

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Student Success Center, Room 208 and via Zoom  
January 30, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

**Board Member Present in Person:** Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Alan Riels, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker

**Board Members Present Via Zoom:** Jim Daniels, Jeremy Sparks

**University Personnel Present:** Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Dr. Tracy Tucker, Bob Ware, Christy Pace

1. Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the October 12, 2023 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
  - Mr. Alan Riels was introduced. He and Mr. Heath Moncrief, who was unable to attend, were appointed to the Board of Visitors for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2027. Mr. Jeremy Sparks was reappointed to the Board, also for a four-year term.
  - A sample of the new band uniforms was presented. The Maxwell Family was a major contributor to this project.
  - UAM has received a gift of \$1.3 million to establish the Jonathan Hartley Endowed Scholarship for Forestry. Total gifts received by the Foundation for November, December, and January were \$2,471,248.42.
  - Mr. Ken Hunt has gifted monies to UAM for a Consultant of Grants, who will help bring new funding opportunities to UAM.
  - The UAM Investment Club has been set up by Mr. Kevin Stephenson, who has donated over \$10,000. The goals of this club include opportunities for students to hear speakers on types of markets and investments; experiential learning through choosing and managing an investment fund; and internship opportunities in the financial industry.
  - The Windgate Foundation has awarded UAM a third grant in the amount of \$298,924, which will be used for need-based scholarships; MAT scholarships; laptops, welding materials, and equipment at the Crossett campus; and TIG welders and nursing simulation equipment at the McGehee campus. The first grant of \$50,000

was awarded in 2020 to support visual arts, and the second grant of \$205,415 was awarded in 2022 for need-based scholarships, nursing instructors, and lab upgrades.

4. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley, Mr. Becker, Mr. Hughes

- Headcount is currently up 5% from the spring 2023 semester.
- Information was provided on student semester credit hours, noting that the overall undergraduate SSCH for the fall/spring semesters at the Monticello campus is at 98.83% of budget.
- There are currently 391 students in the residence halls, and admission applications are up 16% compared to last year, with a total of 981 applications.

5. Academic Affairs – Ms. Halley

- Fall Commencement was held Friday, December 8, 2023. There were 104 participants and 347 degrees were conferred. Spring Commencement will be held on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Details will be sent to Board members closer to the event.
- The following academic items were approved by the Board of Trustees at their meeting last week:
  - The Master of Education will be reconfigured to offer a Graduate Certificate in K-6/7-12 Special Education Resource and a Graduate Certificate in K-12 Special Education.
  - The following programs will transition to 100% online: Technical Certificate in Business Technology, Technical Certificate in Health Information Technology, Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Principles, and Certificate of Proficiency in Healthcare Office Skills.
  - The last two years of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing will be offered onsite at National Park College.

6. Crossett Campus – Dr. Tucker

The UAM College of Technology at Crossett will host a Career Exploration Camp for 8th graders from the Crossett and Hamburg School Districts on March 8. Approximately 200 students will be on campus to learn more about technical careers and opportunities.

7. McGehee Campus – Mr. Ware

The UAM College of Technology at McGehee received a \$175,000 Transportation-Related Research and Workforce Development Grant from ARDOT for a CDL fleet upgrade.

8. Finance and Administration – Mr. Becker

The following updates were given on campus projects: the Music Building towers have been repaired, the Head House renovation is close to completion, and the MCB parking lot is scheduled to be repaved during spring break.

9. Discussion, General Remarks, and Important Dates

The next Board of Visitors meeting, scheduled for Thursday, April 11, will be held at the Monticello campus, instead of at the College of Technology at McGehee. All Board members will be invited to a dinner following the meeting in honor of the Winthrop Rockefeller Distinguished Lectures Speaker.

10. The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Student Success Center, Room 208  
April 11, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Michael Jones, Heath Moncrief, Mellie Jo Owen, Gregg Reep, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker

**University Personnel Present:** Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Dr. Tracy Tucker, Bob Ware, Christy Pace

1. Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 3:58 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the January 30, 2024 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report and Introduction of Guests – Dr. Doss
  - Dr. Landon Grimes was introduced. He began as Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and Alumni Engagement on March 1. He was previously assistant dean in the School of Education.
  - Alpha Chi Presentation – Dr. Kate Stewart, sponsor of UAM's Arkansas Zeta chapter of Alpha Chi spoke about the annual Alpha Chi National Convention held in Birmingham, AL last week. UAM had three student presenters attend, Destiny Forrest, Daniel Outlaw, and Kailley White. Each student gave a summary of their presentation from the conference.
  - Projects – An update was provided on projects, including the paving of parking lots on campus, renovations to the football locker room, and preliminary work with architects and contractors for the Arkansas Forest Health Research Center.
  - Enrollment Update – Marketing initiatives were discussed, including social media, emails, school visits, and mailers sent to high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Fall admission applications overall have increased 15.7%, and freshman applications have increased 16.4%. Priority registration will be held April 15 and 16.
4. Finance and Administration Update – Mr. Becker

FY25 Budget – Budget hearings were held in February and March where directors presented their needs for the upcoming fiscal year. Details for proposed increases in tuition and fees were discussed. All Board members voted to support the recommendations.

5. New Business

The following meeting dates were proposed and approved by the Board of Visitors:

- July 9, 2024 – Monticello Campus
- October 22, 2024 – McGehee Campus
- January 28, 2025 – Monticello Campus
- April 15, 2025 – Crossett Campus

6. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

**Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Student Success Center, Chancellor's Conference Room and via Zoom  
April 25, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present in Person:** Alan Riels, Scott Saffold

**Board Members Present Via Zoom:** Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Jeremy Sparks, Mike Walker

**University Personnel Present:** Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Christy Pace

1. Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. Chancellor's Update on Budget – Dr. Doss

After discussion with the System Office and other UA Chancellors regarding the lack of state funding, new scenarios for increases in tuition and mandatory fees were created and shared with Board members.

UAM is proposing a 4.91% increase for the Monticello campus, and a 4.86% increase for the two colleges of technology campuses in Crossett and McGehee. All Board members voted to provide a letter supporting the proposed tuition and fee increase.

3. The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Student Success Center, Room 208 and via Zoom  
July 9, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Heath Moncrief, Gregg Reep, Alan Riels, Scott Saffold

**Board Member Present Via Zoom:** Jim Daniels

**University Personnel Present:** Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Dr. Tracy Tucker, Bob Ware, Christy Pace

1. Vice Chair Scott Saffold called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the April 11, 2024 meeting and the April 25, 2024 special called meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
  - Final preparations being made for the fall semester were discussed.
  - An update was provided on the continuing projects in athletics, including renovations to the football locker room, additional laundry space, a facility for virtual golf and new lighting on the baseball and softball fields.
  - UAM will continue to monitor legislative bills regarding higher education and the funding model.
4. Campus Projects – Mr. Becker

Updates were given on campus projects and a presentation was given on the new Forest Health Research Center.
5. New Grants – Dr. Grimes and Mr. Hughes
  - UAM received a \$750,000 grant from the Windgate Foundation to fund a renovation of existing space for a new art facility.
  - ANCRC has given an additional \$934,000 for renovations to three historical properties: the exterior of the VPAC, the interior of the Trotter House, and the 1937 House.
  - An update was given on three TRIO grants. An application has been submitted for the Student Support Services grant. Applications for both the Talent Search grant, due in

June of 2025 and the Upward Bound grant, due in December of 2026 will be submitted.

6. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley and Mr. Hughes
  - A handout was provided and discussed comparing this year’s data on applications, enrollment, SSCH and housing, to data from last year.
  - Continuing campaigns for enrollment, registration events, schedule changes and important class dates were discussed.
  - An update was provided on the Investment Club.
7. The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors**  
University of Arkansas at Monticello  
College of Technology at McGehee and via Zoom  
November 14, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Michael Jones, Gregg Reep, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker

**Board Member Present Via Zoom:** Jim Daniels, Heath Moncrief, Jeremy Sparks

**University Personnel Present:** Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Bob Ware, Christy Pace, Gary Lucas, Dorissa Kaufman

1. Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 3:56 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the July 9, 2024 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
  - An update was given on the legislative session. Bills regarding higher education and the funding model will continue to be monitored.
  - The search process for the new President of the UA System is ongoing.
  - Representatives from UAM and Drew Central School District visited the UA Hope-Texarkana campus to discuss their collegiate academy.
  - Partnerships with National Park College and East Arkansas Community College were discussed.
  - UAM's request for approval of a change in Role and Scope and proposal to offer a Ph.D. in Forest Resources was approved by the Board of Trustees. The next step is consideration from the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
4. McGehee Campus Report – Mr. Ware
  - Enrollment and retention efforts for the McGehee campus were discussed.
  - Highlights were given on the following programs: practical nursing, EMT, welding, CDL, early childhood, and adult education.
5. Campus Projects – Mr. Becker

Details were given on campus projects, which included the football locker rooms, lights on the baseball and softball fields, repaving of parking lots, the Forest Health Research

Center, and renovation to the Red Barn and three historic properties: the 1937 House, the Trotter House, and the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

6. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley and Mr. Hughes

- Registration for the spring semester began November 4 and will end November 15. Efforts to enroll students in classes will continue until the start of the spring semester on January 8, 2025.
- Recruitment efforts were discussed, including an increase in the number of campus tours, visits to area schools, the distribution of a direct mail campaign to 63,000 high school students, email funnel campaigns, and social media advertisements.

7. Important Dates

- The UAM Foundation will conduct a phonathon on November 18-21 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and information regarding Giving Tuesday will be sent on December 3.
- UAM's Fall Commencement will be held Friday, December 13 at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Board of Visitors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2025.

8. The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.