

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
Student Success Center, Room 208 and via Zoom
January 28, 2025 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Roger George, Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Scott Saffold,
Mike Walker

Board Member Present Via Zoom: Heath Moncrief, Gregg Reep, Alan Riels, Jeremy Sparks

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 4:00 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the November 14, 2024 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - An update was given on the legislative session and bills being monitored that affect higher education.
 - The search process for the Vice Chancellor at the College of Technology at McGehee was discussed.
 - UAM's 10-year comprehensive review by the Higher Learning Commission will be held February 9-12.
 - The request for approval of a change in Role and Scope and proposal to offer a Ph.D. in Forest Resources was approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board on January 24.

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

An update was provided on headcount and student semester credit hours for all three campuses, compared to this time last year, as well as the number of students in residential housing.

5. Projects Update – Mr. Becker

Updates were given on campus projects, which included the Forest Health Research Center, lights on the baseball and softball fields, renovations to the Red Barn and three

historical properties: the 1937 House, the Trotter House, and the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

6. Day at the Races Alumni Event – Dr. Grimes

On Monday, February 17, UAM will host the Day at the Races Alumni Event at Oaklawn in Hot Springs. Last year, 57 guests attended, and there are currently 59 signed up to attend this year.

7. HIRED Grant – Dr. Tucker

The College of Technology at Crossett was awarded a \$2 million grant from ADHE through the Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development. Over 40 industry partners were engaged in the planning process for this grant. Funds will be used to establish the UAM Sustainable Trade Alliance, which will prepare students to be members of the workforce through development in three key areas: employability skills, technical skills and compliance/regulatory skills.

8. Important Dates

The next Board of Visitors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at the Crossett campus.

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors

University of Arkansas at Monticello
College of Technology at Crossett and via Zoom
April 15, 2025 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Roger George, Michael Jones, Mellie Jo Owen, Alan Riels, Scott Saffold, Mike Walker

Board Member Present Via Zoom: Heath Moncrief, Jeremy Sparks

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 4:03 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the January 28, 2025 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - An update was given on new state laws and legislative bills being monitored that affect higher education.
 - The Higher Learning Commission held an on-campus visit February 9-12 for UAM's 10-year comprehensive review. No major recommendations were noted.
 - The State Review Board of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has approved the nomination of the Music Building to the National Register of Historic Places.
 - There has been an overwhelming response to the trap shooting team, which will begin this fall. Discussion is ongoing regarding locations, funding and sponsors for needs such as ammunition, targets and equipment.
4. FY26 Budget Update – Mr. Becker

Details for proposed increases in tuition and fees were discussed. All Board members were in support of the recommendations.
5. Direct Mail Piece – Mr. Hughes

Examples of three mail pieces were provided. The first was sent to 62,082 high school students in November 2024. The second was sent to 26,942 high school juniors and

younger in April 2025. And the third, which had information regarding priority registration, was sent to 44,933 high school seniors in April 2025.

6. Campus Update – Dr. Tucker

Updates regarding student activities, programs and goals at the Crossett campus were discussed.

7. New Business

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

- Tuesday, July 15, 2025 – Monticello Campus
- Monday, October 20, 2025 – McGehee Campus
- Monday, January 26, 2026 – Monticello Campus
- Thursday, April 9, 2026 – Crossett Campus

8. Important Dates

UAM Commencement will be held Friday, May 9, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

9. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 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 15, 2025 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Heath Moncrief, Mellie Jo Owen, Greg Pearson, Alan Riels, Randy Risher, Scott Saffold, Andrea Williams, Harrell Wilson

Board Member Present Via Zoom: Gina Richard

University Personnel Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Crystal Halley, Steven Jossell, Dr. Tracy Tucker, Christy Pace

1. Chair Scott Saffold called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the April 15, 2025 meeting.
3. Introduction of New Board of Visitors Members – Dr. Doss

The following members have been appointed to the Board of Visitors for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2028:

Greg Pearson
Gina Richard
Randy Risher
Andrea Williams
Harrell Wilson

4. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - Mr. Steven Jossell was introduced. He began as Vice Chancellor at the College of Technology at McGehee on July 1. Dr. Landon Grimes has moved into the role of Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement.
 - As a result of the Athletics Legacy Campaign, which focuses on enhancing the support of student-athletes through major facility improvements, renovations will begin on the Steelman Fieldhouse with a goal of completion before December commencement.
 - The UAM Investment Club located within the UAM School of Business, has received a \$30,000 grant from the Knight Foundation to provide club members with real-world experience in investing in financial markets, conducting financial analyses and managing live portfolios.

- A Meet and Greet will be held for UA System President Jay Silveria on August 14 at 1:00 p.m. in the University Center Senate Room.

5. Enrollment Update – Ms. Halley and Mr. Becker

An update was provided on headcount and student semester credit hours for all three campuses, compared to this time last year.

6. Recruitment Strategies – Dr. Grimes

- Direct mail pieces that have been sent to juniors and seniors were discussed, noting that it was slightly resized to be in a lower postage category, resulting in savings of \$28,000.
- Social media ads are the most successful campaigns since they reach hundreds of thousands of accounts and result in thousands of visits to our website.
- There are currently 19 registration and retention campaigns to encourage students to apply and enroll at UAM.

7. Campus Projects – Mr. Becker

Updates were given on campus projects, which included the Forest Health Research Center, renovations to the Red Barn, the Visual and Performing Arts Center and the Steelman Field House, painting at Maxwell Hall, landscaping around campus and repaving of parking lots.

8. HIRED Grant and High School Practical Nursing Update – Dr. Tucker

- An update was given on the HIRED Grant, which was a \$2 million grant awarded from ADHE through the Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development.
- The grant received for the implementation of the high school practical nursing program began July 1. This program allows students to complete it without incurring any expenses.

9. Election of Officers

Officers for the Board of Visitors were elected as follows:

Chair – Scott Saffold
Vice Chair – Jeremy Sparks
Secretary – Heath Moncrief

10. Important Dates

Board members were reminded of the next meeting dates:
Monday, October 20, 2025, at the McGehee campus
Monday, January 26, 2026, at the Monticello campus
Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the Crossett campus

11. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors
University of Arkansas at Monticello
College of Technology at McGehee and via Zoom
October 20, 2025 - 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Heath Moncrief, Mellie Jo Owen, Greg Pearson, Scott Saffold, Andrea Williams, Harrell Wilson

Board Member Present Via Zoom: Randy Risher, Jeremy Sparks

University Personnel Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Landon Grimes, Steven Jossell, Dr. Tracy Tucker, Christy Pace

1. Chair Scott Saffold called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. The Board approved the minutes from the July 15, 2025 meeting.
3. Chancellor's Report – Dr. Doss
 - Last week, an announcement of the Snowden Waterfowl Center of Excellence and the Dyke-Snowden Endowed Chair of Waterfowl and Wetlands was held. This was made possible through \$7 million in contributions.
 - A proposal has been submitted for the Rural Health Transformation Program, which would help address urgent healthcare needs in southeast Arkansas.
 - The term for three members of the Board of Visitors will expire on December 31, 2025. A request to appoint two new members has been submitted for approval at the November Board of Trustees meeting.
 - UAM will host the Arkansas Supreme Court Appeals on Wheels event next week. An invitation was emailed today to invite Board members to attend a reception on Wednesday, October 29, and the appeal on Thursday, October 30.
4. McGehee Campus Report – Mr. Jossell

A presentation was given on programs offered by the McGehee campus, including diesel technology, CDL, adult education, nursing and allied health, EMS, welding, early childhood education, and health information technology. An update was provided on student services, enrollment, events and partnerships.

5. HIRED Grant Update – Dr. Tucker

An update was given on the HIRED Grant, which was a \$2 million grant awarded from ADHE through the Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development. All positions are now fully staffed. The largest portion of the grant money was for simulators, which have been delivered, and training will begin soon.

6. Enrollment Update – Dr. Grimes

- An update was provided on headcount and student semester credit hours.
- Partnerships for the campus within a campus model were discussed, as well as the Collegiate Academy, which plans to be launched next September.

7. Campus Projects – Mr. Becker

Updates were given on campus projects, which included the Forest Health Research Center, renovations to the Red Barn, the Visual and Performing Arts Center, the 1937 House and Steelman Field House.

8. Important Dates

- The next Board of Visitors meeting will be held Monday, January 26, 2026, at the Monticello campus.
- UAM Fall Commencement will be held Friday, December 12, 2025.

9. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.