

Executive Council Minutes

January 13, 2026

Chancellor's Conference Room

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

1. Strategic Planning Discussion/Update – Mr. Boice
 - ◆ An update was provided on the goals, strategies and target dates of items in the strategic plan.
2. Board of Visitors Agenda – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Items to be shared with Board members at the next meeting were discussed.
3. Enrollment Update – Dr. Tucker, Mr. Jossell, Ms. Halley, Mr. Becker
 - ◆ Information on the first day of classes, enrollment and student semester credit hours was discussed.
4. Update on Housing – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ The current number of students living in residential housing is 328. Improvements needed for residence halls were discussed, as well as policies and procedures that are being reviewed.
5. Approval of Voluntary Retirement – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ Four requests have been made for voluntary retirement. The Executive Council reviewed and approved these requests.
6. UAM Petting Zoo Request – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ The Executive Council approved a request from the College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources to host a petting zoo on April 11.
7. Perkins Grant Audit – Mr. Jossell
 - ◆ A SharePoint site has been created for submitting the necessary documentation for the Perkins grant audit. The deadline for submission of items is February 19. The audit will be held March 18-19.
8. New Pell Grant Policy – Mr. Becker
 - ◆ Changes to the Pell grant program were discussed, which will take effect July 1, 2026 under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.
9. Review of Hornaday Outstanding Faculty Award Policy
 - ◆ Revisions to the Hornaday Outstanding Faculty Award policy were discussed. These changes will be emailed to the Executive Council for approval.

Executive Council Minutes

February 10, 2026

Chancellor's Conference Room

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

1. Digitunity Partnership – Mr. Jossell
 - ◆ A launch event for the UAM-CTM Digital Literacy Program was held on January 21. Digitunity and AT&T are providing 250 laptops for students enrolled in the Business Technology and Health Information Technology online programs, and will soon expand to other technical programs.
2. Perkins Grant Audit – Mr. Jossell/Mr. Henry
 - ◆ Documentation that has been submitted and items still needed for the Perkins grant audit were discussed. As a reminder, a SharePoint site has been created for submitting information, and the deadline is February 19.
3. HIRED and ARPA Grants – Dr. Tucker
 - ◆ An invitation for the next HIRED Board meeting will be sent soon. Challenges were discussed, including non-credit workforce training and transporting the heavy equipment simulators.
 - ◆ Students in the high school practical nursing program attended Career and Technical Education Day at the State Capitol last week.
4. Residence Life/Housing – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ The current number of students living in residential housing is 348. The housing application for current students to sign up for the fall semester will be available soon. The housing requirements and single occupancy rates were discussed.
5. Website Translation – Mr. Bekcer
 - ◆ The language translator is now live on the UAM website.
6. Media Inquiry Responses – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Vice chancellors were reminded that all media inquiries should be sent to Ms. Englert and all FOIA requests should be sent to Ms. Pace.

Executive Council Minutes

February 24, 2026

Chancellor's Conference Room

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

1. Professional Skills Training – Mr. Fendley
 - ◆ The challenge of having a platform that handles enrollments and reporting for professional skills training was discussed. A quote for slate services was provided. Additional information will be reviewed, and details will be clarified at the next Executive Council meeting.
2. Application Data – Mr. Fendley/Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Application data was reviewed and discussed. An updated list will be generated, and access will be given to the Executive Council.
3. Summer Office Hours
 - ◆ The Executive Council approved the following work schedule for the Monticello campus beginning May 26 through August 7:
Monday through Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
 - ◆ The work schedules for the Crossett and McGehee campuses will be provided by their Vice Chancellor.
4. University Reservation Requests – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Vice Chancellors were asked to remind all employees to submit reservation requests in advance to allow sufficient time for approvals.
 - ◆ Two reservation requests were discussed and approved.
5. Assembly Topics
 - ◆ Items to be shared at this week's Assembly meeting were discussed.
6. Alumni Events – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ The Day at the Races Alumni event was cancelled due to low registration.
 - ◆ A different approach is being considered, with plans to host on-campus events to engage alumni and friends.
7. Campus Ministry Request – Dr. Doss/Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ A request for a new campus ministry was discussed, and options will be provided to determine their preferred direction.

8. Scrolling Message Board – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Messages on the scrolling message board should be removed once events have ended.

9. Campus Emails/Student Communication – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ Students report being overwhelmed by the volume of emails, which causes them to miss important messages. Strategies to reduce the number of emails were discussed.

Executive Council Minutes

March 10, 2026

Chancellor's Conference Room

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

1. Professional Skills Training – Mr. Fendley
 - ◆ The current operating procedures and forms regarding professional skills training were discussed at a meeting on March 3. Discussion will continue on identifying cost-effective ways to streamline this process.
2. Approval to Add Sheridan High School as an Additional Location – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ The Executive Council approved adding Sheridan High School as an additional location.
3. Weevil Jumpstart – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ Because the housing scholarship will not be offered this summer, a “Weevil Jumpstart Scholarship” will be proposed for students who do not qualify for other forms of assistance.
 - ◆ Completing the FAFSA should be a requirement for students participating in the Weevil Jumpstart program.
4. High School Volunteers – Dr. Grimes
 - ◆ Dumpsters will be rented during spring break to clean out areas in the University Center. The Executive Council approved the proposal to create a volunteer waiver so that high school students could assist with this project.
5. Society of Collegiate Leadership and Achievement – Mr. Jossell
 - ◆ A recommendation to establish a chapter for the SCLA was discussed. This item will be postponed until a future meeting.
6. Mainline Health MOU for the High School Practical Nursing Program – Dr. Tucker
 - ◆ An issue with clinical sites and age requirements was discussed regarding students in the high school practical nursing program.
7. Other
 - ◆ Two HIRED Grant trainings have been scheduled, and invitations will be sent soon.
 - ◆ Upcoming deadlines and events were discussed.
 - ◆ All EC members discussed vacant positions in their respective areas.

Executive Council Minutes

April 7, 2026

Chancellor's Conference Room

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

1. Vacant Positions
 - ◆ All EC members discussed vacant positions within their respective areas.
2. Workforce Development Planning: Technical Degrees to Graduate Degrees
 - ◆ Current initiatives and priorities regarding workforce development were discussed, along with opportunities to better align programs with future workforce demands.
3. Concurrent Enrollment – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ Current high school partnerships were discussed, as well as potential new partnerships and expanded course offerings.
4. Campus within a Campus Partnerships – Ms. Halley
 - ◆ There are currently eight signed agreements for Campus within a Campus Partnerships. Information was provided on enrollment, graduates and projected incoming students.
5. Operating Procedures/Board Policies – Dr. Doss
 - ◆ Hiring and termination policies and procedures were discussed, and links will be emailed for further review.
 - ◆ Revisions to the faculty office hour policy were proposed to help clarify the requirements. The Executive Council approved the revisions.