

## Request for eVersity Academic Governance Council Members

On March 24, 2014 the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees voted to create the University of Arkansas System eVersity, a 100 percent online university committed to providing high-quality, affordable, accessible, and workplace relevant educational programming. The Board charged the leadership of the University of Arkansas System with developing the eVersity, including a governance organization. To that end, this request is being distributed to all institutions that comprise the University of Arkansas System. The purpose of the Academic Governance Council (AGC) is to develop, review, and recommend academic policies, procedures, and curriculum related to the operation of eVersity. The AGC is advisory to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The AGC shall represent the institutional interest of the eVersity and its students. AGC members shall not act as representatives of their home institution.

### Phase 1 Governance

Phase 1 is defined as the period of operation prior to the conferral of independent accreditation.

The eVersity will work closely with institutions in the University of Arkansas System as it seeks independent accreditation. Until independent accreditation is conferred, all institutions in the University of Arkansas System may allow a faculty member to participate on the Academic Governance Council. Participation by the institution is voluntary. The Chief Academic Officer (or Chief Administrator) shall inform, in writing, the University of Arkansas System President of their desire to have a faculty member participate in Phase 1 by **October 31, 2014**.

Institutions that decide to participate in Phase 1 Governance after the October 31 deadline may do so by informing the University of Arkansas System President in writing. An eligible member will be added as soon as possible following the procedures outlined below. Institutions desiring to terminate their participation in Phase 1 governance may do so with written notification to the University of Arkansas System President.

**Academic Governance Council Composition:** The initial Academic Governance Council (AGC) shall be composed of up to 20 members from the following organizations:

- University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (1)
- University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (1)
- University of Arkansas at Little Rock (1)
- University of Arkansas at Monticello (1)
- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (1)
- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (1)
- Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas (1)
- Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (1)
- University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville (1)
- University of Arkansas Community College at Hope (1)
- University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (1)
- Clinton School of Public Service (1)
- Criminal Justice Institute (1)
- Division of Agriculture (1)
- Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts (1)
- Arkansas Archeological Survey (1)
- At-large Members (4)

**Chair:** The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall call and chair the meetings of the AGC and serve as an ex-officio member.

**Membership Eligibility:** Members of the Academic Governance Council shall be full-time employees with at least 50% teaching duties and may be selected from any rank and title.

**Nomination and Selection Process:** Nominations for faculty members may be made by (1) self-nomination, (2) third-party nomination or (3) nomination by the Chief Academic Officer (or Chief Administrator). The nomination shall consist of a letter (up to two pages) outlining why the individual desires to serve on the AGC, a description of relevant experiences, and a description of the current position and duties. Nomination materials shall be submitted to the University of Arkansas System President by **November 21, 2014**. If multiple nominations are received from a single institution, the eVersity Steering Committee at the UA System shall make the selection.

The University of Arkansas System President may select up to four (4) At-Large members who meet the membership eligibility standard from the pool of all eligible University of Arkansas System employees.

**Terms of Service:** The term of service shall be from the time the initial selection process is complete until the eVersity successfully secures initial accreditation.

**Meetings:** It is expected that the first meeting of the AGC will take place in early 2015 with multiple meetings per year. Meetings may take place face-to-face or virtually. Attendance at all meetings is expected.

**Compensation for Service:** Due to the expected workload related to reviewing initial policy documents and assisting in the initial accreditation application, members of the Academic Governance Council shall receive a stipend of \$2000 annually for their service during Phase 1. Regular attendance at meetings is expected. Failure to attend meetings may result in a reduction of the stipend. Members traveling to Council meetings will be reimbursed for mileage at the approved state rate.

## **Phase 2 Governance**

Upon the conferral of accreditation, the Phase 1 Academic Governance Council (AGC) shall be dissolved, and the Phase 2 AGC shall be established. Membership on the Phase 2 AGC shall be restricted to faculty from institutions with faculty actively participating in the construction or teaching of eVersity courses. For eligible institutions, participation in Phase 2 Governance is voluntary. The University of Arkansas System President shall be notified of the institution's desire to participate. Institutions desiring to join the Council after the start of Phase 2 may do so by meeting the eligibility requirements and notifying the University of Arkansas System President. The member selection process outlined for Phase 1 Governance shall be used for Phase 2 Governance. Participating institutions shall be limited to one member. The University of Arkansas President may appoint up to four (4) At-Large members.

**Chair:** The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall call the first meeting of the Phase 2 AGC where a chair and chair-elect shall be elected by majority vote. The VPAA shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the AGC.

**Membership Eligibility:** Members of the Academic Governance Council shall be full-time employees with at least 50% teaching duties and may be selected from any rank and title. Members serving during Phase 1 are eligible to serve again.

**Nomination and Selection Process:** Nominations for faculty members may be made by (1) self-nomination, (2) third-party nomination or (3) nomination by the Chief Academic Officer (or Chief Administrator). The nomination shall consist of a letter (up to two pages) outlining why the individual desires to serve on the AGC, a description of relevant experiences, and a description of the current position and duties. Nomination materials will be requested after initial accreditation is received. If multiple nominations are received from a single institution, the eVersity Steering Committee at the UA System shall make the selection.

The University of Arkansas System President may select up to four (4) At-Large members who meet the membership eligibility standard from the pool of all eligible University of Arkansas System employees.

**Terms of Service:** The term of service shall be three years. During the first meeting, all members shall draw lots to assign them to Group A, Group B, or Group C. Group A shall serve 1 year and then the seat shall be eligible for replacement. Group B shall serve 2 years and then be eligible for replacement. Group C shall serve 3 years and then be eligible replacement. There are no term limits. Members selected to fill expired seats shall be chosen using the method described in the “Nomination and Selection Process” section.

**Reimbursement for Service:** Members traveling to Council meetings will be reimbursed for mileage at the approved state rate.