

The Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas convened in regular meeting Friday, October 3, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. in the Fireplace Room in McCastlain Hall with the following officers and members present:

Chair:	Mr. Rush Harding
Vice Chair:	Mr. Kelley Erstine
Secretary:	Mr. Scott Roussel
	Mrs. Patricia Bassett
	Mr. Randy Sims
	Dr. Michael Stanton
	Mr. Dalda Womack

constituting a quorum of said Board, at which meeting the following business was transacted:

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### MINUTES

Minutes of the August 26, 2003, Board meeting were unanimously approved as circulated upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Mr. Erstine.

### INTRODUCTIONS

President Hardin recognized students from UCA and UALR who attended the meeting as a class assignment.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2002-2003** - President Hardin reviewed the university's financial report.

President Hardin reported that \$1,000,000 in private money has been raised for the UCA Foundation in the past 60 days. This amount is in addition to normal gifts to the Foundation.

**Summer Athletic Camps** - At its February 16, 2001, meeting, the Board authorized the UCA coaching staff to host camps for private compensation. The camps were held in the summer of 2003.

As required by state law, a complete financial report has been submitted to the Vice President for Financial Services. Camp revenues and expenses have been summarized below based on that report.

Athletic Camps

<u>Revenues:</u>	<u>Football</u>	<u>Baseball</u>	<u>Women's Basketball</u>
Sponsorships	\$ 1,500		
Camp Revenues	<u>\$ 8,483</u>	<u>\$ 4,165</u>	<u>\$17,130</u>
Total Revenues	\$ 9,983	\$ 4,165	\$17,130

<u>Expenses:</u>			
Camp Supplies	\$ 1,823	\$ 376	\$ 4,226
Camp Salaries	\$ 6,225	\$ 3,260	\$ 6,680
Contract Labor	\$ 925	\$	\$ 3,100
Insurance	\$ 196	\$ 150	\$ 528
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 950</u>	<u>\$ 240</u>	<u>\$ 684</u>
Total Expenses	\$10,119	\$ 4,026	\$ 15,218

Number of Participants	138	41	318
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**Housing Occupancy** - A housing occupancy report dated September 12, 2003, was given to Board members. President Hardin stated that he will schedule a Board retreat later in the month to discuss housing and parking.

President Hardin reported that the City of Conway is discussing the possibility of widening Donaghey Avenue to four lanes. President Hardin expressed his concern about students crossing four lanes of traffic and requested Board members to give the issue some thought in preparation for discussion at the upcoming Board retreat. President Hardin stated that creative solutions are needed for housing, traffic, and parking.

**STATEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF THE STAFF SENATE,  
FACULTY SENATE, AND STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

Copies of statements from the presidents of the Staff Senate, Julia Robison; Faculty Senate, Carl Frederickson; and Student Government Association, Ortavius Wright, are attached.

**ACTION AGENDA**

**Request for Provisional Positions** - Within the position appropriation process of the state, the university has the ability to periodically request additional positions through the provisional position request process.

Provisional positions may be assigned when the university receives temporary and unanticipated funding, typically through grants or contract agreements. Provisional positions exist only as long as the funding for those positions is available and do not automatically convert to regular, budgeted positions.

In submitting a request for the allocation of provisional positions, the state process first requires authorization for that request through the university's Board of Trustees.

At this time the university has funding through the U.S. Department of Education for three additional positions.

Following brief discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Mrs. Bassett:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES THE UNIVERSITY TO PROCEED WITH REQUESTS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR ALLOCATION OF PROVISIONAL POSITIONS FUNDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.”**

**Adoption of a 457(b) Retirement Plan Option** - Within the IRS code, pre-tax savings opportunities are available through establishment of a qualified Section 457(b) plan. The 457(b) plan creates a second annual pre-tax contribution limit that essentially “doubles” the amount an employee may voluntarily contribute to a retirement plan on a pre-tax basis.

The plan will be offered in addition to the primary retirement plans currently available. All employees will have the opportunity to participate in the new plan. Employees electing the 457(b) plan may make contributions to the plan only upon reaching their annual pre-tax contribution limits in their primary plans. The plan will be entirely funded by employee contributions and the university will make no contributions to employee accounts.

In response to the University's RFP, five 457(b) plan proposals were received. The University Fringe Benefits Committee reviewed several factors including: administrative fees, participant costs, investment options and plan administrator/vendor history and reputation. Based upon that evaluation the plan presented by TIAA-CREF was recommended.

Therefore, with the recommendation of the UCA Fringe Benefits Committee the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Dr. Stanton with a second by Mr. Roussel:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRE-TAX, EMPLOYEE-FUNDED 457(b) PLAN WITH TIAA-CREF.”**

**Transfer of Funds to the Board of Trustees Endowment Fund** - In accordance with Board Policy No. 607, "UCA Board of Trustees Endowment Fund," the administration requests the Board of Trustees' approval to transfer bookstore net revenues of \$160,000 from 2001-2002 and \$174,150 from 2002-2003 to the Board of Trustees Endowment Fund. The Board is required to approve additions to and expenditures from this fund.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Mr. Roussel:

**"BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES THE ADMINISTRATION TO TRANSFER BOOKSTORE NET REVENUES OF \$160,000 FROM 2001-2002 AND \$174,150 FROM 2002-2003 TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ENDOWMENT FUND."**

**Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies** - In response to a public demand for a degree program that addresses addiction and treatment, the College of Health and Applied Sciences and Department of Health Sciences at the University of Central Arkansas have developed a bachelor's degree program in addiction studies. There are no such baccalaureate degree programs currently in the state. There is strong demand for prevention specialists and treatment counselors, and administrators at substance abuse treatment centers have estimated a minimum of two to three counselors from each facility would enroll in UCA's program.

This proposal has been approved by all appropriate administrators and councils.

Following discussion, during which Sam Buchanan, Associate Provost, responded to questions from Board members, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Roussel with a second by Mrs. Bassett:

**"BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEREBY APPROVES THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN ADDICTION STUDIES."**

**Proposal to the**  
**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**for a New Academic Program**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ADDICTION STUDIES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS**

**1. PROPOSED PROGRAM TITLE**

Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies

**2. CIP CODE REQUESTED**

34.0104

**3. CONTACT PERSON**

Lu Hardin  
President  
University of Central Arkansas  
201 Donaghey  
Conway, AR 72035-0001  
(501) 450-3170

**4. PROPOSED STARTING DATE:**

Spring, 2004

**5. PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The mission of the College of Health and Applied Sciences (CHAS) is to enhance the health and well being of the public through preparation of professionals, and the advancement of knowledge. To contribute to the achievement of that mission the Department of Health Sciences proposes a bachelor of science degree in Addiction Studies. Embedded within this course of study is the option for an addiction treatment certificate consisting of 27 credit hours. The 124-hour degree program will be offered by the Department of Health Sciences based on existing courses plus seven new courses. This is a dual track degree program to prepare professionals to work in the fields of prevention and/or treatment of substance abuse and other addictive behaviors. **Currently no such BS degree program exists in Arkansas.** This program provides the opportunity for persons to acquire skills needed to complete certification in both prevention and treatment of substance abuse. The certificate program will meet the need for mid-career professionals working in the treatment area. These professionals may already hold degrees in psychology, sociology, criminal justice or related fields and wish to cross-train in addiction

studies. Other prospective students may have no previous college experience. The curricula for the certificate and the BS degree in the treatment option are designed to meet the 270 clock-hour education requirement for eligibility to sit for the certification examination in alcohol and drug counseling. The Department of Health Sciences is the largest academic unit of its type in Arkansas, and is well-positioned to mount this program. For more than 30 years, Health Sciences faculty have trained health professionals who work in clinics, community and state agencies and schools. Undergraduate offerings include BS degrees in Health Education, Community Health and Health Sciences. The degree program in Health Sciences provides specialized tracks in health services administration and gerontology. UCA is the single largest provider of health workers in the state, awarding almost half (47%) of all graduate degrees for health professionals and over a third (34%) of all health-related undergraduate degrees.

If approved, the program could be implemented as early as January, 2004. Start-up and first-year costs for the proposed degree program are estimated at \$67,150, and expected annual revenue will be \$75,400. The proposed program will be compliant with accreditation standards of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

**General Description of the Degree Program:** The Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies is a four year degree program consisting of 124 credits. This is a dual track program with one track in prevention and one in treatment. Course requirements for both the prevention and treatment tracks include: 47 credits of general education; nine (9) credits of core courses; and 17 credits of related requirements. The Prevention Track includes 25 credits of required courses and the Treatment Track includes 29 credits of required course work. The remaining credits (26 or 22) may be completed as a declared minor or from recommended courses selected with approval of the departmental advisor. The 27 credit certificate program includes new courses that have been developed for the treatment track in the BS program in Addiction Studies and one core course from the treatment track (HSC 4312, Drug Education).

**New Courses:**

Existing offerings will fulfill core and related course requirements for the prevention track. For the treatment track, there are two existing and seven new courses.

**6. NEED FOR THE PROGRAM**

There is strong demand for prevention specialists and treatment counselors. Arkansans are among the least healthy people in the United States. The age-adjusted death rate for Arkansans is 13% higher than the national average. In fact, one leading national index rated the state last in overall health and access to health care. Most of the illnesses Arkansans suffer are chronic diseases related to individual health practices and are preventable. The proposed program will produce prevention specialists to organize population-focused and community-based efforts to resolve some of the state's most critical health problems.

A major risk factor for many health and community problems is the use of drugs of addiction. Legal substances, particularly alcohol and tobacco, have caused far more deaths, sickness, violent crimes, economic loss and other social problems than the use of illegal drugs. The United States Surgeon General called cigarette smoking the single most preventable cause of disease and disability. Many substance abuse authorities cite tobacco as a major entry level drug that leads to the use of illegal drugs. Arkansas ranks well above national averages in the use of tobacco products and has the second highest lung cancer death rate nationally (49.8 per 100,000 versus the national average of 38.4 per 100,000). The link between smoking and chronic disease (e.g. stroke and lung cancer) has been well documented.

Drug use is an equal opportunity affliction, in that both legal and illegal drugs are consumed by individuals representing all income levels, social classes and age groups. Over 50% of persons incarcerated in Arkansas committed crimes while under the influence of legal or illegal substances. Addictive patterns are complicated and require assessment and intervention by trained counselors. Drug courts, correction facilities, and treatment centers have a critical need for more well-trained certified counselors.

A survey was completed to determine potential enrollment and employment opportunities for program graduates. Data were gathered through interviews with 11 administrators selected from the 22 Substance Abuse Treatment Programs funded by the Office on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, a unit within the Arkansas Department of Human Services. Among these programs there are 15 residential and seven out-patient treatment programs located in 13 Catchment Areas. All of these facilities employ substance abuse counselors. Frequently these counselors are recovering substance abusers. This proposed degree program will offer those individuals an opportunity to upgrade knowledge and skills while studying toward a degree and preparing for state certification. **Administrators at substance abuse treatment centers who were interviewed estimated a minimum of two to three counselors from each facility would enroll in the proposed program.**

The director of the Arkansas Department of Community Corrections in the Little Rock Probation Office was also contacted. She stated she had recently hired 20 counselors to work in drug courts. Of that group, only five currently hold proper state certification; thus, this agency must invest substantial resources to prepare counselors so they can qualify for certification. The director reported there were currently 15 counselors in training. She also stated that she is hiring 15 new drug court counselors and estimated that only two or three would hold a BS degree and state certification. She fully supports the proposed program because it would reduce costs, improve counselor effectiveness, and reduce employee turn-over.

An administrator from the Arkansas Department of Corrections reported similar problems in hiring certified counselors to work in substance abuse programs for inmates. He also expressed strong support for this program. Certified counselors are needed to lead rehabilitation efforts for over 50% of inmates because more than half of all crimes committed punishable by

incarceration, are drug related. These efforts are especially important in facilities housing first and second offenders where rehabilitation has the greatest potential for positive results.

To determine career opportunities and enrollment projections for prevention specialists a similar survey was completed with a sample of eight administrators from the 13 Prevention Centers in Arkansas. Administrators interviewed estimated that at a minimum, two new prevention specialists would be employed annually at each center.

**Based on survey results it is estimated at least 20 students would enroll annually during the first three years of the program.**

## **PROGRAM COSTS**

### **Faculty Resources:**

Two additional faculty members will be required to offer this degree program. One faculty member will be added during year one and one during year two. Estimated salary for master's level faculty is \$40,000 (plus 27% for fringe benefits). Doctoral level faculty will require a minimum of \$45,000 (plus 27% for fringe benefits). A salary line of \$21,600 is budgeted for summer school instructional costs and on-line course development.

### **Library Resources:**

The majority of courses for the proposed program are already in place and Torreyson Library holdings will adequately support the new program. (See Section 9: Description of Resources for a detailed description of Torreyson Library resources.)

**Facilities and Equipment:** With the exception of two additional offices, office equipment, and a small amount of storage space, existing facilities and equipment will be adequate to support the proposed program.

**Purpose of the Program:** For the Treatment Track, the degree and certificate program will meet a state-wide need for state certified counselors who can work in (1) drug courts, (2) correctional institutions, and (3) substance abuse in-patient and out-patient treatment programs. For the Prevention Track, administrators from the 13 Prevention Centers in Arkansas currently hiring certified prevention specialists, have estimated the need for a minimum of two new prevention specialists to be employed annually at each facility.

Based on survey results, this proposed degree is needed to enhance education and certification opportunities for persons currently employed as drug abuse counselors as well as for traditional students. The treatment emphasis would eliminate the need for costly and inefficient on-the-job



training. The prevention emphasis is needed to prepare students for employment in the 13 Arkansas Prevention Centers and other state health agencies.

## **7. CURRICULUM OUTLINE:**

The Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies is a 124-hour degree program. This program can be implemented with the addition of seven new courses including: Addiction Counseling Theory and Practice; Addictions Assessment, Intervention & Treatment Planning; Group Counseling Skills; Etiology & Epidemiology of Addiction; Legal and Ethical Issues in Addiction; Family Systems & Addiction; and Practicum in Substance Abuse. The curriculum is outlined in the table below with titles of proposed new courses in the Treatment Track listed in bold.

### **General Education Requirements: (47 hours)**

#### **Core Courses (9 hours)**

HED 2320 Mental Health  
HED 3301 Theory and Practice of Prevention  
HED 4312 Drug Education

### **Related Requirements for the Prevention and Treatment Tracks: (17 hours)**

PSYC 2330 Psychological Statistics  
PSYC 3332 Research Methods  
PSYC 4320 Abnormal Psychology  
BIOL 2402 Human Anatomy and Physiology  
BIOL Elective (to fulfill BS degree requirement)

### **Prevention Track (25 hours)**

HED 3300 Methods and Materials of Health Education  
HED 3301 Theoretical Bases of Health Education  
HED 3101 Prevention Practicum  
HED 4300 Community Health Problems  
HED 4331 Program Planning and Evaluation  
HED 3220 Epidemiological Research  
HED 4370 Administration of Health Programs  
HED 4600 Internship in Prevention

### **Treatment Track (29 hours)**

HED 2201 First Aid  
HSC 23– **Addiction Counseling: Theory & Practice**  
**(Prerequisite for Group Counseling Skills)**

- HSC 23– **Addictions: Assessment, Intervention & Treatment Planning**
- HSC 23– **Etiology & Epidemiology of Addiction**
- HSC 33 – **Group Counseling Skills**
  
- HSC 33– **Legal and Ethical Issues in Addiction**
- HSC 33– **Family Systems & Addiction**
- HSC 46-- **Practicum in Substance Abuse (300 hours)**

Choose **ONE** of the following courses for the treatment track:

- PSYC 2370 Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 4300 Theories of Personality

Remaining credits (26 for Prevention Track and 22 for Treatment Track) may be selected for a declared minor or from recommended courses selected with the departmental advisor. The 27 credit certificate program consists of new courses that will be used in the treatment track as well as the existing course, Drug Education, HSC 4312.

### **Certificate in Addiction Studies (27 hours)**

The certificate program is designed for mid-career professionals who are already working in treatment facilities. It consists of 27 credits as listed below.

- HSC 4312 Drug Education
- HSC 23– **Addiction Counseling: Theory & Practice  
(Prerequisite for Group Counseling Skills)**
- HSC 23– **Addictions: Assessment, Intervention & Treatment Planning**
- HSC 23– **Etiology & Epidemiology of Addiction**
- HSC 33 – **Group Counseling Skills**
- HSC 33– **Legal and Ethical Issues in Addiction**
- HSC 33– **Family Systems & Addiction**
- HSC 46-- **Practicum in Substance Abuse (300 hours)**

**(Syllabi for these courses are presented in APPENDIX B.)**

### **State program admission requirements**

A formula that includes high school grades, ACT scores and leadership experiences is used to determine admission requirements to the University of Central Arkansas.

## **8. FACULTY**

Current members of the faculty who will be assigned to teach in the proposed degree program are listed below.

*Emogene Fox*, Ed.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Sciences. She has published books and numerous articles in tier 1 journals in health education. She has received more than one million dollars in grants from government and private sources. Her specialties are in administration and health education programs in worksite/medical care settings. She has thirty-two years of teaching experience.

*Jane Lammers*, Ed.D., Professor of Health Sciences. Dr. Lammers joined UCA's faculty in 1977. She has published with consistency and has a strong record in grantsmanship. Her specialties are foundations of health sciences, drug education, and theory/practice of prevention. She serves on an advisory committee for the Mid-South Summer School for substance abuse professionals. Dr. Lammers was recognized as Outstanding Prevention Practitioner in 2002 by the Arkansas Prevention Practitioners Association.

*Gary Lewers*, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Health Sciences. Dr. Lewers's areas of expertise are environmental and international health, multicultural studies, and gerontology.

*Betty Hubbard*, Ed.D., Professor of Health Sciences. A UCA faculty member since 1980, Dr. Hubbard has authored numerous books and articles and is the recipient of several grants. Dr. Hubbard received the UCA Teaching Excellence Award in 1991. Her expertise is in curriculum and instructional methodology and human sexuality.

*Jacque Rainey*, Dr.PH., Associate Professor of Health Sciences and Interim Associate Dean in the College of Health and Applied Sciences. A member of UCA's faculty since 1994, Dr. Rainey's terminal degree is in public health. Her areas of specialization include epidemiology, research, planning and evaluation. Dr. Rainey has published numerous articles in refereed professional journals, has a strong record in grants and regularly presents papers at national professional meetings.

*Felicia Taylor*, MS, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences in the College of Health and Applied Sciences. A member of UCA's faculty since 2002, Ms Taylor is scheduled to complete doctoral requirements in late summer or early fall, 2003. Her areas of specialization include multi-cultural studies, women's health issues, and preventive health.

The proposal calls for employment of two additional faculty with expertise in addiction studies and drug abuse counseling.

## **9. DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCES**

### **New Library Resources and Costs**

The majority of courses for the proposed program are already in place, thus current Torreyson Library holdings will adequately support the new program. Torreyson Library, a facility of approximately 110,780 square feet, has more than a million holdings, including 538,836 volume

conversions of microform, microfiche, periodicals, books, and special collections. Library holdings increase at a rate of approximately 20,000 items annually. Fully computerized online catalogs can be accessed through modems from off-campus locations and throughout the library and across campus through the local area network. The Torreyson Library collection has a 98.8% rating based upon the collection formula of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Torreyson holdings in the health sciences include 27,502 monographs, 1,396 of those specifically related to drug education and public health. The library subscribes to 324 current periodicals, 10 of them directly relevant to the proposed program. In addition to a standard array of print indexes, Torreyson's on-site electronic databases include CINAHL and ERIC, and full-text database services include *Proquest*, *Health Reference Center*, and UMI's *Periodical Abstracts*, making electronic research readily available.

### **New/Renovated Facilities and Costs**

In light of the limited number of new courses to be added, no additional space will be required. Some classes will be offered during late afternoon, at night, and/or on weekends to efficiently utilize existing classroom space and computer labs. Additionally, some classes will be offered on-line. Since current courses will be taken by both students in the proposed program and others, none of the offerings taught by existing faculty will require reallocation of existing resources. Office space for two new faculty is available in close proximity to the departmental central office.

## **10. NEW PROGRAM COSTS**

### **New Administrative Costs**

A three-year budget estimate is attached. Since the proposed new degree program will be offered through the existing Department of Health Sciences, there will be no new administrative costs.

### **Number of New Faculty (Full-Time and Part-Time) and Costs**

Two additional full-time faculty members will be required. One faculty member will be hired during year one and the second during year two. If employed at the master's level, the estimated salary is \$40,000, including fringe benefits (27%). For faculty employed at the doctoral level, the estimated salary is \$45,000 (plus 27% for fringe benefits). Summer school salaries will require \$21,600 (plus 27% for benefits).

### **New Library Resources and Costs**

The majority of courses for the proposed degree program are already in place and library holdings will adequately support the new program. (See Section 9 for a detailed description of Torreyson Library resources.)

### **New/renovated facilities and costs**

There will be no additional costs for renovation or construction of new facilities.

### **New Instructional Equipment and Costs**

There will be no additional costs for instructional equipment.

### **Distance Delivery Costs (if applicable)**

For the limited number of courses that will be taught with on-line instruction components, personnel costs for distance delivery were incorporated into the summer school instructional budget. Income received beyond expenditures will pay for hardware, software, and technology support.

### **Other New Costs (Graduate Assistants, Secretarial Support, Supplies, Faculty Development, Faculty/Students Research, etc.)**

Since the majority of courses for the proposed degree program are already in place, and faculty development is included in the operating budget, no additional costs for personnel support are anticipated.

## **11. NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING**

### **Tuition and Fees**

Assuming enrollment of an average of 20 students annually, a revenue projection of \$75,400 is expected in year one, with estimated expenditures of \$67,150. As shown in the proposed budget, this will yield a net gain of \$8,250 in year one. No additional sources of revenue will be required.

## **12. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART REFLECTING NEW PROGRAM**

President→Provost→CHAS Dean→Health Sciences Department Chair→Degree Programs→Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies

### **13. SPECIALIZED REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Specialized Accreditation Requirements**

The proposed degree and certificate programs require no specialized accreditation requirements

#### **Licensure/Certification Requirements for Students**

Upon completion of the proposed program, students in the Prevention Track will be eligible to sit for the Arkansas Prevention Certification examination. Students completing the Treatment Track will be eligible to sit for the Arkansas Substance Abuse Certification examination.

### **14. BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVAL**

The proposed program will be on the agenda for the October 3, 2003 meeting of the UCA Board of Trustees.

### **15. SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN ARKANSAS AND IN ADJOINING STATES (BACCALAUREATE AND ABOVE)**

**Currently, there are no other degree programs similar to the one proposed in Arkansas.** A career ladder opportunity will be available at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff which offers a Master of Science in Addiction Studies.

### **16. DESEGREGATION**

African-Americans comprise approximately 12% of the total UCA enrollment. Student enrollment in the proposed program is expected to meet or exceed that percentage. The College of Health and Applied Sciences has worked closely with the UCA minority affairs office in the development of recruitment initiatives including the hosting of career fairs at the Dunbar Community Center in Little Rock and co-sponsorship with the College of Education in the African-American Partnering Talent project. Another significant step was recently taken in the employment of a faculty member (an African-American) in the Department of Health Sciences who has been given a specific assignment involving the recruitment and mentoring of prospective African-American students. There is also an active student minority affairs committee that includes representatives from each department in the College of Health and Applied Sciences.

**Estimated Budget for B.S. Degree and  
Certificate Program in Addiction Studies**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>
Personnel*	\$45,000	\$91,350	\$94,090
Summer School		\$21,600	\$21,600
Fringe	\$12,150	\$30,497	\$31,236
M & O	\$10,000	\$10,300	\$10,600
Total Expenditures	\$67,150	\$153,747	\$157,526
<b>REVENUE**</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>
Tuition (\$1,885 per semester)	\$75,400	\$175,640	\$251,040
Net Gain	\$8,250	\$21,893	\$93,514

\* Employ one FTE faculty annually during first two years of program operation.

\*\* Estimated revenue based on enrollment of 20 students annually (13 credits per semester), and 15 students in summer school.

**Shannon, Inc. Apartment Complex Acquisition (Stadium Park)** - The Board of Trustees approved the lease/purchase of Mansard Apartments from Shannon Inc. on February 21, 2003. At that time, the Board also approved bond financing for this purchase of up to \$4,000,000.

The agreement was a two-year lease with provisions allowing Shannon, Inc. to require an early purchase. The administration has been notified by Shannon Inc. that it will invoke the early sale provision of the lease/purchase agreement. Under the agreement, the closing must occur within 45 days. The administration is requesting the authority to obtain short-term bank financing in an amount not to exceed \$3,650,000. The loan will be amortized based on a twenty-year repayment schedule with a balloon payment at the end of five years. This arrangement should allow adequate time for the university to consider other student housing needs and related financing options before pursuing a bond issue.

The purchase of the complex will require a payment of \$3,450,000 to Shannon Inc. At the time the contract was executed, a \$50,000 option was tendered to Shannon Inc., bringing the total purchase price to \$3,500,000. The administration also requests authorization to obtain an additional \$200,000 to finance the building of a parking structure on undeveloped property included as a part of the transaction and located south of the complex along Bruce Street.

Pursuant to the provisions of Board Policy No. 402, "Naming University Facilities," the administration also proposes renaming the complex "Stadium Park."

Following discussion, during which President Hardin and Paul McLendon, Vice President for Financial Services, responded to questions from Board members, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Dr. Stanton with a second by Mr. Roussel:

**"BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES THE ADMINISTRATION TO PURCHASE MANSARD APARTMENTS FROM SHANNON INC. FOR A TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE OF \$3,500,000, INCLUDING A \$50,000 OPTION THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY PAID.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROPERTY AFTER THE PURCHASE IS COMPLETED AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$200,000.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES THE ADMINISTRATION TO OBTAIN FINANCING OF UP TO \$3,650,000 TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE OF THE COMPLEX AND TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROPERTY.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES RENAMING THE COMPLEX 'STADIUM PARK'".**



**Christian Cafeteria Renovation and Expansion** - Christian Cafeteria was constructed in 1969 with a seating capacity of approximately 500. Since then, the facility has had one expansion and several minor renovations. Currently, the cafeteria has seating capacity for approximately 650 guests. In recent years, housing occupancy has increased significantly, which necessitates another renovation and expansion of Christian Cafeteria. For the Fall 2003 semester, the university is housing over 3,200 students in university-owned or -leased facilities.

The proposed renovation and addition to Christian Cafeteria will begin on a limited basis during Spring 2004, with the facility being closed during Summer 2004. The new facility will seat approximately 1,000 and include major improvements in all infrastructure components. A campus-wide committee will be established to assist with coordination of services and summer conferences. Several temporary food-service locations will be needed during Summer 2004.

The improvements to Christian Cafeteria will be primarily funded by ARAMARK Corporation, which will be allowed to amortize their investment over a 15- to 20-year period. If the contract with ARAMARK is not renewed during this period, the new vendor will be required to fund the remaining balance and be allowed to amortize it over the remaining years. The estimated cost to renovate the cafeteria is \$3,500,000 to \$4,200,000. ARAMARK will provide \$ 3,500,000 with the remainder, if necessary, funded through housing and food-service revenues.

Food service rates for 2004-2005 are expected to increase by approximately 10% to cover ARAMARK's investment and the cafeteria's increases in normal operating costs. The proposed rate changes for food service will be presented for consideration at the February 2004 Board meeting.

Following lengthy discussion, during which President Hardin and Paul McLendon responded to questions from Board members, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Roussel with a second by Mr. Sims:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF CHRISTIAN CAFETERIA AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$4,200,000;**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN A MODIFICATION TO THE UNIVERSITY'S FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT WITH ARAMARK CORPORATION TO INCLUDE UP TO \$ 3,500,000 TO BE PAID BY ARAMARK FOR THIS RENOVATION AND EXPANSION. THE REMAINING FUNDS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE PROVIDED THROUGH HOUSING AND FOOD-SERVICE REVENUES, IF NECESSARY.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT ARAMARK CORPORATION WILL BE ALLOWED TO AMORTIZE THEIR INVESTMENT OVER 15 TO 20 YEARS.”**

**HPER Center Addition** - In accordance with Board Policy No. 407, "Capital Projects," the following capital project proposal is submitted to the Board for its consideration.

The university architect has reviewed the feasibility of an addition to the HPER Center that would allow an additional basketball court to be used initially as a group-exercise studio. This area can be used as a basketball court when necessary.

The addition will provide:

1. An estimated 10,000 square feet to the facility;
2. A much needed group-exercise studio area;
3. An area that can be designated as an additional basketball court; and
4. More flexibility for future design and expansion.

Though detailed construction documents have not been completed, the architect estimates that the total cost of this project will be approximately \$650,000. This project will be funded with revenues from HPER Center fees and repaid to the university over a six-year period.

Following discussion, during which Ronnie Williams, Vice President for Student Services, responded to questions from Board members, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Womack with a second by Mr. Erstine:

**"BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES AN ADDITION TO THE HPER CENTER AS IDENTIFIED ABOVE AT A TOTAL COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$650,000 TO BE FUNDED THROUGH HPER CENTER FEES."**

**Fees - Room and Board (Board Policy No. 632) - Apartments Declining Balance** - On May 5, 2003, the Board approved the Room and Board Fee rates for Fall 2003. The apartments declining balance was increased from \$700 to \$800. Since that time, the SGA and other students have complained that the \$800.00 apartments declining balance per semester is excessive. Students in off-campus apartments (though considered UCA housing) do not use the cafeteria, student union vendors and campus C-store as much as on-campus students. However, with the minimum \$800 declining balance, these students must buy unnecessary items to use the balance. Any balance at the end of the Fall semester carries over to the Spring semester; however, if there is a balance at the end of the Spring semester, the money is not refunded. Students have said that they use declining balances to buy meals for friends, and unneeded commodities in the C-store.

The administration recommends adding a \$500 declining balance option for students living in university-owned or -leased apartments beginning with the Spring 2004 semester. Students may increase the declining balance at any time if \$500 is insufficient. The administration recommends retaining the existing \$800 declining balance as an option. Based on the commission rate of 12%

paid to the university, the maximum projected cost for this change is \$20,000 per semester assuming half of the 1,100 off-campus students utilize the \$500 declining balance option.

Following discussion, during which Barbara Anderson, Vice President and Executive Assistant to the President, responded to questions from Board members, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mrs. Bassett with a second by Mr. Roussel:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES AN AMENDMENT TO BOARD POLICY NO. 632, ‘FEES - ROOM AND BOARD,’ TO ESTABLISH A \$500.00 APARTMENTS DECLINING BALANCE OPTION.”**

**University Council** - On May 9, 1997, the Board of Trustees established the University Council on a trial basis of one year. The first year was deemed successful and the Council was established as a permanent entity on May 8, 1998, by action of this Board. The main purpose of the Council was to provide a forum for discussion of issues that affect the entire campus.

Since that time, University Council has achieved some measure of success. However, its function and duties are duplicative of the function and duties of the Student Government Association, the Faculty Senate, the Staff Senate, the Council of Deans and other administrative entities. Increasingly, it has been difficult to develop meaningful agendas for University Council.

Based on these factors, the University Council recently debated its continued value to the university and, by a nearly unanimous vote, recommended that the Council be abolished.

The presidents of the Student Government Association, the Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate agreed to continue cooperative efforts to address issues affecting multiple segments of the campus community and to work closely with the administration to resolve any issues of concern.

President Hardin stated that the SGA and Faculty and Staff Senates are very capable and efficient organizations and expressed his appreciation to University Council for recognizing the need to abolish the Council.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Dr. Stanton:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AND THE PRESIDENT TO ABOLISH THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.”**

**Fees - Health, Physical Education, Recreation (HPER) Center and Farris Center Pool (Board Policy No. 647 - HPER Center Fees** - Based on changes made in May 2003 to Board Policy No. 630, "Fees – General Registration and Others," minor changes are needed in Board Policy No. 647, "Fees – Health, Physical Education, Recreation (HPER) Center and Farris Center Pool," to make the overall fee structure consistent.

Beginning with the Fall 2003 semester, students are charged HPER fees based on a credit-hour basis, which caps at 13 hours. With the HPER fee set at \$4.00 per credit hour, full-time students pay \$52.00 per semester. Board Policy No. 647 currently provides that a spouse pays \$48.00 per semester. It is therefore, recommended that Board Policy No. 647 be amended to increase the Spouse fee to \$52.00 per semester. Similarly, the fees for Family and Single-Parent Family should be increased to \$78.00 and \$26.00 respectively.

Board Policy No. 647 does not provide for a summer HPER/Farris membership for spouses of students and employees. Currently, a student who attends UCA in a Spring semester and desires to use the HPER Center for the summer must pay a fee of \$36.00. It is, therefore, recommended that Board Policy No. 647 be amended to add a Spouse fee of \$36.00 for the summer for spouses of students and employees. Similarly, the fees for Family and Single-Parent Family should be modified to add options of \$54.00 and \$18.00 respectively for the summer months.

Finally, the administration recommends that Board Policy No. 647 be amended to change the HPER locker rental fee for employees from \$5.00 per semester to \$10.00 per year.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Mr. Roussel with a second by Mrs. Bassett:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO BOARD POLICY NO. 647, ‘FEES – HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION (HPER) CENTER AND FARRIS CENTER POOL.’”**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS  
BOARD POLICY

Policy Number: 647

Subject: Fee - Health, Physical Education, Recreation (HPER) Center  
and Farris Center Pool

Page 1 of 2

Date Adopted: 8/01

Revised: 5/03

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Membership Period: Fall membership - Fall academic term  
Spring membership - Spring academic term  
Summer terms - end of spring term to beginning of fall term

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HPER Center and Farris Center Pool Fee Structure:                      Per Semester

Student:

Student only* (fall and spring)	Board Policy #630
Student (summer terms) **	\$ 4.00 per credit hour/maximum of 3 credit hours per term
Spouse (fall and spring)	<del>\$ 48.00</del> 52.00
<u>Spouse (summer terms)</u>	<u>\$ 36.00</u>
Family*** (fall and spring)	<del>\$ 72.00</del> 78.00
<u>Family (summer terms)</u>	<u>\$ 54.00</u>
Single-Parent Family**** (fall and spring)	<del>\$ 24.00</del> 26.00
<u>Single-Parent Family (summer terms)</u>	<u>\$ 18.00</u>

\*Board Policy #630 provides a \$4.00 per credit hour fee for students, and sets the maximum hours charged each semester.

\*\*Students attending UCA in the spring semester, but not attending summer school, will be assessed a one-time summer HPER fee of \$36.00 (\$36.00 per spouse) to access HPER Center for May, June, July, and August (until fall classes begin).

\*\*\*For a student's family, the fee is calculated as follows: \$48.00 (spouse) and \$24.00 (children), for a total of \$72.00, in addition to the fee assessed for a student pursuant to Board Policy #630.

\*\*\*\*For a single-parent family, the fee is calculated as follows: \$24.00 (children), in addition to the fee assessed for a student pursuant to Board Policy #630.

Faculty and Staff:

Employee/Retiree only*	Fringe benefit paid
Spouse(fall and spring)	<del>\$48.00</del> 52.00
Spouse (summer terms)	\$36.00
Family(fall and spring)	<del>\$72.00</del> 78.00
Family (summer terms)	\$54.00
Single-Parent Family (fall and spring)	<del>\$24.00</del> 26.00
Single-Parent Family (summer terms)	\$18.00
HPER locker rental	\$ <del>5.00</del> 10.00 (annual per locker)

\*For purposes of this policy, employees enrolled in courses offered by the university will be assessed the fee as per Board Policy #623 and #630.

University Affiliates:

College Square - The fees for residents of College Square shall be the same as those assessed for current full-time students.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session, for the purpose of considering and discussing personnel matters, was unanimously declared upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Dr. Stanton.

## **OPEN SESSION**

Open session was declared by Mr. Harding.

**Salary Increases for Faculty and Non-Classified Staff** - On July 1, 2003, classified staff members received across-the-board raises of 2.7 % as approved by the Arkansas General Assembly and by this Board when the budget was approved for this fiscal year. No raises were approved for faculty or non-classified employees, primarily due to budget uncertainties that existed at the time.

The administration has been advised that tax revenues collected by the State of Arkansas will be sufficient to support a 100% distribution of Category B of the Revenue Stabilization Act for fiscal year 2003-2004. With the receipt of the Category B funds and tuition revenues, there will be sufficient funds within the university's budget to permit a 3% raise for faculty and non-classified staff members effective with the October payroll. The administration seeks authorization from the Board to award raises of 3% of the base salaries for all continuing faculty and non-classified employees who were employed by the university on June 30, 2003.

**Dr. Stanton made the following motions:**

- 1. That the 3% salary increase for faculty and non-classified staff as recommended above be approved;**
- 2. That the personnel list shown below be approved; and**
- 3. That President Hardin's salary be increased to \$195,700 per year. Dr. Stanton stated that the Board will make a recommendation to the UCA Foundation Board regarding a supplement to that salary.**

**Dr. Stanton's motions were seconded by Mr. Sims and passes unanimously.**

Following is the resolution regarding personnel matters and the personnel list mentioned above:

**“BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, ADJUSTMENTS/APPOINTMENTS FROM GRANT FUNDS, AND RESIGNATIONS AND/OR NON-REAPPOINTMENTS, PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES OF A CLERICAL NATURE.”**

**ADJUSTMENTS:**

Barbara Biljan, Library, Library Laboratory Instructor, change from half-time to eighty percent time, change salary, effective September 5, 2003.

Terry James, change from Associate Provost/Title 3 to Graduate School/Title 3, change title from Interim Director Academic Planning and Assessment/Director of Special Programs to Interim Associate Dean/Director of Special Programs, effective July 1, 2003, no salary change.

Carl Olds, University College, Instructor, change salary, effective August 16, 2003 for one academic year, non-tenure track.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Jennifer Deering, Writing and Speech, Instructor, effective August 18, 2003, non-tenure track.

Janece Glauser, Writing and Speech, Instructor, effective August 18, 2003, non-tenure track.

Julia Hendrickson, Accounting, Instructor, effective September 1, 2003, non-tenure track.

Austin Lovenstein, University College, Instructor, effective August 16, 2003, non-tenure track.

Shawn Smith, Writing and Speech, Instructor, effective August 18, 2003, non-tenure track.

**RESIGNATIONS AND/OR NON-REAPPOINTMENTS:**

Chi-Kan Chen, Mathematics May 31, 2003

John Roy, Computer Services September 30, 2003

**ADDENDUM:**

**ADJUSTMENTS:**

Larry Lawrence, Physical Plant, change title from Assistant Director to Interim Director, change salary, effective September 1, 2003.

Cassandra McCuien-Smith, Purchasing, Director, change salary, effective October 1, 2003.

**ADJUSTMENTS /APPOINTMENTS FROM GRANT FUNDS:**

Michael Scoles, Psychology, Assistant Professor, adjust salary for ADE grant, effective September 1, 2003.



Mr. Harding congratulated President Hardin on his successful first year as President. Mr. Harding also expressed his appreciation to the Student Government Association and Faculty and Staff Senates.

**Mrs. Bassett moved to allocate \$15,000 from the Board of Trustees Endowment Fund to the Student Government Association for furniture and equipment for the Registered Student Organization Resource Center. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sims and passed unanimously.**

**Election of Officers** - Mr. Sims expressed his appreciation to Rush Harding for an excellent job as Chair of the Board, especially during the period of transition. **Mr. Sims then nominated Mr. Kelley Erstine as Chair of the Board, Mr. Scott Roussel as Vice Chair, and Dr. Michael Stanton as Secretary for 2003-04. The nominations were seconded by Mr. Harding and passed unanimously.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Harding.

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Mr. Rush Harding, Chair

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Mr. Scott Roussel, Secretary

JULIA ROBISON, PRESIDENT  
STAFF SENATE

**Board Meeting Address  
October 3, 2003**

**Introduction**

**Special Thanks**

Hyper Fee, Tuition Fee Waiver & salary increases

**Staff Concerns**

Increased enrollment/staffing

Traffic on campus

Inclement Weather Policy

**Brief update on Senate Activities**

Reception for new employees

Campaign to get staff involved with Senate

-Recruiting volunteers

-Sponsored Health Day

-More staff development

**Closing**

Carl Frederickson

President of the Faculty Senate

Remarks to the UCA Board of Trustees

October 3, 2003

A little over one year ago, a new president brought an optimistic atmosphere to the campus of the University of Central Arkansas. The faculty have watched the transition to the new administration with enthusiasm and interest. One of the first tests of the President Hardin's administration was the decision on the procedure to be used in choosing the current Provost. Faculty were reassured with President Hardin's decision (after consultation with the faculty senate) to proceed with a national search for the position. This is one of the first examples of the respect given to the faculty by the present administration. During this leadership transition, the university was dealing with budget cuts coming from the state government. Money for instructional equipment, raises, and faculty development were severely limited due to these cuts. None the less, faculty as a whole were more optimistic than they had been in years.

We have now gone through one full calendar year with Lu Hardin at the helm. In that year; the AAUP sanction has been lifted, the university has seen a significant increase in enrollment, faculty will receive an across the board raise this month, and equity issues are *beginning* to be addressed. The University is moving forward.

What do we need to do to continue to move forward? Issues are beginning to surface with regard to the increased enrollment. Faculty teaching loads have been increased, at least temporarily, to accommodate the increased number of students. New faculty lines will be required to relieve this pressure on faculty. Discussion of the appropriate mix of tenure and non-tenure faculty lines will be needed to assure the health of the academic environment as enrollment increases.

Increased graduate enrollment is also a goal of the administration. This entails new considerations for the distribution of faculty efforts. A graduate program requires lower student-instructor ratios than undergraduate programs. Teaching loads will need to reflect the increased research efforts required to support graduate students. While graduate assistants can be used to mediate faculty teaching loads, we must be careful to maintain the quality of faculty involvement in undergraduate instruction that has historically been one of UCA's biggest advantages over more research intensive institutions. We must be very careful to avoid creating a two tier faculty with one tier relegated to undergraduate instruction and the second tier focused on graduate instruction.

Increased enrollment has increased the pressure on limited instructional resources. Our graduates must compete in a marketplace that places increasing importance on the use of technology for efficiency. UCA must reflect this in the instruction that we offer. An increasing number of faculty are committed to the use of technology for the presentation of material and the receipt of student work. This is exemplified in the Technology Faculty Associates program. To qualify for this program, faculty must agree to: attend two workshops during the summer, increase their own use of technology in the classroom, and most importantly, become a resource for other faculty interested in using more technology in the classroom. The benefits for faculty of participation in this

program are the receipt of a laptop computer for use in their courses and training in the technology currently available on campus. There are two advantages to the increased use of technology in instruction. First, our students are better equipped to compete in the marketplace when they are comfortable with current technology. When faculty increase their own use of technology, they require students to use the technology as well. Second, the flow of information is more efficient. For example, information that is posted on a website is available to students 24 hours a day seven days a week.

To continue the current path of growth, UCA needs to be ahead of the curve in the use of technology. The university has not historically had a plan for periodic upgrades of instructional technology. This is not simply a computer replacement program. Laboratory equipment in the sciences must be kept current. Studio equipment in the fine arts must be up-to-date. Instructional technology in the College of Education must be the most current. Library offerings must be increased through the inclusion of more on-line offerings for all disciplines. Along with a commitment to technological equipment upgrade there must be a commitment to faculty development in order to make the most efficient use of the technology. All of this requires a continuous source of funding. Some of these items will periodically require large outlays for capital equipment. State funding of these capital outlays can not be assumed. The university must develop steady funding sources that can be used to upgrade programs on a regular basis to keep them current.

Finally I come to an important issue concerning faculty directly. All of the issues discussed above are unimportant without a quality faculty in place. UCA has the best faculty around and we want to keep it that way. Current market trends are creating a serious problem with salary compression. This is especially true in the middle rank of associate professor. New, tenure track, assistant professors are being hired at salaries (driven by market forces) that are just below if not above those of tenured associate professors. As I have mentioned earlier, the administration recognizes and has begun to address this issue. However, equity funds are limited. The increased enrollment has helped to provide funds for equity adjustments this year. The faculty and administration need to work hard during this next year to identify solutions to this growing problem.

In closing, I would like to say that I am excited. The Faculty Senate will work closely with the administration toward solutions to these and other problems throughout this year. There is a new atmosphere of cooperation and shared governance on campus. I anticipate a great year for the faculty, the students, and the staff. I anticipate a great year for UCA.

Student Government Association  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
October 3, 2003

SGA worked diligently to put students first during the summer, SGA held a Summertime Sizzle for summer school housing residents, in which Pres. and Mrs. Hardin, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Gillean, and other university faculty and staff barbecued at the event.

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, SGA sponsored the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Friday Night Hype. This event gives students a reason to stay on campus during the weekend. We also handed out back the bears t-shirts at this event to promote school spirit.

Also, SGA has focus on technology. Recently, we opened the SGA computer lab in the student Center to address the need for more computer access on campus. We also, held our first online elections, which we are considering a success.

The last thing I would like to inform you about is that last weekend, Pres. Hardin, Mr. Williams, Senator Gilbert Baker, and Mrs. Amy H. Amy, a professor in the writing and speech department spoke to senate at our annual retreat. We learned about ethics, parliamentary procedure, and government legislature. Most importantly, we set our top ten goals of the school year.

Those goals include: **Establishing a Registered Student Organization Resource Center**, which involves an office space with a copier, computers, and filing space for registered student organizations to use, **Expanding Health Services, Purchasing and Placing Spirit Signs/Flags Around Campus or on Light Poles, Increasing Governmental Relations between Students and Legislators, Evaluating Emergency Procedures Through a Campus Wide Disability Assessment, a 24-Hour Accessible Study Area, Increasing Voting Participation in SGA Elections, Campus Beautification**, which includes purchasing more recycling bins, and trashcans, and making students more aware of littering issues on campus, and **SGA Visibility, and Publicizing SGA** through press releases, brochures, newsletters, and advertisement of our website, and increasing campus involvement on the weekends.

SGA held our first senate meeting last Monday, and one of the items that SGA discussed is the university council decision on a smoke free campus. SGA voted not to support this proposal, but is doing further research and surveys regarding the students' views.

SGA is looking forward to a great year and is dedicated to continuing to look for ways to improve UCA. In closing, I would like to encourage all of you to visit our website at <http://www.uca.edu/sga> to find current information on SGA.

Ortavius Wright  
2003-2004 SGA President