

The Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas convened in regular meeting at 2:00 p.m. Friday, October 6, 2006, in the Board of Trustees Conference Room in Wingo Hall with the following officers and members present:

Chair: Mrs. Patricia Bassett
Vice Chair: Mrs. Kay Hinkle
Secretary: Mr. Randy Sims
Dr. Conrad Garner
Mr. Scott Roussel
Dr. Mike Stanton

and with the following absent:

Mr. Rush Harding

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

MINUTES

Minutes of the August 4, 2006, Board meeting were unanimously approved as circulated upon motion by Mr. Sims with a second by Dr. Stanton.

INTRODUCTIONS

President Hardin introduced the following individuals:

- Nancy Gallavan, Associate Dean of the College of Education;
- Tom Courtway, General Counsel and Director of Governmental Relations;
- Jeff and Patsy Farris, who are featured in the first issue of the *UCA Magazine*.

President Hardin also recognized several UALR doctoral students, who were on assignment studying governance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Hardin reported on the following items:

- Enrollment is 12,300, which includes approximately 500 concurrently-enrolled students (high school students taking UCA courses on their campuses). President Hardin stated that he will be working with the Faculty Senate in strengthening and defining concurrent enrollment guidelines. President Hardin also stated that UCA's concurrent enrollment will be focused on Faulkner County students.

President Hardin informed the Board that he will also be working with the Faculty Senate to strengthen UCA's admission guidelines for first-time entering freshmen for fall 2007 to maintain academic integrity.

- UCA's move to Division I football has been more successful than expected with a 4-1 record and a poll ranking of 25th. President Hardin announced that the NCAA ruled that beginning in 2007 teams that play UCA (and other schools in transition to a different division) will not be penalized when being considered for a bowl game.
- UCA's Master Plan will be discussed in an upcoming Board retreat. Copies of the plan were given to Board members to prepare for the retreat.
- Higher Education Bond Issue Campaign, which is being chaired by President Hardin and Dr. Alan Sugg, President of the University of Arkansas System, is going well and polls are positive at this point. President Hardin requested that Board members visit with family and friends about this critical issue. Campaign ads, which are being televised at the present time, were shown along with President Hardin's interview with Channel 4.

President Hardin also discussed the importance of a successful legislative session for higher education. With a successful bond issue campaign and a successful legislative session, UCA will be in sound financial shape.

- The UCA Magazine was unveiled by Kelley Erstine, Vice President for Development and Institutional Advancement. The new publication, which replaces the *UCA Alumni Contact*, is published quarterly and distributed to 36,000 individuals nationwide. Copies of the *UCA Magazine* will be placed in all UCA mailboxes and distributed to central-Arkansas businesses. Mr. Erstine briefly discussed articles included in the first issue and recognized individuals who are featured, including Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Farris. Mr. Erstine also recognized employees who are responsible for the publication. The next issue of *UCA Magazine*, which is due in December, will feature a UCA alumnus, who has taught in the Arkansas public school system for 50 years.
- Paul McLendon gave brief reports on UCA's athletic camps, which is shown on the following pages, and UCA's Financial Report for 2005-06.

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Athletic Camps - In 2001 the Board of Trustees authorized the UCA coaching staff to host camps for private compensation. The following camps were held in the summer of 2006. As required by state statute, the camps have provided a financial report to the Vice President for Financial Services. The camp revenues and expenses based on that report are summarized below.

	<u>Football</u>	<u>Women's Basketball</u>	<u>Women's Soccer</u>	<u>Men's Soccer</u>
Revenues:				
Camp Revenues	\$ 25,347	\$14,490	\$ 39,320	\$ 35,855
Donations	<u>-0-</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 25,347</u>	<u>\$16,290</u>	<u>\$ 39,320</u>	<u>\$ 35,855</u>
Expenses:				
UCA Facility Charge	\$ 840	\$ 160	\$ 212	\$ 272
Supplies/Services	\$ 4,997	\$10,740	\$ 15,824	\$ 24,331
Insurance	\$ 800	319	450	600
Contract Labor	\$ 18,005	\$ 4,880	\$ 10,695	\$ 10,600
Head Coach	500	-0-	\$ 12,139	-0-
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 25,142</u>	<u>\$ 16,099</u>	<u>\$ 39,320</u>	<u>\$ 35,803</u>
Net Profit	<u>\$ 205</u>	<u>\$ 191</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ 52</u>
Number of Campers	560	107	123	181

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

Copies of statements by Patricia Smith, President of the Staff Senate; Francie Bolter, President of the Faculty Senate; and Max Carranza, President of the Student Government Association, are attached to these minutes.

ACTION AGENDA

New Minor Program: Addiction Studies - Treatment - The College of Health and Behavioral Sciences and its Department of Health Sciences propose a minor program in Addiction Studies, with an emphasis on treatment. The proposed minor will be appropriate for any student majoring in a health, behavioral science, or social science field. Students minoring in Addiction Studies–Treatment will be qualified for entry-level addiction treatment positions in residential treatment facilities, the criminal justice system, drug courts, and outpatient substance abuse treatment facilities in addition to positions in other fields that involve potential contact with a chemically dependent clientele.

Building on courses in the existing BS degree program in Addiction Studies, the minor will require no additional course development and no new resources.

All appropriate university councils and administrators have recommended approval of the minor in Addiction Studies–Treatment.

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 hereby approves the minor in Addiction Studies–Treatment.”

New Program Emphasis: Bachelor of Music in Composition - The College of Fine Arts and Communication and its Department of Music propose a new emphasis in Composition for the Bachelor of Music degree. Student interest in such an option has steadily increased in the Department of Music over the past several years. A new course in Composition established in fall 2005 to offer talented students instruction in Composition has attracted significant interest. A UCA Student Composers Forum on 27 March 2006 was the first of what will be regular concerts of student works. This year, more than a dozen students have formed a student chapter of the Society of Composers, Inc., a national support and advocacy group for composers. The current proposal is the natural outgrowth of this interest.

The Department of Music’s mission states, “the human spirit is enlightened and elevated through the creation, presentation and transmission of our common musical culture.” These three stages affirm the importance of the composer’s role as well as the performer’s and listener’s in the

music world. To be comprehensive and to fulfill its mission, the Department of Music needs to offer an emphasis in Composition within its existing Bachelor of Music program.

The program emphasis requires the development of only two new courses and will use existing faculty and facilities.

All appropriate university councils and administrators have recommended approval of the Composition emphasis in the Bachelor of Music degree.

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

“BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Composition emphasis in the Bachelor of Music degree.”

Hardship Withdrawals from 403(b) Retirement Plan - While the University previously established a loan provision providing greater flexibility for employees in accessing their accumulations in the Alternate Retirement Plan with TIAA-CREF, it does not have a “hardship” provision in its plan. The proposal would allow employees access to their 403(b) accumulations when there is an immediate and heavy financial need and other resources are not reasonably available to meet the need.

The loan provision has a limit of the lesser of forty-five (45%) percent or \$50,000 of the employee’s accumulations. The absence of such a hardship provision for use when the loan provision is inadequate has been reviewed. The current environment would suggest that the university should keep pace with the changing tax sheltered annuity programs and amend its current plan by adding a hardship provision to allow for withdrawals of accumulations. The new language is underlined in the last paragraph of the resolution.

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

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the President is authorized to revise the university’s defined contribution retirement plan as follows:

REPLACE

6.2 Cash withdrawals. Participants who have terminated service or retired after attaining age 55 may receive a cash withdrawal of 50% of his or her accumulation account(s) as permitted by the relevant funding vehicle. Participants who have attained age 59-1/2 may receive a cash withdrawal of 100% of their accumulation account(s) as permitted by the relevant funding vehicle, upon termination of service or retirement.

Cash withdrawals may not be received while the participant is employed by the institution except for those who enter the university's retirement program and continue to work in a part time capacity.

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Cash withdrawals may not be received while the participant is employed by the institution except for:

(A) Those participants who enter the university's retirement program and continue to work in a part-time capacity; or

(B) Hardship withdrawals in accordance with applicable tax regulations.

Growth Pool Positions - Within the provisions of Act 2172 of 2005, the university has the ability to request additional classified positions through the Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Personnel Management (DFA-OPM). Since 2002-03, the university has experienced an increase in enrollment of over 4,000 students; approximately half of those are residential students. This growth in student population has necessitated additional positions in those offices providing direct services to students, such as Housing, UCA Police, Financial Aid, Student Accounts and the Library. The following additional needs have been identified.

The university requests the following positions from the classified growth pool:

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Positions Grade</u>	<u>Requested</u>
HE Public Safety Commander III	24	2
Systems Programmer II	22	1
UCA Assistant Director of Physical Plant	22	1
Accountant	18	4
Skilled Trades Worker	17	1
Accounting Tech II	15	2
Administrative Assistant I	15	1

Administrative Secretary	14	2
HE Public Safety Security Officer II	14	4
HE Public Safety Security Officer I	12	4
TOTAL NUMBER OF POSITIONS		22

In the event that DFA-OPM denies the request for these additional classified positions through the growth pool process of Act 2172, the university requests approval to establish these positions through the provisional position request process.

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 the administration to proceed with a request to the state Department of Finance and Administration for growth pool positions within the provisions of Act 2172. In the event that the request is denied, the Board of Trustees authorizes the administration to proceed with a request to the state Department of Finance and Administration for allocation of these positions as provisional.”

Health Insurance - Based upon the renewal proposal of a 4.5% increase received from United HealthCare (UHC), it is recommended that the health insurance contract be renewed with UHC for 2007. There have been no problems experienced with the administration of the insurance. UHC has an excellent record of assisting with processes to expedite handling of health care and claims. The University Fringe Benefits Committee met and recommended accepting renewal increase to stay with UHC. This increase will be covered on the same cost-sharing basis as current premiums. The university pays 85 % of employee-only, 60 % of employee + one and 55 % of family coverage.

Following discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Dr. Stanton with a second by Mr. Roussel:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the administration is authorized to establish a contract with United Healthcare for health insurance coverage for the period of January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007.”

Long-term Disability Insurance, Life Insurance and Dental Insurance were discussed and voted on simultaneously.

Long-Term Disability Insurance

The university provides long-term disability (LTD) insurance for employees at no cost to the employees. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was done in August for the LTD coverage. Four proposals were received and Metropolitan Life (MetLife) was the lowest price. The university has used MetLife for the last six years and has had no problems with their service. The proposal submitted by MetLife guaranteed a rate for two years, 2007 and 2008. The University Fringe Benefits Committee also recommended accepting the proposal from MetLife.

Life Insurance

The university provides life and accidental death insurance for employees and eligible retirees at one times their annual salary and provides both employees and eligible retirees the opportunity to purchase additional life insurance based on their salaries. The coverage is somewhat unique in that life insurance coverage is available to eligible retirees. As the cost of retiree life insurance progressively increased, in 1999 the University established closed-class groups to “grandfather” coverage for then-current retirees and long-term employees and to reduce future retiree life insurance liability. Life insurance is not available to retirees who were hired after January 1, 1999.

The RFP included life insurance and four proposals were received. MetLife responded with the lowest price. Price is not the determining factor in the proposal award. Given the excellent history that MetLife has had with the university, they received the only score of 100 in the evaluation. This rate, like the LTD rate, is guaranteed for 2007 and 2008. The University Fringe Benefits Committee also recommended accepting the proposal from MetLife.

Dental Insurance

The RFP also included a request for dental coverage. Four proposals were received. Delta Dental was the only provider with a score of 100 and was recommended by the Fringe Benefits Committee as the dental insurance provider for 2007. This is a change from the current provider, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. The proposal price and a superior provider network made the difference in the scores. Three years ago, Delta Dental was the insurance provider and had an excellent record of service.

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

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the administration is authorized to establish group life/accidental death and long-term disability insurance contracts with

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2008, a two-year term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the administration is authorized to establish a dental agreement with Delta Dental for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007."

Schedule of Board Meetings - The administration recommends establishing quarterly meetings for the Board starting with the 2007 calendar year. Board Policy No. 200, "Organization and Duties of the Board," states that the Board shall meet quarterly unless otherwise specified.

In 1994, the Board adopted a resolution requiring the Board to meet at least six times per year. The agendas being presented to the Board at that time were quite lengthy and it was difficult to complete the Board's business within the time allotted for the meetings.

However, recently the agendas have been more reasonable in length and the administration believes it would make sense to return to a quarterly meeting schedule.

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

"BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees hereby approves a quarterly meeting schedule with meetings to be held in the months of February, May, July and November."

The following dates were proposed for 2007:

Friday, February 9;
Friday, May 4;
Friday, July 27; and
Friday, November 2.

Board members were asked to check their schedules for conflicts.

Higher Education Bond Issue - President Hardin stated that the Boards of Trustees at all Arkansas four-year universities are passing resolutions supporting the higher education bond issue; therefore, the following resolution was unanimously adopted upon motion by Dr. Stanton with a second by Mr. Sims:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Arkansas General Assembly in its regular biennial session in 2005 provided for the issuance of \$250 million of general obligation bonds to benefit higher education, subject to a vote of the people of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Arkansas, pursuant to the Arkansas Higher Education Technology and Facility Improvement Act of 2005, has authorized the issuance of bonds, known as “State of Arkansas Higher Education General Obligation Bonds,” to be placed on the November 7, 2006, General Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the higher education bond proposal will provide \$150 million for desperately needed funding for technology improvement projects, construction of new academic facilities and renovation of existing academic facilities; and

WHEREAS, the higher education bond issue will provide funding for the public universities in Arkansas to connect to the national e-Corridor thus greatly enhancing the research potential of the state’s universities; and

WHEREAS, the higher education bond proposal will require no new taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS THAT the Board commends the Arkansas General Assembly and the Governor of Arkansas for their efforts to find ways to address major state needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas recommends to the people of Arkansas that issuance of State of Arkansas Higher Education General Obligation Bonds be approved at the polls on November 7, 2006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board encourages and supports efforts of faculty, students, alumni, administrators and employees of the University of Central Arkansas to educate themselves and inform others of the impact of this bond issue upon the University of Central Arkansas, higher education in the State of Arkansas and the people and economy of the State of Arkansas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

OPEN SESSION

Open session was declared by the Chair.

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

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees approves the following personnel list, provided however, that the administration is authorized to make corrections and changes of a clerical nature.”

**Personnel Board List
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 2006**

Employee Name	Department	Title	New Title	Effective Date	Action
Annual Appointments					
Rifat Akhter	Sociology		Assistant Professor	8/16/2006	Appointment
Eric Baker	Political Science		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/1/2006	Emergency Hire
Charles Bane	English		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/21/2006	Emergency Hire appointment
Clifford Beacham	Sociology		Instructor	8/15/2006	Extention of one year appointment
Lance Bridges	Chemistry		Assistant Professor	8/15/2006	Appointment
Bi-ling Chen	English		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/21/2006	Emergency Hire
Dwayne Coleman	English		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/21/2006	Appointment
Tom Courtway	President's Office		General Counsel/Director Governmental Relations	8/28/2006	Appointment
Larry Dilday	Writing and Speech		Instructor	8/15/2006	Appointment
Jessica Dulac	Health Sciences		Part-time Instructor	8/14/2006	Emergency Hire
Joe Dull	Mass Communication & Theatre		Assistant Instructor	8/15/2006	Tenure track
Samantha Fay	Math		Instructor	8/15/2006	Appointment
Celeste Flowers	Intensive English		Instructor	8/24/2006	Appointment
Christine Franklin	Music		Instructor, Accompanist	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Leslie Gomes	Math		Instructor	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Christhia Guzman	College of Business Administration		Research Assistant	9/11/2006	Emergency Hire
Nancy Hicks	Psychology and Counseling		Instructor	8/16/2006	Emergency Hire
Leah Horton	Biology		Instructor	8/1/2006	Emergency Hire
Lev Igochnikov	Computer Science		Instructor	8/21/2006	Emergency Hire
Noxomi Irei	English		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/21/2006	Emergency Hire
Kelly Johnson	Music		Associate Professor	8/15/2006	Tenure track
Artelia Jones	Candidate & Field Services		Student teacher supervisor	8/23/2006	Appointment
David Keith	Mass Communication & Theatre		Visiting Lecturer	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Christopher Leigh	Mass Communication & Theatre		Visiting Lecturer	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Tom Marhenke	Mass Communication & Theatre		Visiting Lecturer	8/11/2006	Emergency Hire
Michael Martin	Biology		Lecturer II	8/15/2006	Appointment
Lisa Mommsen	Intensive English		Instructor	8/24/2006	One year
Dominic Moreno	Kinesiology/Physical Ed		Clinical Instructor	8/14/2006	Appointment
Michael Nooner	Computer Science		Part-time Instructor	8/21/2006	Emergency Hire
John O'Keefe Jr	Athletics/Women's Golf		Assistant Golf Coach	8/1/2006	Appointment
Aleksandra Opala	World Languages		German Instructor	8/16/2006	Appointment
Tami Phillips	Writing and Speech		Instructor	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
William Polk	Political Science		Adjunct Instructor	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Malisa Quesenberry	Art		Part-time Instructor	8/15/2006	Appointment
Devin Rensing	Athletics/Men's Soccer		Assistant Coach	8/7/2006	Appointment
Evgenia Rubinshtein	Math		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/15/2006	Appointment
Brent Ruswick	History		Visiting Assistant Professor	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire
Terrie Shires	Music		Instructor, Accompanist	8/15/2006	Emergency Hire

**Personnel Board List
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 2006**

Employee Name	Department	Title	New Title	Effective Date	Action
Lea Anne Smith	Management Information Systems		Instructor	8/21/2006	Appointment
Steven Smyth	Music		Lecturer I/Athletic Band Director	8/16/2006	Appointment
Ben Stone	Kinesiology/Physical Ed		Instructor	8/14/2006	Emergency Hire
Roger Wainwright	Biology		Lecturer	8/15/2006	Appointment
John Walls	Mass Communication & Theatre		Sports Producer	8/2/2006	Appointment
Adjustments					
Richard Bailey	College Square	Food Service Director	Food Service Director	8/1/2006	Change salary
Samual Buchanan	Math	Professor/Senior Assoc Provost	Professor	8/16/2006	Return to 9-month faculty
Jeremy Carson	Undergraduate Studies	Assistant Coach	Academic Advisor	8/14/2006	Change department and salary
Rand Chappell	Athletics Men's Basketball	Head Coach	Head Coach	7/1/2006	Change salary
Kim Collister	Financial Aid	Aid Officer I	Project Coordinator	8/1/2006	Change title and salary
Chad Flanders	Athletics Men's Soccer	Head Coach	Head Coach	7/1/2006	Change salary
Lindsay Grifford	Student Center	Project Coord/Coord of New Student Programs	Director of New Student Programs		Change title
Debra Harrington	College Square	Proj/Prog Admin/Business Dir	Proj/Prog Admin/Business Dir	8/1/2006	Change salary
Jeffrey Todd Hay	Athletics	Asst. Coach/KPED	Asst. Coach/KPED	7/1/2006	Change Dept/Duties
Joseph Howard	Political Science	Assistant Professor	Assistant Professor	8/1/2006	Change salary
Tommy Jackson	President's Office	V.P. for Communications	V.P. for Communications	7/1/2006	Change salary
Steven McRoberts	Athletics	Head Coach - Volleyball	Head Coach - Volleyball	7/1/2006	Change salary
Linda Narisi	Kinesiology/Physical Ed	Instructor	Instructor	8/14/2006	Emergency Hire/change to full time
Ron Novy	Philosophy & Religion	Academic Advisor/ PT Instructor	Academic Advisor/ PT Instructor	8/15/2006	Change salary
Gary Powell	Writing and Speech	Visiting Assistant Professor	Visiting Assistant Professor	8/15/2006	Change salary
Kathy Rice-Clayborn	Career Services	Director	Director	8/1/2006	Change salary
Julia Robison	Financial Aid	Project Coordinator	Project Coordinator	8/1/2006	Change salary
Checola Seals	Athletics	Head Coach-Women's Basketball	Head Coach-Women's Basketball	7/1/2006	Change salary
Natalie Shock	Athletics	Assistant Compliance Coordinator	Assistant Compliance Coordinator	7/1/2006	Change salary
Christy Standerfer	Writing and Speech	Assistant Professor	Assistant Professor	8/1/2006	Correct merit & cost of living
Terry Starnes	Physical Plant	Assistant Director	Assistant Director	9/1/2006	Change salary
Grant Adjustments					
Linda Griffith	Math	Professor	Professor	8/1/2006	Change salary grant funds
Retirement					
Sondra Burns	Financial Services - Purchasing	Secretary II		8/4/2006	Retirement
Kenneth Freiley	Biology	Associate Professor		7/7/2006	Retirement
Phased Retirement					
Donald Whistler	Political Science	Professor	Professor	8/1/2006	Phased retirement

**Personnel Board List
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 2006**

Employee Name	Department	Title	New Title	Effective Date	Action
Samual Buchanan	Mathematics	Professor	Professor	8/15/2006	Phased retirement
Bonnie Melchior	English	Professor	Professor	8/15/2007	Phased retirement
Resignations and/or Non-Reappointment					
Sean Flaherty	Admissions	Assistant Director of Admissions		8/11/2006	Resignation
Nona French	EFIRM	Visiting Assistant Professor		5/12/2006	Non reappointment
Jill Murders	Athletics-Women's Basketball	Assistant Coach		7/31/2006	Resignation
Bradley Roberts	AR Center Math/Science	Mathematics Specialist		8/11/2006	Resignation
Linda VanBlaricom	Psychology and Counseling	Instructor		5/15/2006	One year
Fu Zhang	Math	Visiting Assistant Professor		8/15/2006	Resignation

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned upon motion by Dr. Stanton with a second by Mr. Roussel.

Mrs. Patricia Bassett, Chair

Mr. Randy Sims, Secretary

Patricia Smith, President
Staff Senate
Address to the Board of Trustees
October 6, 2006

Madam Chair, Members of the Board, President Hardin, and Members of the President's Staff; on the behalf of the Staff Senate I would like to thank you for the opportunity to address you this afternoon. This year, as in years past, we have a very eager and excited group of senators ready to serve their constituents. They have brought forth to the senate and to university committees the concerns expressed to them by their fellow-staff members and I applaud them for their efforts. They have been willing to put aside their own personal agendas and have committed to acting in the best interest of the staff as a whole. The Senate is pursuing several goals this year. These include hosting several events in honor of the UCA staff. These events include our traditional Holiday Feast in December and our annual picnic in May. In addition, the Staff Senate has begun a new tradition of hosting Meet & Greets where all staff members are invited to meet their senators as well as share their concerns or ideas with them. Planning is already underway to honor UCA's veterans with a Veteran's Day Commemoration that is sure to be the greatest in UCA's history. A course of action has also already been set for UCA's Angel Bear Tree Project. This project is designed so that UCA families in need can be adopted by other individuals or departments at UCA. Last year 35 families were identified as needing support, and through the hard work of the Angel Bear Tree Committee and through the generosity and support from UCA staff, these families experienced the true spirit of Christmas. Finally, we are lucky enough to have our Past-President, Kevin Hamilton serving as the Chair of our Employee of the Year Committee and planning for this event, held every Spring, is also already underway.

In addition to honoring UCA's staff, the Staff Senate strives to support the staff in both their personal and professional growth. Our efforts to do so include offering book scholarships to UCA staff or their dependents as they pursue higher education at UCA. This year we have already awarded 10 such scholarships for a total of \$2,800.00. In order to continue offering this number of scholarships, we must grow our endowment in the scholarship foundation account and the senate is currently working on plans for a campaign to do exactly that. The Staff Senate's Staff Development Committee is also working with UCA's Office of Training and Development to broaden the opportunities for professional development for UCA staff. To reward staff for their professional development, the Staff Senate will be proposing a policy for Internal Hiring that will allow hiring supervisors of classified positions to hire internally to find the best candidate for a position to be filled. It is the hope of the Staff Senate that such a policy will reward staff members for the time they commit to their professional development.

As a token of appreciation for the hardworking and dedicated staff of UCA, I would like to ask that the Board of Trustees and President Hardin to remember the resolution that was past last year by the Staff Senate asking you to consider offering merit based pay above and beyond the 2.7% raise that is necessary for staff members each year.

I would again like to applaud the efforts and dedication of the senators, many of whom probably had no idea what they were signing on for when they decided to run for their positions.

This year merely half of the scholarship and employee of the year awards will be supported through the foundation accounts set up for those purposes. The operating budget given to the Staff Senate represents only a quarter of the funding required to offer the remaining activities I mentioned. It is through the hard work and fund-raising of the senators that allows us to offer these other activities. Rather selflessly, senators give of their time on weekends and evenings to volunteer at football and basketball games and other special events in order to raise money that is in turn spent to support UCA staff. The University of Central Arkansas has such a loyal staff that we often have volunteers to help with these events that have no obligation to do so. I would like to close by asking you to please keep the best interest of UCA's dedicated staff in mind when making decisions for this university as you have always done in the past. I would like to thank the UCA staff for bestowing upon me the honor of representing them and thank you for your time.

Francie Bolter
President, UCA Faculty Senate
Address to the Board of Trustees
October 6, 2006

Greetings to the Board:

I enjoy very much getting to speak with you today. I have to wonder if I'm not the first Faculty Senate President who can trace her roots to UCA back almost 50 years. My parents lived right here in Wingo hall—it was married housing then—as my daddy returned to ASTC to finish up his college degree. I'm not going to say I was conceived here, but I did grow up just a block away. My grandfather was academic dean here, my grandmother, dean of women. My mother and father, my brothers and I, my aunts and uncles, my cousins, all have at least one degree from UCA.

I bring to light this connection so you'll understand I'm speaking to you today not only as president of the Faculty Senate but as someone whose roots to this university go deep, and, as a result, who feels deeply about its academic reputation . . . its success . . . its being the center of learning not just in theory but in practice.

While our position here in Wingo Hall resonates for me personally, I see an historic connection as well. The challenges we are experiencing now are much like those of a half century ago. Then, GIs like my father enrolled in colleges nationwide in record numbers, and our own university was one of many dealing with—and sometimes reeling from--the effects.

Now, we are again experiencing record-setting enrollments, with UCA a fore-runner. With an almost 50% increase in students over the last four years, no one is surprised that we face numerous challenges to our academic integrity. Faculty are holding our own here, hoping for future benefits. However, we can't deny this increase has a present cost.

I was thinking about that cost as my husband Brian and I watched UCA taking on South Dakota last weekend. I have to say, the game was great—of course, winning always makes a game great. But the overall atmosphere: the tail-gate gatherings, the marching band performance, the struggle of the offense to make good on the defensive turnovers—I tell you, we felt the charge. I actually found a metaphor in it all (my undergraduate degree was in English, so, of course, I found a metaphor).

And here it is: At UCA, President Hardin is the quarterback. Faculty understand this. I mean, after all, he's the one on TV. On the whole, we believe he's making the right play calls. They don't all work. But we believe—let me borrow here from an old Elvis Costello song—his “aim is true.”

Faculty are the offensive line. Our job is to do the hard work of moving the ball downfield: to deliver a quality curriculum. But I have to tell you, with the increases in enrollment, faculty are feeling that right now we're having to play both ways: defending our academic integrity while confronting the bigger demands of the 21st century, trying to hold together a stable faculty core while

delivering, every day, to every single student, a quality education. You can't help but recognize the challenge.

In this game, we look to the board as representatives of the ultimate stakeholders, the public owners of the franchise. We respect your public duty to see that this university is run well, that it fulfills UCA's mission to its most important fans, if you will, the citizens of Arkansas. Faculty acknowledge your support, the favorable votes you give to increase faculty salaries, to establish allocations for faculty merit and equity, to approve resources to support our academic programs. We depend on this support as we strive to maintain our academic reputation.

If there is meaning in the game metaphor I've used—and my English professor Mr. Behrens would certainly demand there be one--it is that the Faculty Senate understands the value of our current healthy alliance. We recognize President's Hardin's game plan. We understand the end goal. In turn, our job is to make sure the president understands our academic strengths—and right now--some places in our line that may be developing a weakness.

We are a team. And as long as we are all committed to placing academics first, we will remain so.

Thank you.

Board of Trustees Address Student Government Association

Madame Chair, Board Members, President Hardin, fellow students, Vice-Presidents, faculty and staff, it is my honor to address this board today on behalf of the students of the University of Central Arkansas. I have the privilege to be serving as President of the Student Government Association for a second year and I understand that with this privilege, comes even more responsibility. The learning curve is no longer high, the relationships with the administration have been established, the connections have been made, the knowledge has been acquired, and the end result of all these undertakings is higher expectations, greater goals, and, like I stated earlier, immense responsibility.

This year SGA has been advocating to its members a higher sense of accountability and professionalism. We are constantly trying to remove unnecessary practices that have only hindered the progress of student issues. We have forgotten the trivial goals and are focusing our energies on projects that will truly impact this campus and the student of UCA. Since most of us are here for only a few years. We understand the need to work with our placed on our vision, even though we might not be able to see the finished product. Tangible results are not easily obtained when our presence here is limited. We understand that we are only transitional here. We are not more than a mist, seen for a little while, and then dispersing. Even though our lives as students are limited, we aspire to great things. We like to think big. We are no longer a small college with little recognition, but a great institution. Therefore SGA has established eleven far more reaching and encompassing goals that we would like to accomplish this year. I will take this time to briefly explain these goals.

Greek Housing- Greek life is a key component of UCA and in order to promote its growth and unity, Greek Housing is essential. Greek housing has been on our agenda for many years, but it was not until last administration that SGA made it a top goal. We have made major progress since last year. We have been to two research trips to three different schools and the Greek Row proposal is better developed than better before. We will continue developing the concept and doing the base work to hopefully present a more comprehensive plan to this board later during this academic year.

Another important aspect of this goal is the need for more scholarships for the current off-campus Greek houses. The current policy enables Greek groups to transfer up to five scholarships to their living facility. With increase enrollment and Greek GPA's increasing as well, this number has become insufficient. In order to keep the bright minds living in these houses we must increase the scholarships that can be transferred. This will promote better academic performance in these groups.

Food Services- This is an unending goal in the books of Student Government. We surveyed students last year about the food services provided at UCA and, even though their was a lot of positive feedback, food services on campus, like another walk of life, has much room for improvements. Some of the issues we are most concerned about are: quality of food, times of services, meal plan options, among other things. We are also interesting in creating outside eating areas in front of Christian Cafeteria to create a more outdoor environment as well as a logical place to congregate for students.

New/Improved Student Services- As the university has grown in enrollment, students need more services. The current services are very efficient and well respected, but some changes need to take place. We must make sure that our services do not suffer due to limitations caused by an increase in student population. Some of the areas in which we are focusing our attention are: HPER Center, Student Health, and Housing. This goal will also include massive support and advertisement for the Bond Issue that will be voted on this year. As SGA, we believe that it is our duty to make sure we can get the bond passed to benefit UCA and higher education in Arkansas.

Graduate Life- Graduate Students have become more and more a part of our university. They have traditionally been underrepresented and have not been given the same opportunities as other students. One of our goals this year is to promote graduate student involvement. We also believe that these students are underappreciated and undercompensated. UCA has a less than favorable compensation packet for graduate students. Compared to other universities that provide tuition and fees waivers for most graduate students, UCA seems to not place as high a value on the work done by these students. We would also like to modify the current insurance program offered to students to better suit the need of graduates that have been removed from their parents' plans due to age and schooling.

Alcohol Policy- The SGA would like to explore modifications to the current alcohol policy to give twenty-one year old students their constitutional rights back. We want to see what other schools in our conference do and adapt to a changing world. As we continue to house more people, the number of people who are of age that live on campus keeps increasing and their desire to possess their full rights increases as well. The details of this proposal have not yet been fully established, but we are very interested in exploring possibilities that will better suit our age group.

School Spirit- The move to Division I has increased our reputation. We are slowly starting to get more name recognition. In order to gain a higher level of excellence, our school spirit has to grow as well. We are committed to supporting student attendance at all sporting events, not just football. We want the continual expansion of tailgating and of people from the community that are interested in what is happening at UCA. Part of this goal also includes establishing a program that will give all incoming freshmen welcome packs that will promote school spirit.

International Student Life – Since UCA committed to increasing the international student population, we must also begin to consider the services we provide to them. Laws make different circumstances for international students very different than for the average local resident. Because of these differences, we have decided to try to implement programs specifically tailored to this group. Changes in their lease policy with housing and transportation to key places are the main factors we would like to see happen to promote the well-being of our international community.

Renovation of the Quad- We have a beautiful campus and we are very proud of it. The “Quad” or area in front of the Student Center, as it is popularly called, is not too aesthetically pleasing. This is an excellent area for student activities and the opportunities with it are endless. As students, we need an open area close to the center of campus that serves the same purpose as the Quad, but with better utility and greater looks.

Limited Tuition and Fee Increases: Until this point SGA has never, at least in recent times, commented on general tuition and fee increases from the university. Four years ago, the average student enrolled in 15 or more hours would pay about \$1900 to attend UCA. The same student today would pay \$3100 if they were enrolled in 15 hours, but much more if they are taking more credit hours. Last year we had an increase on an increase already imposed and, since the 15 hour payment cap was removed, the students began paying for every hour they took. We understand that the removal of the cap was inevitable and the next logical step, but regardless of the need, it still results in less money in our pockets. It is alarming that based strictly on tuition we are now the most expensive higher education institution in Arkansas. We pride ourselves in excelling in many aspects of college life, but being number one in cost is not a title we, the students, desire. Increasing costs that have led to a 63% increase in tuition prices for the past 4 years. We want to be part of this decision making process. We understand that money is hard to come across, but the students should have an input. As of right now, SGA does not support any tuition and fee increases for the 2007-2008 school year.

Our next goal, *security on campus*, is probably one that any reasonable person would agree needs attention. The UCA PD does a great job and we appreciate their hard work and dedication. With the growth of the university, we have all begun to see an influx of people that have no association with UCA on our campus. At least from a student's perspective, car break-ins and vandalism in the parking lots have increased dramatically. Even though the number have percentage wise not increase dramatically, the more students, the more problems we will face. A centralized security camera system and cameras in major public areas and parking lots are much need on this campus. The student will feel safer to be at UCA.

And last, but not least. *Increased SGA Visibility:* In order to add more credibility to the Senate and in an attempt to be a more valuable resource to students, one of the top SGA goals this year is to increase our own visibility. We want students to know who we are so they can come to us when they have problems on campus. We have set up programs so each RSO is in direct contact with senators, and we are constantly advertising our new open forum where students can address the full Senate with concerns weekly. Part of this goal includes a higher voter turn out in the Spring elections because we feel that as more students vote, the Senate has more credibility on campus and with the administration. We want as many student voices to be heard and represented as possible, as our main goal is to put students first.

To conclude, I would like to thank the board for this opportunity. I would also like to thank the board for its support through the years and their dedication to this university. We are proud to belong to UCA and we are proud to say the students and SGA, feel that we part of this great institution. We desire nothing but excellence. We aspire nothing but greatness. We are here to help in anyway we can and will always try to support any major initiative that will put students first!