

**Arkansas State University System  
Board of Trustees  
March 14, 2024**

**ASU SYSTEM FOUNDATION, INC.**

**Contact: Nicole Frey (870) 972-2576**

For the period ending December 31, 2023 (unaudited), the Arkansas State University System Foundation recorded gifts and other support of \$2,455,815.

Contributions were designated as follows:

ASU-Jonesboro	\$1,750,688
ASU-Mountain Home	327,898
ASU-Beebe	207,213
ASU-Newport	93,657
ASU-Three Rivers	73,654
ASU System Foundation	2,705

The Foundation reported net assets of \$124,083,171, representing an increase of 5.36% for the period ending December 31, 2023.

The market value of the ASU System Foundation Endowment Pool for the period ending December 31, 2023, was \$120,630,289.

The net rate of return for the period ending December 31, 2023, was 5.55%.

Endowment balances designated per campus are as follows:

Jonesboro	\$103,543,840
Mountain Home	5,823,763
Beebe	2,300,302
Newport	2,929,812
Three Rivers	866,957
Red Wolves Foundation	2,018,920
System Foundation	3,146,695
Total	<u>\$120,630,289</u>

**Arkansas State University System  
Capital Projects Report  
March 14, 2024**

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

**ASU-JONESBORO**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
National Pan-Hellenic Council Lounge	\$ 427,237	Substantially Complete
Misc. Bldg. Site Demolition	4,008,109	Substantially Complete
Library Elevators Modernization	500,376	Substantially Complete
Arkansas Biosciences Institute First Floor Exhaust Upgrades	901,297	Substantially Complete
Ed/Comm-5 Classroom Renovation-Lounge	350,000	Substantially Complete
FNB Arena Retaining Wall	140,611	Substantially Complete
Dean St. Lighting and Cameras	463,132	Substantially Complete
FNB Arena AHU Replacement, Phase 2	860,553	Substantially Complete
Student Union Roof	303,286	Substantially Complete
Village Apartments Repairs and ADA Modifications	6,343,509	Construction Phase
Collegiate Park HVAC	340,800	Construction Phase
Lab Science West Fire Alarm Replacement	328,590	Construction Phase
First National Bank Arena AHU Replacement Phase 1	1,078,839	Construction Phase
Quapaw Rd. Closure	98,870	Construction Phase
December 2022 Freeze Damage Remediation	4,808,010	Construction Phase
ABI Cage Washer	560,299	Construction Phase
Student Union Security Access	455,631	Construction Phase
Library Security Access	420,959	Construction Phase
Dyess Roof Replacement	271,629	Construction Phase
Loop Trail Phases III and IV	1,149,353	Construction Phase
Lab Science West 333 Classroom Renovation	354,036	Construction Phase
Sorority Houses HVAC	246,129	Construction Phase
Campus Fiber Redesign	213,907	Construction Phase
Collegiate Park Water Damage	201,198	Construction Phase
Fowler Center Carpet and Paint	179,834	Construction Phase
FM Fire Alarm Panel Upgrades	104,555	Construction Phase
Arena/Stadium Daktronics Upgrades	292,755	Construction Phase
Football Stadium Seats	182,286	Construction Phase
FNB Arena Courtyard	171,360	Construction Phase
Armory – Beck Center and Kitchen	536,032	Construction Phase
Campus Security	1,153,354	Construction Phase
Caraway Rd. Closure Improvements/Parking Deck Entrance	999,999	Design Phase
Arkansas Hall Fan Coils	286,000	Design Phase
University Hall Fan Coils	273,000	Design Phase
Tyronza Grain Bin Remodel	1,916,383	Design Phase
Windgate Art and Innovation Center	25,219,886	Design Phase
Kays Hall Inspection	165,517	Design Phase
Ed Comm Bathroom Renovation – ADA	100,000	Design Phase

**1. National Pan-Hellenic Council Lounge**

Architect/Engineer: AMR Architects  
Contractor: Baldwin & Shell  
Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The Counselling Area in the Student Union has been renovated into a space for the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC). The project is complete and awaiting closeout.

**2. Misc. Building Site Demolition**

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

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

**3. Library Elevators Modernization**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: KONE Elevator and Escalators U.S.  
Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The Dean B. Ellis Library tower has two traction elevators to access its floors. One elevator was installed with the original construction in the early 1990s (Otis); the second was installed around, or following, the year 2001 (Thyssen Krupp). Electronic controls on both elevators have been updated and maintained over their life cycles. In the fall of 2020, the Thyssen Krupp elevator controls began to fail. In the spring/early summer of 2021, it became evident that the obsolescence of the Thyssen brand/support would lead to the necessity of finding alternative sourcing of elevator controls. The scope of this project is to completely replace the controls for both elevators. The project also includes mechanical upgrades and fire alarm upgrades. KONE has experienced material-delivery delays that have extended the project's completion date. Inspections are complete and we are waiting for closeout documents.

**4. Arkansas Biosciences Institute First Floor Exhaust Upgrades**

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

Status: The scope of this project is to provide a stand-alone exhaust system for the west wing of the first floor of the ABI building. The project is substantially complete.

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

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

Status: The classroom portion of this project is complete. The lounge remodel is complete and awaiting closeout documents.

**6. FNB Arena Retaining Wall**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Woods Masonry  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project is to repair the damage done to the retaining wall on the northeast corner of the FNB Arena. The project is substantially complete.

**7. Dean Street Lighting and Cameras**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: Security Fees

Status: All wiring of lights and controls are complete. Camera installation for Information and Technology Services (ITS) is substantially complete.

**8. FNB Arena AHU 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 one existing AHU.

**9. Student Union Roof**

Architect/Engineer: Morris A/E  
Contractor: Jonesboro Roofing  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project will replace the roof on the Student Union in several phases. Phase 1 is complete.

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

Architect/Engineer: Cromwell Architects-DCI Engineering  
Contractor: Nabholz Construction  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: Exterior building repairs to the Village Apartments began in June 2014 with Nabholz Construction. This work will be phased over multiple years, but the projected completion date is planned for November 2024.

#### **11. Collegiate Park HVAC**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit Engineers  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
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.

#### **12. Lab Science West Fire Alarm Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit  
Contractor: Johnson Controls Fire Protection  
Expected Completion: Spring 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.

#### **13. 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.

#### **14. Quapaw Road Closure**

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

Status: The scope of this project is to install an island that will permanently close Quapaw Road where it intersects with University Loop East. Construction is nearing completion.

**15. December 2022 Freeze-Damage Remediation**

Architect/Engineer: Morris AE, Inc.  
Contractor: Burrows Construction, Baldwin and Shell, RGB Mechanical Contractors  
Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Insurance Claim

Status: Construction has begun to restore freeze-and-water damage in the FNBA Arena, Collegiate Park Apartments, ROTC Living Learning, North Park Quads, Delta Center, Village Apartments, Kays Hall, ZTA Sorority House, Centennial Tower, and E. Smith Hall. All areas are substantially complete.

**16. ABI Cage Washer**

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

Status: The original cage washer has reached its end of life. A new washer has been ordered and is expected to be delivered in Spring 2024.

**17. Student Union Security Access**

Architect/Engineer: Steiling Architecture  
Contractor: Ditta Door, A State ITS  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Access and Security Fee

Status: The project upgrades exterior entrances for lockdown and electronic access and adds additional cameras. Parts and materials have been ordered and construction is underway.

**18. Library Security Access**

Architect/Engineer: Steiling Architecture  
Contractor: Ditta Door, A-State ITS  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Access and Security Fee

Status: The project upgrades exterior entrances for lockdown and electronic access, as well as adding additional cameras. Parts and materials have been ordered. Construction is progressing with considerable progress.

**19. Dyess Roof Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: WER  
Contractor: Baldwin and Shell  
Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
Funding: University Reserves/Insurance Claim

Status: The wood shingles have moved beyond their design life. This project has replaced the existing shingles and is addressing water damage inside the building from the leaking roof. The project is substantially complete.

## **20. Loop Trail Phase 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 plan to extend the existing campus trail system into the northeast quadrant of the campus and will connect the residence halls to the campus core. It 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 will begin as weather permits.

## **21. Lab Science West 333 Classroom Renovation**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett Krennerich  
Contractor: Bailey  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project transforms an existing underutilized laboratory into a new classroom.

## **22. Sorority Houses HVAC**

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

Status: The project removes and replaces the HVAC units for all sorority chapter rooms.

## **23. Campus Fiber Redesign**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Cline Environmental  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Funds

Status: The project adds to the existing fiber loop on campus.

## **24. Collegiate Park Water Damage**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Baldwin and Shell  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: The project repairs water damage for several units at Collegiate Park Apartments.

## **25. Fowler Center Carpet and Paint**

Architect/Engineer: AMR Architects  
Contractor: Arkansas Flooring and Stracener Painting  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: Deferred Maintenance

Status: This project replaces the carpet and paints walls and ceilings in the Grand Hall and replaces carpet in the connecting support spaces. The project is in the construction phase.

## **26. FM Fire Alarm Panel Upgrades**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Johnson Controls  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

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

## **27. Arena/Stadium Daktronics Upgrades**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: Gateway Sight & Sound  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project upgrades the sound system and related equipment in the FNB Arena.

## **28. Football Stadium Seats**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: N/A  
Expected Completion: Fall 2024  
Funding: University Reserves

Status: This project replaces some of the existing football stadium seats.

## **29. 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 on this should begin soon.

## **30. Armory – Beck Center and Kitchen**

Architect/Engineer: Cooper Mixon  
Contractor: Baldwin and Shell  
Expected Completion: Spring 2025  
Funding: University Reserves



Status: The Beck Center work is complete and the kitchen renovations are in design phase.

### **31. Campus Security**

Architect/Engineer: N/A  
Contractor: N/A  
Expected Completion: TBD  
Funding: Access and Security Fee

Status: This project is project designed to provide campus security improvements. The project is overseen by ITS and includes such items as cameras and lighting.

### **32. Caraway Road Closure Improvements/New Parking Deck Entrance**

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

Status: This multi-phase project will update drainage and building access to the parking deck from Caraway Road. Phase I is a new entrance to the parking deck that will be added south of the closed portion of Caraway Road.

### **33. 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.

### **34. University Hall Fan Coils**

Architect/Engineer: Pettit & Pettit Engineers  
Contractor: RGB Mechanical/Other  
Expected Completion: Summer 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.

### **35. Tyronza Grain Bin Remodel**

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

Status: This project converts areas in Tyronza's Commercial Historic District into interpretive space and adds new accessible restrooms. Construction documents are nearing completion.

**36. Windgate Art and Innovation Center**

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

Status: This project creates an Art and Innovation building to house functions for both Art and Engineering. The project is in the design phase.

**37. Kays Hall Inspection**

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

Status: This project includes an in-depth study to determine the structural integrity of Kays Hall and potential solutions for repairs.

**38. 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-MOUNTAIN HOME**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
ASUMH Tech Center Expansion	\$1,707,000	Substantially Complete
ASUMH Amphitheatre	600,000	Planning
ASUMH Trail Lighting and Landscaping	420,000	Design

**1. ASUMH Technical Center Expansion**

Architect/Engineer: Architecture Plus  
 Contractor: Gregory Construction  
 Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
 Funding: Grants

Status: A Regional Workforce Development grant, with \$808,000 included for construction, as well as a grant from the Arkansas Office of Skills Development, with \$699,000 for construction, has been received. Expanding the Tech Center will support ASUMH's boat manufacturing, injection molding, and extrusion manufacturing with an additional 6,300 square feet. Construction began in February 2023.

## 2. **ASUMH Amphitheatre**

Architect/Engineer: Polk, Stanley, Wilcox  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: TBD  
Funding: Private Donations

Status: This project has been put on hold. The cost of the project exceeds the funding.

## 3. **ASUMH Trail Lighting and Landscaping**

Architect/Engineer: Halff 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.

## **ASU-BEEBE**

### **PROJECT TITLE**

### **FUNDS AVAILABLE**

### **STATUS**

Bloodworth Nursing Building Project

\$1,976,093

Planning/Design

Vet Tech HVAC Replacement Project

100,000

Planning/Design

## 1. **Student One-Stop Shop**

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

Status: ASUB received a federal earmark, funded through a HRSA grant, in the amount of \$1,500,00 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 health care industry. The balance of the estimated project cost will be fund with institutional reserves.

## 2. **Gym Floor Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: WER Architects & Engineers  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer, 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-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	\$106,000	Bidding Phase
Center for the Arts Parking Lot Repaving Project	478,000	Bidding Phase
ASUN Memorial Walking/Biking Trails MT Phase II	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: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 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 Center for the Arts Parking Lot Repaving**

Architect/Engineer: Brackett-Krennerich Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
Funding: Deferred Maintenance Funds, Institutional Reserves

Status: This project will repair and repave the parking lot at the Center for the Arts on the Newport Campus.

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

Architect/Engineer: Brackett-Krennerich Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
Expected Completion: Summer 2024  
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.

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

Architect/Engineer: Taggart Architects  
Contractor: TBD  
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. Architect selection is currently in process.

## **ASU MID-SOUTH**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
FedEx Aviation Maintenance Finish-out	\$1,971,000	Construction
Reynolds/University Center Chiller Replacement	2,138,000	Construction

### **1. FedEx Aviation Maintenance Finish-out**

Architect/Engineer: Polk, Stanley, Wilcox  
 Contractor: Wagner General Contractors  
 Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
 Funding: PBI Grant + Institutional Reserves

Status: This project is to complete the finish-out phase of the mezzanine level of the FedEx Aviation Maintenance Building. The project will complete the 7,000-square-foot facility by adding two classrooms, additional restrooms, an elevator, and a student lounge area. The last portion of the project, including the elevator installation, is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2024.

### **2. Reynolds Center/University Center Chiller Replacement**

Architect/Engineer: WER Architects  
 Contractor: Baldwin & Shell  
 Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
 Funding: Endowment Funds, Institutional Reserves

Status: This project is to combine and upgrade the chillers for the Reynolds Center and University Center. The first phase, which included the Café Grill kitchen area, was completed mid-January. The contractors have moved into the second phase, which is the actual chiller replacement. The construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2024.

## **ASU THREE RIVERS**

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
Ritz Theatre Renovation–Phase III	\$861,277	Substantially Complete
Ritz Theatre Renovation–Phase IV	1,261,977	Construction
New Nursing Building	8,000,000	Design Phase

### **1. ASUTR Ritz Theatre Renovation – Phase III**

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

Status: The ANCRC grant, awarded by the Arkansas Department of Heritage, is funding Phase III renovations, which include installing fire protection and alarm systems, continuing work on electrical and mechanical systems, lobby renovations, and purchase of a TV repair shop. Construction and the purchase of the TV repair shop has been completed. The TV repair shop clean-up is currently in process.

## 2. **ASUTR Ritz Theatre Renovation – Phase IV**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
 Contractor: Clark Contractors, LLC  
 Expected Completion: Winter 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 and visual systems, house and stage lighting, and auditorium renovations and seating. Clark Contractors has completed subcontractor bidding.

## 3. **New Nursing Building**

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

Status: Lewis Architects Engineers have been meeting with Administration and Nursing faculty regarding design features of the Nursing Building. Clark Contractors, LLC, has been chosen as general contractors. The design phase is approximately 75% complete.

# HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY

<b><u>PROJECT TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
Caddo Center (Phase II)	\$1,400,000	Substantially Complete
Caddo Center (Phase III)	1,191,606	Substantially Complete
Barkman House	850,000	Construction Phase

## 1. **Caddo Center (Phase II)**

Architect/Engineer: SCM Architects  
 Contractor: TBD  
 Expected Completion: Spring 2024  
 Funding: Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) FY2023-2024 Grant

Status: The ANCRC grant is funding adaptive preservation of the Caddo Center as a one-stop shop for students. These funds from the ANCRC, to adapt the shell of the Caddo Building, will allow continuation of the preservation of the historic Caddo Center, and provide space for Admissions, Financial Aid, Housing, and Advising and Tutoring. This will improve the impression created upon entering the campus and will expand the number of persons viewing the artifacts and the associated information highlighting their importance to the history of Arkansas. This project is currently in the final stages of construction.

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

Architect/Engineer:	SCM Architects
Contractor:	Kinco Constructors
Completion:	Spring 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.

**3. Barkman House**

Architect/Engineer:	SCM Architects
Contractor:	Nabholz
Completion:	Spring 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.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
March 14, 2024**

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

**Academic Affairs and Research:**

- On behalf of Arkansas State University (A-State) researchers, Research and Technology Transfer (RTT) submitted research proposals to state and federal sponsors totaling more than \$60,000,000 in February 2024. These submissions represent funding requests led by faculty members from six different colleges, in line with RTT's goal of increasing sponsored awards from across research disciplines.
- The Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Institutional Actions Council will vote in April 2024 on the substantive change of adding the doctor of veterinary medicine degree program for the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- The American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges will visit A-State in July 2024, which will be the next step in accreditation for the college.
- The HLC will visit A-State for the ten-year comprehensive evaluation on April 22-23, 2024.
- Spring 2024 enrollment reached the highest in school history, for a total of 13,896 students. This represents an 11% increase, or 1,390 in headcount, over the previous year.
- A-State Online Services reports a Spring 2024 census enrollment of 6,506, which is a 17% increase from 5,557 from Spring 2023 (949 students).
- A-State has received a record number of applications and admissions for the Fall 2024 freshmen cohort. Efforts to support the enrollment of those admitted students include opening early registration, which opened on February 15, approximately two months earlier than previous years. Other efforts contributing to the fall 2024 yield include more than 30 events. New online programs scheduled for Fall 2024 include MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Post Master's Certificate in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) Actions:**

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



**RECONFIGURATION OF EXISTING CERTIFICATE/DEGREE PROGRAM TO CREATE NEW DEGREE**

- M.S.M.C., Journalism, and M.S.M.C., Radio-Television, reconfigured to create M.S.M.C., Mass Communications

**NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

- C.P., Fitness Administration
- P.M.C., Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

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

- C.P., Esports, to be renamed C.P., Esports Management

**PROGRAM DELETION/INACTIVATION OR REACTIVATION**

- Deletion, M.S.M.C., Journalism
- Deletion, M.S.M.C., Radio-Television

**NEW OFF-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION CENTER**

- A-State Qatar, Doha, Qatar

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Actions:**

The following will be submitted to the AHECB at the April 26, 2024, meeting:

**PROGRAM DELETION/INACTIVATION OR REACTIVATION**

- Deletion, B.A., Art

**ATHLETICS**

**Athletics Administration:**

- A-State Athletics announced the creation of the Scarlet Society, a new, major-gifts program for the Red Wolves Foundation.

A-State Athletics announced that First National Bank Arena's athletic training area is currently undergoing a complete renovation, including equipment upgrades, after the Red Wolves Foundation received a generous financial commitment from St. Bernards Medical Group. A-State placed 209 student-athletes on its Fall 2023 Athletics Director's Honor Roll, the most for a fall semester since 2020.

**Men's Basketball:**

- The Red Wolves defeated Troy at First National Bank Arena in front of a national-television audience on ESPNU and crowd of 5,107, the largest for an A-State basketball game since 2017. A-State defeated Alcorn State 100-86, giving Bryan Hodgson his first career victory as head coach.

**Women's Basketball:**

- “Her Hoop Stats” named junior guard Izzy Higginbottom one of 10 semifinalists for the 2024 Player of the Year.
- A-State announced the return of the “Fast Break Club,” to build a stronger relationship in the A-State community.

**Volleyball:**

- A-State accepted an invitation to the 2023 National Invitational Volleyball Championship (NIVC), the program's first postseason appearance since 2018. Outside hitter Tegan Syring was tabbed Academic All-District by College Sports Communicators(CSC).

**Cross Country:**

- Rahel Broemmel, the Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year, automatically qualified as an individual for the NCAA Championships with a top-five finish at the NCAA South Central Regional Championships.
- Jesse Duvall was tabbed the Sun Belt Conference Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year after leading the Red Wolves to their fourth league title over the last five seasons.

**Football:**

- The Red Wolves were bowl eligible for the first time since 2019 and accepted an official invitation to play in the 2023 Camellia Bowl on December 23.
- The 2024 recruiting class, consisting of 36 signees, ranked first in the Sun Belt Conference for the third consecutive year.
- Nine student-athletes were tabbed All-Sun Belt Conference, and quarterback Jaylen Raynor was named the league's Freshman of the Year.
- Junior offensive lineman Jacob Bayer was named Second Team Academic All-America by CSC.

**Women's Soccer:**

- Six student-athletes received CSC Academic All-District honors.

**Baseball:**

- Eight-time Gold Glove Award winner Jim Edmonds headlined the Red Wolves' annual Grand Slam Banquet on February 12. The program was sold out for the first time in the history of the event.
- The Red Wolves announced their 2024 schedule, including 30 home games, and began the season 5-0 for the first time since 1997. They defeated SEC-member Ole Miss on the road for the first time since 2008.

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

- A-State was ranked No. 3 in the nation in the most recent National Tenpin Coaches Association poll.
- The Red Wolves won their annual Mid-Winter Invitational at Hijinx Family Entertainment Center, claiming the title for the third time in program history.

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

- Madison Tenore earned individual medalist honors as the Red Wolves claimed their second event title of the season, winning The Atlantic Invitational.

#### **Indoor Track & Field:**

- The Red Wolves claimed both the men's and women's Sun Belt Conference titles, making A-State the first program in Sun Belt Conference history to sweep the league's indoor championships five years in a row.

### **DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

#### **Access and Accommodations (AAS):**

- The number of new students registered from January to the present is currently 88, bringing total registration numbers to 1,034.
- The staff of AAS attended and/or conducted six trainings and workshops, administered approximately 400 tests, filled five new requests for conversion of textbooks into alternative formats, and provided 367 van pick-ups and drop-offs to classes.
- AAS staff composed a captioning guide and transcript guide for faculty to ensure all video content used as a part of class instruction is captioned in accordance with the Captioning and Accessibility Operating Procedure. Four privately funded scholarships were awarded to students with disabilities.

#### **AmeriCorps:**

- A-State's Neighborhood Red Wolves Community Engagement Program (NRWCEP) received \$25,000 in ARPA funds (American Rescue Plan Act). These funds were used to offer incentives for recruiting.
- Two Red Wolf Mentors completed 300 hours of service and received certificates of completion for serving their community through the NRWCEP.
- The NRWCEP director attended the annual Program Director's Retreat and State Commission Meeting in Conway and Little Rock.

#### **Community Engagement:**

- Activities sponsored or co-sponsored included promotional spots on KLEK radio, the speaker for the annual NEA Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration, a two-year co-sponsorship with KASU underwriting "Latino USA" programming, and co-sponsoring the annual Strong-Turner Alumni Chapter's 17th Annual Soul Food Dinner.

#### **Diversifying Our Curing Community (DOCC):**

- DOCC is a grant-funded program for students interested in a career as a medical doctor. Students who qualify receive benefits, including a \$1,500 stipend per semester, intensive advising, and mentoring by faculty members. Data show DOCC students to be academically equal to non-DOCC participants in two categories and performing better than their peers in 3-5 categories over the two-and-a-half-year period.

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

- The MC staff coordinated with campus departments to host activities celebrating February as "African American History Month" and March as "Women's History Month."
- A-State Connection, a high school recruitment program for juniors from underrepresented populations, will be hosted in March with a goal of 60 attendees.

#### **Student Diversity Recruitment:**

- Programs to recruit underrepresented students by their peers included assisting the Multicultural Center staff with the A-State Connection event.

### **ENROLLMENT MANGEMENT**

#### **Admissions:**

- There are currently 4,224 undergraduates for Fall 2024, compared to 1,905 at this time last year. There are currently 3,416 in-state undergraduates, compared to 1,505 last year.
- There are 3,658 international applications for Fall 2024, versus 2,324 total for Fall 2023.
- There are 343 transfer applications for Fall 2024, versus 298 total applications last year to date.

#### **Recruitment:**

- Restructured recruitment territories, now labeled as “zones,” to effectively balance travel and office needs, as all recruiters are now based in the Jonesboro office.
- Implemented a new classification system, Zonper, which efficiently identifies schools by their distance from campus and their admitted student performance.

#### **Marketing & Communications:**

- Established new branding, fueled by campaign strategy through digital, print, and social channels.
- Created a new television commercial, which aired seven times throughout the Super Bowl in the Northeast and Central Arkansas regions.
- Explored and utilized new capacities within our internal Printing Services department, allowing a more personalization approach with prospective students.
- Completed the redesign of the admit-pack initiative and mailed more than 4,000, to date.
- Currently developing the 2024-2025 communication and marketing plan.
- Social media impressions have totaled 250,000, to date, through organic reach. Engagement is up 320%, followed by a 65% increase through strategic social media ad placement.

#### **On-Campus Recruitment:**

- Scheduled 16 group tours for Spring 2024, and receiving more requests each day. The groups already scheduled should bring an estimated 580 students to campus. Partnered with the College of Agriculture to engage with more than 1,200 students expected on campus in March for an FFA event.
- Partnered with the Arkansas Biosciences Institute for the “Howl at the Sun” event, focused on the total eclipse in April, which is expected to attract more than 500 students from the Delta region.

- Registered at least 200 students for the Red Wolf Jumpstart event on February 17. Planning our April 27 festival-style recruitment event utilizing the downtown Jonesboro community.
- Chancellor Shields and Provost White visited local high schools to promote A-State and encourage attendance. Additionally, the Chancellor and the Provost spoke with 1,600 students during the Northeast Arkansas Thespian Fest

### **International Programs (IP):**

- Welcomed 375 new students in Spring 2024 – an undergraduate increase of 300%, compared to Fall 2023.
  - UG - 282
  - Grad – 76
  - Exchange – 9
  - ESL – 8
- Working to reinforce the retention efforts targeted toward international students.
- IP staff will participate in state-wide NAFSA training for international student services on April 12.
- Reviewing international agent contracts to align better with improved recruitment strategies.
- Redefining outreach strategies by sending international student-success stories to prospective students in the pipeline.
- Continuing town hall conversations to better understand the overall international student experience at A-State.

### **Early College Programs:**

- Early College Programs saw a 10% increase in enrollment for Spring 2024. A family “Meet and Greet” is scheduled for February 24 to support recruiting and outreach, and international high school partnerships are being explored.

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

- The A-State Promise Plus program has been fully implemented, and academic scholarships have been adjusted to meet net revenue goals.
- Christina Kostick has been hired as director of Financial Aid and is in the process of developing and training staff. Consultants are providing additional training opportunities for new and current staff.
- Staff will be visiting local schools to assist families in completing the FAFSA, and our office is also hosting on-site FAFSA events for local families.

**Environmental Health and Safety:**

- Presented a lab coat safety program for researchers and instructors.
- Worked with leaders in science to develop a field safety program to ensure the safety of students when conducting research off-campus.
- Completed annual storm water inspections.

**Human Resources:**

- Began the process to convert all historical I-9s to our current online I-9 system with Equifax.
- Began the annual evaluation process for staff and administrators.

**Red Wolf Wellness:**

- Delivered a 10-week wellness program for 65 faculty/staff members. Participants received health coaching and personal training from trainers, interns, and our wellness director.
- Upgraded the HPESS cardio equipment with new Matrix equipment.
- Hosted a 21-day step challenge for 79 faculty/staff members.

**Title IX and Institutional Equity:**

Assisted 14 students with pregnancy rights and provided the following support:

- Assisted with applying for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- Assisted with applying for the ABC Program (daycare voucher);
- Assisted with applying for Medicaid;
- Provided students with a daycare resource sheet.

Assisted the above students with the following accommodations:

- Provided a larger desk;
- Breaks during class, as needed;
- Rescheduling for tests and/or exams;
- Excusing absences due to pregnancy-related conditions;
- Provided alternatives to make up missed work, including field and lab work.

**Training and Development:**

- Hosted 44 new staff members for orientation during the months of October, November, and December.
- Added 51 new courses to the Learn Center and completed the second cohort of Leadership A-State in October.

### **University Safety and Emergency Management:**

- Finalized a new emergency action plan to better align with best practices.

### **Enterprise Risk Management:**

- Continued implementation of the Henderson State University Vehicle Safety Program within Banner and gathered historical data for document imaging preservation.
- Continued monitoring with Facilities Management and our property insurance company to finalize the previous Christmas Break freeze event.

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

- Preparing for the upcoming summer and fall registration period, with the goal of providing increased communication to students who may have holds impacting their registration status.

### **Procurement:**

- "Business View Magazine" will have a 6-8 page feature, titled *Best Practices & Industry Leaders in Collegiate Supply Chain and Procurement*, in the upcoming March and April issues. The interview between "Business View Magazine's" editor and Lisa Glasco will focus on the importance of our strategic partnerships and supplier relationships.
- The annual vendor show will be held on March 27, 2024, in Centennial Hall from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

### **Auxiliary Services:**

- The Aspretto Coffee Cart opened February 2, on the second floor of the Dean B. Ellis Library. Serving freshly brewed coffee, espresso and hot chocolate, among other food items, the coffee cart will be open daily, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Student savings with course materials has increased approximately \$13,000, as the Inclusive Access program continues to grow. The savings this spring were approximately \$82,000.

### **Budget Planning:**

- The A-State campus is in the early stages of budget development for fiscal year 2025.
- **Monthly/Quarterly Budget Monitoring:** All E&G and auxiliary budgets were monitored on a monthly basis to protect the institution's financial outcomes for the fiscal year. Any department/unit with deficits or forecasted deficits was



thoroughly analyzed and department supervisors were notified for corrective action.

- **Revenue Forecast:** Continued monitoring FY24 tuition and fee revenue and expense to forecast year-end budget impact.

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

- The Delta Center concluded its Leadership in Banking Series classes on February 14. Twenty bankers representing 13 banks will receive certificates of completion.
- The Delta Center held its first session of the Arkansas Delta Women's Leadership Academy in January. Twenty-five women from 17 counties in the Arkansas Delta were selected for the program. The Academy will run through September 2024.
- On February 28, eight high school teams from the region competed in the Thrown to the Wolves high school innovation competition. Approximately \$12,000 was donated by sponsors to cover scholarships and prizes for the winners.

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

- The agency finalized installation and department instructor training on the VirTra V180 Law Enforcement Training simulator on February 8. The addition of the VIRTRA V-180 will allow us to immerse an officer in a simulated training environment where they will be faced with judgmental use of force, weapons manipulation, de-escalation, active threat/active killer, duty to intervene, behavior analysis threat response, and other complex scenarios, such as working with persons experiencing mental illness.
- Sergeant Caleb Lawson and Sergeant Takeem Bowman have been accepted into the spring session of the Criminal Justice Institute's School of Law Enforcement Supervision (SLES). The SLES is designed to provide first and second line supervisors with the skills they will need to become effective managers.

### **UNIVERSITY MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **University Marketing:**

- Produced the first "Find Your Place in the Pack" radio spot to premier during the Camellia Bowl and run through the spring Athletics' radio broadcasts.
- Refreshed messaging on our contracted JETS bus to match new marketing campaign.
- Produced collateral and provided onsite-event production for "Howl-entine's Day" events at Jonesboro High School and Nettleton High School. The events yielded nearly 500 electronic lead form submissions from prospective students.

- A-State has partnered with Boston-based design agency, iFactory, to overhaul the University website. Interim CMCO Todd Clark is co-chair of the project committee. We are currently working to arrange stakeholder focus groups for interview. Estimated project timeline is 12-16 months.

#### **University Communications:**

- Continue to produce news releases to highlight campus announcements, events, and the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff.
- Coordinated PR for the following major events:
  - January 25, 2024: Delta National Small Prints Exhibition
  - January 29, 2024: Arkansas Soil and Water Conference
  - February 7, 2024: Arkansas Agribusiness Conference
  - February 24, 2024: BHM Living Legends Celebration

#### **Publications and Creative Services:**

- Continue to collaborate with Enrollment Management to produce high-impact collateral to distribute to prospective students.
- Continue to serve as an internal advertising agency for campus colleges, departments, and units.

#### **Digital Creative Media:**

- Continue to create promotional content and highlight packages from major campus events, including student events, athletics, major gifts, ribbon cuttings, theatre productions, and more.
- Continue to generate high-quality photos from campus events, produced in-studio and candid photography of everyday campus life.

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

#### **Wilson Counseling Center:**

- Student wellness is a key factor in student success. The Wilson Counseling Center updated its procedures to allow for additional opportunities for student intervention. Students seeking services, such as individual appointments, workshops and presentations, increased by 35% from Spring 2023 to Spring 2024.

#### **University Housing:**

- The campus resident total for Spring 2024 is 2824, a 9% increase from Spring 2023.

#### **Greek Life:**

- Panhellenic chapters voted to adopt a new model for determining campus chapter totals. This allowed for all Panhellenic chapters to extend open bids during the spring semester, resulting in each chapter increasing its membership.
- All “Divine Nine” National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters are active during Spring 2024.

#### **Student Events on Campus:**

- Volunteer A-State participated in the SunBelt Food Fight during the month of February. The University competed against other SunBelt institutions to stock the Food Pantry and increase awareness regarding food insecurity.
- Student leaders traveled to the annual Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference. This national event brings together Greek student leaders from around the country to discuss trends, programming ideas and marketing strategies.
- Student leaders traveled to the annual National Association for Campus Activities Conference in February, exposing them to educational speakers, social events, and novelty activities.
- Student Affairs hosted a Wellness Week in March. Each day highlighted a trending topic among our student populations: alcohol awareness, fueling your body, healthy relationship boundaries and self-care. Student Government Association annual elections occur in March. Newly elected officers are inducted during the month of April.
- Group fitness classes include yoga, spin, sculpt, cardio/tone, HIT, and “butt and guts.”
- Fitness challenges encourage students to achieve wellness goals.
- Intramural events were hosted throughout the semester, and include pickleball, basketball, bowling, soccer, softball, and table tennis.
- Club sports, including rugby, Spirit Squad, eSports, and softball, competed in a variety of events during the spring semester.

### **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

#### **Advancement Services:**

- For the second quarter of the fiscal year, October 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, the University recorded a total of 7,021 gifts and commitments from 2,504 individual donors for a total of \$1,807,574.24. The overall giving amount includes outright donations of cash, gifts-in-kind, planned gifts, and new pledges. Included is a \$500,000 commitment from the Arkansas State College Foundation (aka Kays Foundation) to benefit the new School of Veterinary Medicine, as well as several commitments to the Red Wolves Foundation.

### **Alumni Relations:**

- The University's fourth annual Day of Giving will be April 9, 2024. All alumni, friends, students, staff, and faculty will be asked to show their support by giving on this day.
- The faculty/staff giving program, Torchbearers, has collected more than \$244,073 at the end of the second quarter. This includes payroll deduction numbers. Currently, we have approximately a 45 percent participation rate, with 718 faculty, staff, emeriti and retired faculty/staff donating.
- Application submissions for the 2024 entering freshmen License to HOWL (L2H) Scholarships are being collected and will go to the selection committee after the February 1 submission deadline. Eight incoming freshmen will be selected to receive \$5,000 annual awards with an option to renew in successive years if they continue to meet the criteria. During Fall 2024, we anticipate a total of 31 students will receive the L2H scholarship for the year. A total of 5,184 license plates have been sold as of January 1, 2024. (Never begin a sentence with a numeral.)
- Alumni association 1924 Sustaining Life memberships are up 2.4%.
- The Alumni Association is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year in 2024. A major event will be planned for Friday evening of Homecoming weekend.
- Upcoming events (with flexibility if need be):
  - March: Sun Belt Conference activities (tentative) – Pensacola, FL
  - March or April: Central Arkansas Young Alumni Gathering (tentative) – Little Rock
  - April 2: A-State vs. Arkansas baseball pre-game gathering – Fayetteville
  - April 9: Day of Giving (virtual)
  - April 9: Bark at the Park – Tomlinson Stadium, Jonesboro
  - May 2: Red Wolves on the Rooftop – ASU System Office
  - June 24: St. Louis Alumni Events – St. Louis, MO
  - August 17: Annual Watering Hole (NPC Bid Day) – Jonesboro
  - September 7: Tailgate at Cooper Alumni Center – Jonesboro

- Homecoming Weekend (Date TBD)
  - Class of 1973 50-Year Reunion – Cooper Alumni Center
  - Alumni Association Centennial Celebration, Cooper Alumni Center
  - Homecoming Tailgate, Saturday – Cooper Alumni Center
- December 7: Pancakes & PJs – Cooper Alumni Center, Jonesboro
- December 7: Howlidays on the Rooftop – ASU System Office
- December: Bowl Activities (tentative)

**Arkansas State University System  
Board of Trustees Report  
March 14, 2024**

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

**ASUB Increases Spring Enrollment**

For the Fall 2023 regular term, the campuses of ASUB saw a headcount of 2,879, which is a 3% increase over Spring 2023 and includes a 5% increase in student semester credit hours. ASUB continues to enhance its off-schedule offerings to accommodate more start times for students. In Spring 2023, for instance, 6% of ASUB's overall student semester-credit-hour enrollment was generated by off-schedule courses. We anticipate a similar off-schedule enrollment this spring. We continue to strengthen our marketing efforts, which emphasize program outcomes, as well as transfer-and-career placement of our graduates.

**ASUB *Uncharted* Wins Highest Honors**

*Uncharted*, ASUB's literary and art magazine, has received Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazine (REALM) First Class award by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This year, schools in 46 states and five countries nominated 375 student-produced literary magazines. Magazines from middle school, high school, and higher education were welcomed for the 2023 contest. The contest's highest distinction, REALM First Class, was awarded to 108 magazines.

Dr. Jodi Whitehurst, associate professor of English and Publishing Studio faculty sponsor, stated that *Uncharted* is the only college publication in the state of Arkansas to receive the highest rank, REALM First Class. She notes, "The purpose of *Uncharted* is to draw attention to the exemplary writing, art, and photography created by students and alumni at ASUB. In addition, the publication provides an opportunity for students involved in the ASUB Publishing Studio to learn about the editing and publishing processes." To view *Uncharted*, visit: <https://www.asub.edu/uncharted/>.

**Machining Technology Receives "Gene Haas Foundation" Grant**

ASUB's computerized machining program in Searcy was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Gene Haas Foundation. The grant funds will provide more students with scholarships, textbooks, and essential tools. The funds will also be used to support students in national skills competitions, like SkillsUSA, opening doors to promising careers in manufacturing. This powerful partnership ensures not only financial support, but also industry expertise and real-world opportunities.

Derrick Holobaugh, Senior Instructor of Computerized Machining Technology, emphasizes that the scholarships provided by the Gene Haas Foundation help build skills in the machining industry and provide students with the experience of collaboration with a team in the areas of design, engineering, and manufacturing, using Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machined parts and components.

The Computerized Machining Program is accredited by the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS), which offers more than 50 professional certifications that students can earn, increasing their marketability after graduation. Students can earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in Computerized Machining, which encompasses skills in manual machining, computerized numerical control, and programming, computer-aided design, computer-aided manufacturing, and 3D modeling. The program offers daytime classes, as well as classes four nights a week for student flexibility. Classes in the Associate of Applied Science degree are transferable to multiple bachelor's degree options at Arkansas State University (A-State).

### **ASUB Practical Nursing Program Ranked No. 2 in the State**

Every year, PracticalNursing.org evaluates practical nursing programs in each state. This year the review organization announced that ASUB's practical nursing program has been ranked Number 2 in Arkansas among 25 nursing programs. According to PracticalNursing.org, nursing programs are assessed on several factors that represent how well a program supports students toward licensure and beyond. The organization analyzed past and present first-time National Clinical Licensing Exam for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN) pass-rates, which were weighted by year. Our 2021-2023 Practical Nursing graduating classes have each achieved a 100% first-time pass rates on the exam.

### **ASUB Registered Nursing Program Achieves 100% NCLEX Pass Rate**

Again in 2023, the Fall 2023 ASUB Registered Nursing graduating cohort achieved a 100% first-time pass rate on the National Clinical Licensing Exam for Registered Nursing (NCLEX-RN) exam. This is an outstanding accomplishment!

### **ASUB Campuses Prepare for April 8 Eclipse**

After two-and-a-half years of preparation and ongoing collaboration with our area communities, ASUB is prepared for the Beebe, Heber Springs, and Searcy campuses to serve as premier viewing sites for the April 8 total solar eclipse.

Each campus offers a unique vantage point along the path of totality, ensuring an extraordinary viewing experience for travelers and a unique learning experience for students, employees, and other viewers

Viewing sites include the following places:

**Beebe Campus:** 610 North Pecan Street, Beebe, Arkansas. The central viewing location will be near the Dr. Eugene McKay Student Center track. Totality duration: 2 minutes, 36 seconds, beginning at 12:35 p.m.

**Searcy Campus:** 1800 E. Moore Avenue, Searcy, Arkansas. The main viewing area will be the lawn area off Moore Avenue, adjacent to the Berryhill Park activities. Totality duration: 2 minutes, 57 seconds, starting at 12:35 p.m.

**Heber Springs Campus:** 101 Rivercrest Drive, Heber Springs, Arkansas. The main viewing area will be the lawn area at the front of the campus. Totality duration: 4 minutes, 4 seconds, starting at 12:35 p.m.

In-person classes will transition to remote learning for the day, and most ASUB offices will be closed for regular service. The day will be a “bring-your-family-to-work” day for employees, who will take a break from their regular duties to help man the various activities on our campuses and enjoy the eclipse with their families and our students. ASUB will provide complimentary eclipse glasses and parking to students and employees at all locations. Employee volunteers will also receive a free ASUB Solar Eclipse volunteer t-shirt in fluorescent blue.

Attendees will be able to purchase commemorative t-shirts and merchandise, indulge in tasty offerings from food trucks, and have access to first-aid stations for added comfort and safety. Eclipse glasses will be provided while supplies last, allowing attendees to witness the eclipse safely.

### **ASUB “Sold-Out” Lecture-Concert Series Events**

On February 19, the Lecture-Concert Series featured Cirque Zuma Zuma, a thrilling African cirque-style group, who performed to a sold-out crowd in the Owen Center Theatre. Cirque Zuma Zuma, a finalist on America's Got Talent in 2011, has been captivating audiences worldwide with their unforgettable performances. This extraordinary African-style Cirque du Soleil showcased a diverse talent pool of dedicated performers, offering a mesmerizing fusion of African culture and astonishing acts. The show's energy and cultural depth have earned them comparisons to the world-famous Cirque du Soleil. After the show, the performers graciously signed autographs, posed for pictures, and talked with every attendee who stood in line to meet them.

As part of the educational programming leading up to the April 8 total solar eclipse, ASUB hosted the Arkansas Skydome Planetarium and Space Science Museum with all tickets being reserved across the three-day event. The portable planetarium offered an immersive experience, delving into the intricacies of



our solar system and providing insights into how the upcoming eclipse will impact us. Skydome has the largest and most advanced digital portable planetarium system in the region and access to the same programming available in the largest planetariums in the world. School groups, families, and ASUB students enjoyed visiting the Skydome on the Beebe campus on February 20, the Searcy campus on February 21, and on the Heber Springs campus on February 22.

### **Heart of a Vanguard Donor Appreciation Celebrates Annual Giving**

On February 15, ASUB held its annual Heart of a Vanguard Donor Appreciation Dinner, celebrating more than \$340,000 in gifts in 2023. Thirty-eight employees were recognized for supporting students through their donations. In addition, thirty-three donors were recognized for their annual giving of \$1,000 to \$4,999; six were recognized for donations of \$5,000 to \$9,999; and three donors were recognized for donations of \$10,000 to \$99,999. Centennial Bank and Cathy R. Eoff and family were recognized for annual giving of \$100,000 or more. In addition, Dr. Methvin recognized Shane Muse, HR Director of Danfoss Power Solutions of Searcy; the Lonoke Public School District; and the City of Heber Springs by presenting them with Community Partnership Awards.

### **ASUB Regional Career Center to Offer Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing Cohort**

ASUB has gained approval by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to begin a high school level cohort of practical nursing students in Fall 2024. The high school student cohort is a direct response to our state's request to expand pathways to nurse training programs to help alleviate the nursing shortage. ASUB applied to the Office of Skills Development and requested launch funds through the ALIGN grant to offer the program through our Regional Career Center. Students must be academically qualified for the program, which will be a half-day program during the student's junior and senior years.

### **ASUB Academic Program Notifications**

On January 26, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the following program actions for ASUB:

#### **Inactive Status**

- Associate of Applied Science in Computer Coding (CIP 11.0201; DC 0374; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))
- Technical Certificate in Computer Coding (CIP 11.0201; DC 0372; 28 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))
- Certificate of Proficiency in Computer Coding (CIP 11.0201; DC 0370; 11 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees  
March 14, 2024**

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

**Boat Manufacturing Roundtable with Governor Sanders**

Governor Sarah Sanders visited Mountain Home on January 31 as part of her "Capital for a Day" tour of the state. At the Dr. Robert L. Myers Technical Education Campus, faculty member Brian Bigelow and ASUMH faculty and staff hosted a tour of the facility for the Governor, her staff, and other state officials. Governor Sanders also took part in a roundtable discussion with local marine manufacturers to gain a better understanding of the College's programs and its partnership with boat builders in the area. Six local marine manufacturers were represented at the event.

**Expansion of Efforts to Eliminate Food Insecurity for Students**

In Arkansas, one in three college students self-identify as being food insecure, and there is a direct link between hunger and performance in the classroom. Cassie Jones, an RN at Baxter Health, a recent ASUMH graduate, as well as a current intern with the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas, is leading a multidisciplinary group of local advocates and ASUMH faculty and staff to expand funding for food-insecurity efforts. The group will grow our current partnership with the Food Bank and potentially join the national nonprofit "Swipe Out Hunger" campaign. ASUMH continues to expand its efforts to combat food insecurity through its food pantry, mobile food pantry, and Owl Cove Eatery.

**Career Coaches Grant Renewal**

ASUMH partners with the ADE Division of Career and Technical Education's Arkansas Career Coach Program to provide a College and Career Coach to the school districts of Cotter, Flippin, Yellville, and Mountain Home, in order to increase interest in post-secondary education and/or career selection for high school students. The grant that funds these coaches has been renewed, so that these services will continue.

**Professional Development Conference Hosted by ASUMH**

ASUMH is excited to announce a new professional development initiative designed and hosted by ASUMH employees and funded by the College's current Title III grant. The initiative is planned for summer 2024 and will offer breakout sessions taught by ASUMH faculty and staff. Guest speakers will also be featured. All ASUMH faculty and staff will attend to be trained on student engagement, retention, advising, and other relevant topics.

**Chancellor's and Vice Chancellor's Lists for Fall 2023**

There were 86 students on the Chancellor's List and 89 students on the Vice Chancellor's List in Fall 2023. This is a record high for the number of students on the Vice Chancellor's List and a near-record

high for students on the Chancellor's List – just short of the all-time high by one student. A student must be enrolled in 12 credit hours and maintain a 4.0 GPA to be placed on the Chancellor's List, and must have a 3.6 - 3.99 GPA to be placed on the Vice Chancellor's List.

**Arkansas State University System  
Board of Trustees  
March 14, 2024**

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

**Strategic Priority 1: Student Success**

- The Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Committee awarded Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) student, Dawn Phillips, the 2023 Tech Talent Scholarship worth \$1,000. Dawn is pursuing a certification in Welding at ASUN-Jonesboro. This scholarship was established to support students working toward technical education degrees in Advanced Manufacturing, Industrial Maintenance, or Welding. Sponsors of the scholarship include Frito-Lay, Post Consumer Products, Corter Consulting, and NEA Baptist Health System.
- A group of 27 Newport High School students, who are studying culinary arts, visited classes of the ASU-Newport Culinary Arts Program, where they were amazed by the knife skills of Jan Criswell, the Culinary Arts instructor. Lisa Godsey, the Director of Culinary Arts, explained various meat cuts and how they can be used to prepare different dishes.
- ASUN Energy Control Technology (ECT) student, Theotis McGuire, received the "Head of the Class" award from Malco Products for his exceptional performance in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) field.
- ASUN Instructor of Advanced Manufacturing, Jonathan Ambs, received a \$12,000 grant from the Gene Haas Foundation. The grant will be used to provide scholarships for students in the Advanced Manufacturing Program.
- ASUN Honors Program student, Gretchen Thomas, has been selected to present a poster session on "Aristotle's 'Poetics' and William Shakespeare" at the Next Generation Humanities Conference Student Symposium. The symposium is scheduled to take place in Little Rock, from March 6-9, 2024. Thomas worked on this as part of her honors project in Fine Arts Theater class during the Fall 2023 semester.
- All of our recent Traditional Registered Nursing graduates passed the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN), resulting in a 100% pass-rate for the last two cohorts.
- Six students completed the first cohort of our Steelmaking Boot-Camp, a two-week (80-hour), training program in partnership with Arkansas Northeastern College. The program equips students with the skills and knowledge needed to work in the high-demand and high-wage steel-making industry.

**Strategic Priority 2: Employee Success**

- ASUN Dean for Student Success and Assessment, Anna Westman, has been nominated to become a National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) Commissioner. If selected for this role, Dean Westman will be responsible for coordinating the work of Peer Review Teams. She will support, promote, and advance high-quality dual and concurrent enrollment programs through NACEP accreditation, training, policies, and best practices. This nomination is a testament to the high level of expertise we provide at ASU-Newport.
- Susan Cooper, Associate Professor of Sociology, earned a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership from Liberty University.

- Ike Wheeler, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, received the 2023 Ambassador of the Year award from the Newport Chamber of Commerce during their Annual Banquet on February 16.

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

- On December 15, 2023, ASUN held its fall commencement ceremony. There were 274 degrees and 467 certificates conferred.
- The ASUN Division of Nursing and Health Professions received a grant from the Office of Skills Development to acquire ten TransVR headsets. These headsets provide nursing students with a simulated and safe environment for practicing their skills.
- ASUN has been granted a Perkins Reserve Grant of \$42,893 to expand the Marked Tree Energy Control Technology (ETC) Program to its Newport campus. The program aims to provide HVAC knowledge and skills to underserved communities, including the inmates at the McPherson Correctional Unit. The plan is to expand the program to traditional and secondary students in the upcoming year.
- The Beta Nu Gamma chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society at ASUN has reached the highest possible ranking for a PTK chapter, the prestigious 5-Star Chapter Status, for 2023. Phi Theta Kappa has four hallmarks: scholarship, leadership, service, and fellowship. With the guidance of our exceptional advisors, our chapter has developed a comprehensive program encompassing all four of these hallmarks. Our chapter has made impressive progress in just two years, having risen from a two-star level to a five-star level. This success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and the support of our institution.
- ASUN Dean for Academic Success, Dr. Jeri Bryant, and faculty members, Logan Neldon, Lindley Gilliam, and Mark Hanan, participated in the Mentor Connect Winter Workshop for National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant Development. The group is exploring the establishment of an Electric Vehicle (EV) program at ASUN.
- We will receive a \$5 million EDA grant to support the construction of a new Nursing and Health Sciences Center. The project will be matched with \$1.3 million in local funds and is expected to create 225 jobs.
- We are pleased to be invited by the National IT Innovation Center (NITIC) to attend the "IT Skill Standards 2020 and Beyond" workshop, funded by the NSF and hosted by Collin College in Frisco, Texas, from March 4-6, 2024.

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

- Consolidated Youth Services brought a group of junior high and high school students to the ASUN-Jonesboro site on January 24. The students were given a campus tour and interacted with students and faculty. They were introduced to on-site programs, including Culinary, Welding, Advanced Manufacturing, and Industrial Maintenance programs.
- The ASU-Newport Library hosted a Community Education class on Cybersecurity on February 15.
- ASUN hosted the ECT Wiring Competition on February 20 at the Marked Tree Campus.
- ASUN held the Weld-a-thon event on February 22 at the Jonesboro Campus and hosted the Science Olympiad on February 24 at the Newport Campus.
- We hosted the Automotive Service Technology Competition on March 14 at the Marked Tree Campus, and will host the System's Board of Trustees on March 15 at ASU-Newport.
- ASUN is looking forward to presenting an Eclipse Celebration on April 8 at ASU-Newport.

### **ASUN Academic Program Notifications**

ASUN requested approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Business Management and Supervision degrees. Embedded certificates are the following:

- Technical Certificate in Business Management and Supervision
- Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Management and Supervision

The proposal for an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Business emphasizing Management and Supervision was developed based upon changes in academic and industry needs. The new A.A.S. Business-Management and Supervision program will prepare students to enter the job market with interpersonal, leadership, and both financial and supervisory management skills.

ASUN requested approval to offer an Associate of Science degree in Data Science.

The proposal for an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree in Data Science is the result of a statewide initiative to increase the number of graduates with the knowledge and skill sets to meet the demand for technology and data-literate employees necessary to keep Arkansas's economy competitive.

**Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
March 14, 2024**

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

**Higher Learning Commission Update**

ASU Mid-South has been actively preparing for its comprehensive accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), which is scheduled for April 8-9. During the late fall and early spring, campus-wide trainings were conducted to familiarize faculty and staff with each of the five accreditation criteria and the institution's related assurances. A mock visit was conducted by a team of five community college colleagues from across the state on February 19, in order to identify any potential areas of weakness in the institution's assurance argument, as well as to provide employees with a "dress rehearsal" for the actual HLC visit. Information gathered from that visit is being used to refine the assurance argument prior to its being locked into the HLC portal on March 11.

The HLC peer-review team will consist of the following persons:

- Chandra Author – AVP for Accreditation and Healthcare Initiatives at Cuyahoga Community College (OH), Chair;
- Devin Fraley – Division Chair, Science & Engineering, Central Arizona College (AZ);
- Russell Baker – VP for Academic Programs (retired), Ivy Tech Community College (IN);
- Jennifer Davidson – AVP of Education, College of Lake County (IL); and
- Amanda Turner – Director of Student Success, Lincoln Land Community College (IL)

**Paramedic Program Update**

The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) has scheduled a virtual site visit for ASU Mid-South's paramedic program to be held on March 4. The purpose of this visit is to ensure that all core elements for preliminary accreditation are met prior to the enrollment of the first cohort. Pending a positive outcome from this visit, ASU Mid-South will enroll its first paramedic cohort this summer.

### **Southland Donations**

Southland Casino recently announced a very generous \$537,500 gift to the ASU Mid-South Foundation. Over the next five years, Southland will fully endow four scholarships (\$125,000 each) in honor of four of their former board members, two of whom have direct ties to ASU Mid-South. A profile of each of these former members follows below:

- Mary Toney, a West Memphis native, who retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. in 1999 after a 30-year career, has immersed herself in numerous community efforts for more than four decades. She has served three times as chair of the Board of Mid-South Community College, the predecessor to ASU Mid-South; she is a charter member and president of Crittenden County Crime Stoppers; a former member and chair of the Arkansas Humanities Council; a former director for Citizens Bank in Marion; and a member of the Southland Board.
- Cortez Kennedy, an Osceola native who passed away in 2017, was a star defensive tackle for the Seattle Seahawks, where he earned accolades during 11 seasons in the NFL and was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2012. He was an ardent supporter of Rivercrest High School, where he played football on his state championship team in 1985, and where he also brought his fellow NFL players to football camps that he held for local students. After his football career, Kennedy lived in Wilson, AR, and supported economic development officials in attracting businesses and other community efforts to the region.
- Frank Martin, a West Memphis native who died in 2020, was a successful businessman, who owned a tax-preparation firm and was president of Delta Office Supply. He served as West Memphis City Treasurer for many years and was also a chairman of the West Memphis Design & Review Commission; treasurer and president of the West Memphis Chamber of Commerce; and president, vice president, and treasurer of Crittenden Regional Hospital.
- Hershel Owens of West Memphis is chairman of the City of West Memphis Public Facilities Board and chairman of the ASU Mid-South Board of Visitors. He was a partner at Dodge, Thomas, Goss & Owens Certified Public Accountants; chairman of Crittenden Regional Hospital's board; and a member of the Board of the First National Bank of West Memphis.

Also, we are grateful that, for the second year in a row, Southland is contributing \$37,500 to the Crittenden County Promise Scholarship Program (formerly known as the Greyhound Promise).



### **Tommy Goldsby Memorial Wild Game Dinner**

The eighth Annual Tommy Goldsby Memorial Wild Game Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 9. The event has already broken all previous records with regard to total sponsorships, and individual tickets sold out within minutes of going on sale. This annual fundraiser benefits the Thomas Goldsby Scholarship for Concurrently Enrolled Students. That scholarship, created in 2001, allows area eleventh- and twelfth grade high school students to receive both high school and college credit, tuition free, in classes offered at Arkansas State University Mid-South.

### **NISOD Excellence Award Recipients**

Three individuals from ASU Mid-South have been selected to receive the 2024 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Awards. To qualify for this recognition, individuals must demonstrate a positive, collegial attitude that reflects honesty, integrity, and fairness; a commitment to student learning and student success, both inside and outside of the classroom; a commitment to continuous improvement, innovation, and their own professional development; a commitment to college service, community service, and institutional advancement; and a commitment to exemplary internal and external customer service. Nominations are submitted by the faculty and staff, with final selection made by the college's 15-member Senior Leadership Team. This year's NISOD Award recipients are Lori Forrester, Associate Professor for Teacher Education; Donnylle Hampton, Director of Adult Education; and Claudia Ohneck, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor. Recipients will be honored at NISOD's International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence in May.

### **ACTM regional Math Contest**

On February 24, ASU Mid-South will once again host the best and the brightest high school students from across the region for the Arkansas Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ACTM) Regional Math Contest. Students will compete in one of six subject areas: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, Statistics, and Calculus. Volunteers from across campus will assist with hosting, registration, and scoring of this event.

### **Blue and You Foundation Grant**

ASU Mid-South's Home Visiting Services Program recently received a \$70,000 grant from Blue and You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas, in order to improve health and educational outcomes of prenatal mothers and children in Crittenden County. Funds will be used to provide educational toys and health/safety/hygiene items for mothers and children served by the Home Visiting Services Program. Through this program, ASU Mid-South provides support to Crittenden County families with children from the prenatal stage until the child's third birthday. This is accomplished by using an evidence-based curriculum to increase parental knowledge of early childhood development, improve parenting practices that increase children's school-readiness and success, provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Participating families receive an assessment of needs for both the family and

the child or children, individualized visits twice a month to focus on parent/child interactions and child development, and a group meeting once a month to focus on parent/child interactions.

### **Regional Economic Strategy**

ASU Mid-South's Chancellor, Dr. Debra West, was recently invited to serve on the Regional Economic Strategy Committee for the MidSouth Development District (MDD). The MDD, which serves Shelby, Tipton, Fayette, and Lauderdale Counties in western Tennessee; De Soto County in northern Mississippi; and Crittenden County in eastern Arkansas, has been charged by the federal Economic Development Administration to create a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. The first meeting will be held on March 5.

### **Academic Program Notifications**

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

**Arkansas State University System  
Board of Trustees Report  
March 14, 2024**

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

**Saline County Career Technical Campus Enrollment**

Saline County Career Technical Campus set a new enrollment record for Spring 2024, with 658 students enrolled for this semester.

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers Adult Education**

Arkansas State University Three Rivers Adult Education is currently at 55 on Table 4 Efficient and Effectiveness, which is the standard by which the success of the Adult Education program is measured. The WAGE™ Level I Workforce Preparation Certificate is designed to prepare adult learners with the essential skills needed in today's workforce. A Career Coach and an instructor work with students to learn more about employability skills, effective relationships, and workplace skills, which help the transition into post-secondary education, training programs, or the workforce. This quarter's score is 20% above the current state average for this period of the year. There have been 239 active participants in this fiscal year. Additionally, 143 level 1 WAGE certificates have been awarded.

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

Our transition from three daily classes to two has been successful at the Malvern ASU Three Rivers Career Center campus. Students and faculty have given only positive reactions, and the classes have had opportunities to venture into many advanced areas where time did not allow before. Our area high schools have also been receptive, with minimal scheduling issues. Enrollment for Fall 2023 increased to 206 students, for a 17% gain over Fall 2022. College credit earned by students increased more than 130%, from 495 credit hours to 1,152. This represents a 76.8 FTE, or full-time equivalent.

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 2024. Workforce Development has completed

Module 6 of the Reynolds Roll Shop Training Program, consisting of 144 hours of instruction in six monthly modules utilizing six individual instructors.

### **Student Affairs and Retention**

Our registrar reports that 99 students graduated in December 2023. Seventy-two Early Alerts were submitted, with 61 students needing intervention. The Early Alert program offers assistance to students with attendance, behavioral, or academic needs. Our College Learning Advocate, Ms. Kimberly Stecker, made personal contacts to help those struggling with academic progress and held 16 in-person meetings. The remaining communications were completed via phone, e-mail, or Zoom. The TRiO report total for Computer Lab and Academic Tutoring contacts for October 1, 2023, to January 18, 2024, was 128.9 total hours.

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

Eight employees were awarded the Employee Educational Opportunity Grant for the Spring 2024 semester for \$500 each. Additionally, the college has contracted with vendor Apptegy to revamp our current website and add two additional websites for Athletics and SCCTC. The new website is scheduled to launch in March.

Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Retention, Vergina Smith, joined the Malvern Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association and assisted with parade planning, as well as attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast held on Saturday, January 6. Ms. Smith also presented the C.A.R.E. (Campus Assessment Response and Education) team implementation plan at the Spring Convocation on January 9. The C.A.R.E. Team provides support for all students, faculty, and staff at Arkansas State University Three Rivers. The team offers counseling services, addresses food insecurities, and creates spaces to improve the well-being of our entire campus community.

### **Student Government Association Update**

Our Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored the Christmas float for the Malvern Christmas Parade on December 13, 2023. Every department on campus provided a box to advertise or promote our theme – “ASUTR Has a Gift for Everyone”. ASUTR instructors Jim Dyer and Toni Dyer provided a trailer and

generator, and Red River Dodge provided a truck. The SGA purchased banners for the parade to advertise the college, as well as the SGA. Our athletes were also asked to represent the baseball and softball teams by walking the parade route and throwing out souvenir eagles and baseballs. E-Sports also participated in the parade, along with our baseball and softball athletes.

Arkansas State University  
Board of Trustees Report  
March 14, 2024

Chancellor's Report  
Henderson State University

**Alumni and Friends Attend Chancellor Receptions in Five Communities, Via Zoom**

Dr. Trey and Dr. Katherine Berry were welcomed to the Henderson community at several receptions—including on campus in Arkadelphia on January 11, the ASU System office in Little Rock on January 25, the Chamber of Commerce in Hot Springs on February 8, and at Northridge Country Club in Texarkana on February 29. Additionally, a Zoom Q&A session was held on March 5 for Dr. Berry to connect with alumni and friends.

**Athletic Director Search**

A search for a new Athletic Director has been completed and an announcement should be expected by February 28.

**Procedural Changes in Recruiting**

Henderson State has begun a total procedural change in recruiting. This includes new procedures in “personal approaches” to recruiting, more data-driven recruiting, and restructuring of personnel. Changes led to the largest “Reddie Day” recruitment event since 2019, with more than 360 students and family members in attendance.

Dr. Trey Berry and the admissions team are visiting with future Reddies and distributing Henderson T-shirts at high schools. Recent visits have included Arkadelphia, Center Point, Fountain Lake, Gurdon, Lake Hamilton, and Malvern with more T-Shirt Days on the schedule.

**Reorganization of Academic Units**

Henderson is proposing to the Board of Trustees a reorganization of its academic units. The plan is to move away from “Learning Communities” and return to more traditional units including the following:

- College of Business
- College of Education (Teachers College)
- College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- College of Science, Engineering and Nursing

### **Expansion of Henderson's Board of Visitors**

Henderson is proposing the expansion of its Board of Visitors from four members to nine members. This will increase support and attract giving from its 30,000+ alumni.

### **Chancellor Berry Creates an Administrative Council**

An Administrative Council that includes 40 department directors was established to increase communications across the institution. Members meet monthly.

### **"Zero" Based Budget Process**

A new budget process has been implemented that will be more inclusive across the campus, and is a return to the best practice of "zero"-based budgeting.

### **Henderson Plans to Rebuild and Expand the Aviation Fleet of Planes**

A plan is currently being implemented to rebuild and expand HSU's aviation fleet of planes. The new fleet is expected to be assembled through the restructuring of fees in our Aviation Program. The new fleet should be assembled by August 2024.

### **Fauline Frazier Estate Creates Scholarship Endowments for Music and Business Students**

The late Fauline Frazier has generously created two new scholarship endowments for Henderson students through a \$426,572.60 estate gift. The Tom and Rena Frazier Scholarship will support music students, and the Fauline Frazier Scholarship will provide funding for Business students.

### **Barkman House Renovations and Caddo Center Improvements in Progress**

Renovations began February 13 at the James E.M. Barkman House, 356 North 10th Street, on the Henderson campus. The work is funded by an \$850,000 grant from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC). Renovations will include new roofing, repair of all wood on the exterior of the building, insulation and duct repairs, painting, and structural repairs. Work is expected to continue through May 2024.

The Caddo Center is near completion of a renovation project, thanks to several ANCRC grants. The building will now house the Office of Advising and Students Success, Financial Aid, Housing, and Admissions.

### **Henderson Named 'Most Affordable College' in Arkansas**

Henderson State University has been named the "Most Affordable College" in Arkansas. The ranking was determined by GOBankingRates, which analyzed "colleges across a variety of factors, including in-state tuition and fees, as well as room and board."

### **Smith Selected for National ROTC Honor, Earns Top Ten Percent Ranking**

Taylor Smith, a senior business management and finance major, is ranked in the top-ten

percent of ROTC cadets nationally! She was selected from more than 5,000 applicants to attend the George Mason Conference in Fort Knox, Kentucky, and will be a Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG) in May 2024.

### **Brotherton, Taylor Participate in STEM Posters at the State Capitol**

Henderson State University students participated in the Arkansas STEM Posters at the State Capitol event in Little Rock on February 14. University students from across the state presented research projects in the Capitol Rotunda. Student presenters from HSU included Michael Brotherton and Tiffany Taylor. They were joined by Dr. Brett Serviss. ASU System Interim President Dr. Robin Myers and members of the System staff also attended the event and heard presentations.

### **Henderson to Host Digital Media Production Summer Camp in June 2024**

Henderson will provide aspiring young filmmakers an opportunity this summer to enhance their skills and interests through workshops and other activities. The University's Digital Media Production program will host a four-day camp from June 25-28, in which participants from ages 14-18 will produce their own newscast, sportscast, or commercial. The camp is made possible by funding from the Arkansas Arts Council in Education After-School and Summer Residency Grant and Henderson Foundation. For information, visit [hsu.edu/filmcamp](http://hsu.edu/filmcamp).

### **Christiane Uzoh Crowned Miss Henderson State University 2024**

Christiane Uzoh, a senior marketing major from Beaumont, Texas, was crowned Miss Henderson State University 2024 at the pageant held on January 28. Felicity Frushour, a junior pre-nursing major from Texarkana, Texas, was named first runner-up, and McKenzie Sanders, a sophomore biology pre-med major from Little Rock, was second runner-up.

### **Basketball Player Breaks Record**

Senior basketball player, Ashley Farrar, broke a thirty-year scoring record by reaching 1,650+ points in her career.

### **Honors Recital Showcases Five Students, Two Faculty Members**

The Department of Music presented the annual Honors Recital on February 1, featuring students selected by audition in November. Soloists included Ty Rashad Dennis, tenor; Will Cole, trombone; Christian Sweeney, bass-baritone; and Kaden Manley, trombone. Additional performances included horn duets performed by Alexis Barnhart and Dr. Heather Thayer. KyoungHwa Molinari accompanied the performers on piano.

### **Williamson's New Book Explores Psychology of Fundamentalism**

Dr. Paul Williamson, Professor of Psychology at Henderson State University, has published a new book, co-authored with Dr. Sarah Demmrich, entitled An International



Review of Empirical Research on the Psychology of Fundamentalism. Williamson has authored or co-authored numerous articles and books on the psychology of religion.