

**ASU SYSTEM FOUNDATION, INC.**

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For the period ending June 30, 2024 (unaudited), the Arkansas State University System Foundation recorded gifts and other support of \$35,064,805.

Contributions were designated as follows:

ASU-Jonesboro	\$29,790,950
ASU-Mountain Home	517,872
ASU-Beebe	249,980
ASU-Newport	1,222,655
ASU-Three Rivers	147,444
ASU System Foundation	3,135,905

The Foundation reported net assets of \$158,193,435, representing an increase of 34.32% for the period ending June 30, 2024.

The market value of the ASU System Foundation Endowment Pool for the period ending June 30, 2024, was \$127,294,552.

The net rate of return for the period ending June 30, 2024, was 10.00%.

Endowment balances designated per campus are as follows:

Jonesboro	\$109,601,761
Mountain Home	5,947,340
Beebe	2,355,433
Newport	3,033,221
Three Rivers	924,637
Red Wolves Foundation	2,036,284
System Foundation	3,395,876
Total	<u>\$127,294,552</u>

**Arkansas State University System  
Capital Projects Report  
September 6, 2024**

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

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY (A-STATE)**

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Misc. Bldg. Site Demolition	\$4,008,109	Substantially Complete
Ellis House Renovations	164,690	Substantially Complete
Ed/Comm-5 Classroom Renovation-Lounge	350,000	Substantially Complete
Lab Science West Fire Alarm Replacement	328,590	Substantially Complete
ABI Cage Washer	560,299	Substantially Complete
Lab Science West 333 Classroom Renovation	354,036	Substantially Complete
Sorority Houses HVAC	246,129	Substantially Complete
FNB Arena AHU Replacement Phase 1	1,078,839	Construction Phase
FNB Arena AHU Replacement Phase 2	860,553	Construction Phase
FNB Arena New Sound System	180,291	Construction Phase
Red Wolf Den Remediation	231,124	Construction Phase
Collegiate Park HVAC	351,869	Construction Phase
Student Union Security Access	455,631	Construction Phase
Library Security Access	420,959	Construction Phase
Provost Office Remodel	114,369	Construction Phase
Loop Trail Phases III and IV	1,149,353	Construction Phase
FM Fire Alarm Panel Upgrades	104,555	Construction Phase
FNB Arena Courtyard	171,360	Construction Phase
Armory Kitchen	150,000	Construction Phase
Tyronza Grain Bin Remodel	1,916,383	Construction Phase
Village Apartments – Cypress Repairs	129,167	Construction Phase
Northpark Plaza Renovation	4,762,029	Design Phase
Arkansas Hall Fan Coils	286,000	Design Phase
University Hall Fan Coils	273,000	Design Phase
Windgate Art and Innovation Center	25,219,886	Design Phase
Ed Comm Bathroom Renovation – ADA	100,000	Design Phase

**1. Misc. Building Site Demolition**

Architect/Engineer: WER  
Contractor: Meadows Contractors  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: Demolition of the Fine Arts Center annex is complete and sitework is complete. The HPESS pool building demolition is complete. University Circle houses have been removed and sitework is being completed. Miscellaneous site work remains to be completed.

**2. Ellis House Renovations**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Various  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is a renovation to the existing office space for the College of Veterinary Medicine Administration. Staff began occupying the space in July 2024.

**3. Ed Comm-5 Classroom Reno-Lounge**

Architect/Engineer: AMR Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: College of Communications Departmental Funds

Status: The classroom portion of this project is complete. The lounge remodel is complete.

**4. Lab Science West Fire Alarm Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit  
Contractor: Johnson Controls Fire Protection  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The scope of this project is to remove and replace the fire alarm system in the Lab Sciences West Building. The project is substantially complete.

**5. ABI Cage Washer**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit and Pettit  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The original cage washer has reached its end of life. A new washer has been installed and the project is set to close.

**6. Lab Science West 333 Classroom Renovation**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett Krennerich  
Contractor: Bailey  
Expected Completion: Fall 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project transformed an existing underutilized laboratory into a new classroom and is awaiting closeout.

**7. Sorority Houses HVAC**

Architect/Engineer: Insight  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project has removed and replaced the HVAC units for all sorority chapter rooms and is substantially complete.

**8. First National Bank Arena Air Handler Unit Replacement Phase 1**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The scope of this project is to remove one existing Air Handler Unit (AHU) and replace it with one new AHU, which has dehumidification capabilities, and to refurbish one existing AHU.

**9. First National Bank Arena Air Handler Unit Replacement Phase 2**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The scope of this project is to remove one existing Air Handler Unit (AHU) and replace it with one new AHU, which has dehumidification capabilities, and to refurbish another existing AHU.

**10. FNB Arena New Sound System**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Gateway Sight and Sound  
Expected Completion: TBD  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is an upgrade of the sound system in the FNB Arena and is completed and ready for closeout.

**11. Red Wolf Den Remediation**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Servpro/Vincent  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is remediating mold and repairing damage caused by water intrusion.

**12. Collegiate Park HVAC**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit Engineers  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The scope is to replace the remaining R-22 units with new 14 SEER R-410A units. This is a multi-year phased project. The phasing plan has been updated to add Summer 2024, following the December 2023 freeze damage at Collegiate Park. We are in the final phase.

**13. Student Union Security Access**

Architect/Engineer: Steiling Architecture  
Contractor: Ditta Enterprises, Inc.  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Access and Security Fee

Status: The project upgrades the exterior entrances for lockdown and electronic access and adds additional cameras. Construction is nearing completion.

**14. Library Security Access**

Architect/Engineer: Steiling Architecture  
Contractor: Ditta Enterprises, Inc., A-State ITS  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Access and Security Fee

Status: The project upgrades the exterior entrances for lockdown and electronic access, as well as adding additional cameras. Construction is nearing completion.

**15. Provost Office Remodel**

Architect/Engineer: Cooper Mixon  
Contractor: Various  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is refurbishing the office suite for the Provost and installing an emergency exit.

**16. Loop Trail Phases III and IV**

Architect/Engineer: Pickering  
Contractor: Meadows Construction  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: ARDOT Grant/University Reserves

Status: Phases III and IV are being combined and will extend the existing campus trail system into the northeast quadrant of the campus and connect the residence halls to the campus core. The trail will encompass approximately one mile of twelve-foot-wide, paved-trail surface that will offer pedestrians and cyclists a transportation and recreational path separate from vehicular facilities. Funding is in place and construction is nearing completion.

**17. FM Fire Alarm Panel Upgrades**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Johnson Controls  
Expected Completion: Fall 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project upgrades the existing fire-alarm panels at Facilities Management.

**18. FNB Arena Courtyard**

Architect/Engineer: Pickering  
Contractor: Meadows Construction  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project replaces the concrete paving in the courtyard adjacent to the Hames Room and addresses the drainage for the area. Construction should begin soon.

**19. Armory – Kitchen**

Architect/Engineer: Cooper Mixon  
Contractor: Bailey Contractors  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: DHS Grant and University Reserves

Status: The kitchen renovations are in the construction phase.

**20. Tyronza Grain Bin Remodel**

Architect/Engineer: Revival Architecture  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: ANCRC Grant

Status: This project converts areas in Tyronza’s Commercial Historic District into interpretive space and adds new accessible restrooms. This project is in the construction phase.

**21. Village Apartments – Cypress Repairs**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Nabholz  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project makes repairs to the exterior of the building. The project is under construction.

**22. Northpark Plaza Renovation**

Architect/Engineer: TBD  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: DHS Grant

Status: This project renovates the existing Northpark Plaza building for the RESTORE program and is funded by a DHS Grant.

**23. Arkansas Hall Fan Coils**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit Engineers  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical/Other  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: TBD

Status: The scope is to replace the existing fan coil units with new units. This will be a multi-year phased project. Disposition of this project is pending the completion of the campus Master Plan update.

**24. University Hall Fan Coils**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit Engineers  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical/Other  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: TBD

Status: The scope is to replace the existing fan coil units with new units. This will be a multi-year phased project. Disposition of this project is pending the completion of the campus Master Plan update.

**25. Windgate Art and Innovation Center**

Architect/Engineer: WER  
Contractor: Clark Contractors  
Expected Completion: Spring 2026  
Funding: Windgate Grant/University Reserves

Status: This project creates an Art and Innovation building, which will be used to house functions for both Art and Engineering. We just received the final bid documents and bidding will begin soon.

**26. Ed Comm Bathroom Reno - ADA**

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

Status: This project is to renovate the restrooms in Ed Comm for ADA accessibility. The design is complete.

**ASU-BEEBE**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
Bloodworth Nursing Building Project	\$1,976,093	Planning/Design
Vet Tech HVAC Replacement Project	160,000	Planning/Design

**1. Bloodworth Nursing Building Project**

Architect/Engineer: WER Architects & Engineers  
 Contractor: Flynn Construction  
 Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
 Funding: Grant, University Reserves

Status: ASUB received a federal earmark, funded through a HRSA grant, in the amount of \$1,500,000 to replace the existing flat roof with a new gable roof system and add additional classroom and office space to the Bloodworth Nursing Building on the Searcy campus. This project will allow the institution to better serve the training needs of our local healthcare industry. The balance of the estimated project cost will be funded from institutional reserves.

**2. Vet Tech HVAC Replacement Project**

Architect/Engineer: WER Architects & Engineers  
 Contractor: Middleton  
 Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
 Funding: Institutional Reserves

Status: The HVAC system, in the Vet Tech Facility on the Beebe campus, has been in use since 2007 and is at least two years beyond its useful life. WER has been retained to oversee the purchase and installation of a new HVAC system to replace the current one. This project is necessary, in order for the program to be in compliance with accreditation standards.

**ASU-MOUNTAIN HOME**

<u>PROJECT TITLE</u>	<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
ASUMH Trail Lighting and Landscaping	\$420,000	Design
ASUMH Gotaas Hall Renovation/Remodel	6,000,000	Planning

**1. ASUMH Trail Lighting and Landscaping**

Architect/Engineer: Half Associates  
 Contractor: TBD  
 Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
 Funding: ARDOT TAP Grant, Institutional Reserves

Status: This project encompasses a walking/biking trail on the Mountain Home campus. The project is funded by a Transportation Alternative Program grant from the Arkansas Department of Transportation, along with 20% matching institutional funds.

**2. ASUMH Gotaas Hall Renovation/Remodel**

Architect/Engineer: TBD  
 Contractor: TBD  
 Expected Completion: December 2026  
 Funding: Federal HRSA grant \$6,000,000



Status: ASUMH received a federal earmark, funded through an HRSA grant, in the amount of \$6,000,000 to renovate and remodel the Gotaas Hall Nursing Building. This project will allow the institution to better serve the training needs of our local health care industry.

## **ASU-NEWPORT**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
ASUN Memorial Walking/Biking Trails NP Phase II	\$117,000	Pre-Construction
ASUN Memorial Walking/Biking Trails MT Phase I	103,000	Design Phase
ASUN Center for Health Sciences Building Project	6,446,000	Design Phase

### **1. ASUN Walking/Biking Trails NP Phase II**

Architect/Engineer: Cromwell Architects  
 Contractor: Hawkeye  
 Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
 Funding: ARDOT Trails Grant, Institutional Reserves

Status: This project encompasses Phase II of the Memorial Walking/Biking Trail on the Newport campus. The project is funded by a Recreational Trails grant from ARDOT and 20% matching institutional funds.

### **2. ASUN Walking/Biking Trails MT Phase I**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett-Krennerich Architects  
 Contractor: TBD  
 Expected Completion: Fall 2025  
 Funding: ARDOT Trails Grant, Institutional Reserves

Status: This project encompasses a walking/biking trail on the Marked Tree campus. The project is funded by a Recreational Trails grant from ARDOT and 20% matching institutional funds.

### **3. ASUN Center for Health Sciences Phase I**

Architect/Engineer: Taggart Architects  
 Contractor: Clark Contractors, LLC  
 Expected Completion: Fall 2026  
 Funding: EDA Grant, DRA Grant, Private Funds

Status: This project is to construct a new Health Sciences building on the Newport campus. Health Sciences programs are the highest producing programs on campus, comprising more than 50% of the overall Newport campus enrollment. Both the architect and general contractor are selected, and the design of Phase I is in process.

## ASU MID-SOUTH

<u>PROJECT TITLE</u>	<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
University Center Roof	300,000	Bid Phase

### 1. University Center Roof

Architect/Engineer:	Polk, Stanley, Wilcox
Contractor:	TBD
Expected Completion:	Fall 2024
Funding:	Institutional Reserves

Status: This project is to replace the roof on the University Center. The design and bid documents are complete, and bids will be opened in late August. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of the fall semester.

## ASU THREE RIVERS

<u>PROJECT TITLE</u>	<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Ritz Theatre Renovation–Phase IV	\$1,261,977	Substantially Complete
New Nursing Building	8,000,000	Construction Phase
Ritz Theatre Renovation – Phase V	1,355,611	Design Phase

### 1. ASUTR Ritz Theatre Renovation – Phase IV

Architect/Engineer:	SCM Architects
Contractor:	Clark Contractors, LLC
Expected Completion:	Fall 2024
Funding:	Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant, awarded by the Arkansas Department of Heritage, is funding Phase IV renovations, which include audio/visual systems, house and stage lighting, and auditorium renovations and seating. Clark Contractors is currently clearing punch list items.

### 2. New Nursing Building

Architect/Engineer:	Lewis Architects Engineers
Contractor:	Clark Contractors, LLC
Expected Completion:	Fall 2025
Funding:	Federal Department of Health and Human Services Grant

Status: Sitework has begun by Clark Contractors. Structural foundation work is scheduled to begin in November.

**3. ASUTR Ritz Theatre Renovation – Phase V**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: Clark Contractors, LLC  
Expected Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant, awarded by the Arkansas Department of Heritage, is funding Phase V renovations, which include incorporation of the former TV repair shop building. Specific work elements include additional restroom facilities, construction of conference rooms, and expansion of front lobby.

**HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
Caddo Center (Phase III)	\$1,191,606	Substantially Complete
Barkman House	850,000	Substantially Complete
Mooney Hall	700,000	Design Phase
Smith Hall	400,000	Design Phase
Russell Fine Arts Hall	800,000	Design Phase

**1. Caddo Center (Phase III)**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: Kinco Constructors  
Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY 2023-2024 Grant

Status: Construction has begun and is expected to be completed by April 2024. The grant funding is to preserve the Caddo Center as a one-stop shop for students. This Phase III grant will allow space for Financial Aid, Student Accounts, and Housing. The construction phase is nearing completion.

**2. Barkman House**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: Nabholz  
Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY 2023-2024 Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant is funding adaptive preservation of the Barkman House. The grant will include new roofing, repairing all historic wood on the exterior of the building, adding insulation and duct repairs, painting, and structural repairs. Construction is scheduled to begin in February 2024, and the project is scheduled to be completed by May 2024. Currently, we are waiting for the window installation.

**3. Mooney Hall**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY 2023-2024  
Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant is funding adaptive preservation of HSU's Mooney Hall. The grant will include new roofing, repairing all historic wood on the exterior of the building, entry repairs to the brick area, adding painting, and structural repairs. Construction is scheduled to begin in December 2024, and the project is scheduled to be completed by May 2025.

**4. Smith Hall**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY 2023-2024  
Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant is funding adaptive preservation of A-State's Smith Hall. The grant will include a new cooling tower, painting, and structural repairs. Construction is scheduled to begin in December 2024, and the project is scheduled to be completed by May 2025.

**5. Russell Fine Arts Hall**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Completion: Summer 2025  
Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY 2023-2024  
Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant is funding adaptive preservation of Russell Fine Arts Hall. The grant will include renovating the music, band, and auditorium areas, repairing all historic wood, lockers, painting and flooring. Construction is scheduled to begin in December 2024, and the project is due to be completed by May 2025.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees  
September 6, 2024**

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

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH**

**Office of the Provost:**

- The HLC Institution Action Committee voted in July to reaffirm Arkansas State for an additional 10 years. In addition, A-State accepted an invitation to participate in the Open Pathway program, which includes a quality assurance initiative in place of the four-year visit.
- A-State had a record enrollment for both Summer I and Summer II sessions:
  - 7,484 students enrolled for Summer I, which represented a 12% increase over last summer, and
  - 6,606 students enrolled for Summer II, which represented a 19% increase over last summer.
- More than 1,300 students graduated during the summer commencement ceremony on August 10, 2024.
- Preliminary reports show record enrollment for Fall 2024. As of August 12, we show the following results:
  - The Fall 2024 headcount is 1,716 (14%) higher than Fall 2023,
  - The Fall 2024 International Student Orientation hosted 380 students, doubling last fall's attendance.
- Fiscal Year 2024 resulted in Arkansas State's single largest research award, a \$27M award led by Dr. Kristin Johnson to launch the HOWL RESTORE Hub (Helping Our Wolves Learn: Research, Education, Service, Transition, and Outreach through Reflective Engagement).
- The Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI) will host a 20th anniversary celebration on September 18, 2024.
- Dr. Heidi Banse began serving as Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine and tenured professor, effective July 22, 2024. The Office of the Provost has approved two additional associate dean positions to be filled in the coming months.
- Arkansas State is recommending rank and tenure of the following individuals:
  - Dr. Heidi Banse, tenured Professor and Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, effective with their hire on July 22, 2024;

- Dr. Jim Farris, a Professor of Physical Therapy with four years towards tenure, will begin his fifth year of pre-tenure status effective August 16, 2024, with the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year.

### **Research and Technology Transfer:**

- We submitted 94 grant proposals, a 34% increase over the previous fiscal year. The total value of submitted proposals was more than \$86M.
- The total amount of new and amended externally sponsored funding received is \$59.8M, a 134% increase over the previous fiscal year.

### **Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Actions:**

The following programs were approved by AHECB at the July 26, 2024, meeting:

#### **EXISTING CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE PROGRAM OFFERED ONLINE**

- C.P., Esports Management
- B.S., Global Supply Chain Management

#### **PROGRAM CURRICULUM REVISION**

- D.P.T., Physical Therapy
- B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science
- B.S.R.S., Radiologic Sciences

#### **NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

- C.P., Advanced Materials and Manufacturing
- C.P., Personal Financial Wellness
- G.C., Marriage and Family Therapy
- G.C., PreKindergarten Academy

#### **NAME OR CIP CHANGE OF EXISTING CERTIFICATE, DEGREE, MAJOR, OPTION OR ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT**

- Departmental name change: the Department of Political Science will be renamed the Department of Government, Law & Policy;
- Departmental name change and reorganization: the Department of Emergency Management and Occupational Health will be renamed Department of Health Sciences & Risk Management; Dietetics, Health Studies, and Public Health programs are to be moved under the renamed department;
- College name change: College of Sciences and Mathematics to be renamed Beck College of Sciences and Mathematics.

#### **PROGRAM DELETION/INACTIVATION OR REACTIVATION**

- Deletion, A.A.S., Land Surveying & Geomatics
- Deletion, B.S., Land Surveying & Geomatics
- Deletion, C.P., Data Visualization and Information Design
- Deletion, C.P., Marketing Analytics
- Deletion, C.P., Museum Studies
- Inactivation, B.S.E., Chemistry
- Inactivation, B.S.E., Physics
- Inactivation, B.S.E., Biology

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Actions:**

Nothing will be submitted to the AHECB for the October 25, 2024, meeting.

**ACCESS AND INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT**

**Access and Accommodation Services (AAS):**

- The department has added 150 students since June, bringing the total to 1,173.
- Approximately 38 tests have been administered, including Accuplacer Placement Exams for students who need accommodations.
- AAS fulfilled 30 requests for e-texts and 22 technology/assistive device checkouts.
- Staff attended eight professional development trainings to better serve students.
- Our team conducted seven workshops focused on topics such as new assistive technology, working with neurodivergent students, navigating staff and budget shortages, facilitating accommodated testing, reviewing legal disability discrimination causes, and more. These trainings satisfy continuing education requirements for state and national licenses and certifications.
- AAS awarded three privately funded scholarships to students with disabilities for the upcoming academic year.

**ADVANCE:**

ADVANCE is a program for faculty from underrepresented groups who provide guidance, support, and resources on their path to tenure and promotion.

- The following workshops were coordinated by the faculty liaison, Dr. Lille Fears:
  - Unlocking Bold Leadership: Challenged participants to discover and cultivate the key traits that define bold leaders,
  - Learning to Lead with Grace: Explored the barriers or challenges faced in navigating higher education, and
  - Don't Do This! A Brief Journey through Best and Worst Practices from Pre-Tenure to Tenure: Provided tips for faculty pursuing tenure.

### **AmeriCorps:**

- The Neighborhood Red Wolves Community Engagement Program (NRWCEP) grant will not be renewed and ends August 31, 2024.
- The director participated in the monthly Program Director Community Learning calls and volunteered for Childhood Services in compliance with the program's literacy initiative.
- NRWCEP Member Activity:
  - A member met with local youth to assist with college prep for the fall.
  - One member completed 300 hours of service and received a certificate of completion for serving their community through the NRWCEP.
  - A member was publicly congratulated in EngageAr's (grant holder) newsletter for securing the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and was awarded the monthly feature spot.

### **Community Engagement:**

- The Division of Access and Institutional Engagement donated to the following:
  - St. Bernard's Healthcare, Arisa Health, and the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging at NYITCOM at A-State brought the Fifth Annual Diversity & Inclusion Conference to the community of Northeast Arkansas on Friday, June 21, 2024.
  - A-State promotional tote bags were provided for the African American seven-state regional Walter Cade Jr. Southwest Laymen Workshop held in July. The workshop featured a youth night on July 26 with Christopher Crutchfield, a 2024 Distinguished Service Award recipient.

### **Faculty/Staff Development, Promotion, and Retention:**

- The Division of Access and Institutional Engagement sponsored 31 registration fees for faculty and staff to attend the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) conference held on June 21 at the Cooper Alumni Center.
- Funds were provided for the Access and Accommodation staff to register to meet the June discount deadline to attend the national AHEAD Conference.

### **Student Retention and Recruitment:**

- The Division of Access and Institutional Engagement provided funds to assist student Dr. KeyAnna Debose to attend the National Athletic Trainers' Association Clinical Symposium in New Orleans, where she was presented with a scholarship.
- The Division of Access and Institutional Engagement is hosting the 2024 INSPIRE program beginning the second week in August for early arriving incoming students.



### **Multicultural Center (MC):**

- MC staff met with the Leadership Center organization and the Student Activities Board to plan joint events for the upcoming semester. One of the key events planned is "El Grito," which will be held during Hispanic Heritage Month.
- The Multicultural Center continues to participate in New Student Orientation and regularly meets with student groups to plan for the Fall 2024 semester.
- Multicultural Center Ambassadors, Sister 2 Sister, and Evolve gathered on campus with Education Program Coordinator Trinity Haynes to complete their events calendar for the semester.
- The MC is reaching out to professors of Making Connections courses to schedule classroom visits, where staff will present our available resources.
- In collaboration with International Programs, the MC has planned two joint events and hopes to organize more this semester. This ongoing collaboration emphasizes the Center's dedication to enhancing the student experience through inclusive programming.
- MC Ambassadors have returned to campus and are attending a student leader retreat hosted by the Leadership Center. Following the retreat, they will convene in the MC to review and finalize plans for the semester.

## **ATHLETICS**

### **Athletics Administration:**

- The Red Wolves scored a school-record 118 points to finish fourth in the Sun Belt Conference's Vic Bubas Trophy all-sports championship standings.
- The Athletics Department announced that Red Wolves Sports Properties entered into a four-year agreement with Dustin White Realty, making it the official real estate firm of A-State Athletics.
- The Athletics Department announced plans to celebrate the milestone 50th anniversary of women's sports at the school throughout the 2024-25 academic year.
- The Arkansas State Lettermen's Club will induct four new members: Stephanie Foreman Adams (women's T&F); Jacob Lee (baseball); JD McKissic (football); and Cyndi Rhone (volleyball) into A-State's Hall of Honor during its 44th annual banquet, to be held October 25.

### **Baseball:**

- Vice Chancellor for Intercollegiate Athletics Jeff Purinton announced that 2023 Southland Conference Coach of the Year Mike Silva has been named the Red Wolves' sixth all-time head baseball coach.

### **Track & Field:**

- Three-time All-American Camryn Newton-Smith represented Australia in the 2024 Summer Olympics.

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

- Behind a pair of individual top-20 performances, A-State finished ninth at the NCAA Austin Regional.

### **Women's Golf:**

- Head Coach MJ Desbiens Shaw, who led the Red Wolves to their first postseason appearance in school history last year, received a three-year contract extension.

### **Football:**

- Tickets sold out for the A-State Football Kickoff Party, held on August 2 at Embassy Suites in Jonesboro. More than 500 tickets and a record 61 tables were sold, nearly tripling last year's total.
- Including three first-team and six second-team selections, the Red Wolves earned a league-high nine selections on the 2024 Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference Team.

### **Women's Tennis:**

- A-State signed the No. 19 mid-major recruiting class in the country per the Tennis Recruiting Network.

### **Women's Bowling:**

- Head coach Justin Kostick, who has led the Red Wolves to back-to-back national runner-up finishes, received a three-year contract extension.

### **Women's Soccer:**

- Brian Dooley, the winningest head coach in the women's soccer program's history, received a three-year contract extension.

## **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT, GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH**

### **Undergraduate Recruitment:**

- First-year undergraduate enrollment is projected to reach nearly 1,900 new students for Fall 2024. This is in addition to large increases in first-time students in both the spring and summer terms.
- Transfer numbers are currently running slightly ahead for Fall 2024, and our early college enrollment is trending up over 20%.

- Plans are in place to build upon what was developed this past year to achieve similar or higher numbers for Fall 2025.
- A new financial aid package was created for the 2025-26 academic year.

## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

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

- **Current Projects:**
  - Sound System Replacement
  - Court Refinishing
  - Daktronics Upgrade and Internal Software Replacement
- **August Events:**
  - A-State Volleyball Tournament
- **Currently on Sale:**
  - Zach Williams – September 29
  - Brantly Gilbert – October 4
  - REO Speedwagon and Loverboy – November 15

### **Environmental Health and Safety:**

- Sponsored the first Earth Day art contest with more than 100 entries.

### **Red Wolf Wellness:**

- Conducted a 10-week health and fitness coaching program for 63 faculty and staff. The program offered personalized coaching by our team of trainers and interns. Participants completed two to three weekly training sessions, with the option to monitor heart rates and participate in an activity points challenge. Participants experienced enhancements in strength, flexibility, body composition, blood pressure, sleep quality, mood, energy levels, and overall well-being.

### **Title IX and Institutional Equity:**

- Created materials to promote the rights and responsibilities of pregnant or parenting students, along with an assessment questionnaire.
- Assisted seven students with pregnancy rights and aided with:
  - applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,
  - applying ABC Program (daycare voucher),
  - applying for Medicaid, and
  - acquiring obtaining temporary parking.
- Provided Title IX training and updates to Athletics and new staff.

### **Training and Development:**

- Hosted 54 new staff members for orientation during the months of April, May, and June; completed the third cohort of Leadership A-State in April.
- Coordinated and presented Vector, a system-wide training content contract option, to the System HR directors; added two new courses to the Learn Center.

### **Enterprise Risk Management:**

- Assisting HSU employees with VSP program questions.
- Presently obtaining out-of-state driving reports. Approximately 80% are completed.

### **Associate Chief Financial Officer:**

- Fiscal Year 24 closed on July 17, and the financial audit began in August.

### **Treasurer's Office:**

- Student Account Services is working in collaboration with the enrollment planning group to assist in removing holds related to Fall 24 term registration and will continue monitoring account balances and activity up to the beginning of the term.

### **Procurement:**

- The annual minority business spending report has been compiled. The state goal is 15%; A-State was at 13.9% and HSU was 4.26%.

### **Auxiliary Services:**

- KiwiBots, robots that will deliver food to students on campus, started traversing the campus on August 19. Subscriptions are already included for students on selected board plans. Subscriptions are available through Sodexo's everyday app.

### **Operating Budget:**

- The FY25 ASUJ and ASU-System operating budgets were compiled and approved at the Board of Trustees meeting on June 6, 2024.
- The FY25 approved ASUJ and ASU-System operating budgets were successfully loaded into Banner to facilitate the seamless workflow for departmental constituents.
- Budget office staff rolled budget and payroll records within the Banner system to provide a seamless transition for employee payroll payments on the July 15, 2024, payroll. In addition, multiple data audits occurred to ensure that budget revisions were incorporated correctly into the Banner systems.

### **Reporting:**

- The following reports were submitted to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education by the annual deadline:
  - Series 17-7A: FY25 budgeted revenues and expenditures
  - Series 21-2: FY25 "Certification of Budgeted Athletic Revenue and Expenditures"
- Fiscal Year End: Scholarship usage report for FY24
- Facilities Management, ITS, AOS, International, and First National Bank Arena year-end reports
- FY24 Carry-Forward Report
- FY24 Final Temporary Salary Savings Report
- Final Report of FY24 Revenues
- Analysis/Forecast of FY25 Revenues
- Fiscal Year End: Residence Life and Student Union Status Report

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

- The Delta Center provided effective communications training for Jonesboro city employees.
- Continued administration of the Delta Leadership Institute Executive Academy, Arkansas Delta Women's Leadership Academy, and Leadership in Banking.
- An advisory board was established for A-State Innovate, and members met to begin work on a new strategic plan.

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

- In July, the agency successfully completed the annual Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) compliance audit.
- Sgt. Caleb Lawson and Sgt. Takeem Bowman completed the four-week School of Law Enforcement Supervision course at the Criminal Justice Institute in Little Rock. This course is designed to provide first- and second-line supervisors with the fundamental skills they will need to become effective managers over the course of their careers.

## **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

### **University Marketing:**

- Finalizing contract negotiations with vendors and scheduling institutional campaigns across the state and region.
- Refreshed all campus light pole banners and currently evaluating additional installations in the campus core.

- Joined the ASU Committee of the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce as a permanent fixture to connect the University with city events.
- Finalized content architecture and design for the new AState.edu website. The project has moved into the programming phase and we are targeting a Spring 2025 launch.
- Developing the second edition of our first-year student survey on the factors that most influenced the college selection process.
- Developing a series of radio campaigns to inform the public about the unmatched opportunities available at A-State. These will run during athletic events and related programming.
- A Director of Social Media Strategy position has been created, and the selected candidate will begin work on October 1.
- Coordinated with Enrollment Management to unveil the 2024-25 Financial Aid package, surprising an unsuspecting campus tour group.

#### **Publications and Creative Services (PCS):**

- PCS continues to collaborate with the Provost's Office to add new visual elements to the University commencement ceremonies.
- We have developed multiple concepts aimed at campus beautification to be presented to a task force for consideration.
- Conceptualized designs and layouts for various campaigns aimed at educating the public on initiatives, including NYITCOM at A-State; the College of Veterinary Medicine; A-State's partnership with the steel industry, and more.
- We are designing materials to be used for the Windgate Hall ground-breaking ceremony on September 19.
- PCS continues to serve as an internal advertising agency for major campus initiatives.

#### **Digital Creative Media (DCM):**

- DCM continues to produce high-quality photos and videos from campus events, sharing the story of everyday campus life at A-State.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

- Announced Chris Boothman as Vice Chancellor for Distance Education & Technology and Chief Information Officer on August 12, following the retirement of Dr. Henry Torres.
- Successfully migrated all student e-mails from Google to Microsoft 365, in order to create a unified experience for students, faculty, and staff. Students will see benefits from having a standardized e-mail system by unlocking the full potential of

our existing student Microsoft accounts and integrating email with other apps, such as Word, PowerPoint, etc.

- Coordinated the implementation of several new platforms in the past quarter to support institutional retention, student success, and admissions/recruiting efforts, including a second Slate instance that will be used in place of Starfish, SimpleSyllabus (standardized syllabi creation), EdSights (AI-based text messaging/chatbot), and started the implementation of CourseDog (campus course scheduling and room/event management software).
- Completed year three of a five-year fiber expansion project.
- Made major upgrades to the existing wireless networks in University residence halls and are set to revolutionize student living, bringing enhanced security and substantial cost savings. By replacing outdated equipment with state-of-the-art technology from Extreme Networks, Arkansas State University is improving network performance and fortifying its defenses against cyber threats. This forward-thinking investment is projected to save \$500,000 over the next decade while providing students with a secure and reliable online experience for years to come.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

- New Student Orientation hosted 1,438 first-year students to campus for the official A-State onboarding experience. Incoming students and parents learned about campus resources and student services, finalized the fall class schedule, and toured campus and residence halls in preparation for Fall 2024.
- Katey Provence was named the director of the newly created Student Affairs Marketing and Communications team. This department will spearhead content creation to highlight campus events and coordinate communication with students and parents regarding various aspects of University Housing, Student Life, and Student Wellness. The goal is to offer a more comprehensive approach to engaging students and promoting campus involvement opportunities.
- Thirteen overnight camps hosted on the Arkansas State University campus received on-campus housing. A total of 1,622 individuals resided overnight throughout the summer months. The on-campus experience offered a more in-depth glimpse into life at A-State for participants, mostly within the high school age range.
- The A-State Food Pantry serves the campus community by providing non-perishable food, recovery meals, and personal hygiene products. The pantry served 5,240 individuals in the 2023-24 academic year, an increase of 2,823 from the previous year.
- Wolves Up Week is designed to welcome students to campus, provide occasions for students to meet, learn about engagement opportunities, and offer social experiences to ease their transition to college. This year's events include the

Splash Bash, Cookout on the Lawn, Red Wolf Feud, Silent Disco, Rec Fest, Glow in the Dark Throwdown, and the Community and Organization Fair.

- University Housing confirmed 3,159 campus housing reservations for the 2024-25 academic year. Student move-in dates are scheduled from August 1-17. A finalized occupancy count will be conducted on the 11th class day.

## **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

### **Advancement Services:**

- For the fiscal year, July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, the University recorded 26,956 gifts and commitments from 7,074 individual donors, totaling \$14,040,882. The overall giving amount includes outright donations of cash, gifts-in-kind, planned gifts, and new pledges. A list of new endowments established this fiscal year is attached.
- There were 773 privately funded scholarships awarded to 618 students, totaling \$1,329,126.

### **Alumni Relations:**

- The Alumni Association Board of Directors set a goal of 100 new 1924 Sustaining Life Memberships by the end of the 2025 fiscal year. This goal coincides with the Association's 100-year celebration in 2024. More than half of those new life memberships have been secured.
- The number of official A-State license plates, as of June 30, 2024, totals 5,214.
- There will not be a Distinguished Alumni Awards event this year. The Association will be celebrating its centennial on the evening of October 4.
- The 2024 Emerging Young Alumni have been selected. The four individuals to be honored this year are Garrett Barnes '10, '17, '19 of Jonesboro; Zachary Brogdon '14 of Little Rock; Meredith Cook '06 of Jonesboro; and Matthew Hampton '13 of New York, NY. They will be honored at a small private luncheon on September 5 at the Cooper Alumni Center.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - September 5: Emerging Young Alumni Luncheon
  - September 7: Alumni Tailgate for the A-State vs. Tulsa game
  - October 4: 50-year Reunion campus tour for the Class of 1974
  - October 4: A-State Alumni 100-year Celebration
  - October 5: Homecoming Tailgate
  - November: Possible Culture at the Cooper Events
  - December 7: Pancakes and PJ's
  - December 7: State Capitol Lighting, ASU System Office
  - December: Bowl Game activities – Tentative



- Fall 24/Winter 25: Memphis Grizzlies alumni gathering, Date TBD
- January 18: Bubbles & Bingo Rugby Fundraiser
- January/February: Possible Culture at the Cooper Events
- March: Sun Belt Conference Happy Hour/Watch Parties – Tentative
- April 8: Day of Giving
- April/May: Bark at the Park
- May 1: Red Wolves on the Rooftop (date tentative depending on Howl on Wheels)
- June/July: Alumni events in St. Louis

**Arkansas State University System  
Board of Trustees Report  
September 6, 2024**

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

**Automotive Technology Agreement with Toyota/Lexus – TECS Elite**

The Automotive Technology Program at the Arkansas State University-Beebe (ASUB) Searcy campus has added the Toyota Lexus TECS Elite training program to its curriculum. This innovative program was made possible through a partnership with Parker Lexus of Little Rock and Toyota.

TECS Elite is an education support program offered by Toyota and Lexus. It is available at qualifying community and technical colleges. Students complete e-learning courses required for dealership entry-level technician certification. In addition, TECS Elite students complete 90 hours of hands-on training in brakes, steering and suspension, tire repair, and general maintenance. This certification level is the first step in building a career as a technician at a Toyota or Lexus dealership. The ASUB program is the only program in Arkansas to offer this option.

The goal of the TECS Elite program is to educate students so that they reach the level in which they can seamlessly transition into technician roles at Toyota or Lexus dealerships. This partnership offers our students opportunities for job shadowing, internships, and ultimately, employment.

The program includes access to Toyota-specific tools and two new vehicles, a Toyota Corolla, and a Tacoma truck, for hands-on training. Students will learn to maintain, troubleshoot, and repair Toyota-manufactured vehicles, gaining certifications in various areas as they progress through the program. These certifications are recorded in the Toyota Technician Database for future employment verification.

**ASUB Received Arkansas Department of Health Trauma Subgrant**

ASUB's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program was recently awarded a Health Trauma subgrant of \$8,536 from the Arkansas Department of Health and Office of Preparedness and Emergency Response Systems. The subgrant will be used by the EMS Program to purchase specialized simulation equipment and supplies to enhance student learning in emergency care. Adding the trauma topics to the curriculum will allow individuals graduating from the EMS program to earn certifications in advanced cardiac life support, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and pediatric advanced life support, thereby preparing our graduates for opportunities in careers that include work in emergency departments, urgent care clinics, and disaster and wilderness medicine.

### **ASUB Receives ALIGN Grant to Increase the Number and Retention of Nurses in the State**

Both of the ASUB and A-State nursing programs were awarded a \$2,598,396 grant from the Office of Skills Development (OSD) and the Arkansas Linking Industry to Growing Nurses (ALIGN) program to help attract, prepare, and retain more nurses in the state.

ASUB and A-State were among 19 Arkansas schools receiving the ALIGN grant. Each applicant proposed its own projects and equipment needs. ASUB partnered with A-State on the proposal, "Expanding the Arkansas Nursing Workforce: Recruit, Retain, and Reimagine (R3)." The ASUB Nursing Programs will receive subawards of \$1.4 million matching in-kind donations from Unity Health, ARcare, and The Crossing at Riverside. In addition to supporting personnel costs and expansion, the grant will provide scholarships for students and equipment that will expand and enhance program offerings.

### **Esports Lounge Ribbon Cutting**

On July 10, ASUB held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Esports Lounge in the Dr. Eugene McKay Student Center. Beginning in Fall 2024, Esports will offer students an additional co-curricular sports activity. The Esports Lounge includes six competition-ready gaming stations, a console gaming space, and a hangout/strategy area with the potential for streaming and future development of Esports at ASUB.

The program is a collaborative effort between the Office of Student Life and Information Technology Services and will offer two levels of Esports programming. At the club sports level, as members of the Vanguard Esports Student Organization, teams compete in regional and online tournaments, compete based on select game titles, and have direct access to the Esports Lounge. The open recreation level provides opportunities for students to use the Esports Lounge for fun. Whether between classes or before work, the Esports Lounge has open hours for students to check out a gaming station and enjoy the space with their own title license.

### **Planning for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Heber Springs Campus**

On October 22, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., ASUB will host a public celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Heber Springs campus. A task force of employees has planned the event to feature special guests who are significant to the campus's history, as well as highlighting current and former students.

The event will be held in the Charlotte Lacy Plaza, with entertainment provided by the Kathy Brown Band. The formal program will begin at 5:00 p.m., and campus facilities tours will be available, including the recently expanded Nursing Education Program in the Academic Complex, and the Marine Technology Program in the Latimer Center.

### **ASUB Board of Visitors' Appointments**

Board of Visitors' members, Cathy Eoff and Buck Layne, have been appointed to a second term, each serving from 2024-2031.

## **ASUB Academic Program Notifications**

On July 26, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviewed the following program actions for ASUB:

- Curriculum Revision: Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems (CIP 52.1201; DC 0040; 62 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems (CIP 52.1201; DC 0040; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)
  - Deleted Courses: two credit hours of Business/Computer Electives; CIS 2033 Visual Basic Programming (optional); ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics (optional)
  - Added Optional Courses: PSY 2013 Introduction to Psychology; GEOG 2613 Introduction to Geography; HIST 1013 World Civilization to 1660; HIST 1023 World Civilization since 1660; HIST 2763 The United States to 1876; HIST 2773 The United States since 1876; POSC 2103 Introduction to U.S. Government;
- Curriculum Revision: Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 3016; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 3016; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)
  - Deleted Courses: ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components; ACR 2102 Air Distribution; ACR 2204 Materials; ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components
  - Added Courses: ENG 2033 Technical Writing & Communication (optional); HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components; *HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I; HVAC 1203 Materials; HVAC 1303; HVAC-R Components (new courses);*
- Curriculum Revision: Technical Certificate in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 4630; 33 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 4630; 33 credit hours; Fall 2024)
  - Deleted Courses: ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components
  - Added Courses: *HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components (new course);*
- Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program: Technical Certificate in Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 34 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in HVAC-R Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)
  - Deleted Courses: ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components; ACR 1203 Gas Heating Systems; ACR 1204 Electric Circuits and Controls; ACR 2102 Air Distribution; ACR 2204 Materials; ACR 2304 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Systems; ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components; IET 1002 Introduction to General Electronics I; IET 2002 Introduction to General Electronics II;
  - Added Courses: *HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components; HVAC 1403 Heating Systems; IET 2103 Control Systems; HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I; HVAC 1203 Materials; HVAC 1503 Systems; HVAC 1303 HVAC-R Components (new courses); IET 1013 AC/DC Circuits;*
- Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program: Certificate of Proficiency in Air Conditioning (CIP 47.0201; DC 1470; 10 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in HVAC-R Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 1470; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- Deleted Courses: ACR 2102 Air Distribution; ACR 2204 Materials; ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components
- Added Courses: *HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I; HVAC 1203 Materials; HVAC 1303 HVAC-R Components (new courses); IET 1013 AC/DC Circuits;*
- Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education: Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 3035; 64 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024);
- Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education: Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing (CIP 51.3901; DC 4661; 46 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024);
- New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor: Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Art Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024);
  - University Requirement: UNIV 1001 Principles of Academic Success I OR UNIV 1003 Principles of Academic Success III;
  - General Education: HIST 2083 History of Arkansas; MATH 1043 Quantitative Literacy or higher; ENG 1003 Freshman English I; CIS 1503 Microcomputer Applications I; ENG 1013 Freshman English II OR ENG 2033 Technical Writing and Communication;
  - Business Core: ACCT 2003 Principles of Accounting I; ACCT 2013 Principles of Accounting II; BSYS 2563 Business Communication; LAW 2023 The Legal Environment of Business; MGMT 2153 Small Business Management; BUS 1013 Introduction to Business; MGMT 2013 Business Organization and Management OR MGMT 2043 Supervisory Management; ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics;
  - Choose 21 credit hours of Studio Art or Portfolio: ART 1033 Drawing I; ART 1043 Drawing II-Life Drawing; ART 1063 Digital Photography; ART 1093 Digital Photography II; ART 1073 Color Theory; ART 1183 Foundations of Digital Media; ART 1003 Foundations of 2-Dimensional Design; ART 1023 Foundations of 3-Dimensional Design; ART 1103 Introduction to Typography; ART 2063 Painting I; ART 2073 Painting II; ART 2093 Ceramics I; ART 2103 Ceramics II; ART 1113 Introduction to Graphic Design; ART 2433 Graphic Illustration; ART 2503 Fine Arts Visual;
- New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor: Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Theater Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)
  - University Requirement: UNIV 1001 Principles of Academic Success I OR UNIV 1003 Principles of Academic Success III;
  - General Education: HIST 2083 History of Arkansas; MATH 1043 Quantitative Literacy or higher; ENG 1003 Freshman English I; CIS 1503 Microcomputer Applications I; ENG 1013 Freshman English II OR ENG 2033 Technical Writing and Communication;
  - Business Core: ACCT 2003 Principles of Accounting I; ACCT 2013 Principles of Accounting II; BSYS 2563 Business Communication; LAW 2023 The Legal Environment of Business; MGMT 2153 Small Business Management; BUS 1013 Introduction to Business; MGMT 2013 Business Organization and Management OR MGMT 2043 Supervisory Management; ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics;

- Theatre Core: THEA 1003 Introduction to Theatre; THEA 2233 Play Analysis; THEA 1261 Theatre Practicum I; THEA 1271 Theatre Practicum II; THEA 2261 Theatre Practicum III;
- Choose 12 credit hours of Theater Electives; THEA 1213 Acting I; THEA 1223 Stage Makeup; THEA 1233 Costume Construction; THEA 1243 Summer Theatre Production; THEA 1253 Stage Management; THEA 1293 Stage Combat; THEA 1303 Ballet I; THEA 1323 Introduction to Scenic Rendering; THEA 2013 History of Musical Theatre; THEA 2023 Acting for Musical Theatre; THEA 2033 Creating Children's Theatre; THEA 2123 Movement and Dance for the Stage; THEA 2143 Stage Lighting; THEA 2153 Voice and Diction; THEA 2213 Acting II; THEA 2223 Fundamentals of Stagecraft; THEA 2503 Fine Arts Theatre; THEA 2513 Fine Arts Film;
- New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor: Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Music Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)
  - University Requirement: UNIV 1001 Principles of Academic Success I OR UNIV 1003 Principles of Academic Success III;
  - General Education: HIST 2083 History of Arkansas; MATH 1043 Quantitative Literacy or higher; ENG 1003 Freshman English I; CIS 1503 Microcomputer Applications I; ENG 1013 Freshman English II OR ENG 2033 Technical Writing and Communication;
  - Business Core: ACCT 2003 Principles of Accounting I; ACCT 2013 Principles of Accounting II; BSYS 2563 Business Communication; LAW 2023 The Legal Environment of Business; MGMT 2153 Small Business Management; BUS 1013 Introduction to Business; MGMT 2013 Business Organization and Management OR MGMT 2043 Supervisory Management; ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics OR ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics;
  - Music Core: MUS 1413 Music Theory I; MUS 1423 Music Theory II; MUS 1411 Ear Training I; MUS 1421 Ear Training II; MUS 1201 Class Piano I; MUS 1211 Class Piano II; MUS 1 Hour Music Elective; MUS 1000 Recital Attendance
  - Choose 6 credit hours from the following Applied Lessons: MUS 1102 Applied Piano I; MUS 1112 Applied Piano II; MUS 2102 Applied Piano III; MUS 1302 Applied Voice I; MUS 1312 Applied Voice II; MUS 2302 Applied Voice III; MUS 1602 Applied Guitar I; MUS 1612 Applied Guitar II; MUS 2602 Applied Guitar III; MUS 1802 Applied Lessons-Instrumental I; MUS 1812 Applied Lessons-Instrumental II; MUS 2802 Applied Lessons-Instrumental III;
  - Choose four credit hours from the following Ensembles: MUS 1901 Symphonic Band I OR MUS 1791 The Singers I; MUS 1911 Symphonic Band II OR MUS 1891 The Singers II; MUS 2901 Symphonic Band III OR MUS 2791 The Singers III; MUS 2911 Symphonic Band IV OR MUS 2891 The Singers IV.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees  
September 6, 2024**

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

**Vice Chancellor and Dean Appointments**

Vice Chancellors and Deans have been named at Arkansas State University-Mountain Home. Their appointments were effective July 1, 2024.

Waynna Dockins has been named Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. She has served as the Chief Financial Officer of ASUMH since March of 2020 and previously served as Controller at the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville and Controller and Staff Accountant at ASU-Mountain Home.

Christy Keirn has been named Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement. She has served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Marketing and Community Relations, Associate Vice Chancellor for Marketing and Institutional Advancement, and Director of Marketing and Public Relations at ASUMH since 2008.

Dr. Tamara Daniel, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, will serve as Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs until the position is filled.

Stephanie Beaver has been named Dean of Students. She has served as Director of Enrollment Services and Recruiter at ASUMH since 2018.

Dr. Robert Shurley has been named Dean of Business, Arts and Sciences. He has served as the Interim Dean for the School of Arts and Sciences, Director of Banner Institutional Services, and the Degree Works Lead at ASUMH since 2021. He has also served as an Associate Professor of Mathematics at ASUMH since 2009.

Karen Heslep has been named Dean of Technology and Health Sciences. She has served as the Dean of Business and Technology at ASUMH since 2015 and previously served as Division Chair of the departments of Business and Technology and as a Business Administration Instructor at ASUMH since 2013.

These appointments are a result of the full review of ASUMH's organizational structure, which was completed in early 2024 to make improvements in efficiency, sustainability, and student success at ASUMH.

### **New Hires**

Following a comprehensive search, Don Reynolds has been hired as Registrar, and Theresa Walker has been hired as the Director of Title III and Student Success. Victor Beck has been hired as the Director of Financial Aid following the untimely passing of Clay Berry.

### **Leadership Retreat**

ASUMH hosted an off-campus leadership retreat on August 2. Internal leadership representing Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Finance and Administration, Institutional Advancement, human resources, maintenance, IT, and the library engaged in team building and developed an outline for ASUMH's annual plan of goals and strategies to serve as its executive priorities for the 2024-25 academic year.

### **Mountain Home Art Walk**

ASUMH, in partnership with the City of Mountain Home, installed the first major sculpture exhibit on the Mountain Home Art Walk. Artist Dale Rogers prepared 17 steel pieces for the exhibit that will remain on the ASUMH trail system until December 2024. Public voting will help determine which pieces stay in the college's permanent collection following the exhibit.

### **Professional Development Related to AI**

During Fall Convocation, ASUMH hosted Dr. C. Edward Watson, renowned expert on the intersection of AI and education. This professional development opportunity for faculty and staff enhanced ASUMH's continued exploration of proper and ethical deployment of AI in all facets of content delivery and student success.



## **Arkansas State University System**

**Board of Trustees**

**September 6, 2024**

### **Chancellor's Report**

#### **Arkansas State University-Newport**

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

- New Student Orientations (NSOs) were held on all three campuses on August 5, 6, and 8. Thank you to all who participated in ensuring that our new students felt supported as they prepared for their Aviator Adventure!
- Athletics Orientation was held on the ASU-Newport campus on August 7. All of the support of Aviator Athletics is greatly appreciated.
- Welcome Week festivities will take place from August 20-22. We are excited to welcome our new and returning Aviators to campus!
- The Arkansas Future (ArFuture) Grant application deadline was July 1. Our institution proudly participates in this grant program, which aims to make education and skill development more affordable for Arkansas's workforce. The grant applies to students enrolled in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) courses, or regional high-demand areas of study. It covers tuition and fees for qualifying certificates and Associate degree programs at Arkansas's public institutions for eligible students. The grant is available to students studying in high-demand fields at Arkansas community or technical colleges and is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. Many of ASUN's programs are included in the ArFuture Grant, which will significantly impact our students' future in positive ways.
- Students enrolled in the Transition Registered Nursing Program participated in the June community health events organized by the Jackson County Wellness Committee.
- The ASU-Newport Summer Commencement took place on June 27. We celebrated our graduates, who received 270 degrees and certificates. Joe Campbell, the Dean of the Liberal Arts/Honors College, delivered the keynote address.
- The Walmart Supercenter in Newport has generously donated multiple boxes of seed starting kits, pots, plant labels, heat mats, grow lights, and four large boxes of vegetable and flower seeds to our AG Tech students. This generous donation provides our students with the necessary resources for their class projects during the Fall 2024 semester. It underscores the importance of industry partnerships in enhancing our students' learning experiences.
- ASUN's Computer Networking, Cosmetology and Esthetics, and Culinary Arts departments proudly represented our institution at the Skills USA National Competition in Atlanta, Georgia, from June 24 to 28. Our state champions competed with the best students nationwide in their respective fields, a testament to our students' excellence and our faculty's guidance.

- The High Voltage Lineman Technology (HLVT) Orientation, held on June 20, was a resounding success, with 140 guests in attendance. We are thrilled to welcome 40 new HVLТ students to our campus for the fall semester.
- Several Summer Youth Camps were offered through a partnership between ASU-Newport, the Newport Economic Development Commission, and the Tech Depot. Campers visited some of the industry giants in our area, including Arkansas Steel, Southwest Steel Processing, Diaz Scrap Metal, Shearer's, NEDC/Chamber, ASUN Truck Driving, and HVLТ. These camps, organized by our instructors and the NEDC, include the following:
  - June 3-5: Tech Starz Camp
  - June 10-12: VEX Robotics Camp
  - June 17-19: Hispanic Culture Camp
  - June 19-20: 3D Printing Camp
  - June 24-26: Drone Technology Camp
- On June 7-8, several ASUN faculty and staff volunteered at the 15th Annual Delta Arts Festival in downtown Newport, demonstrating our strong connection and involvement in the local community.
- Congratulations to Jordan Terrell Lawson for taking the next step in his career as a Service Technician at Greenway! Jordan will be one of the first apprentices in Greenway's Ag Service Technician Apprenticeship Program. ASUN was privileged to work with Greenway and the Arkansas Office of Skills Development to launch this program, which is an 18-month, comprehensive initiative designed to equip selected full-time employees with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their roles. Participants will have the opportunity to work as salaried technicians at their local Greenway Equipment location, under the guidance of a seasoned journey worker as their mentor. ASUN was thankful to be able to celebrate with Jordan and his family on his signing day at Lonoke High School! The Inaugural Apprenticeship Class began on June 3, 2024.
- On May 30, the McPherson WAGE class held its graduation ceremony. Those present at the event included Tonya Gates, the Director of the Prison Education Program Engagement; Daniel Lee, the Assistant Professor of Adult Education/WAGE Coordinator; Barbara Warren, the Director of Adult Education; Warden Nurzuhul Faust; and Deputy Warden John Moss.
- On May 21, Arkansas State University-Newport and Lyon College signed an articulation agreement to facilitate a seamless transfer pathway for students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). This collaboration will enhance educational opportunities for nursing students in Arkansas. Under the agreement, students can begin their academic journey in the traditional pre-nursing pathway at Lyon College, transition to ASUN to complete the RN program, and then return to Lyon College to finish their bachelor's degree. This integrated approach ensures a comprehensive educational experience, combining the strengths of both institutions to produce highly qualified nursing professionals.
- ASU-Newport Honors Program students, Brandi Boatman, Tammy Cooper, Tona Hubble, Cheyenne Sheppard, and Gretchen Thomas organized a food drive for their Leadership Seminar Community Service

project. The aim was to restock the ASU-Newport food pantries with various items. Congratulations to these students on their hard work!

- On May 17, our Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Ike Wheeler; the Dean of Liberal Arts/Honors College, Joe Campbell; and members of the Aviator Leadership Class, including Zach Bilbrey, Denise Garland, Tonya Gates, Maddie Staggs, and Regena White, visited the ASU System Office to learn more about System operations.
- ASUN Honors Program students Ashlyn Craig, Jerry Brown, and Liberty Loy presented their honors projects in Education, Chemistry, and Composition to various classes on campus to earn Honors contract credit.
- Alex McIntosh and Geof Carmack, from MAC Valuation Group, presented information to second-year Agriculture students on appraising agriculture in Arkansas, covering topics such as soils, water tables, yields, and landmarks.
- On May 1-2, students from the Agriculture Program volunteered at the Jackson County Humane Society. During the event, they learned about chemical applications.
- A group of former Cosmetology and Esthetics students were recognized for their exceptional skills. Jaci Moss, the 2024 Jonesboro Premiere Award Winner for Makeup Artist, was honored for her work at Gratitude Hair and Nail Salon. Additionally, two other former students received Best of Northeast Arkansas awards. Michelle Jones, from Vanstone Salon & Med Spa, received the silver award for the best hair stylist, and Chloe Boyle, the owner of Done by Chloe, earned the silver award for the best nail salon.

## **Strategic Priority 2: Employee Success**

- Kudos to ASUN's National Science Foundation (NSF) Team: Ken Beach, John Judd, Jon Ambs, and Dr. Jeri Bryant. Attached is the [CAMPP - 2024 Summer Camp Impact Infographic \(7-11-24\) \*\*CAMPP - 2024 Summer Camp Impact Infographic \(7-11-24\) final.pdf\*\*](#). The Creating Advanced Manufacturing Pathways Program (CAMPP) Summer Camp Impact graphic highlights information on the camp's main impacts on the students who took pre- and post-surveys.
- Congratulations to Ms. Geraldine Overbey for her 55 years of dedication to ASU-Newport and to Melinda Odom for her 36 years of service. We wish them both a very happy and relaxing retirement!
- Dr. Typhanie Myers has been appointed to the Commission on Structured Pathways by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)! Her term will run from 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2027. Congrats, Dr. Myers! ASUN administrators are actively engaged on the national level via AACC commissions. In addition to Dr. Myers, Chancellor Moore and Adam Adair currently serve on the Commissions for Small and Rural Colleges, and Research and Community Trends and Issues, respectively.
- Tonya Gates (ASUN's Director of Prison Education) participated in a study conducted with UAMS and the Arkansas Women's Justice Health Alliance. The study participants interviewed community members who

shared perspectives on health-related research priorities for justice-involved women, how to help women who want to participate, and how to share findings with those who need to hear them.

- Dr. Jeri Bryant, Lindley Gilliam, John Judd, Mark Hanan, and Ken Beach represented ASUN at the recent NSF HI-TECH: High Impact Technology Exchange Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. Supported by the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education (NSF ATE) program, HI-TEC is a national conference on advanced technological education, in which secondary and postsecondary educators, counselors, industry professionals, trade organizations, and technicians can update their knowledge and skills. Charged with preparing America's skilled technical workforce, the event focuses on the preparation needed by the existing and future workforce for companies in the high-tech sectors that drive our nation's economy.
- ASUN loves to show appreciation for our Surgical Technology Preceptors, who go above and beyond for our students. The Director, Mrs. Shannon Riley, and Instructor, Ms. Lily Glover, presented one of our preceptors at Le Bonheur Hospital in Memphis, TN, with a special "Thank You" gift.

### **Strategic Priority 3: Institutional Excellence**

- On August 15, 2024, we had a great day welcoming the Aviators back to campus at our annual Fall Convocation on the ASU-Newport Campus.
- Concurrent Professional Development for K12 instructors will be held in the CFA on August 23.
- On July 26, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) approved ASUN's proposed AAS in Business Management and Supervision. The new A.A.S. Business-Management and Supervision will prepare students to enter the job market with interpersonal, leadership, financial, and supervisory management skills. The A.A.S. Business-Management and Supervision will be a stackable degree, building from a 17-credit hour Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Management and Supervision to a 32-credit hour Technical Certificate in Business Management and Supervision to the final A.A.S. The 60-credit hour A.A.S. will include all courses in the CP and TC, with the addition of composition, accounting, macro- and micro-economics, managerial finance, spreadsheets, and a capstone integrated business project.
- Arkansas State University-Newport is thrilled to announce the launch of its latest course offering, "Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Productivity," for Fall 2024. This innovative course, taught by Mark Hanan, Director of Instructional Design and Distance Education, is intended to equip students and community members with the knowledge and skills to leverage AI technology for enhanced productivity in both personal and professional contexts.
- The Surgical Technology Pinning Ceremony was held on July 23 on the ASU-Newport campus in the Center for the Arts. All ASUN faculty and staff were invited to attend this celebration!
- ASUN Career Coaches presented on Incorporating the 2024 Eclipse into Career Exploration at the Arkansas Career & Technical Education Conference in Little Rock, July 16-17. Way to go!
- NCLEX Pass rates are in for AY24...the RNs finished at 94%, and the PNs at 84%! What an outstanding performance from our recent graduates, which underscores the remarkable efforts of our Nursing instructors. Congratulations to all!

- The ASUN Ag-Tech program wishes to thank Sutherland Farms for its support during this year's wheat crop harvest.
- The Practical Nursing Capping and Pinning and Summer Commencement ceremonies were held on the ASU Newport campus on June 27 in the Center for the Arts.
- On June 11-14, ASUN representatives attended the Achieving the Dream (ATD) Network Kickoff 2024 in New Orleans. By joining the ATD Network, we will be able to learn best practices to achieve greater student success. More to come soon! Achieving the Dream network: <https://achievingthedream.org/our-network/>
- Kevin Long, from Rapid Locking Systems, visited Marked Tree to demonstrate HVACR pipe coupling to our Energy Control Technology students. This technology will become more common as the HVACR industry uses environmentally friendly, flammable refrigerants. We appreciate Mr. Long for sharing this valuable technology with our students.
- Mark Constant and Marlin Tice participated in training offered by the Arkansas HVACR Association at the WTC in Jonesboro. This training allowed them to earn some CEUs required to maintain their HVAC licensure.
- Commercial Driver Training (CDT) is expanding its reach by providing training at the Jonesboro and Marked Tree campuses.
- The Aviator Career Closet, located on the top floor of the library on the Newport campus, is now open. We are excited to announce this new student support initiative.
- ASUN has been selected to receive a \$200,000 award from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as part of the DOE's Industrial Training and Assessment Centers (ITAC) Grant Program. This funding will support the development of an Industrial Controls Technician Registered Apprenticeship and an Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship readiness program to enhance technical education and economic prosperity in the Northeast Arkansas Delta region. Kudos to Dr. Jeri Bryant and Charles Walker on a successful grant application!
- Our dynamic PTK advisors, Betsy Walker, Debbie Jewell, and Dr. Jeanna Mason, have done a stellar job leading ASUN's Beta Nu Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), a 5-Star Chapter! On May 14-15, the trio of advisors led our PTK students through its annual Planning Retreat for the upcoming academic year.

#### **Strategic Priority 4: Community Engagement**

- ASUN will host the inaugural Aviator Classic. This four-person scramble will be held at the Newport Country Club on September 6, with all proceeds supporting Aviator Athletics. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be given and many fun activities will be available. Lunch will be provided between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., with a tee-off at 1:00 p.m. What better way is there to usher in fall than an afternoon of camaraderie to assist a worthy cause? Levels of support range from Major Tournament Sponsorship for \$10,000.00, Co-sponsorship for \$5,000.00 \$500.00 Hole Sponsor, \$250.00 Caddy Sponsor, or \$100.00 Tee Sponsor. Individual participation costs \$125.00 per person and \$500.00 per team. Registration will open on August 1. For more information, contact Ike Wheeler at [ike\\_wheeler@asun.edu](mailto:ike_wheeler@asun.edu); 870-512-7865.

- On August 1, ASU-Newport hosted the "Fall Y'all" paint party with Ginger Willis from Art and Soul Studio. Ms. Willis spent an evening on the ASUN campus helping aspiring painters tap into their inner artists as they used brilliant colors and creativity to create fall-themed decorations.
- ASUN presented its programs at the Annual AR State STEM Advisory Partners Meeting at the Saline County Career and Technical Center in Benton, AR, July 16-17. ASUN takes pride in advocating for STEM courses in higher education initiatives statewide.
- Kudos to ASUN's National Science Foundation (NSF) Team: Ken Beach, John Judd, Jon Ambs, and Dr. Jeri Bryant. The Creating Advanced Manufacturing Pathways Program (CAMPP) Summer Camp Impact Information link, [CAMPP - 2024 Summer Camp Impact Infographic \(7-11-24\) final.pdf](#), is provided. The graphic highlights the camp's main impacts on the students who took both pre- and post-surveys.
- ASU-Newport hosted a women's mahjong group in the library on June 25. These delightful ladies brought their competitive game as they went head-to-head in this classic game of skill and wits. Kudos to Melody Couch and Debbie Jewell for their efforts to bring the community to our campus!
- The I Make A Difference (IMAD) Summer Camp was held at ASU-Newport from June 17 to 20. We hosted 40-50 students aged 5 to 17. The camp was a huge success! Thank you to all the faculty and staff who gave their time to help with this initiative, and a special thank you to Dr. Amber Grady for pulling it all together. Great work!
- The Board of Visitors meeting was held at the ASU-Newport campus on May 8.

### ASUN Academic Program Notifications

#### Curriculum Revisions

- Letter of Notification for a Curriculum Revision resulting in a 15-credit hour CP Industrial Maintenance-Electrical (current CP is nine credit hours).
- Letter of Notification for a Curriculum Revision resulting in a Practical Nursing program for high school students.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
September 6, 2024**

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

**Higher Learning Commission Update**

On April 8-9, ASU Mid-South underwent a successful 10-Year Comprehensive Evaluation Site Visit by a Peer Review Team from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The Review Team's recommendation for continued accreditation is expected to be taken up by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the HLC at its meeting on August 26-27.

**New Initiatives**

- **National Consortium on College Men of Color (NCCMC)**

This year, ASU Mid-South was invited to participate in the National Consortium on College Men of Color (NCCMC). The consortium, operated by the Community College Equity Assessment Lab (CCEAL) in partnership with the Lumina Foundation, is dedicated to advancing outcomes for underrepresented men of color attending community colleges.

Participating colleges will have access to webinars and information-sharing sessions designed to inform and build the capacity of institutional planning and efforts regarding underrepresented men of color, opportunities to discuss promising practices for advancing student-success outcomes for men of color, and a private platform for college leaders and CCEAL researchers to discuss strategies for supporting men of color in community colleges.

- **Complete College America**

Since 2022, ASU Mid-South has been one of 22 colleges participating in Complete College America (CCA), an initiative supporting student success at Historically Black and Predominantly Black Community Colleges (HBCCs/PBCCs). This work, funded by the Lumina Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, focuses on identifying policies, practices, and strategies to address the nuanced needs of adult learners of color, thereby increasing success for this population of students. It works to dramatically increase college completion rates and to close performance gaps to achieve highly effective structural reforms and promote policies that improve student success.

In June, CCA extended ASU Mid-South the opportunity to continue this work through a second round of funding in support of Phase 2 of this partnership. Phase 2 will focus principally on four aspects: 1) pathways support (onboarding, advising, career connection,

and/or faculty support); 2) network formation across the HBCC/PBCC sector; 3) connection with the regional workforce to heighten the relevance of credentials of value (communication and data); and 4) building data and strategic finance capacities to maximize the institutional work. Participating institutions will have the option of choosing the area(s) they wish to focus on during this engagement.

In addition to professional development associated with the four topics above, each participating institution will receive the following:

- a small financial contribution to support the work (\$10,000);
- a coach to work with our institutional team on the identified strategies;
- individualized technical assistance/consultation (virtual and in-person) to support the planning and implementation of relevant work being undertaken (CCA will be responsible for contracting and fees for the identified technical assistance);
- registration and travel for the Chancellor and institutional lead to attend CCA's national convening(s);
- opportunity for one-two staff members to participate in the HBCC/PBCC Leadership Academy; and
- opportunity to showcase our efforts in national publication(s) and at professional conferences.

ASU Mid-South is excited to continue this important work, which aligns with our mission. We are also proud to have been invited to highlight the work that our college has undertaken to increase student success at CCA's annual convening in Indianapolis in November.

### **New Grant Applications**

- **Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development (HIRED)**  
ASU Mid-South is partnering with lead applicant, Black River Technical College, along with Arkansas Northeastern, ASU Newport, East Arkansas Community College, and Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas in the application process for one of Arkansas's newly announced HIRED grants. These multiphase grants (planning and implementation) are sponsored by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education and the Arkansas Department of Commerce. If funded, this consortium project would increase the Colleges' capacity for training in the areas of automation and distribution, both of which align with the Governor's interest in promoting advanced manufacturing in the steel and food production industries in the eastern portion of the state.
- **Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)**  
On a recent FIPSE Basic Needs for Postsecondary Students (FIPSE) grant application, ASU Mid-South served as the lead college for the state's two-year-college system. If funded, this statewide project would include all 22 community colleges, as well as the Arkansas



Community Colleges Association (ACC), and would provide \$900K to support efforts related to students' basic needs. The overarching goal will be to create sustainable, systemic change in the ways that the state's two-year colleges leverage resources and maximize access to services that help students with needs, including housing, transportation, childcare, health care, mental health, and food insecurity.

Designated colleges, including ASU Mid-South, ASU Newport (ASUN), East Arkansas Community College (EACC), Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC), Southern Arkansas University Tech (SAUT), and the University of Arkansas Cossatot (UAC), would focus on a specific basic need, in order to develop content area expertise and provide technical assistance to other colleges across the state in meeting that particular need. Those focus areas, by college, are:

- ASU Mid-South - housing and childcare
- ASUN - food insecurity
- EACC - healthcare
- NWACC - mental health
- SAUT - transportation
- UAC - food insecurity and mental health

Letters of support were provided by Governor Sarah Sanders, U.S. Senator John Boozman, and Complete College America. Nationally, only 12 applications will be funded..

### **Community Engagement**

- **HINO Support**

In early June, Hino Manufacturing announced the pending closure of its plant in Marion, Arkansas, as part of its plan to withdraw from the auto-parts business. The Marion facility, which manufactures rear axles, knuckles, and suspension components for the Toyota Tundra and Toyota Sequoia, is the company's largest plant in the U.S., and its closure will adversely impact 1,300 workers over the next three years. ASU Mid-South is partnering with HINO to provide additional training and certification options for affected workers during the transition, with HINO providing tuition reimbursement for those employees.

- **Back-to-School Bash**

ASU Mid-South worked with Delta Sigma Theta, East Arkansas Family Health, and Blue and You for a Healthier Arkansas in hosting a Back-to-School Bash to assist local families. More than 450 families attended the event, which was held on July 13, on the campus of ASU Mid-South. Attendees were provided one-stop access to various resources and services, including college admission-and-support-services information, health screenings, immunizations, and voter registration. The main attraction of the event was the

backpack/school-supply giveaway, since the clear backpacks required by local school districts are difficult to find locally. Backpacks were distributed to more than 550 children at this year's event!

## **National Recognition**

- **Great Colleges to Work For**

The Great Colleges to Work For® program is one of the largest and most respected workplace recognition programs in the country. Now in its seventeenth year, it recognizes the colleges that earn top ratings from their employees regarding workplace practices and policies. Arkansas State University Mid-South is proud to have been selected as one of 75 Great Colleges to Work For® in 2024.

The Great Colleges to Work For® program, the Chronicle of Higher Education, and ModernThink are designed to recognize institutions that have been successful in creating great workplaces, and to further research and understanding of the factors, dynamics, and influences that have the greatest impact on organizational culture at institutions of higher education. At its core is a two-part assessment process: (1) a faculty/staff survey, administered to a random sample group selected from administration, faculty, exempt professional staff, and non-exempt staff; and (2) an institutional audit, which captures information detailing various institutional demographics, policies, practices, and infrastructure.

Additionally, ASU Mid-South was one of only fourteen total colleges, and one of only four two-year colleges, to achieve Honor Roll Status, signifying recognition in multiple categories. This year, ASU Mid-South was recognized in the following four categories:

- Confidence in Senior Leadership;
- Faculty & Staff Well-being;
- Shared Governance; and
- Faculty Experience.

Public release of this information is embargoed until September 20, at which time a special insert in the Chronical of Higher Education will announce the recognized colleges.

## **Academic Program Notifications**

ASU Mid-South has no academic program status changes (inactive or deleted) to report this quarter.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
September 6, 2024**

**Chancellor's Report  
Arkansas State University Three Rivers**

**Academic Program Notifications**

The following programs are recommended for deletion from the College's program inventory:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>CIP Code</b>	<b>Degree Code</b>
Cosmetology	Technical Certificate	12.0401	4420
Cosmetology Instructor	Technical Certificate	12.0413	2120
Electrical Apprenticeship-Basic	Certificate of Proficiency	46.0302	4595
Electrical Apprenticeship-Advanced	Certificate of Proficiency	46.0302	4596
Hair Care	Certificate of Proficiency	12.0401	3420
Microsoft Professional	Certificate of Proficiency	11.0101	0286
Nail & Skin Care	Certificate of Proficiency	12.0401	3425

The following programs are recommended to be changed to inactive status on the College's program inventory:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>CIP Code</b>	<b>Degree Code</b>
Criminal Correction Specialist	Certificate of Proficiency	43.0199	1430
Criminal Correction Specialist	Technical Certificate	43.0199	2430
Early Childhood Education	Certificate of Proficiency	13.1210	4919
Early Childhood Education	Technical Certificate	13.1210	4497
Early Childhood Education	Associate of Applied Science	13.1210	0437
Truck Driver Training	Certificate of Proficiency	49.0205	0156

**County Career Technical Campus Enrollment**

The Saline County Career Technical Campus has launched non-credit, workforce-training efforts. This dimension of services will reflect the training skills provided on the Malvern campus. We currently have training scheduled with multiple companies and, with the addition of our newly hired Workforce Development Program Manager Blair Williams, that number will increase.

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers Adult Education**

Arkansas State University Three Rivers Adult Education broke the 60% mark on its Table 4 Efficient and Effectiveness Standings, which are the criteria by which the program's success is measured. This score is more than 20% above the current state average for this period of the year. Dr. Casson Brock

has left her position as Director of Adult Education, and has transferred to the main campus as Director of Assessment/Education Lecturer.

### **Malvern Campus Career Center and Workforce Development Update**

At the conclusion of the 2023-2024 academic year, 77 Career Center students qualified for ASU Three Rivers Scholarships. Fifty-six qualified by their state-completer status, and twenty-one won medals at the SkillsUSA state competition. SkillsUSA state competition Career Center students earned 2,208 hours of college credit, and 153 students earned Certificates of Proficiency. More than 200 students earned individual industry certifications or licensure. The first year of the revised two-shift class schedule was very successful. Career Center students now meet in two sections for three-hour course periods. They previously met in three sections for two-hour course periods. This schedule allows for each section to have more instructional time, as well as more flexibility for students who attend high school with four-day school weeks. Feedback from the students, faculty, and high schools has been positive. Enrollment increased by 20% over the previous academic year and revenue increased by 68%. Applications for the 2024-2025 academic year had increased by 10% at the time of this report, with balanced distribution across all programs.

Our Workforce Development's partnership with West Fraser Qualified Millwright and Electrician programs continues, with a total of 2,442 hours of training scheduled through the end of FY 2025.

### **Student Affairs and Retention**

Our registrar mailed more than 600 certificates and degrees to our Spring 2024 graduates. The Testing Center reports the following:

- Accuplacer – 902 students were tested, using 1,676 units; 18 off-site testing days took place at partner schools.
- Kaplan Nursing Exams – 54
- Pearson VUE -54
- Proctored exams – 17, with one group exam proctored for ICML for 16 participants.

Members of Advising, Registrar, Financial Aid, coaches, and academic staff met to address student-athlete advising needs for our new baseball and softball players and followed up with those athletes and parents to schedule the students into classes. Student Affairs conducted a 15-student campus visit for the Hot Springs area Upward Bound Program, as well as 13 individual campus tours. Our Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Retention, Vergina Smith, attended the NASH Transfer meeting, hosted by Eric Atchison, from the System office, on June 18. She also traveled to Chicago from July 10-12 for the implementation meeting, along with the representative from Henderson State University.

Daily Support Services continued communicating with faculty and students regarding needs and concerns throughout the summer, as well as providing resources to help alleviate those concerns.

The Career Pathways FY25 report update contains the following:

- 80% of students will complete an individual assessment and career plan with measurable objectives.
- 40% of students will receive a credential.

- 80% of completers (students who earn a credential) will be employed and have a realized wage increase within three and six months.

### **College Advancement and Community Outreach**

The ASUTR Foundation Golf Tournament was held on April 20. This year, we had 25 sponsors and two donations. Eighteen teams registered to play, and 18 volunteers assisted, helping to make the day run smoothly. We raised a total of \$25,558.60, a 9.5% increase over last year.

### **ASUTR Nursing Building**

Work has begun on ASUTR's new nursing building. The 25,000-square-foot structure will house more than 200 nursing students every year and will feature state-of-the-art simulation labs.



### **The Ritz Theatre Restoration**

ASUTR is excited to announce the completion of Phase IV of the Historic Ritz Theatre renovation. The 427-seat auditorium will be a centerpiece in the heart of Malvern's downtown Commercial Historic District. Work begins soon on Phase V, on the building next door, which will include a conference room, concession and event space, a dressing room/green room that will connect directly to the stage, and 14 more restrooms. Funding was secured in May by the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council Grant Program to proceed with this next phase, bringing the current total to more than \$4.6 million in grant funds to restore this historic theatre. Below are before-and-after photos of the main auditorium, as well as a floor plan for Phase V.



**Arkansas State University System**

**Board of Trustees  
September 6, 2024**

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

**Enrollment:**

- As of August 20:  
First Time Freshman – Trending Up  
Transfers – Trending Up  
Housing - Trending Up
- New MOU with ASU Three Rivers to provide University Housing for baseball and softball athletes.
- Two new Texas recruiters have begun their work. These positions were made possible by moving open positions to these line items.
- Intense personal recruiting continues with over 5,200 hand-written letters mailed to students, along with other materials since January.

**Budget and Fiscal Stability:**

- The 2024-2025 budget has been made available for faculty and staff to view online.
- All campus budget managers will now receive monthly reports concerning the status of their departmental and/or office budget.

**Academics:**

- The Arkansas Aviation Academy – To provide training for individuals (non-HSU students) in multi-engine certification. It will be an intensive, in-residence course of study.

- The Simonson Biological Field Station has reopened! Work on cleaning and renovating the facility is continuing this summer in preparation for the facility to be fully functional. Many improvements have already been made, with additional work being done within the next month. We are in conversations with a corporate sponsor who may provide an endowment for the operations of the Field Station.
- Restoration of our larger Chemistry Lab will begin in late September thanks to an insurance payment acquired last spring for \$850,000
- Lisa Bell has been hired as the new Graduate Studies Coordinator. She will be responsible for recruitment and marketing for all graduate degree programs. She will so be working with our graduate program directors to grow our enrollment.
- Teachers College completed two successful programs training graduate students in both ESOL and SPED this summer. These two programs will bring approximately 105 graduate students to our campus for Summer II, Fall 2024, and Spring 2025.

#### **Fundraising and Alumni:** (Fundraising since January)

- ANCRC Grant \$1,900,000 – Renovations Smith, Russell Fine Arts and Mooney
- Nursing Grant - \$860,000
- Chemistry Lab - \$850,000
- Teachers College Grant - \$360,000
- Cabe Foundation Grant – Recruiting and Marketing - \$100,000
- Giving Day - \$160,000
- Scholarship Endowments - \$605,000
- Crowdsourcing Campaigns - \$25,000
- Josh Kee - Hired as Vice Chancellor for Development

#### **Athletics:**

- Henderson should have over 450 student-athletes this fall.
- Painting and clean-up of the Press Box at Carpenter-Haygood Stadium is underway. In addition, much needed renovations to the Baseball Field will begin by late August. These renovations are made possible by a private donation.
- Henderson is planning on bringing track back as a varsity sport in the fall of 2025. During the fall of 2024, we plan to hire a head track coach, and they will begin recruiting for the 2025-



2026 school year. We project that, in the first year, the addition of this program will bring 45-50 new student-athletes to campus.

- The Reddie Women's Basketball program reached a milestone by achieving the rank of #9 in the WBCA *Academic Top 25*. Our women's basketball student-athletes earned an amazing overall GPA of 3.786.
- HSU swimmer Lamar Taylor made Henderson State University proud at the Paris Olympics this week. Lamar won Heat #5 in the 100 meter freestyle and finished 29th out of 76 swimmers in Paris. Way to go Lamar!!
- *New Head Coaches:*
  - Greg Holsworth – Football
  - Joel Worthington – Softball
  - Matt Ward -- Men's and Women's Golf

#### **Campus Facilities and Campus Beautification:**

- Renovation Plans for Smith Hall, Russell Fine Arts and Mooney have begun. These restorations are made possible through a \$1,900,000 ANCRC grant. Work should begin in October.
- Historic Bell Restoration: The historic Henderson Bell from Old Main has been removed for restoration. There is currently a Crowd Funding campaign being conducted on the Foundation website and the amount raised will be matched by the William Howard Sturgis Trust. The Bell should be back on site by Homecoming.
- Campus painting and power washing continued through the summer and into the fall months
- Renovation of the Barkman House has been completed thanks to a grant from ANCRC. The 1861 structure is beautiful and restored once again to house our Development, Alumni and Communications offices.