

Executive Council Minutes

January 14, 2025

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

1. HLC Update – Ms. Halley and Mr. Boice
 - ♦ An update was given and the draft schedule was provided for the Higher Learning Commission campus visit on February 9-12.
2. Spring Enrollment and Ongoing Coordination of Actions – Ms. Halley, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Becker, Mr. Ware, Dr. Tucker
 - ♦ A handout was provided on fall SSCH actual compared to budget.
 - ♦ As of this morning, 230 students have not finalized their registration.
 - ♦ The 11th class day has been moved to January 24 due to the campus closure.
 - ♦ Applications continue to be received and offices are working to get students enrolled.
3. Financials/Outstanding Student Bills – Ms. Halley
 - ♦ Students on hold are being contacted to find options for lowering their bills.
4. Housing Update and Policy Revision Status – Mr. Hughes
 - ♦ There are currently 401 students in residential housing, compared to 365 at this time last year. Students who have not finalized will continue to be contacted.
 - ♦ The approved revisions to the housing policy have been updated for fall 2025. The revisions are also being updated in the student handbook.
5. SGA/Student Activities and Engagement – Mr. Hughes
 - ♦ A list of events and activities that students have an opportunity to engage in was provided and discussed.
6. Commencement, Honor Students from Units/Majors – Ms. Halley and Mr. Hughes
 - ♦ Ways to recognize academic achievements were discussed. Some units have individual recognition ceremonies. This topic will be explored with Academic Council.
7. Voluntary Retirement – Ms. Halley
 - ♦ Information was provided on three requests for voluntary retirement. The Executive Council reviewed and approved all requests.
8. Status on Open Positions – All EC Members
 - ♦ Vice Chancellors gave an update on all vacant positions in their respective areas.

9. Budget Hearings – Mr. Becker
 - ♦ The tentative dates for budget hearings will be February 24, 25, 27, and 28. Details of what budget managers will need to present were mentioned.
10. HIRED Grant – Dr. Tucker
 - ♦ The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed and will be returned today. The budget is being created and a zoom meeting will be held tomorrow to discuss the purchasing requirements.
11. PN for HS Students Update – Dr. Tucker
 - ♦ The interest shown by area high schools regarding the practical nursing program was mentioned.
12. Black History Month Plans – Ms. Halley and Mr. Hughes
 - ♦ Recognitions and events planned for Black History Month were discussed.
13. Upcoming Events – All EC Members
 - ♦ January 24 – Coordinating Board Meeting in Russellville
 - ♦ January 28 at 4:00 p.m. – UAM Board of Visitors Meeting
 - ♦ January 28 – Crossett Chamber Banquet
 - ♦ January 29-30 – UA Board of Trustees Meeting in Little Rock
 - ♦ February 3 – Hamburg Chamber Banquet
 - ♦ February 8 at 5:00 p.m. – Baseball Lights Presentation
 - ♦ February 17 – UAM Day at the Races in Hot Springs
 - ♦ February 21 at 5:00 p.m. – Softball Lights Presentation
 - ♦ March 3 – Weevil Welcome
 - ♦ March 6 – Be Pro Be Proud Draft Day at SEARK Education Cooperative
 - ♦ April 14-15 – New Student Priority Registration
 - ♦ May 9 – UAM Commencement
 - ♦ May 10 – NPC Commencement
 - ♦ May 27 – Arkansas Travelers Game

Executive Council Minutes

January 28, 2025

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

1. Strategic Plan – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Vice Chancellors were asked to meet and review strategic plan goals, action steps and outcomes with their individual areas. Evidence should be demonstrated to meet goals and move forward.
2. Board of Visitors Agenda – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Items to be shared at today’s Board of Visitors meeting were discussed.
3. Legislative Session – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Bills regarding higher education and the funding model continue to be monitored.
4. Bookstore Operations – Mr. Becker
 - ♦ Concerns regarding the bookstore were expressed at a meeting held last week with the district representative. They are working to identify the problems.
5. Update on Vacant Positions – All EC Members
 - ♦ Vice Chancellors gave an update on all vacant positions in their respective areas.
6. Campus Facility Inspection – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Vice Chancellors were asked to arrange inspections/tours of their facilities and encourage all employees to report any issues found. Work orders can be entered by anyone no matter where the issue is found on campus.
7. Student Engagement – Mr. Hughes
 - ♦ A list of requested camps was provided and discussed. A clarification on location will be resolved and emailed to the Executive Council for further discussion and approval.
 - ♦ An update was given on a concern regarding a student.
 - ♦ The time it takes for a student to complete the admissions process, from applying to being able to register, was discussed.
8. Environment to Support Campus Living and Learning – All EC Members
 - ♦ Ways to enhance the desire for students to live on campus and help them feel a bond were discussed, including campus appearance, student customer service, clean residence halls, dining hall food, etc.

Executive Council Minutes

February 18, 2025

Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Crystal Halley, Jay Hughes, Bob Ware, Christy Pace

1. HLC Update – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ The on-campus visit last week by the Higher Learning Commission was discussed. A notification will be sent once the HLC Team has completed their report.
2. Inclement Weather – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Preparations are being made regarding the upcoming weather prediction.
3. Marketing – Dr. Doss
 - ♦ Vice Chancellors were asked to find a way to review/monitor requests made for news releases, social media updates, photographs, services by the copy center, etc.
4. Retention – Mr. Becker
 - ♦ Mid-term grades and ways to help students who need assistance were discussed.
5. HB1512 – All EC Members
 - ♦ House Bill 1512 was reviewed and concerns were noted.

Executive Council Minutes

March 4, 2025

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

1. Comparison of Applications – Mr. Hughes
 - ◆ The number of applications for all campuses compared to last year at this time was given.
2. Housing Applications – Mr. Hughes
 - ◆ There have been 185 housing applications completed by returning students. Freshmen are not able to submit an application until March 17.
3. Academic Alerts – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ The number of academic alerts compared to this time last year was discussed.
4. Sunday Dining Service for the Community – Mr. Becker
 - ◆ Information was provided by Aramark regarding opening the Sunday brunch dining service to the community, beginning this fall. Students would be able to use their meal cards, however, faculty and staff would not.
 - ◆ Chick-fil-A will be closed during June and July for a required refresh.
5. Report on Historic Properties – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ An update was given on historic properties, including the number of events held during 2024 and the approximate number of guests visiting the properties.
6. Recruitment Efforts in Band, Choir, and Rodeo for Fall 2025
 - ◆ The number of students currently in band, choir, and rodeo, as well as additional students who have committed for the fall, was provided.
7. Other
 - ◆ House Bill 1604 regarding promotional items was discussed.