

**AGENDA**  
**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**March 6, 2020**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**ASU Three Rivers**

- I. Call to Order  
Price Gardner, Vice Chair
- \*II. Approval of the Minutes of Past Meeting  
December 6, 2019
- III. President's Report  
Reports of the Chancellors
- \*IV. Agenda
  - Proposed ASU System Resolutions
    - Resolution approving the ASU System Financial Reserves Policy
    - Resolution approving the slate of candidates proposed to serve as initial members of the ASU Three Rivers Board of Visitors
  - Proposed ASU-Jonesboro Resolutions
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to restructure the Undergraduate Studies Unit, resulting in the reestablishment of University College
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to establish the Center for No-Boundary Thinking
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to establish a \$5,000 per semester program fee for the H.O.W.L. Transition Program
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to confer the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters upon John Warren Allison
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to confer the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music upon Rosanne Cash
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to name Room 234 in the Lab Sciences West Building the Hytrol Student Hub
    - Resolution approving ASU-Jonesboro to name the Women's Health and Physical Therapy Residency Program the Kays Foundation Women's Health and Physical Therapy Residency Program

- Proposed ASU-Beebe Resolution
  - Resolution approving ASU-Beebe to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing
  
- Proposed ASU-Newport Resolutions
  - Resolution approving ASU-Newport to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program
  - Resolution approving ASU-Newport to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program

V. Executive Session

\*VI. Approval of Personnel Actions

VII. Other Business

\*VIII. Adjournment

\*Action Items

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Jeff Hankins (501) 660-1000

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**ACTION ITEM:** The Arkansas State University System seeks approval to adopt a Financial Reserves Policy.

**ISSUE:** The Board of Trustees must approve all System policies.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Arkansas State University System desires to establish a policy to protect the long-term financial health of campuses of the System and to maintain adequate liquidity needs for daily operations.
- A copy of the ASU System Financial Reserves Policy is attached to this resolution.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University System Financial Reserves Policy is approved, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

# ASU System Policy

Effective Date: 3/6/2020

Subject: Financial Reserves Policy

## Purpose

The Financial Reserves Policy is designed to protect the long-term financial health of campuses of the System and to meet the following objectives:

- Maintain adequate liquidity needs for daily operations at levels sufficient for accreditation and rating agencies
- Prepare for infrastructure investments in capital projects and planned maintenance projects
- Create capacity for planned strategic investments

## Definition of Reserve Funds

**Unrestricted Operating Reserves:** Each campus shall build and maintain an adequate level of cash and unrestricted net assets to support daily operations in the event of unanticipated shortfalls. During annual budget planning, the Unrestricted Operating Reserves Fund shall not be utilized for ongoing budgetary commitments or to cover a permanent loss of restricted funds without recommendation from the President of the ASU System. Annually, the basis for determining an adequate reserve level will be the Primary Reserve Ratio (PRR), which is the level of expendable net assets divided by total expenses, using audited financial statement information. Campuses should work to establish and maintain unrestricted operating reserves (cash available within the operating funds) from .25 to .50 PRR.

Below is the calculation for the PRR:

<b>Primary Reserve Ratio Calculation:</b>	
Institution unrestricted net assets	+
Institution expendable restricted net assets	+
C.U. <sup>1</sup> unrestricted net assets	+
C.U. temporary restricted net assets	+
<b>Numerator Total</b>	
Institution operating expenses	+
Institution non-operating expenses	+
Elimination of inter-entity amounts	+
C.U. total expenses	+
<b>Denominator Total</b>	
<b>Primary Reserve Ratio =</b>	÷

**Facilities Maintenance, Renovation, and Construction Reserves:** Each campus will be required annually to budget and transfer an amount approved by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of facilities maintenance needs. Beyond set-aside for repairs and maintenance, campuses are encouraged to develop reserves for renovation, improvement, and construction of facilities to lessen the need to issue long-term debt.

**Strategic Investment Reserves:** Campuses are encouraged to create and maintain strategic investment reserves. These reserves may be established to fund initiatives that support the campus initiatives and priorities, including seed monies for new academic program development or existing program enhancement, research and equipment investments, campus programs, construction, and other expenditures that support planned goals.

**Maintaining Adequate Reserves and Liquidity**

Because it is essential for the financial health of both the System and its campuses to maintain adequate reserves and liquidity, any campus that ends the prior fiscal year with Unrestricted Operating Reserves less than a .25 PRR shall make that fund the highest priority for replenishment. Additionally, each campus shall maintain liquidity to adequately cover its cash operating expenses for a minimum of 60 days.

Below is the calculation for Days of Cash on Hand:

<b>Days of Cash on Hand Calculation:</b>	
Current cash and cash equivalents (SNP) <sup>2</sup>	+
Short-term investments (SNP)	+
Noncurrent cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted (SNP)	+
<b>Available Cash Total</b>	
Operating expenses (SRECNP) <sup>3</sup>	+
Depreciation (SRECNP)	-
<b>Net Operating Expenses</b>	
Net operating expenses/365	
<b>Daily Operating Expenses</b>	
Available cash total/daily operating expenses	
<b>Days of Cash on Hand =</b>	
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Any campus at less than .10 PRR, or with less than 60 days cash on hand, will be considered in financial distress and will be subject to additional monitoring by the System Administration until the campus achieves the target level in accordance with this policy.

<sup>1</sup> C.U. is Component Unit, such as a related foundation excluding athletic-related or alumni foundations.  
<sup>2</sup> SNP is Statement of Net Position from the audited financial statements.  
<sup>3</sup> SRECNP is Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes of Net Position from the audited financial statements.

(Adopted by the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees on March 6, 2020, Resolution 20-XX.)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Jeff Hankins (501) 660-1004

**ACTION ITEM:** The Arkansas State University System requests approval of the slate of candidates proposed to serve as initial members of the ASU Three Rivers Board of Visitors.

**ISSUE:** Pursuant to Board policy, the ASU Board of Trustees must approve the candidates for the Board of Visitors for each System institution.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASU Three Rivers Chancellor Steve Rook has submitted to President Charles Welch the proposed names of members and terms for the ASU Three Rivers Board of Visitors. President Welch consented to the list and recommends their approval to the Board of Trustees.

- The proposed members are as follows:

One-year Term Expiring June 30, 2021

Judge John Cole

Two-year Term Expiring June 30, 2022

Rodney Allen

Three-year Term Expiring June 30, 2023

Artie Gragg

Four-year Term Expiring June 30, 2024

Rick McClure

Five-year Term Expiring June 30, 2025

Mark Roberts

Six-year Term Expiring June 30, 2026

Diana Reggans

Seven-year Term Expiring June 30, 2027

Bill Fowler

- Future appointees to the Board of Visitors will serve seven-year terms.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approves the slate of candidates proposed above to serve as initial members of the ASU Three Rivers Board of Visitors, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Alan Utter (870) 972-2030

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval to restructure the Undergraduate Studies Unit, resulting in the reestablishment of University College.

**ISSUE:** The Board of Trustees must approve the reorganization or addition of any new administrative or instructional unit within the institution.

**BACKGROUND:**

- As part of the AY 2014-2015 college restructuring, University College was repurposed from a college to the unit of Undergraduate Studies.
- Undergraduate Studies remains listed with the other colleges on the A-State website and at commencement. In a practical sense, Undergraduate Studies has continued to operate as a college system that houses several interdisciplinary degree programs.
- The University College model is common on four-year campuses and serves as the centralized approach to manage retention initiatives, including academic support services, supplemental enrichment activities, and alternative degree options for undergraduate students.
- University College systems are common on college campuses and have a deliberate focus on student success and completion initiatives that supplement and support the functions of the other colleges.
- A college model is more easily understood by students, especially those seeking degree programs housed within this unit, as well as the overall campus community.
- As part of the reestablishment of University College, a purposeful reconfiguration is proposed which will require limited resources. The Associate Vice Chancellor (AVC) will continue to serve as both Dean and AVC as the functions purposely overlap and this design promotes cost savings. A stipend is needed for an existing position to serve as Associate Dean to assist in operations.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to restructure the Undergraduate Studies Unit, resulting in the reestablishment of University College, effective April 1, 2020.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Alan Utter (870) 972-2030

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval to establish the Center for No-Boundary Thinking.

**ISSUE:** The Arkansas Department of Education requires a resolution from the Board of Trustees in order to grant approval for the Center.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASUJ desires to establish the Center for No-Boundary Thinking (CNBT) within the College of Engineering and Computer Science. The mission of the CNBT is to develop human infrastructure at the frontier of bioinformatics, advanced data science, and artificial intelligence, as part of its broader mission to address research challenges without the boundary of disciplines.
- Initial costs of the Center will be funded by Facilities and Administrative recoveries, which are administrative cost recoveries from existing sponsored research agreements. Long-term sustainability for the CNBT will be provided by competitive and sponsored funding opportunities.
- The CNBT has been approved by the appropriate shared governance committee through the research-governing principles process.
- Approval by the Board of Trustees will be submitted to the Arkansas Department of Education.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to establish the Center for No-Boundary Thinking, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Alan Utter (870) 972-2030

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval to establish a \$5,000 per semester program fee for the H.O.W.L. (Helping Our Wolves Learn) Transition Program.

**ISSUE:** The Board of Trustees must approve the assessment of fees.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The H.O.W.L. Transition Program will provide positive learning environments for students with intellectual disabilities and/or autism and provide the college experience while preparing these students for adulthood and future careers.
- This two-year program utilizes mentoring and an extensive support network to provide social-skills training, independent-living skills training, career development, and tutoring.
- The fee for the program shall be Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) per semester.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to establish a \$5,000 per semester program fee for the H.O.W.L. Transition Program, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Len Frey (870) 972-3033

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program for support of the Campus Loop Trail.

**ISSUE:** A resolution from the Board of Trustees is required to apply for this grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASUJ understands that federal-aid Recreational Trails Program funds are available at 80% federal participation and 20% local match/in-kind labor to develop or improve the Campus Loop Trail.
- Federal-aid funds are available for this project on a reimbursable basis, requiring work to be accomplished and proof of payment prior to actual monetary reimbursement.
- The Campus Loop Trail, using federal funding, will be open and available for use by the general public and maintained by the applicant (ASUJ) for the life of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program for support of the Campus Loop Trail. The ASU Board of Trustees pledges its full backing and hereby authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project. ASUJ will participate in accordance with its designated responsibility, including maintenance of this project. The ASUJ Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the construction of the above-stated project, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Len Frey (870) 972-3033

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (ASUJ) requests approval to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program for support of the Campus Loop Trail.

**ISSUE:** A resolution from the Board of Trustees is required to apply for this grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASUJ understands that federal-aid Transportation Alternatives Program funds are available at 80% federal participation and 20% local match/in-kind labor to develop or improve the Campus Loop Trail.
- Federal-aid funds are available for this project on a reimbursable basis, requiring work to be accomplished and proof of payment prior to actual monetary reimbursement.
- The Campus Loop Trail, using federal funding, will be open and available for use by the general public and maintained by the applicant (ASUJ) for the life of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is approved to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program for support of the Campus Loop Trail. The ASU Board of Trustees pledges its full backing and hereby authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project. ASUJ will participate in accordance with its designated responsibility, including maintenance of this project. The ASUJ Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the construction of the above-stated project, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Conferring  
the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters  
upon John Warren Allison

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University has adopted procedures for awarding honorary degrees upon individuals who have made an extraordinary difference in the lives of so many at this University; and

**WHEREAS**, the procedures adopted by the Board provide that honorary degrees are to be conferred upon persons who serve as models worthy of emulation and respect. Nominees must have achieved the highest levels of excellence as scholars, artists, professionals, philanthropists, or public servants, and must have demonstrated personal integrity and concern for the public good; and

**WHEREAS**, procedures require that nominations for such a degree be reviewed and approved by the Honorary Doctorate Committee and must also receive the recommendation of the chancellor; and

**WHEREAS**, John Warren Allison has been nominated for an honorary doctorate from Arkansas State University-Jonesboro and this nomination has been properly reviewed and recommended by the Honorary Doctorate Committee, the chancellor of Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, and the president of the Arkansas State University System;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University that John Warren Allison shall be granted the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, from Arkansas State University-Jonesboro and said degree shall be conferred upon him during commencement exercises on May 16, 2020.

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

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Price Gardner, Vice Chair

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Tim Langford, Member

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Niel Crowson, Member

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Charles L. Welch, President

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Conferring  
the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music  
upon Rosanne Cash

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University has adopted procedures for awarding honorary degrees upon individuals who have made an extraordinary difference in the lives of so many at this University; and

**WHEREAS**, the procedures adopted by the Board provide that honorary degrees are to be conferred upon persons who serve as models worthy of emulation and respect. Nominees must have achieved the highest levels of excellence as scholars, artists, professionals, philanthropists, or public servants, and must have demonstrated personal integrity and concern for the public good; and

**WHEREAS**, procedures require that nominations for such a degree be reviewed and approved by the Honorary Doctorate Committee and must also receive the recommendation of the chancellor; and

**WHEREAS**, Rosanne Cash has been nominated for an honorary doctorate from Arkansas State University-Jonesboro and this nomination has been properly reviewed and recommended by the Honorary Doctorate Committee, the chancellor of Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, and the president of the Arkansas State University System;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University that Rosanne Cash shall be granted the honorary degree, Doctor of Music, from Arkansas State University-Jonesboro and said degree shall be conferred upon her during commencement exercises on May 16, 2020.

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

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Price Gardner, Vice Chair

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Tim Langford, Member

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Niel Crowson, Member

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Charles L. Welch, President

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Recognizing the Significant Contributions of  
Hytrol Conveyor Company, Inc.  
to Arkansas State University-Jonesboro

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has retained unto itself the authority to name facilities and programs of the University; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hytrol Conveyor Company, Inc. is a respected leader in the materials handling industry in Arkansas and a supporter of higher education and the students we serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hytrol Conveyor Company, Inc. has made significant contributions to the Arkansas State University-Jonesboro College of Engineering and Computer Science of a magnitude worthy of special gratitude and lasting recognition;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, that Room 234 in the Lab Sciences West Building at Arkansas State University-Jonesboro shall be known henceforth as the:

**Hytrol Student Hub**

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

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Price Gardner, Vice Chair

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Tim Langford, Member

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Niel Crowson, Member

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Charles L. Welch, President

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Resolution Recognizing the Significant Contributions of  
the Kays Foundation  
to Arkansas State University-Jonesboro

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has retained unto itself the authority to name facilities and programs of the University; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kays Foundation and its board members are respected leaders in the community and supporters of Arkansas State University and the students we serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kays Foundation has made significant contributions to Arkansas State University of a magnitude worthy of special gratitude and lasting recognition, including a contribution to endow a women’s health and physical therapy residency program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, that the Women’s Health and Physical Therapy Residency Program at Arkansas State University-Jonesboro shall be known henceforth as the:

**Kays Foundation Women’s Health and Physical Therapy Residency Program**

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

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Price Gardner, Vice Chair

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Tim Langford, Member

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Niel Crowson, Member

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Charles L. Welch, President

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Jason Goodner (501) 882-4475

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Beebe requests approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing.

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

**BACKGROUND:**

- Arkansas State University-Beebe is establishing this program to meet the growing demand for registered nurses in our local communities and statewide.
- The new credential will stack with the existing Technical Certificates in Licensed Practical Nursing and Paramedicine, and will prepare students to sit for the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses.
- The staff for the proposed program will consist of a program director, an administrative specialist, and two faculty members. The program director and administrative specialist are current employees and will serve both the Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing programs. The estimated cost to add two additional faculty will be \$134,230 annualized and will be funded by a reallocation of existing operating funds, as well as through increased revenues from additional enrollment. Reserves will not be utilized to establish the initial budget. No additional facilities will be needed.
- Arkansas State University-Beebe plans to begin with an initial cohort of twenty (20) students in January of 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Beebe is approved to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing, effective spring semester of 2021.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Adam Adair (870) 512-7801

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) requests approval to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program for support of a campus loop trail.

**ISSUE:** A resolution from the Board of Trustees is required to apply for this grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASUN understands that federal-aid Recreational Trails Program funds are available at 80% federal participation and 20% local match/in-kind labor to develop a campus loop trail.
- Federal-aid funds are available for this project on a reimbursable basis, requiring work to be accomplished and proof of payment prior to actual monetary reimbursement.
- The campus loop trail, using federal funding, will be open and available for use by the general public and maintained by ASUN for the life of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Newport is approved to apply for federal grant funding from the Recreational Trails Program for support of a campus loop trail. The ASU Board of Trustees pledges its full backing and hereby authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project. ASUN will participate in accordance with its designated responsibility, including maintenance of this project. The ASUN Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the construction of the above-stated project, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Contact: Adam Adair (870) 512-7801

**ACTION ITEM:** Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) requests approval to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program for support of a campus loop trail.

**ISSUE:** A resolution from the Board of Trustees is required to apply for this grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ASUN understands that federal-aid Transportation Alternatives Program funds are available at 80% federal participation and 20% local match/in-kind labor to develop a campus loop trail.
- Federal-aid funds are available for this project on a reimbursable basis, requiring work to be accomplished and proof of payment prior to actual monetary reimbursement.
- The campus loop trail, using federal funding, will be open and available for use by the general public and maintained by ASUN for the life of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:**

Be it resolved that Arkansas State University-Newport is approved to apply for federal grant funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program for support of a campus loop trail. The ASU Board of Trustees pledges its full backing and hereby authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project. ASUN will participate in accordance with its designated responsibility, including maintenance of this project. The ASUN Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the construction of the above-stated project, effective immediately.

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Christy Clark, Secretary

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Stacy Crawford, Chair