

University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville
Board of Visitors Meeting
October 19, 2023
Room 104 – Independence Hall
4:00 p.m.

Members present were Dr. Michael Hester, Mr. Calvin Wright, Mr. Brad Cummings, Ms. Rachel Sowers, Mr. Ted Hall, Ms. Michelle Reesor, Mr. Micah Beard, and Mr. Mike Arnold. Others in attendance were Dr. Anne Austin, Mr. Bruce Hankins, Mr. Heath Wooldridge, Mr. Blayne Stewart, Mr. Greg Kaffka, and Dr. Holly Smith.

1. Reception with students, alumni, and administration

a. Introductions – New Employees

- i. Ms. Cara Cloninger – Southside High School Career Coach
- ii. Ms. Tabitha Cole – Human Resources Generalist
- iii. Ms. Laura Draper – Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator
- iv. Mr. McKenzie Jackson – Business Technology Faculty
- v. Ms. Jessica Jones – RN Faculty
- vi. Mr. Greg Kaffka – Computer Support Technician
- vii. Ms. Rhonda Loper – Director of Institutional Research
- viii. Mr. Jessie McKenzie – Emergency Medical Services Program Director
- ix. Ms. Amy Plaster – Director of Academic Services
- x. Ms. Kelly Rawlins – Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator/PN Faculty
- xi. Mr. Benjamin Rogers – Hillcrest High School Career Coach

b. Introductions – Internal Transfers/Promotions

- i. Ms. Meagan Akins – Dean of Enrollment Services
- ii. Ms. Dana Cox – Director of Nursing (Interim)
- iii. Mr. Blayne Stewart – Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (Interim)
- iv. Ms. Jeanette Youngblood – Dean of General Education

2. Establish a Quorum – Quorum was established.

3. Call to Order – Chairman Hester called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

4. *Approval of Minutes (June 15, 2023) – Mr. Brad Cummings moved to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2023 meeting. Mr. Calvin Wright seconded the motion. Ms. Rachel Sowers added that Mr. Ted Hall and Mr. Micah Beard were present in the June meeting and not included in the minutes. Motion to approve June minutes with this addition passed unanimously.

5. Old/Continuing Business

- a. Enrollment Updates by Dr. Zach Perrine, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs** – Dr. Perrine presented a graph tracking fall 2023 enrollment. The graph included a line representing student semester credit hour and a line representing student headcount. Dr. Perrine explained that the SSCH line shows an increase of approximately 14% from our baseline (Based on SSCH repeat fall 2022), and the headcount line shows a 2.9% increase (Based on headcount repeat fall 2022). Dr. Perrine presented a chart of Arkansas Colleges Fall 2023 Preliminary Headcount, which highlighted a 21.3% increase in preliminary fall 2023 headcount from fall 2022 official census reporting. Dr. Perrine pointed out that this is not official fall 2023 enrollment data, however UACCB had the

Mission

The University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville provides quality educational opportunities within a supportive learning environment. We promote success through community partnerships, responsive programs, and an enduring commitment to improvement.

Values

Unity through collaboration
Achievement in educational goals
Commitment to excellence
Contribution to Community
Balance in learning and life

highest overall percent of this metric in the entire state. Dr. Perrine further explained that one cause for this increase was low enrollment for the last few years and that UACCB's headcount will need about 1,400 to match fall 2019. Dr. Perrine presented an Enrollment Update chart, which listed Fall 2023 Headcount, Fall 2023 FTE (full-time equivalency), Fall 2022 Headcount, and Fall 2022 FTE. Dr. Perrine explained that the headcount includes part-time students, high school students, etc, that FTE does not. UACCB's Fall 2023 FTE Undergrad increased to 699.2, up from 601.333 in Fall 2022. The High School FTE increased from 127.266 in Fall 2022 to 136 in Fall 2023, and the Total Fall 2023 FTE is up to 835.2 from 728.599 in Fall 2022. The Budgeted Fall 2023 FTE was 688.67, which was less than actual Fall 2023 FTE. Chairman Hester requested additional clarification on enrollment increase, which Dr. Perrine provided, stating that UACCB has experienced a 16.7% increase in FTE. Dr. Perrine further explained many of the steps Dr. Smith and her team have taken to ensure continued growth, including vigilant reporting, adding classes, additional meetings with faculty, reaching out to students, and more.

6. New Business

Chairman Hester prefaced New Business by adding section 'c.', a calendar consideration for the Board of Visitors, to the New Business Agenda.

- a. Financial Updates by Mr. Bruce Hankins, Chief Financial Officer** – Mr. Hankins presented the UACCB FY 24 Educational & General and Auxiliary Budget Summary slide, which was approved in May 2023. Mr. Hankins explained that the approved budget is \$10,748,418, and that with the increase of tuition and fees, UACCB should “see a sizeable amount above that”. Mr. Hankins further explained that the organization of expenses (instruction, academic support, student services, institutional support, physical plant, scholarships & awards, transfers, and auxiliary expenses) is formatted by the Department of Education, but that with the expected additional revenue additional programs will be possible for students. Mr. Hankins went on to describe that the total budget includes both an unrestricted budget (the above total) and a restricted budget. The unrestricted budget differs from the restricted budget, which includes federal grants, financial aid, etc, and that the restricted budget totals “close to \$6 million”. Mr. Hankins then moved to the UACCB Statement of Cash Flows – Direct Method slide. Mr. Hankins explained that both the 2022 and 2023 amounts listed on the slide have been through the legislative audit process and that these are the combined numbers included in the financial statements for the University of Arkansas, along with the other U of A system schools. Mr. Hankins described how the financial statements have been impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic and that UACCB is still transitioning back to a “normal” (pre-pandemic) economy and how financial statements will look in the future. Mr. Hankins detailed that UACCB's assets grew from \$21 million to \$23 million due to an increase in cash position by approximately \$200,000 from the previous year and the addition of the Gateway Center, along with multiple other campus improvements (Independence Hall sound system, internet security and network, etc) made with leftover federal money from the Covid cares act. The above listed increases provided for a total Ending Net Position of \$19,181,762, up from a Beginning Net Position of \$17,259,565. Mr. Hankins furthered explained that UACCB's non-current liabilities increased from \$2.6 million to \$3.4 million, which includes a pitch in liability that must be reported for the GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board), and is based on the actuarial account, the number of employees and their term, etc. Mr. Hankins included that reforms in GASB are

potentially underway in Washington D.C. to prevent escalating liabilities for colleges. Mr. Hankins then moved to the UACCB Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position slide, which is a high-level summary of UACCB's income statement and includes both Operating and Non-Operating Revenues. Operating Revenues totaled \$2,971,283, but Operating Expenses totaled \$15,116,491. Mr. Hankins explained that UACCB's low tuition cost does contribute to apparent loss of Operating Income (-\$12,145,208), but that state and federal funding revenues is included in Non-Operating Revenues (\$14,077,572), thereby funding Operating Expenses and decreasing the overall loss of income. UACCB's income after -\$10,167 in adjustments was \$1,922,197, up from \$1,088,546 last year. Mr. Hankins detailed the \$750,000 grant for the Gateway Center that contributed to the increase, as well as the approximately \$1.2 million in Covid relief funds that was collected by UACCB. Mr. Hankins again referenced the UACCB Statement of Cash Flows slide, pointing out the net increase in cash of \$108,844, down from \$213,938 in 2022. Mr. Hankins explained that, while the net increase was down, the cash ending of year was \$3,967,920, up from \$3,858,446 in 2022. Mr. Hankins believes that UACCB is in a very positive place, financially, even compared to other colleges of similar size, and that UACCB is on track to continue improving from a financial standpoint.

- b. Academic Updates by Dr. Holly Smith, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs –** Dr. Smith began by informing the Board of the 60+ Leadership Arkansas participants that toured UACCB's Workforce Training Center and Nursing and Allied Health Center earlier in the day. Dr. Smith presented a slide detailing the \$279,924 (\$0 matching commitments) National Science Foundation Grant that UACCB was awarded earlier in October 2023. Dr. Smith explained that this grant will go towards building a GIS drone piloting program. This will be an extension of UACCB's existing Ag Tech program. This will focus on building a "pipeline" for elementary and high school students, as well as in non-traditional markets that UACCB is not currently reaching. This grant will also focus heavily on creating industry partnerships. One full-time and one part-time Ag/Drone Operator faculty will be funded by this grant. UACCB has two existing AG programs, but growth is more limited without full-time faculty. With increasing interest in this area of Arkansas, additional funding for this program, and others like it, is expected. The Gateway Center and adjoining property will house this program. Dr. Smith next introduced a PEER Committee – ARPA Funds slide, which detailed the ALIGN Program and the SCC LPN Pathway Development, both of which will drastically change the way UACCB's NAH and SCC does business. The ALIGN Program (Earn to Learn/Learn to Earn) will provide \$20.4 million across Arkansas and match 2-to-1 for every dollar contributed to colleges by healthcare partners. This will fund simulation centers, retention and recruitment efforts, equipment, infrastructure, and expand the nursing apprenticeship model that was introduced last year. The SCC LPN Pathway Development allotted an additional \$4.6 million as start-up funding to expand high school LPN programs. Information on this is limited. UACCB does not currently have an LPN pathway allowing high school students to complete the LPN program before graduating. Three colleges in Arkansas offer this pathway, however participation is very low due to the demands of the degree program. Dr. Smith announced a 100% pass rate of the 8 week phlebotomy course that recently ended and that UACCB will be accepting LPN to RN applications through November 15th, 2023 for January 2024 enrollment.

- c. **Calendar Consideration Added by Board Chairman Dr. Michael Hester** – Chairman Hester explained that in the previous Board of Visitors meeting (June 15, 2023), as well as privately with Dr. Brian Shonk, forgoing future June Board of Visitors meetings was discussed due to low attendance and difficulty reaching quorum. Chairman Hester included that summer is always a “slow” time for UACCB. Dr. Perrine (after speaking with Dr. Shonk prior to this meeting) added that, although a lot of preparations for the fall semester takes place in June, there is usually not much to report on. Dr. Perrine concluded that he and Dr. Shonk were in agreement that discontinuing June BoV meetings would not impact UACCB. Mr. Ted Hall motioned to forgo future June BoV meetings and Mr. Brad Cummings seconded with unanimous agreement from the Board and no further discussion.
7. **Executive Session (if necessary)** – Not needed.
8. **Adjourn** – Mr. Brad Cummings motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Michelle Reesor. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Board of Visitors Meeting Schedule – FY 2023-2024

January 18, 2024

April 18, 2024