200,000. An architect will be engaged to explore the location and design of the amphitheater in 2020.

**4. Fundraising 2019**

ASUMH reestablished the Development Office in 2019 in an effort to increase fundraising to meet growing campus needs. A number of scholarships were established, as well as an endowment for the performing arts. Two gifts were also pledged to create an amphitheater on campus. The total for all campus projects raised to date for 2019 is \$1,150,078.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees  
December 6, 2019**

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

**Strategic Priority 1: Student Success**

- ASUN and its Arkansas Delta Training & Education Consortium (“ADTEC”) partners received a \$2.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Education & Training Administration Workforce Opportunities for Rural Communities. ADTEC’s project, Arkansas Delta Workforce Opportunities for Rural Communities (“ADWORC”), will provide short-term industry and soft-skills training for hard-to-reach workers in Northeast Arkansas. The grant will fund a recruiter to provide on-the-job verification coaching and case management. ASUN’s portion of the funding is \$379,443.
- For the second year in a row, ASUN was named a “Get Ahead Top Ranking School” by Daimler Trucks North American for our Diesel Technology program. As a result of this honor, ASUN is eligible to purchase a Daimler-brand truck at a significantly reduced price.
- ASUN’s Energy Control Technology students achieved a 100% pass rate on their EPA Certifications. Nationally-recognized credentials, such as the EPA Certification, help validate our student learning outcomes.
- Two hundred thirty-three students from 13 school districts attended Manufacturing Day, hosted in part by ASUN-Jonesboro. Students visited ASUN-Jonesboro’s programs related to manufacturing, viewed industry exhibits in the Workforce Training Center, and toured two local industries. It was a fun and exciting way to introduce students to careers in manufacturing and programs of study that will equip them with the skills needed for a successful career in manufacturing.
- The first “Coffeehouse” of the year had record attendance with 64 community members, faculty, staff, and students. Eight performers entertained the audience. Hospitality students prepared Chicken Alfredo and BBQ pork sliders. ASUN also hosted its first Coffeehouse in Newport with great support from faculty and staff.
- ASUN Commercial Driver Training, High Voltage Lineman Technology, and Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium programs were featured at the Southeast Workforce Summit. Workforce partners from Maverick Transportation and Unity Health presented alongside faculty and students from ASUN.
- ASUN hosted the NEA College Planning Program, a college fair sponsored by the Arkansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Offices (ArkACRAO). Representatives from approximately 20 institutions were available to visit with area high school students.

**Strategic Priority 2: Institutional Excellence**

- Dr. Ashley Buchman, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, was awarded the Mossie J. Richmond, Jr. Outstanding Leadership Award at the Partners for Student Success Conference. This award recognizes outstanding student affairs leaders from Arkansas who have made significant contributions to the Arkansas Students Affairs Association.

- Dr. Ashley Buchman has also accepted an invitation from the Higher Learning Commission to serve as a member of the Specialized Corps. This invitation was based on Dr. Buchman's areas of expertise and her successful service in HLC's Peer Corps. As part of the Specialized Corps., Dr. Buchman will receive additional training in preparation for HLC's Advisory Visits and Fact-Finding Visits.
- ASUN kicked off its ACE Leadership Training Program – a multi-part training plan to help faculty and staff succeed in their careers, plan for their futures, and plan for ASUN's future. In addition to a greatly expanded onboarding process, culture training, and intensified succession planning, ASUN commenced its first Aviator Leadership class. ASUN's Dean of Student Development, Veronica Manning, and newly appointed Vice Chancellor for Leadership and Community Engagement, Ike Wheeler, are leading the inaugural class on a yearlong discussion of the values and attributes of effective leadership and the role of ASU-Newport in the larger state and regional economic and educational communities.
- We are pleased to report that we have completed the measurement and verification of the results of our first year as part of our Energy Savings project. In total, we achieved \$342,435 in actual dollar savings in our first year. We exceeded our guaranteed year-one savings by \$44,231. Our solar array was responsible for \$34,527 of the additional savings.
- ASUN has been selected to participate in the 2020 Mentor-Connect cohort. Through this program, ASUN will receive technical assistance and mentoring support with respect to submitting an application for a federal National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. Mentor-Connect has successfully mentored seven cohorts with a successful funding rate of 73% for NSF Small, New-to-ATE grants.
- Chancellor Massey has completed one-on-one meetings with nearly every full-time member of faculty and staff. She will be meeting with Deans and Vice Chancellors to address the issues identified and implement the valuable suggestions for improvement offered by ASUN employees.
- ASUN's HLC multi-location review was November 14-15. The HLC reviewer visited ASUN-Marked Tree and the Arkansas Department of Correction Grimes Unit.
- ASUN's Facebook page has exceeded 7,100 followers and is currently the seventh largest community college page in Arkansas.

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

- ASUN is proud to announce our expanded partnership with the Arkansas Department of Corrections. We will begin training inmates on campus from the Grimes and McPherson Units in our diesel and welding programs in Spring 2020.
- ASUN hosted its annual Scholarship & Donor Recognition Luncheon where we celebrated student achievement; acknowledged donors from our communities; and recognized the influence our institution has on individual students, their families, our communities, and our entire region.
- ASUN held its first annual Retiree Luncheon. Twenty-two retirees were in attendance to hear about what's new at ASUN and to discuss opportunities for continued engagement.
- The ASUN Board of Visitors met November 6 to discuss the upcoming HLC visit and expanded partnership with the Arkansas Department of Corrections.
- The 2019 Movies in the Park Series in Downtown Newport was a huge success. Hundreds of community members came to view the 4 movies featured this year.

- Student community engagement activities:
  - Eleven Automotive Service Technology students took part in the Touch-a-Truck community event at NEA Baptist Hospital. Nettleton High School organized the event to raise funds for the Hope Cancer Support Center.
  - Surgical Technology students participated in a community service project at the Jackson County Humane Society. They performed work at the shelter, organized a donation drive, and arranged to have an exterior sign made. They also sponsored a fundraising event at Newk's Eatery to support a surgical technology scholarship.
  - ASUN hosted Career Day at Marked Tree Elementary. Representatives from Nursing and Health Professions, Applied Sciences, and General Education visited with students in third through sixth grades to showcase ASUN's programs and to raise student interest in pursuing a post-secondary education.
  - Marked Tree Practical Nursing students helped with yearly screenings at Trumann schools, including hearing and vision screenings, BMI screenings, and scoliosis screenings. They also gave a presentation to the Trumann High School Women's Health class on the effects of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and vaping. Twenty-two ASUN students participated, serving approximately 700 Truman students.
  - ASUN Natural Sciences student Kali Guardiola participated in the Arkansas Center for Biodiversity Collections Bioblitz. Bioblitz is a concentrated biological survey in a designated area that attempts to record all living species within that area. Kali worked with students and professors from A-State in the daylong event.
  - ASUN Student Ambassadors passed out candy along with information on ASUN at the Tuckerman High School Trunk-or-Treat.

### **ASUN Academic Program Notifications**

ASUN has no new academic program notifications this quarter.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
December 6, 2019**

**Chancellor's Report  
Arkansas State University Mid-South**

**Manufacturing Day**

October is Manufacturing Month, and each year the Manufacturing Institute encourages colleges and schools to conduct Manufacturing Day events to showcase modern manufacturing and to educate students, community members, media, and policymakers on how integral manufacturing is to the local, national, and global economies. ASU Mid-South hosted an incredible Manufacturing Day event on our campus on October 24. It featured the college's three advanced manufacturing programs – welding, machining, and mechatronics – and attracted 25 employer partners, including representatives from the Medical Device Industry Council and the American Welding Society. More than 750 individuals, both students and community members, participated. The American Welding Society hosted a virtual welding competition as part of the day's event, with a grand prize of a \$1,000 scholarship for the highest scoring welder.

**New Grants Awarded**

▪ **U.S. Department of Education Title III Grant**

ASU Mid-South was recently awarded a \$2.25 million (\$450,000 per year for five years) Title III *Strengthening Institutions Program* grant. The college will use these funds to transform instructional and service delivery through improved technology. The main grant objectives are: (1) improving and expanding online instructional delivery for all programs through curriculum design and professional development; (2) developing and implementing more robust online student services to include admissions, tutoring, and retention management; and (3) updating and strengthening the Information Systems Technology curriculum to include a programming option.

▪ **U.S. Department of Labor/Delta Regional Authority Grant**

The Arkansas Delta Training and Education Consortium, which includes Arkansas Northeastern College, Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, East Arkansas Community College, ASU Newport, and ASU Mid-South, was given a \$2.3 million award to be used over a three-year period for their consortium grant application entitled ADWORC – Arkansas Delta Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities. The grant targets new entrants to the workforce, the economically disadvantaged, and the formerly incarcerated, with the primary goals being to provide workforce-readiness training, case management, and work-based learning in high-demand fields. Participant incentives are also a component of this grant. ASU Mid-South's share will total approximately \$450,000.



### **ASU Mid-South Dean Selected for NCIA Leadership Development Program**

ASU Mid-South's Dean for Workforce Education, Jeff Gray, was recently selected to participate in the National Council of Instructional Administrators' professional development program to be held in May at the University of Nebraska. The event will provide networking opportunities with experienced academic leaders and will focus on topics relating to effective leadership and communication, engaging faculty and staff in institutional reform and transformational change, and creating time for reflection and rejuvenation. Selection for participation in this program is nomination-based and competitive. Mr. Gray was nominated by Chancellor Debra West and former Academic Vice Chancellor Cliff Jones.

### **Food Pantry on Campus**

ASU Mid-South administered a modified version of the USDA Food Insecurity Survey to its student body in October. Seventy-two percent of survey respondents expressed some level of food insecurity during the past 12 months. As a result, ASU Mid-South will be partnering with the Marion United Methodist Church (MUMC) to establish and maintain an on-campus food pantry. MUMC will stock the pantry and provide backpacks in which students may transport food discreetly from campus. Backpacks will be returnable and refillable.

### **ASU Mid-South Greyhound Athletics**

The Greyhounds' and Lady Greyhounds' basketball season is off to a great start. The men's team is averaging 85.6 points per game and, as of the November 11 poll, is ranked number 17 in their division with a record of 5-1. The Lady Greyhounds are averaging 69.5 points per game in their first season under women's head coach Mercedes Corona and currently have a record of 3-1. Freshman guard Ashley Pegues was named Region II Athlete of the Week for the week ending November 11.

### **Left Bank Festival**

On October 5, ASU Mid-South hosted the second annual Left Bank Festival on the West Memphis side of the Big River Crossing. As in years past, the event featured a 5K/10K run, a catfish cooking contest, and local arts and crafts vendors, but this year a music festival component was added. This year's music event was billed as a tribute to the late Willie Mitchell, architect of the famed "Memphis Sound" and recording artist and producer for soul greats including Al Green and Ann Peebles at West Memphis's own Hi Records. It featured performances by Albert King, Jr., the Kenny Brown Band, the Queen of Beale Street Barbara Blue, blues legend Willie Cobbs, and the Hi Rhythm Section with special guest Don Bryant. Sponsors included the City of West Memphis and Southland Gaming. The Festival attracted attendees from both sides of the river and netted approximately \$43,000 for ASU Mid-South athletic scholarships.

### **Art Exhibit**

Each year, ASU Mid-South partners with the Crittenden County Arts Council, Delta Arts, to bring world class art exhibits to the Donald W. Reynolds Center. The fall 2019 exhibit, entitled The Soul of Arkansas, features the work of Longhua Xu, 2019 recipient of the Arkansas Arts Council's Living Treasure Award. The large Impressionistic-style paintings feature small-town Arkansans the artist has met or known during his 40-year residency in the state. The exhibit is made possible by the Rocky Smith Endowment for the Arts and runs through December 13.

**Wild Game Dinner 2020**

Mark your calendars for the fifth annual Tommy Goldsby Wild Game Dinner & Auction, which will be held Saturday, March 7 at 6:00 PM at the Pirani Farms in Marion.