

Subject: Introduction to **Accelerate ASU** Efficiency and Transformation Review

Colleagues,

I would like to update you on the Arkansas State University System's previously announced plans to conduct an efficiency study that will guide us in efforts to maximize resources and strengthen activities and programs on our campuses.

The **Accelerate ASU** initiative enables us to lead the way in addressing the goals set forth in the State of Arkansas' Master Plan regarding higher education attainment, and we need your help and input.

To ensure that we are well-positioned to fulfill our missions and address the challenges that lie ahead, we have partnered with Huron Consulting Group to perform a broad review of operations across all campuses and system office. **Accelerate ASU** will confirm our strengths and identify any opportunities for improvement that may exist.

Through a competitive RFP process, a Steering Committee with representation from all campuses and the system office identified Huron as an ideal partner based on its collaborative approach and extensive experience advising higher education institutions and systems. The Steering Committee (Table 1) will guide Huron's efforts throughout the review.

As part of **Accelerate ASU**, Huron will visit each campus in the coming months to conduct interviews with stakeholders to understand:

- The current state of administrative and academic operations
- Operational strengths, and
- Challenges and/or gaps which may exist

Huron will also distribute a survey to gather information. I would appreciate your participation in the interviews and/or survey if requested, and encourage you to be candid in the information that you provide to Huron. I believe that you can offer a unique perspective regarding our current operations and needs that will be critical to the success of this project.

I understand that you have busy schedules and thank you in advance for committing your time and insight to this review. Soon we will launch an **Accelerate ASU** website with materials, and eventually reports, related to this effort.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your campus Steering Committee representative with any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Chuck

Dr. Charles Welch
President