

MINUTES OF MEETING
COSSATOT COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS BOARD OF VISITORS
March 3, 2025

Chair Mike Cranford called the regular meeting of the Board of Visitors to order at 12:22 p.m. following a light meal at the UA Cossatot Lockesburg Community Room.

Present:	Mike Cranford	Dori Gutierrez	Dr. Glenn Lance	Angie Walker
	Barbara Dixon	Joe Martinez	Brenda Tate	Tim Pinkerton

Absent: Barbara Horn

Staff Reports

Chancellor Cole greeted the Board at the March meeting. Dr. Cole presented the annual Risk Assessment Report. He noted that, in coordination with the University of Arkansas System Office, the college reviewed its top five institutional risks. The five top risks that our college is facing is Enrollment, Cybersecurity, Accounts Receivable, Staff Training, and Federal Appropriations. Dr. Cole also pointed out three important documents that were shared with the board. The Master Facilities Plan rough draft which will accomplish to keep us on track with the current state and future state of all our college facilities. The Strategic Plan rough draft will cover the next five years of the college's goals. These documents will be presented at the May board meeting once they are finalized. Dr. Cole spoke about the college hosting the May Board of Trustees meeting and encourages the Board of Visitors to attend. Another important document presented was a proposal to offer Student Loans. This time around we surveyed students, staff, and stakeholders and researched thoroughly to ensure the program would be both financially sustainable and responsive to the actual needs of our students. The feedback collected guided the development of loan terms, eligibility criteria, and support services, aiming to create a well-rounded solution that promotes access to education while minimizing long-term financial burden on students.

Vice Chancellor Charlotte Johnson presented the board with the most recent financial report. As of the end of January, the Summary of Unrestricted and Auxiliary Revenues shows a total of \$7.4 million, reflecting the tuition pro rated monthly. Expenditure has increased from this time last year, amounting to \$6.8 million. The college's Accounts Receivable have increased compared to the previous month due to spring charges showing for early enrollees. In terms of Grants and Other Restricted Programs, the college has been awarded \$9 million in total grants remaining, with \$2.8 million recognized so far. The Schedule of Bank Accounts indicates a balance of \$3.9 million, down from last year. Additionally, Charlotte noted that the Schedule of Investments—Certificates of Deposit—totals \$1 million, marking a \$47,000 increase over the prior year. Pooled investments have grown to \$551,000, and total endowment funds now stand at \$206,000, about a 52,000 increase from this time last year

Vice Chancellor Dr. Ashley Aylett delivered the Academic Services report. She announced that registration for the Summer 2025 term began on February 10, while Fall 2025 registration would

commence once all courses were uploaded into the Workday system. IPEDs graduation rate has shown an increase at 54%. The college had a goal to reach 50% and we have accomplished it. Spring 2025 enrollment totaled 1,220 students, an increase from 1,196 the previous spring. Of these, 552 were concurrently enrolled students, with an FTE of 739.5. She also provided a breakdown of the student population by ethnicity and county. Recruiting efforts were outlined across various student groups. A Career Cluster Camp for sophomores is scheduled for March 4–6 at the Lockesburg campus. Additionally, Dr. Aylett announced the approval of a new Associate of Applied Science program in Livestock Production & Management.

Tammy Coleman, Director of Public Services and Workforce Development, provided a comprehensive report on workforce-related initiatives. A significant new development is the launch of the Fiber Network Engineer Program, registration is now open for this program. The course will be set on the Lockesburg campus and scheduled to begin April 14 and run through July 28. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics from networking fundamentals to remote work security and prepares students for multiple industry certifications. The YouthBuild program started a new cohort and reported 51 active enrollees. Workday is still scheduled for launching this spring for the Workforce department.

Madelyn Jones gave an overview of public relations and outreach efforts for January and February 2025. She shared the coming of a new member to the department focusing on Sports Information. Upcoming "Coffee with the Chancellor" events were scheduled for March 4–6 in Ashdown, Nashville, and DeQueen, aiming to build community engagement and dialogue. Madelyn also reported on Colts Athletics, which hosted Ashdown elementary students in January and recognized ten graduating sophomores during a special event on February 24. Planning is also underway for Fiesta Fest, the college's largest community and fundraising event, scheduled for May 3 in downtown DeQueen. The festival will include a live band from Houston, folkloric dancing, a mariachi band, wrestling, a talent show, and a dog show. As of February 26, 2025, the UA Cossatot Foundation reported total assets of \$850,877.51. Lastly, Madelyn highlighted the work of ED88 for the month of January and February.

Action Items:

No. 1 Approve Minutes of January 6, 2025, Board Meeting Angie Walker motioned for passage and Brenda Tate seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 8-0.

No. 2 Review New College Policy 473: Multi-Factor Authentication Policy. Angie Walker motioned for review and Barbara Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

No. 3 Review Delete College Policy 212: Institutional Effectiveness Plan—Continuous Quality Improvement Cycle. Angie Walker motioned for passage and Dori Gutierrez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

Chair Mike Cranford asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Martinez made the motion and with a second from Brenda Tate, Chair Mike Cranford adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Walker, Secretary

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