



Quarterly Board Meeting

Arkansas State University System

Dec 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM CST to Dec 8, 2023 at 1:00 PM CST

Arkansas State University System Office

Agenda

I. Call to Order

Presenter: Jerry Morgan

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Past Meetings: September 15, 2023, and November 15, 2023

Presenter: Jerry Morgan

III. President's Report

Presenter: Chuck Welch

IV. Agenda

Presenter: Chuck Welch

A. Proposed System Resolutions

- 1. Resolution #23-46 approving the ASU System to begin Phase 1 of the Center for Health Sciences Capital Project at ASU-Newport**
- 2. Resolution #23-47 approving the revised ASU System Internal Audit Charter**

B. Proposed Arkansas State University (A-State) Resolutions

- 1. Resolution #23-48 approving A-State to establish A-State Qatar, a new off-campus location in Doha, Qatar**
- 2. Resolution #23-49 approving A-State to revise Arkansas State University Museum's Collections Policies**
- 3. Resolution #23-50 approving A-State to name the Defensive Line Coach's Office in the A-State Football Operations Building, the Lagomarcino Family Defensive Line Coach's Office**
- 4. Resolution #23-51 approving A-State to name the training room in First National Bank Arena, the St. Bernards Medical Group Training Room**

C. Proposed ASU-Beebe Resolution

- 1. Resolution #23-52 approving ASU-Beebe to name the basketball court, the Jeannie Myers Lindsey "Coach" Lindsey Basketball Court**

D. Proposed ASU-Newport Resolution

- 1. Resolution #23-53 approving ASU-Newport to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Radiologic Technology**

E. Proposed ASU Mid-South Resolutions

1. Resolution #23-54 approving ASU Mid-South to offer, within the Associate of Science degree in Education, a Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching and a Technical Certificate in Teaching

2. Resolution #23-55 approving ASU Mid-South to offer the courses, which are required to obtain the Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching, to students on the campus of Academies of West Memphis

F. Proposed Henderson State Resolution

1. Resolution #23-56 approving Henderson State to offer a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

V. Executive Session

VI. Approval of Personnel Actions

A. ASU System Personnel

B. A-State Personnel

C. ASU-Beebe Personnel

D. ASU-Mountain Home Personnel

E. ASU-Newport Personnel

F. ASU Mid-South Personnel

G. ASU Three Rivers Personnel

H. Henderson State Personnel

VII. Other Business

A. Election of Officers

VIII. Adjournment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Hankins (501) 660-1004

ACTION ITEM: The Arkansas State University System (ASU System) requests approval to begin Phase 1 of the Center for Health Sciences Capital Project at Arkansas State University-Newport (ASU-Newport).

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve all capital projects.

BACKGROUND:

- The Center for Health Sciences project at ASU-Newport will create an integrated, inter-professional, health-sciences academic facility, and will facilitate requests from our workforce partners to expand both existing nursing programs and high-need areas in other health care programs.
- The capital project will be financed through federal grant funds of \$5,221,000 and Foundation or other private monies of \$1,225,000.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University System is approved to begin Phase 1 of the Center for Health Sciences Capital Project at Arkansas State University-Newport.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

ASU System

Capital Project Proposal Form

In accordance with Board policy, the term "capital project" means a new construction, renovation, or remodeling project with a projected cost exceeding \$1,000,000. Campus officials shall complete a Capital Project proposal form and submit it to the President for review and recommendations. The President will submit Capital Project proposals to the Board of Trustees for approval. Forms will be submitted electronically to the System Vice President for Finance.

Institution:	Arkansas State University-Newport	Date:	11/1/23
Project Name:	Center for Health Sciences Project Phase 1		

Project Description: (in detail)

This project will create an integrated, inter-professional health-sciences academic facility on the Newport campus. The design will include classrooms, laboratories, simulation centers, a student lounge, conference areas, testing labs, and faculty offices. The building will facilitate requests from workforce and other partners' to expand both existing nursing programs and high-need areas in other health care programs, where workforce shortages are negatively impacting access to health care in the region.

Estimated Date of Commencement	01/01/24
Estimated Date of Completion	07/30/26
Total Project Cost Estimate	\$6,446,000

Please provide the detail of cost estimate below

	Estimated Project Cost
Construction (include cost of built-in equipment)	\$ 5,538,500
Architect/Engineer Fees	357,500
Contingencies (<i>not to exceed 10% of Construction and A&E</i>)	550,000
Land Purchases	-
Movable Equipment and Furniture	-
Total Cost of Project	\$ 6,446,000

Please provide detail of planned sources of funding:

	Amount	Percentage
General Improvement	\$ -	0.0%
Institutional Reserves	-	0.0%
Institutional Operating Funds	-	0.0%
Federal Grant Funds	* 5,221,000	81.0%
Special Revenue Funds	-	0.0%
Foundation or Other Private Monies	1,225,000	19.0%
Loan Proceeds (if approved)	-	0.0%
Total Proposed Funding	\$ 6,446,000	100.0%

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Hankins (501) 660-1004

ACTION ITEM: The Arkansas State University System requests approval to revise its Internal Audit Charter.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve all revisions to the Internal Audit Charter.

BACKGROUND:

- The mission of the Arkansas State University System’s Internal Audit is to “support the campuses of the Arkansas State University System in the pursuit of their mission by evaluating the adequacy of internal controls, accuracy of financial records, and compliance with standard accounting practices, government and state regulations, and University policies and procedures.”
- The Internal Audit Charter, approved by the Board on March 6, 2009, revised on September 9, 2011, and on June 4, 2020, requires revisions that reflect edits made to the Introduction, Purpose, Organization, Authority, Responsibility, Audit Planning, Reporting, and Audit Standards and Ethics sections. Additionally, sections addressing Professional Standards, Independence and Objectivity, and the Quality Assurance Program were added.
- The revised Internal Audit Charter is attached to this resolution.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University System’s revised Internal Audit Charter is approved, effective immediately.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

INTRODUCTION

As a service to the Arkansas State University System ("System"), and to add value and improve operations, the Office of Internal Audit (IA) provides independent and objective appraisal activity for the review of internal controls, financial and compliance aspects, and operating procedures. IA activity assists the System in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of governance, risk management, compliance, and internal control processes that accomplish the following:

1. Assets are safeguarded, and their use is properly accounted for;
2. Accurate financial and managerial controls exist and function properly;
3. Recommendations are made for appropriate improvements in controls; and
4. Management plans, policies, and procedures are executed efficiently and effectively.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

IA will adhere to The Institute of Internal Auditors' mandatory guidance, including the Definition of Internal Auditing, the Code of Ethics, the Core Principles, and the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards)*. This mandatory guidance constitutes principles of the fundamental requirements for the professional practice of internal auditing and for evaluating the effectiveness of the internal audit activity's performance. The Chief Audit Executive (CAE) will periodically report to senior management and the Board of Trustees regarding the IA's conformance to the Code of Ethics and the *Standards*. The CAE will also review IA's charter periodically and present it to senior management and the Board of Trustees for approval.

ORGANIZATION

The CAE has responsibility for the coordination of the System's internal auditing function and operates under the general administrative oversight of the Executive Vice President (EVP). The CAE also reports to the System President and, functionally, to a trustee appointed as a liaison for IA affairs. The EVP is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the internal audit program to provide support and supervision of IA, to ensure the adequacy of the management responses of audit reports issued by the CAE, and to follow up on audit issues.

AUTHORITY

The CAE and staff of IA will do the following:

- Have unrestricted access for communicating and interacting directly with the trustee-appointed liaison;
- Have full, free, and unrestricted access to all functions, records, property, and personnel pertinent to carrying out any engagement subject to accountability for confidentiality and safeguarding of records and information;
- Allocate resources, set frequencies, select subjects, determine scopes of work, apply techniques required to accomplish audit objectives, and issue reports; and
- Obtain assistance from the necessary personnel of the System, as well as other specialized services from within or outside the System, in order to complete the engagement.

Documents and information given to the IA staff during an engagement are handled in the same prudent manner as they are by those employees usually accountable for them. The confidential and privileged character of the documents and information is not affected solely by disclosure to the audit staff.

INDEPENDENCE AND OBJECTIVITY

IA will remain free from interference by any division within the organization, including audit selection, scope, procedures, frequency, timing, or report content, in order to permit an independent and objective mindset, in fact and appearance.

IA has neither the direct responsibility for, nor the authority over, any activities, functions, or tasks it reviews. Accordingly, IA personnel does not develop or write policies or procedures that they may later be called upon to evaluate. Draft materials developed by management may be reviewed for propriety and completeness. However, ownership and responsibility for any materials remain with management.

Acting in the capacity of an internal auditor, audit staff should not perform any operational duties for the System or its affiliates, initiate or approve accounting transactions external to IA, or direct the activities of any System employee not employed by IA, except to the extent that such employees have been assigned to otherwise assist the internal auditors.

Internal auditors will exhibit the highest level of professional objectivity in gathering, evaluating, and communicating information about the activity or process being examined. Internal auditors will make a balanced assessment of all of the relevant circumstances and not be unduly influenced by their own interests, or the interests of others, in forming judgments.

RESPONSIBILITY

Meaningful internal auditing requires cooperation among the internal auditors, trustee-appointed liaison, campus administration, and the auditee. Each party's responsibilities in this regard include, but are not limited to, the following:

CAE:

- Develop a flexible annual audit plan using an appropriate risk-based methodology, including any risks or control concerns identified by management, and submit that plan to the trustee-appointed liaison, the System President, and the EVP;
- Implement the annual audit plan, as approved, including, as appropriate, any special tasks or projects requested by management or the Board of Trustees;
- Maintain a professional audit staff with sufficient knowledge, skills, and experience;
- Issue periodic reports to the System President and the EVP, summarizing results of audit activities (the System President distributes the report(s) to the Board of Trustees);
- Perform investigations of suspected fraudulent activities within the System and notify the EVP, General Counsel, and trustee-appointed liaison in the case of suspected unlawful activity. A report of such an investigation will be provided to the System President, EVP, General Counsel, and appropriate members of campus management (the System President distributes the report to the Board of Trustees); and
- Consider the scope of work of external auditors and other regulatory agencies, as appropriate, to provide optimal audit coverage to the System at a reasonable overall cost.

Internal Audit Office

- Examine and evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of the System's governance, risk management, and internal controls;
- Examine and evaluate the controls, policies, procedures, and systems in place to safeguard System assets;
- Evaluate the reliability and integrity of information and the efficient and effective use of resources;
- Review compliance with policies, procedures, laws, and regulations;
- Report results and make recommendations to the CAE and management;
- Develop relationships throughout the organization, in order to become a trusted advisor to management on matters of risk management and internal controls;
- Evaluate risk exposure relating to the achievement of the organization's strategic objectives;
- Evaluate the reliability and integrity of information and the means used to identify, measure, classify, and report such information;
- Monitor and evaluate governance processes;
- Perform consulting and advisory services related to governance, risk management, and controls, as appropriate for the System; including such services as management requests, participation on institutional committees, and participation on implementation teams for information technology projects and business process improvements; and
- Evaluate specific operations at the request of the institutional audit committee or management, as appropriate.

Trustee-Appointed Liaison

- Ensure that internal audit goals and objectives, staffing plans, financial budgets, and audit activities provide adequate support for System goals and objectives;
- Ensure that the audit planning process, including the risk-assessment methodology, considers appropriate aspects of the System's operations and executive management's concerns;
- Approve the annual audit plan and any revisions;
- Review the results of significant audit activities, audit reports, and auditee responses, and monitor the adequacy and timeliness of corrective actions taken in response to audit activities;
- Review the internal audit annual report; and
- Support the IA function and communicate this support within the System Administration.

System Administration

- Support the IA function and communicate this support within campus units;
- Participate in the audit process;
- Provide appropriate, clear, and consistent direction to the System community through written policies and procedures; and
- Monitor the progress of corrective actions for audit findings within campus units.

Auditee

- Cooperate with the audit process by providing unrestricted access to facilities, books and records, information, and personnel;
- Respond in writing, within at least 30 days, to all audit recommendations. Disagreements with recommendations or alternative solutions to identified findings are acceptable when justified in writing. Each response should contain an estimated implementation date; and
- Implement agreed-upon corrective action plans.

AUDIT PLANNING

Based on a prioritization of the audit universe, using a risk-based assessment process, an annual audit plan will be systematically developed for the System. The risk assessment shall consider risks within and across all components of the System. Input will be solicited from the appropriate members of System management and each respective campus for this purpose. Once completed, the audit plan will be submitted to the System President and trustee-appointed liaison for comment and approval. The objective is to continually assess all high-risk areas to evaluate critical business processes throughout the System, as resources permit.

The CAE shall notify the System President when advisory and related client-service activities are requested. The nature and scope of these activities will be agreed upon with the client, and the agreement must include a release of the IA department from management responsibility. When demands for services exceed available resources, which would significantly impact the approved annual audit plan, project priorities will be established, and the audit plan will be amended, subject to the approval of the System President and the trustee-appointed liaison.

REPORTING

IA will ensure that the results of audits are adequately communicated to appropriate management or operating personnel in a formal written report to the trustee-appointed liaison under the signature of the CAE. The formal report will incorporate management's responses to the audit observation(s), and members of management will then itemize the specific actions taken, or planned, to resolve the reported observation(s) and ensure that operational objectives are achieved.

Copies of completed audit reports will be provided to the System President, EVP, and appropriate members of campus management. The System President distributes the report to the Board of Trustees.

IA will produce a quarterly follow-up report on the status of management's implementation of each observation to the System President and EVP. The System President distributes the follow-up report to the Board of Trustees.

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

IA will maintain a quality assurance program that will include evaluations of its conformance with the Standards and IA's Code of Ethics. This program includes periodic internal self-assessments and external assessments performed once every five years by an assessment team outside the System. The CAE will communicate the results of external assessments to the System President, EVP, trustee-appointed liaison, Board of Trustees, and senior management.

Revised 05-13-20

Revised 12-8-23

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Todd Shields (870) 972-3030

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University (A-State) requests approval to establish A-State Qatar, a new off-campus location in Doha, Qatar.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the establishment of new off-campus locations.

BACKGROUND:

- In 2020, A-State collaborated with the Global Studies Institute (GSI), in order to offer students in Qatar the opportunity to earn an affordable degree via synchronous distance education that would be recognized through the Ministry of Education in Qatar and in the United States. Recently, the GSI has encouraged students to attend a designated physical location operated by the GSI to participate in the synchronous coursework. In light of this, to remain in compliance with the Arkansas Division of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission, it is appropriate to designate this location as a new off-campus-instruction center. Prestigious institutions, such as Texas A&M, Carnegie Mellon, and Northwestern, have an established presence in Qatar, and A-State is grateful to have the opportunity to expand our marketplace globally. A-State will continue to deliver 85-90% of degree programs offered (currently, the B.S. in Engineering Management Systems and the B.S. in Digital Technology & Design) through synchronous Zoom courses, while also, in the future, offering the opportunity for A-State faculty to travel to Qatar to deliver courses in a face-to-face modality.
- No new infrastructure will be required for the new location, which will continue to be operated at the GSI's building (Global Studies Institute Qatar, Otba Bin Mohamed, Street 54, Doha, Qatar).
- No permanent administrative presence from A-State is anticipated in Qatar, as this location will be managed by the GSI, in collaboration with remote support from A-State to be provided by the Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Distance Education and Technology from the division of Academic Affairs and Research.
- The collaboration with GSI has required modest expense and has reliably netted a profit every year. The designation of the new off-campus location, A-State Qatar, is not anticipated to result in any additional expense, and the pattern of net profit is expected to continue. Below is a summary of expenses, revenue, and net profit since the collaboration with the GSI began:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Todd Shields (870) 972-3030

A-State Qatar (GSI) Initiative						
Term	Fall 21	Spring 22	Summer 22	Fall 22	Spring 23	Totals
Number of Students	32	39	19	44	34	
Revenue	\$ 74,860.00	\$ 133,635.00	\$ 66,785.00	\$ 121,126.00	\$ 117,232.00	\$ 513,638.00
Instructional Expenses	\$ 12,075.00	\$ 19,375.00	\$ 8,050.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 64,000.00
Agent Commissions	\$ 12,516.00	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 11,046.00	\$ 10,862.40	\$ 9,223.00	\$ 66,147.40
Net Profit	\$ 50,269.00	\$ 91,760.00	\$ 47,689.00	\$ 93,263.60	\$ 100,509.00	\$ 383,490.60

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University is approved to establish A-State Qatar, a new off-campus location in Doha, Qatar, effective spring semester of 2024.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Todd Shields (870) 972-3030

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University (A-State) requests approval to revise Arkansas State University Museum's Collections Policies.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees approves A-State Museum's Collections Policies for accreditation purposes.

BACKGROUND:

- The accrediting body of the American Alliance of Museums ("AAM") reviews policies and procedures of A-State Museum.
- The AAM's Accreditation Program Officer has identified one area of A-State Museum's Collections Policies that needs changes in order to be consistent with accepted museum practice and accrediting guidelines.
- On page 22 of the Collections Policies document, the following sentence appears:

"2. No Release to Interested Parties. No staff member, immediate family member, volunteer, Advisory Council member, or other interested party shall be permitted to benefit from the Museum's deaccessioning activities; however, such parties are free to acquire the objects if the objects in question are sold at a public auction and with complete disclosure of the history of the objects."

- To comply with current accreditation guidelines, A-State's Museum Director recommends that the above sentence be deleted and replaced with the following:

"2. No Release to Interested Parties. No staff member, immediate family member, volunteer, Advisory Council member, or other interested party shall be permitted to benefit from the Museum's deaccessioning activities. This includes the purchasing of deaccessioned material directly from the Museum, at public auction, or through any transaction."

- This change reflects a recent refinement of the AAM's position on disposition of deaccessioned, permanent collection items, and eliminates any conflict-of-interest issues. It will help ensure the continued accreditation of A-State Museum.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Todd Shields (870) 972-3030

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University Museum's revised Collections Policies, as stated herein, are approved, effective immediately.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Recognizing the Significant Contributions of
the Lagomarcino Family
to Arkansas State University (A-State)

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has retained unto itself the authority to name facilities and programs of the campuses within the Arkansas State University System; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Lagomarcino Family are avid and loyal supporters of A-State, our programs, and the students we serve; and

WHEREAS, the Lagomarcino Family has made significant contributions to A-State of a magnitude worthy of special gratitude and lasting recognition, including a donation to the Red Wolves Foundation, which will be used in support of enrichment resources for student-athletes of the A-State Football Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System, that the Defensive Line Coach's Office in the A-State Football Operations Building on the A-State campus shall be known henceforth as the:

Lagomarcino Family Defensive Line Coach's Office

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th day of December 2023

Jerry Morgan, Chair

Steve Eddington, Vice Chair

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Christy Clark, Member

Paul Rowton, Member

Price Gardner, Member

Gary Harpole, Member

Charles L. Welch, President

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Recognizing the Significant Contributions of
St. Bernards Medical Group
to Arkansas State University (A-State)

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has retained unto itself the authority to name facilities and programs of the campuses within the Arkansas State University System; and

WHEREAS, the St. Bernards Medical Group and its board members are highly respected leaders in the community and supporters of A-State and the students we serve; and

WHEREAS, the St. Bernards Medical Group has made significant contributions to A-State of a magnitude worthy of special gratitude and lasting recognition, including a donation to the Red Wolves Foundation to furnish and renovate the training room at First National Bank Arena;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System, that the training room in First National Bank Arena on the A-State campus shall be known henceforth as the:

St. Bernards Medical Group Training Room

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th day of December 2023

Jerry Morgan, Chair

Steve Eddington, Vice Chair

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Christy Clark, Member

Paul Rowton, Member

Price Gardner, Member

Gary Harpole, Member

Charles L. Welch, President

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Recognizing the Significant Contributions of
Jeannie Myers Lindsey ("Coach" Lindsey)
to Arkansas State University-Beebe

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has retained unto itself the authority to name facilities of the campuses within the Arkansas State University System; and

WHEREAS, Jeannie Myers Lindsey attended college and played women's basketball at ASU-Beebe (formerly Beebe Junior College) in 1952-1954; and

WHEREAS, Coach Lindsey made transformative contributions to both the men's and women's physical education programs during her remarkable 37 years of service at ASU-Beebe; and

WHEREAS, Coach Lindsey's unwavering commitment and extraordinary impact on ASU-Beebe serve as enduring sources of inspiration for future generations; and

WHEREAS, countless grateful alumni and donors have made significant contributions to ASU-Beebe in honor of Coach Lindsey;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System, that the basketball court on the Arkansas State University-Beebe campus shall be known henceforth as the:

Jeannie Myers Lindsey "Coach" Lindsey Basketball Court

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th day of December 2023

Jerry Morgan, Chair

Steve Eddington, Vice Chair

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Christy Clark, Member

Paul Rowton, Member

Price Gardner, Member

Gary Harpole, Member

Charles L. Welch, President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Typhanie Myers (870) 512-7704

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University-Newport requests approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Radiologic Technology.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the offering of any new degree.

BACKGROUND:

- The proposal for an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Radiologic Technology was developed based on industry request. The Radiologic Technology program prepares students to successfully function in the clinical setting, performing diagnostic imaging examinations.
- After successful completion of the A.A.S. degree in Radiologic Technology, each graduate will be eligible to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technology exam to become credentialed as a radiologic technologist or may wish to transfer to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Radiologic Science.
- No new funding is required.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Newport is approved to offer the Associate of Applied Science degree in Radiologic Technology, effective August 2024.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Gray (870) 733-6731

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University Mid-South requests approval to offer, within the Associate of Science degree in Education, a Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching and a Technical Certificate in Teaching.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the offering of any new certificate program.

BACKGROUND:

- In May 2022, the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) implemented a statewide initiative to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.), which embedded the stackable credentials of a Certificate of Proficiency (CP) in Teaching and a Technical Certificate (TC) in Teaching. ASU Mid-South signed the Memorandum of Agreement with ADHE, with the disclaimer that ASU Mid-South intended to continue enrolling students in its Associate of Science in Education (A.S.E.) and had no immediate plans to offer the A.A.T.
- In August 2023, ASU Mid-South contacted ADHE to determine if the CP in Teaching and the TC in Teaching could be utilized as part of the A.S.E., since the approval to offer them came under the blanket of an A.A.T. that ASU Mid-South is not utilizing. The ADHE confirmed that it was permissible to offer those credentials within the A.S.E.
- With this information, ASU Mid-South now seeks Board approval to award the CP and the TC in Teaching. The CP will prepare students for the Certified Teaching Assistant (CTA) exam, while also providing a pathway to the TC and the A.S.E. The pathway of courses from the Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate to the Associate degree provides content to prepare students for entry-level employment in the public school system and success in the classroom, first as a CTA and, then, as a teacher.
 - The **Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching**, consisting of 9 credit hours, will be configured within the existing A.S.E. Courses will include the following:
 - EDUC 2023 Introduction to Education (3 credit hours)
 - EDUC 2113 Exceptional Child in the Regular Classroom (3 credit hours)and one of the following:
 - EDUC 2213 Introduction to Educational Technology (3 credit hours)
 - MATH 1113 College Algebra
 - MATH 1213 Real World Math

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Gray (870) 733-6731

- The **Technical Certificate in Teaching**, consisting of 31 credit hours, will be configured within the existing A.S.E. Courses will include the following:
 - 16 credit hours of General Education
 - ENGL 1113 English Composition I (3 credit hours)
 - ENGL 1123 English Composition II (3 credit hours)
 - ENGL 2303 Oral Communications (3 credit hours)
 - MATH 1113 College Algebra or MATH 1213 Real World Math (3 credit hours)
 - BIOL 1114 General Biology or PSCI 1214 Physical Science (4 credit hours)
 - 15 credit hours of Major Requirements
 - EDUC 2023 Introduction to Education (3 credit hours)
 - EDUC 2113 Exceptional Child in the Regular Classroom (3 credit hours)
 - EDUC 2213 Introduction to Educational Technology (3 credit hours)
 - MATH 2113 Math for Teachers I (3 credit hours)
 - MATH 2123 Math for Teachers II (3 credit hours)

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University Mid-South is approved to offer, within the Associate of Science degree in Education, a Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching and a Technical Certificate in Teaching, effective spring semester of 2024.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Gray (870) 733-6731

ACTION ITEM: Arkansas State University Mid-South requests approval to offer the courses, which are required to obtain the Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching, to students on the campus of Academies of West Memphis (AWM).

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve a new program location.

BACKGROUND:

- As a longstanding high school partner, AWM (formerly West Memphis High School) has expressed a strong desire for ASU Mid-South to offer education courses on the high school campus.
- Offering Teacher Education programming at AWM aligns with and supports the State of Arkansas's Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's Arkansas Teacher Residency Model, delivered in collaboration with the Arkansas Division of Higher Education and designed to increase the number of credentialed teachers in the state.
- The lead faculty member for Education at ASU Mid-South has endorsed offering the courses on the high school campus.
- The courses will be taught by an ASU Mid-South adjunct faculty member, using the syllabi, course materials, and learning outcomes required in the same courses delivered on the ASU Mid-South campus, as required by the ADHE's Concurrent Enrollment Policy (Section II: Concurrent Course Credit – Institutional Requirements, Subsection 2: Concurrent Credit Courses), ensuring that the integrity and the quality of the coursework are maintained.
- The AWM campus is approximately 1.6 miles from the ASU Mid-South campus, allowing for adequate support and oversight of the program.
- The proposed expanded partnership would allow AWM students the opportunity to gain necessary coursework to prepare for the Certified Teaching Assistant (CTA) exam without leaving the high school campus each day.
- Because successful completion of the courses offered at the AWM campus would result in earning the Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching, this proposed expanded partnership meets the Higher Learning Commission's definition of an "additional location."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Jeff Gray (870) 733-6731

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University Mid-South is approved to offer the courses required to obtain the Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching at Academies of West Memphis, effective spring semester of 2024.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: TaLisha Givan (870) 230-5187

ACTION ITEM: Henderson State University (HSU) requests approval to offer a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

ISSUE: The Board of Trustees must approve the offering of any new degree.

BACKGROUND:

- The Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) degree in Innovation and Entrepreneurship is a 120-hour degree of college-level academic work, which can be completed in eight (8) semesters. Along with the required courses listed for a B.B.A. in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, all students must additionally complete the Liberal Arts Core requirements as specified by the University.
- The Innovation and Entrepreneurship degree rethinks business education, providing students with the skills necessary to thrive in the global economy. The concepts of Innovation and Entrepreneurship are woven throughout the curriculum, including knowledge gained beyond the classroom evident through student experiences with internships/mentorships, industry credentials, consulting-based projects, and participation in global collaborative challenges.
- The proposed degree supports the 2022 Business, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Learning Community strategic plan and mission by ensuring that all students accomplish four milestones:
 - Complete at least one internship/mentorship experience before graduating;
 - Graduate with at least one industry credential/certificate;
 - Participate in at least one consulting project before graduating; and
 - Work on a global collaborative challenge.
- The educational objectives and student outcomes, consistent with Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation expectations, are as follows:
 - PO1 - Demonstrate constructive communication skills and apply effective supervisory skills appropriate for a wide variety of business settings, employing multiple modalities of communications;
 - PO2 - Recognize ethical issues, describe processes for ethical reasoning, and discern the trade-offs and implications of applying various ethical frameworks when making business decisions;
 - PO3 - Apply tools of quantitative analysis systematically, make recommendations, and business decisions; and

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: TaLisha Givan (870) 230-5187

- P04 - Identify and critically evaluate implications of business decisions for organizational stakeholders and the natural environment.
- The proposed program effectiveness will be assessed through the following methods:
 - Will utilize a common oral communications rubric (direct measure) and project completion (indirect measure) to assess our students at three different points in their program progression;
 - Will use a combination of case studies, exams, and various other assignments to assess each student's ethical reasoning skills (direct measure); and
 - Will use a common rubric to assess critical thinking and decision-making (direct measure), and, in addition, will utilize results from external tests to compare our students with similar students across the country (indirect measure).
- All Arkansas four-year institutions currently offer either a B.B.A. or B.S. degree in Business Administration, with many different majors/concentrations. Our proposed meta-major reimagines the core courses to meet current industry demands.
- Historically, many of our graduates find employment opportunities north of the Benton/Bryant/Little Rock I-40 corridor. With the proposed degree, graduates will have additional opportunities in surrounding states and remote careers with an average yearly earning potential range of \$45,000 to \$50,000. The opportunity for additional certificates offered within the program increases the earning potential.
- The new meta-major will replace the existing B.B.A. General degree; thus, no new resources or personnel are needed.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that Henderson State University is approved to offer a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, effective fall semester of 2024.

Robert G. Rudolph Jr., Secretary

Jerry Morgan, Chair