

AGENDA
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Joe Keith Great Room, Administration Building
College of the Ouachitas
Malvern, AR

I. Call to Order
Niel Crowson, Chair

*II. Agenda

- Proposed ASU System Resolution
 - Resolution approving the merger and plan of transition between the Arkansas State University System and College of the Ouachitas

III. Other Business

*IV. Adjournment

*Action Item

AGREEMENT OF MERGER AND PLAN OF TRANSITION
BETWEEN
THE ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
AND COLLEGE OF THE OUACHITAS

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System has been vitally concerned with increasing educational opportunities in Arkansas and with providing an appropriate response to the need for expanded higher education opportunities for all citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of College of the Ouachitas (COTO) has expressed a similar concern for providing more accessible quality higher education opportunities suitable to the economic and cultural development of its service area; and

WHEREAS, there are cogent reasons for taking measures to increase and improve the efficient delivery of higher education in Arkansas for the benefit of the State of Arkansas, including those increased efforts which will produce the educational, scientific, technical, and cultural contributions required to correspond with the development of the state; and

WHEREAS, this Plan has been agreed upon for the expansion of both entities to more effectively and efficiently serve the increasing needs of the region and of the State of Arkansas as a whole, with additional educational and technical training opportunities for citizens, directly benefiting civic, business, and economic development interests of the region; and

WHEREAS, this Plan will enhance educational opportunities for the citizens in the specified region by providing the benefits of the Arkansas State University System while retaining the community commitment of College of the Ouachitas as well as the loyalty, support, and contribution so demonstratively evidenced by citizens of the COTO service area in the creation and growth of the college; and

WHEREAS, this Plan will underscore and enhance the work, contributions, and aspirations of all who, with justified pride, are responsible for the fine institution known as College of the Ouachitas and will achieve economy for the region and for the State of Arkansas as it meets increasing enrollments and educational demands without the initial outlay required to start a new institution by incorporating an established institution into the Arkansas State University System of higher education; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the parties, of the citizens served by College of the Ouachitas, and of the State of Arkansas that the Board of Trustees of College of the Ouachitas transfer to the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University the assets, liabilities, and responsibilities herein described, so that College of the Ouachitas will become part of the Arkansas State University System, to be managed and controlled by the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System for the benefit of citizens of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System is willing to accept the transfer of said assets, liabilities, and responsibilities, and the Board of Trustees of College of the Ouachitas is willing to transfer them upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, A.C.A. §6-60-102 authorizes and encourages the voluntary consolidation and merger of public higher education institutions, including existing systems of public higher education institutions that add two-year institutions to the System;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the President of the Arkansas State University System is hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached Agreement of Merger and Plan to Transition to effectuate the merger of College of the Ouachitas into the Arkansas State University System, the resulting entity to be known as Arkansas State University-COTO.

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 20th day of February, 2019.

Price Gardner, Secretary

Niel Crowson, Chair