



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

University Assembly Meeting

Tuesday, August 21, 2012 • 2:00 p.m.

Dickinson Hall Auditorium

MINUTES

I. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Assembly President Smith-Olinde at 2:00 p.m.

II. **Review of minutes**

Bruce Moore moved to accept the minutes from the April, 2012 Assembly meeting; Richard Ford seconded. Motion to accept the minutes carried.

III. **Remarks by the President: Laura Smith-Olinde**

President Smith-Olinde's remarks focused on the student success programs AAMI, AAFI, and CLC, the expansion of campus housing and food options for students, and the increasing focus on campus-wide student data collection and organization.

IV. **Introduction of the Academy of Teaching and Learning**

Excellence: Julien Mirivel

Professor Julien Mirivel of ATLE discussed the mission and goals of ATLE. The three point mission is to foster excellence in teaching and learning, demonstrate the value UALR places on high quality teaching and build a stronger community among teachers and learners. The three goals for the 2012-13 academic year are to offer more meaningful programs to foster "deep learning" at UALR, bring inspiring key scholars to campus, and to create opportunities for faculty and students to learn together.

v. **Remarks by the Chancellor: Joel Anderson**

Chancellor Anderson began his remarks by applauding both reports. He explained that a major capital expansion program, involving building students services center, the *Trojan Grill*, and purchasing the apartment complex to the south of campus across Asher Avenue, is coming to conclusion. The last capital project is the renovation of Administration South.

The Chancellor assured the University community that there would be a provost hired during the school year and then welcomed new faculty and staff to UALR.

The Chancellor outlined several major challenges facing higher education in general, and UALR, in particular. The former included the federal deficit, and the upcoming U.S. elections. State support for higher education is also decreasing, and raising tuition is one way the university has for dealing with this. Tuition at UALR is reasonable, but it's more problematic to raise tuition in AR than in some other states because the median income in AR is lower than many states. Moreover, performance-based funding will begin in FY14. FY13 is the base year. In FY14, %5 of our state budget is based on performance, in FY15, this raises to 10% and to 15% in FY16. Other uncertainties include state elections. And another in our own enrollment, which has been flat for some time, and has caused a decrease in state funding.

UALR response to these issues. First, hired a new Vice Chancellor for Enrollment, Dean Kahler, to increase enrollment at UALR. Safety initiatives, including additional cameras, trolley system, Green Dot violence prevention program. Advances in distance education with Academic Partnerships, which should generate revenue for the university.

Chancellor Anderson ended his remarks by expressing confidence in UALR faculty and staff to face these challenges.

vi. **Remarks by the Provost: Sandra Robertson**

Provost Robertson began her remarks by thanking the Chancellor, Deans, President Smith-Olinde, and ATLE for support, tolerance, leadership, and teaching/learning.

She emphasized the enrollment numbers the Chancellor had shared and framed the Academic Partnerships initiative as one in a chain of inevitable changes higher education has undergone in its history to remain viable and relevant. Dr. Robertson also emphasized that as these programs grow on campus, we must make sure that they are quality programs.

vii. Open Forum

No new topics were introduced.

viii. Adjournment