

University of Central Arkansas  
Council of Deans  
Wednesday, June 3, 2026  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Wingo 214

MINUTES

1. Welcome: The Council of Deans met on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Wingo 214. Provost Michael Hargis presided, and the following members were present: Dr. Tim Bisping, Dr. Kurt Boniecki, Dr. Debbie Dailey, Dr. Michael Mills, Dr. Nancy Reese, and Dr. Leah Horton (for Dr. Patricia Smith).
2. Action Items
  - a. May 6, 2026 COD Minutes: A motion by Dr. Tim Bisping and second by Dr. Leah Horton was made to approve the minutes from May 6, 2026. The motion carried with one abstention.
  - b. Sabbatical Leave Review Application - A motion by Dr. Michael Mills and second by Dr. Nancy Reese was made to approve the Sabbatical Leave application and materials as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried.
  - c. Academic Position Review Framework Documents: A motion by Dr. Kurt Boniecki and second by Dr. Tim Bisping was made to approve the academic position review framework documents as presented. Following discussion and minor adjustments, the motion carried.
3. Provost Updates
  - a. Graduate Outcome data reporting: Provost Hargis stated that Dr. Kevin Thomas will attend Council of Deans at a later date to discuss the type of data units that are currently collecting related to graduate outcomes (job placement, career progression, etc.). Members discussed the scope of data and current access to data.
4. Discussion
  - a. COD Retreat Feedback and Next Steps: Members revisited information from the Dean's Retreat held May 18-21, 2026 including the themes that will guide our work through the next Academic Year. Members will continue to revisit priorities and discuss timelines for implementation and outcomes.
  - b. Brightspace Feedback: Members shared that they have received no feedback thus far regarding Brightspace.
  - c. Associate Dean/Chair Review Timeline: Human Resources has approved a May 15th timeline for Dean, Associate Dean, Department Chair/School Director reviews. The information will be reflected on the 2026-2027 Academic Timetable.
  - d. Board Meeting Debrief: Provost Hargis shared information from the May 27, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting.

## 5. Unit Updates

- a. College of Business
  - i. Dr. Gordon Schmidt has been selected as the new chair of the Department of Marketing and Management
- b. Honors College
  - i. The honors class has been selected for 2026-2027.
- c. College of Health and Behavioral Sciences
  - i. A new nursing class will begin in July
- d. Graduate School
  - i. The Graduate School will see more enrollment management and recruitment information in order to streamline the process.
  - ii. Interviews are taking place for a Graduate Admissions Specialist.
  - iii. The research office is transitioning from research compliance to research integrity and promotion to better serve campus.
- e. College of Education
  - i. Summer enrollment has strong numbers and classes.

## 6. Important Dates and Information Items

- August 6, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting
- August 8, 2026: Summer Graduate Commencement
- COD Meetings
  - June 17, 2026
  - July 1, 2026
  - July 15, 2026
  - July 29, 2026

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am