Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2016  
Administration Building Board Room

**Trustees present:** Steve Cameron, Veronica Creer, Dr. Kermit Parks, Tasha Sinclair, and Charlie Thomas  
**Via phone:** Patty Cardin and Steve Cousins  
**Absent:** Gary Griffis and David Ross

**Staff present:** Phil Ballard, Dr. Mickey Best, Dr. Jim Bullock, Donnie Dubose, James Dubose, Shannon Forrest, Caroline Hammond, Donna Hendricks, David Henry, Sherry Howard, Dean Inman, Dr. Barbara Jones, Susan Jordan, Dr. Tim Kirk, Francis Kuykendall, Shakerah Moody, Cynthia Reyna, Justin Small, Ann Southall, Carey Tucker, Heath Waldrop and Ray Winiecki

**Students present:** Brett Avery, Carrie Blackwell, Jennifer Boone, Justin Burns, Lesley Drummond, Traci Goodman, Davis Roden, Nathan Senn, Daniel Simpson, Breck Trammell, Janeen Watkins, and Shelia "Denise" Williams

**Others present:** Lindsay Duncan (El Dorado News-Times)

I. Call to Order – Ms. Veronica Creer, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m.

II. Performance Based Funding Outcomes – Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez – deferred to May meeting

III. Recognitions and Awards – Dr. Jones recognized the following:
   - SouthArk Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) students participated in the state PBL competition in Little Rock, April 1-2. They won the following awards: 7 1st place, 4 2nd place, 8 3rd place, 2 4th place, and 3 5th place. 19 individual students won an award (individual or team). 9 students finished 1st or 2nd to qualify for national competition. One of those qualified in 3 competitions and one other in 2 competitions. The chapter received one of only two Gold Chapter awards given. The SouthArk chapter is the 2nd largest chapter and the 2nd largest professional division chapter in the state. Students and Donna Hendricks, sponsor, were recognized.
   - Secondary Technical Center Welding Program for winning the 1st Annual South Arkansas Welding Skills Competition sponsored by SouthArk and The Systems Group and 2016 SkillsUSA Arkansas Leadership and Skills Conference/Competition: 1st Place – State Champion Post-Secondary Pipe Welding; 3rd Place – Welding Fabrication Team Secondary; 3rd Place – General Welding Post-Secondary. Students and instructors were recognized.
   - Michael Roberts, Network Support Analyst, will receive his bachelor’s degree in business administration (Management Information System concentration) from SAU in May and has been named the Rankin College of Business “2016 Outstanding Student in Information Systems.”

Mr. Wesley Walls of Polk/Stanley/Wilcox Architects presented the SouthArk Campus Facility Master Plan.


V. Approval of Consent Agenda – Ms. Creer
   A. Personnel Report – Dr. Jones presented:  
      New Employees:
      Lauren Tyson Foundation Development Specialist 03.28.2016  
      Promotions/Transfers/Organizational Changes:
      None to report
Resignations/Retirements/Terminations:
Tara Anglin Community Education Coordinator 04.29.2016
Tamela McKinnon Director of Career Pathways Initiative 06.30.2016
Gay Morgan Administrative Specialist 06.30.2016
Carl Blake, Jr. Public Safety Officer 07.01.2016

B. Approval of Proposed 2016-2017 Tuition and Fees Schedule – deferred to Committee reports below.
Parks/Sinclair. Approved.

VI. Board Committee Reports
A. Real Estate/Facilities Committee – Mr. Charlie Thomas – no report
B. Personnel/Planning Committee – Mr. Gary Griffis, absent – no report
C. Budget/Finance Committee – Mr. Steve Cameron, committee chair, presented the following recommendations from the Committee to the Trustees for their approval:
   1. To approve the following recommended Tuition and Fees for the 2016-17 Academic Year.
      • Increase the Technology fee by $1 per credit hour, from the current $9 to $10.
      • Increase the Student Support Fee by $3 per credit hour, from the current $1 to $4.
      • Change the name of the Assessment Fee to the Academic Support Fee and increase the fee by $5 per student, per semester, from the current $25 to $30. Cardin. Board approved.
   2. To approve the recommendation to outsource the college’s janitorial services with EJ’s Cleaning Services, Inc., headquartered in Little Rock at $268,800 per year. Additional contracted time for weekend work at the Conference Center would be at a $12 per hour rate. Savings to the college is anticipated to be approximately $100,000 per year. Sinclair. Board approved.
D. Policy Governance Committee – Mr. Steve Cousins – no report

VII. Chair’s Report – Ms. Creer
A. Board Process and Performance Monitoring
B. Board Evaluation of Own Performance/Policy Governance Model – deferred to May meeting due to evaluations not being completed.
C. Reschedule May Meeting – Trustees approved to move the May meeting from the 17th to the 24th.
D. Concealed Weapons on Campus – Act 226 of 2013 – Recommendation to opt out now and add as a discussion item to the July Board Retreat Agenda. Cameron/Thomas. Board approved.

VIII. Financial Services Report – Mr. Carey Tucker presented the following:
A. March Monthly Statements
   March 2016 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of $10,775,895.20 which is 77.42% of the total budget of $13,919,120.16. Total unrestricted expense of $9,979,583.61 was 71.70% of the total budget of $13,919,120.16. Total revenues over expenditures at March 31, 2016 was $796,311.59. Total cash and investments at March 31, 2016 was $6,233,312.76.

IX. President’s Report – Dr. Barbara Jones
A. Administrative Reports
   Vice President for Finance and Administration – Mr. Carey Tucker
   1. The Conference Center elevator repairs from the power surge damage in February have been completed.
2. The lighting project coordinated by the city has gone out for bid.
3. The FY 2014-15 Audit exit preliminary report was received.
4. The budget has been established in Jenzabar.
5. Human Resources staff attended meetings with representatives from the consortium’s insurance broker to review an automated enrollment system.
6. Physical Plant staff met with Arkansas Energy Office approved vendors for potential performance contracts for energy upgrades and savings.
7. The house at 413 Block has been demolished.
8. A new RFP has been issued for a federal grant writer.

**Vice President for Learning – Dr. Mickey Best**

**Health & Natural Sciences:**
1. SouthArk’s Respiratory Therapy program is in progress of completing self-study for CoARC (May 1st)
2. EMS: The Community Paramedic (Certificate of Proficiency) Program has been approved through SouthArk’s Curriculum committee and the Academic Affairs Council. It will be submitted to ADHE on April 22nd.

3. Nursing: In response to the question from last month’s Board meeting:
   a. The SouthArk ARNEC (LPN-to-RN program) started with 32 students and graduated 31 (retention 96.87%); the PN programs combined started with 72 students and graduated 58 (retention 80.55%).
   b. The PN Day program (December graduating class) has a 100% NCLEX-PN final pass rate.
   c. The Evening PN program (December graduating class) has a 94.7% NCLEX-PN final pass rate.

**Liberal Arts:**
1. The Arts in April emphasis this year includes: 1) a nature writing workshop entitled “Writing Nature: Real Words from the Real World” Thursday evenings April 7th through May 26th; 2) two performances of Gilbert & Sullivan’s “The Pirates of Penzance” – 7:00 p.m. at the South Arkansas Arts Center on April 22nd & 23rd presented by the SouthArk Choral Society; 3) the 19th annual Writers’ Ink Awards Ceremony, April 24th; 4) a student music recital on April 26th; 5) the annual SouthArk Student Art Exhibit and Sale on April 25th-28th in the conference center; and 6) an art exhibit in the Library from the Library’s permanent art collection, including works from photography students.
2. On Thursday, April 7th, twenty-four new members were inducted into the Alpha Gamma Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Dean Ballard gave an overview of the history of Phi Theta Kappa.

**Library:**
1. The annual print and electronic book inventory has been completed with 35,461 volumes and 6,076 ebooks.

**Vice President for Student Services – Dr. Jim Bullock**

**Career Pathways Initiative Grant Program**
1. A recent College Count$ report has been released which shows that low-income students who have participated in the Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative in Arkansas reach academic success by earning associate degrees or technical certificates at more than double the rate of the general community college population in Arkansas. Fifty-two percent of students who participated in the CPI program from 2006 to 2013 have completed at least one associate degree or technical certificate, compared to only 24 percent of general non-CPI community college students from across Arkansas enrolled in those same academic years.
2. SouthArk’s total CPI enrollment is 84, including 33 new students, a 27% increase from FY 2015.

**Carl D. Perkins Grant Program**

Ms. Shondranise (Nickie) Wright is the new Perkins program advisor. She has a broad background in delivering social services, most recently at Northeast Delta Human Services Authority in Bastrop, LA, where she was a Professional Counselor and acting manager.

**NEG/ASP Grant Program**

One of the tools that the grant has made possible is the Career Services Management System (College Central). This system will allow for students, staff, and industry partners to communicate regarding job opportunities and student resumes and portfolios, and allow for further staff/student connection and training.

**The Testing and Learning Center (TLC)**

1. SouthArk has responded to the announced elimination of the COMPASS placement test by deciding to use the similar Accuplacer Test beginning after the Fall 2016 semester begins.
2. The Testing Center reports that a total of 40 faculty and adjunct faculty are using the Testing Center during the Spring 2016 semester.

Chief Information Officer – Dr. Tim Kirk

**Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) upgrade**

1. SouthArk went live on Jenzabar EX on April 1, 2016.

**Network / Data Center Upgrades**

1. Project planning for data center upgrade is under final review by Dell engineers.
2. Project planning to retire Novell next year is ongoing.
3. Project planning for Windows 10 rollout has begun.

**Emergency Alert**

1. The recent inclement weather prompted use of SouthArk’s Emergency Notification System. Text messages, desktop notices, interior beacons and the external public address system were activated.
2. IT staff are working with the vendor to implement NOAA polygon notification for automatic alerts. This will automatically activate alerts when necessary.

Chief Institutional Effectiveness & Advancement Officer – Dr. Jones presented in Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez’s absence

**Community Education**

1. Co-hosting a local Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) workshop with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on April 22nd & 23rd at the Welcome Center.
2. Registration for Camp Lotsafun: Safari is underway
3. Working with the Arkansas Women’s Business Center on a possible week long youth entrepreneurship camp in July. Details to come.

**Corporate Education**

1. Donald Lee visited with Bossier Parish Community College and Arkansas Northeastern College to learn about their manufacturing programs.
2. Warren summer classes start May 6th.

**ACAP**

1. Received $1,000 grant from the Union County Community Foundation for student curriculum.
2. Received approval to be a CTP program which will allow students to apply for federal financial aid.
3. Graduation is set for Thursday, May 12th at the Workforce Development building at 6 pm.
4. As part of their Community Awareness course, students are building “Buddy Benches” out of pallets for Parkers Chapel School District.

**Institutional Effectiveness**

1. The college has completed its annual submissions to the Integrated Post-Secondary Educational Data System (IPEDS) as well as Annual Institutional Data Update to the Higher Learning Commission.
2. SouthArk has received draft values for the 2014-2015 Performance Based Funding metrics. The validated and finalized results will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the July retreat.

**Director of Foundation and External Funding – Ms. Cynthia Reyna**

1. An Evening with the Stars was a successful event – 170 tickets were sold.
2. The Annual Donor/Scholar Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 28th, at 12:00 p.m.
3. U.S. Economic Development Assistance Grant proposal request for $850,000 was submitted for funding of the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center. Re-submitted concept paper through Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District.
4. The Employee Annual Fund Drive will run from April 19th – May 3rd.
5. Phase II of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) Grant for further renovation and restoration of the W.F. and Estelle McWilliams House and property (Calahan residents) application was submitted and award will be determined in May.

**B. Legislative Update**

- Dr. Jones noted that the college is still monitoring legislative bills that could impact the college, especially the Arkansas Works Program.
- Working on Futures in Information Technology (FIT) Grant proposal.

**C. Lecture Series Update – Mr. Phil Ballard had no report.**

- Dr. Jones recognized Mr. Ballard on his retirement; for 40 years of employment and dedication to SouthArk; and for his 10 years of organizing the Lecture Series.

**X. Announcements**

Ms. Creer reminded the Trustees of upcoming events and stressed the importance of Trustees attending/supporting students at Graduation.

**XI. Executive Session (if required)**

**XII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.**

Patty Cardin, Secretary