

Board of Trustees
March 5, 2019
Reynolds Grand Hall B
1:00 p.m.

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in Reynolds Grand Hall B. The following were in attendance: Trey Berry, Edgar Lee, David Nelson, Lawrence Bearden, Therral Story, Monty Harrington, Charley Jackson, Josh Kee, Donna Allen, David Lanoue; Shawana Reed, Roger Giles, Jennifer Rowsam, Sarah Jennings, Jason Morrison (SAU Tech Chancellor), and Gaye Manning. Guests included Sheryl Edwards, Shane Warrick, Leigh Labit, Gloretta Lee, Ben Johnson, Sherrell Johnson, Dan Marsh (SAU Communications), Mike McNeil, (Magnolia Reporter) and John David Bailey (Banner News).

[00:00:15.05] David Nelson: We will begin the Board of Trustees meeting today, March 5, 2019. We want to thank everyone for being here. We want to thank Aramark for the delicious meal that was provided for us. We would like to welcome Charley Jackson to the Board. We also want to welcome and thank them for coming Mr. Mike McNeil and John David Bailey. Thank you.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes from the meeting on October 9, 2018.

[00:01:02.29] Monty Harrington: I make a motion they be approved.

[00:01:04.11] Therral Story: Second.

[00:01:05.11] David Nelson: We have motion and a second on the minutes. Any discussion? All in favor of approving the minutes say "Aye."

[00:01:12.19] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:01:12.19] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:01:12.19] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:01:12.19] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:01:13.21] David Nelson: Any opposed?

Motion carried.

The second item on the agenda is the yearly election of officers to the Board. Dr. Berry.

[00:01:26.24] Trey Berry: We are electing a chair, vice chair and secretary. We open the nominations for chair.

[00:01:37.26] Monty Harrington: I nominate David Nelson as chair.

[00:01:42.08] Therral Story: Second.

[00:01:44.06] David Nelson: There has been a motion and a second for David Nelson, Chair. Any other discussion? Any other motions? Hearing none, we will vote. All those in favor say "Aye."

[00:01:55.11] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:01:55.11] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:01:55.11] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:02:06.03] David Nelson: Any opposed? Motion carried.

[00:02:06.03] Trey Berry: Then we will open the floor for Vice Chair.

[00:02:06.15] David Nelson: I nominate Lawrence Bearden as Vice Chair of the Board.

[00:02:07.21] Monty Harrington: Second.

[00:02:10.24] David Nelson: There has been a motion and a second for Lawrence Bearden as vice chair. Any discussion? All in favor say "Aye."

[00:02:17.04] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:02:17.04] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:02:17.04] Charley Jackson "Aye."

[00:02:20.11] David Nelson: Any opposed? Okay secretary?

[00:02:26.02] Monty Harrington: I nominate Therral Story as Secretary.

[00:02:29.00] David Nelson: I will second that motion. There has been a motion and a second for Therral Story, Secretary to the Board. All in favor say "Aye."

[00:02:41.16] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:02:41.22] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:02:41.22] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:02:43.14] David Nelson: Any opposed? That will conclude the election of officers to the Board of Trustees for 2019.

The next item on the agenda is a resolution, a special resolution by Dr. Trey Berry.

This is a resolution that I think everybody is going to be happy about and I will just read it.

Whereas, Edgar O. Lee has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University from 2009 until 2019. During his term, he twice served as chair, vice chair, and secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Whereas, during Mr. Lee's term of service on the Board, significant changes initiated by the Board at the Magnolia campus included: continuous upgrading of technology services for

students, faculty, and staff; upgrades to the utility infrastructure; construction of the baseball field; improvements to Wharton Nursing; completion of a new Science Center and a Natural Resources Center; construction of the Mulerider Activities Center; construction of new Agricultural Center; Overstreet Hall Renovation and construction of five new residence halls and a new home for the president was constructed. In addition, the Love and Loyalty Capital Campaign was initiated, a president retired and a new president was selected. On the SAU Tech campus, significant accomplishments included: construction of the model Fire Station for the Arkansas Fire Training Academy; construction of Arkansas Environmental Training Academy Lab; purchase of 102 acres for expansion of the Fire Training Academy; purchase of building and land in Camden for Uptown Center; beginning construction and renovation of the Student Center which adds 35,000 feet of new space; tornado recovery effort of claims of over \$3,600,000; and SAU Tech assuming responsibility for adult education centers in Columbia, Calhoun, Ouachita, Dallas and Cleveland Counties.

Whereas, this service to the University deserves the lasting recognition and appreciation of the students, faculty, staff, and friends of the University and of this Board.

Therefore be it resolved, on behalf of the students, faculty, staff, and friends of SAU, the Board expresses its deep appreciation of the service of Edgar O. Lee as a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University and further that a copy of this resolution be placed in the official minutes of this meeting and that an appropriate copy be presented to Mr. Lee.

Approved this 5th day of March, 2019.

Mr. Chair, we ask that the Board approve this resolution.

[00:06:25.01] David Nelson: Do I have a motion?

[00:06:25.28] Therral Story: So moved.

[00:06:25.28] Monty Harrington: Second.

[00:06:25.28] David Nelson: I have a motion and a second honoring Edgar Lee. All in favor say "Aye."

[00:06:32.08] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:06:32.08] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:06:32.08] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:06:33.08] David Nelson: Any opposed? Motion carries.

[00:06:54.09] Trey Berry: We are not done. Mr. Lee if you don't mind coming up here please. You have willed this gavel for over 10 years. As you have all heard the unbelievable accomplishments that have occurred. Very few people have served on the Board of Trustees twice. To say that we have been blessed by your leadership, integrity and friendship is a vast understatement sir. Glorietta, thank you for letting us borrow him and borrow him. You have been such a presentence of pose and grace for us all. Thank you so much. Sir, we would like to present this to you. Congratulations.

[00:08:03.25] Edgar Lee: Well, first of all thank you very much. Thank you to the Board and Mr. President. It has been a wonderful 10-year ride. When I first came here and the opportunity came about, I asked what could I offer this Institution. I still ask myself that question. I look around and why I did accept is because of you and the hard work. All I did was show up and you made it easy. This is a class Institution. You have a wonderful leader and friend. I made re-acquaintances from Waldo and Waldo did turn out some good people. It has been a wonderful ride. Thank you.

[00:09:25.27] David Nelson: We do sincerely appreciate Edgar's work that he has done for the SAU System. I look forward to seeing him around in a lesser capacity.

The next on the agenda is comment by SAU President, Dr. Trey Berry.

[00:09:50.10] Trey Berry: Thank you so much everybody. I think we have a nice campus report to give you about what has happened since our last meeting in October. If you haven't driven from Camden to Magnolia lately, you see this. We have a new one over in Texarkana as well. Keep a look out all over the state.

A little bit about our spring enrollment. Some of you may have heard me say this, but our spring

enrollment kind of surprised us. We expected a kind of a flat enrollment. We were slightly up in enrollment and that is always a good thing for us here on campus. Let me show you what we have. Our head count was slightly above this time last spring. Our FTE, our full time equivalent those students taking full time classes, that was also up and that is also a good sign and very healthy for our budget. Also, as you see, students living on campus compared to last spring is up. It is up by almost 60 students. Those are all good signs, which we will take every time. Every time the numbers are up, we celebrate.

Fall enrollment is still very, very early. We have some good signs. Sarah will tell you, that our applications are right even with last year and as you know we had a record freshman class last year. Our acceptances are up for the fall and our student tours are way up for the fall. Our recruiters are all over the state and all over the region. We think there is promise for the fall. It is still very, very early but all signs are looking very good.

Arkansas Hall is coming along very well. I think they are on schedule, which is no small feat to be on schedule in construction. We think they are be finished by July 15 which will give us plenty of time to outfit it and get ready for the students. I will tell you right now as far as housing is concerned, and I would ask our people in the press to not put this out there just yet. Our upper class dorms are very close to being full as well as our apartments. These are all good signs.

Academics - good things are happening. Dr. Lanoue and Dr. Rowsam have been very, very busy lately. Some of the things you are going to hear from Dr. Lanoue in a few minutes are we are looking at two new undergraduate programs. One in cyber criminology, which is the investigative side of cybercrime. We have Cyber Security, now and that is the programming side. This is the investigative side. We were asked to do this by law enforcement so we are following that lead because they tell us the jobs are there. As Dr. Lanoue will tell you, this is driven by the industry and jobs. The other is poultry science. You have already heard about this. We are fast approaching on that. Both of the programs will hopefully be approved in the April meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board in Little Rock. Then to follow up in the doctoral program, in April, we will have our first reading of that program. Hopefully in July, that program will go before the Coordinating Board in Little Rock and hopefully be approved and will start in 2020. Those are things that are happening as far as new majors are concerned. What has really kept Dr. Lanoue and Dr. Rowsam busy this past year and right now in fact is accreditation. Good news from the College of Education. Our College of Education received full accreditation from CAEP for another seven years. The College of Education came together and it was wonderful to watch these people work together. Dr. Rowsam and Dr. Lanoue worked closely with them, Dean Kim Bloss. It was just a great team effort and they walked away with full accreditation.

Also, our Engineering accreditation. Things are looking very promising on that front. We are hearing good news from our visiting team that was here in the fall. Everything points to good reports on that and in July we will have the Board vote in Washington DC on that. It is looking very promising on that accreditation.

Finally, on accreditation. Nursing, ACEN visitors left here about three weeks ago or so. They left here with some very, very promising things about nursing accreditation. We hope to have that vote in Atlanta in June. All these things are progressing and so far, things are looking promising on the accreditation front because of the work of so many people.

Also in the news last week, we signed a wonderful agreement with National Park College. If you remember the past, I talked with you about making partnerships with other colleges and have been talking about National Park College. It came to fruition last week. We will be offering the first bachelors program on the campus in Hot Springs for the very first time, anywhere. We are offering Biochemistry in Pre-Health, Biology in Pre-Health and Computer Science. We promised our faculty and their faculty is that we are going to get those up and running in a quality way and make sure things are going well, and then possibly look at expanding. Right now, our concentration is these programs and doing it well. It is going to be a great partnership and enthusiasm for these programs. Yes, the mule and the knight hawk were together in the gym. I was questioning about bringing the mule inside, but they did it and all went well. It was a great afternoon to be there.

We have been talking and are talking about a rural studies institute on our campus to study all aspects of rural life, not just in our region but also in the nation. I will tell you, Dr. Ben Johnson is here. Dr. Johnson has been working with a team of faculty and staff for about a year and half to work on the mission statement for this rural institute. It would be an umbrella organization that would help us do research into rural life, put on conferences, partnerships around. We think it will be mechanisms for us to study and for us to become the site for rural studies in this region. I put a picture of the Ozmer and Alexander House up there because our plan now is for this to be located in the Alexander House when it is finished. We are really looking forward to this new aspect and new direction for our campus and our academic programs.

The College of Education -we made a little change in the new College of Education Building. We originally thought we would put it in front of Cross Hall. The more we looked at that space, the more it seemed cramped. It was going to be a two-story building with elevators and things like that. It was also going to cost more. We started looking at the campus and said why we don't just put it across the street next to the nursing building. We could make it a one-story building, it would cut down on the cost, it would be more accessible, we wouldn't lose space and you

would have parking. Right now the architects are working on the plans. I will keep you posted on the new plan for the College of Education to be in this space and again it will bring the College of Education together. They have been spread out all over the campus for many, many years and it will be a good facility for them.

Just to tell you about our faculty members doing great things. This is Dr. Antoinette Odendaal. She is an assistant professor of Biology and assistant Dean in the College of Science and Engineering. She just received the INBRE Research Grant, which will allow her to hire a student researcher and help her in her research in many different things especially additives to products. She looks at different additives in different products so this is going to be a great, great thing for our College of Science and Engineering. Also, for our students, a great pathway for our students.

Rankin College of Business had their annual Executive Network also called the College of Business TEN. We bring in business practitioners from all over the United States to talk to our students about real life in the business world. It was a great success. As you can see, you all know this guy over here. We had a great slate of people and most of them are Muleriders alumni who have succeeded in various areas. I love this picture right here. This is a picture of one of those executives, sitting down with one of our students, on the desk and helping them with their resume', right there. That is what it is all about. It was a great success and we look forward to continue programs in that area.

Mr. Michael Womack - who is in our music department. He is also our campus accompanist. He just received a national recognition - he is going to go to Boston to the New England Conservatory and he is going to be involved in the National Association of Teachers of Singing. This is a very selective thing and we are very proud of him and what he has brought to our campus.

Let me tell you a little bit about our students and what they are doing. Our jazz saxophone quartet was invited by the US Navy to come to Washington DC, to participate in the International Saxophone Symposium. Very selective - the only group from Arkansas that was selected. They had a wonderful time. It was a great experience for these students to get to National recognition.

Chioma Akolam - She is a psychology major. She will graduate this year. She just received news that she will be accepted and studying at Kingston University in London, England beginning in the fall. We are so proud of her. She is one of our student leaders. She is very involved in the student government association. She is an outstanding student.

Calla Bassett - She is one of our Hallman Scholars. As you know, SAU has the largest endowed scholarship for women in STEM/Science in the state of Arkansas. It has been able to bring some

of the best and brightest students to our campus. Not just from Arkansas. Calla is from Arizona and she came to SAU on a Hallman scholarship. This fall she received first place for the best paper in the entire state of Arkansas in physics at the annual meeting. No small feat. One thing I need to tell you about Calla; she came to SAU as a Hallman Scholar at the age of 16. She is a prodigy. It is doing what it is supposed to do bringing the best and brightest and even prodigy's to our campus.

This is Jalen Holland. He is from Shreveport, LA. Jalen had a great experience. He received an internship to teach for eight weeks this summer in the Bronx in intercity New York. He said it was an incredible experience. What a wonderful thing for this student from Shreveport, LA, from SAU to go to the Bronx and make a connection there.

Our Residential College and Leadership College, which is part of our residential hall leadership. They go on a trip every year to do service. They so this year in Nashville, TN. They worked for the food bank there in Middle, TN. They packed over 1000 backpacks; they stacked shelves; they replenished the food bank and they worked and did a little site seeing too.

This past fall we started an eSports. Electronic Sports team...there is now 65 members of that team and they are going to different tournaments around the country. This is San Antonio, Texas. This is just a few of them. This is a new thing for our students. As you know, electronic games are the in thing and now they have taken it to a new level and they are now e athletes.

Some alumni. I have a couple of alumni slides. This is Bernie Daniels. This happened last week. Bernie was added to the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame this past week in Little Rock. He is a graduate of Southern State College. He went on to receive his Ph.D. and taught for many, many at the University of Arkansas. I think, Josh, they keep saying that he taught over 5000 students during his time and they show him as the godfather of agri education in the state of Arkansas.

Athletes - it's been quite a run. Men's basketball team clinched a berth to the GAC tournament in Bartlesville. We will be going up there this weekend for that tournament. They are now ranked tenth in the central region. I want to show you this. This is amazing what happened last Saturday. Both the men and women Rockets won their season ending games. The Magnolia Panthers are going to the state tournament in basketball and they won two games in baseball. Out baseball team, the Muleriders had a three game series and they won all three. The softball team had a four game series and they won all four. They had eight homeruns during that series. Our women's tennis had two matches and they won. Our men's tennis had two matches and they won. Women's basketball won their season ending game. Our men's basketball won their season ending game. Our golf won a tournament in Georgia. Our track and field team, this weekend,

won 12 individual titles at their meet and came away with the most individual titles so it was an incredible weekend. We have to pinch ourselves because that never happens. We hope it will continue to happen. Just to show you the polls are going to come out in a few hours and we think this is going to change. Our baseball is ranked in Division II, 18th in the nation. Our tennis team, I will tell you, remember we brought tennis back this year. Both Men's and Women's are ranked number 1 in the conference. Their first time out of the gate. It has been an incredible run for them. Then, our softball team is ranked third in the nation. We are expecting this to change, because as you know, they all won this weekend. It has been an incredible spring so far. Our golf team, for the first time in history of SAU, has broken into this top 25 in the nation.

It is not just on the court or on the field, I will tell you as you see here, our women's cross-country team was recognized by the coach association as an all-academic team. That is a high bar to meet so it is not just on the field, but it is also in the classroom.

Then, I want to introduce you to Olivia Faught. She was chosen to serve on the student athletic advisory committee NCAA Division II. She will represent this entire region...not just Arkansas, but the region for DII. As you can see, she is a golfer. We are very proud of her.

Our alumni spotlight - What I try to do is pick out one person besides Bernie Daniels who we talked about earlier. I want you to meet this person. Dr. Leonard Pike - he just recently passed away but in doing our research about Mr. Pike, he was a horticulturist - a botanist and what we learned about him was, he invented the blooming onion. He spent years perfecting it, breeding it and came up with it and now as you know it is used in restaurants all over the nation. There are Muleriders doing all kinds of things all over the nation.

That ends my report and I will answer any questions that you might have.

Thank you so much.

[00:30:36.17] Jason Morrison: I cannot top Blooming Onion. I want to spotlight our athletics that started at SAU Tech last fall. We just finished our season last Thursday night with two victories over National Park College - both men and women. Our season ended being it was our first year in junior college athletics. We were not eligible for post-season play, but just so you know, we did win our conference. We went 5-1 in our conference. The only loss was a two-point loss to North Ark. The women went 2-2 in conference. When you look at junior college basketball in the state of Arkansas, we went 71 in the state of Arkansas for junior college basketball and in the women, we went 4-2. The governor cornered me yesterday and asked me how are you so good

in your first year - it's about relationships. The relationships the coaches have with these young men and women. It is not just where we excelled in the win-loss record.

Sheldon Stevens led our DII, he lead all scorers. He also had three point field goals and 3-point percentage. He is a legit DI talent waiting to pluck up next year.

Jaland Mitchell, Leads in D-II region II in blocks. This young man was our only sophomore that saw significant playing time. He and Mike McAllister Boatright, who is the younger brother of Ryan Boatright, who won a championship with the University of Unicaja. Mike Boatright led the entire region in steals. The only other person that lead steals in the state of Arkansas had 58 steals. Mike had 90. I am proud of these three young men. They set the bar high for our athletics and I am looking forward for them coming back next year. If Sheldon doesn't win player of the year, our region should be disappointed because he is an absolute superstar shooter.

On the women's side, I want to introduce you to Devena Smith. She was leading scorer in our region. I also want to introduce you to Brandashia Hargraves. She will be leaving us but she was the leader in three point percentage but she also lead the whole country in three point percentage - at 50 percent and she shot more than one. I am very proud of these girls. Also, just so you know, every week, we run a Facebook live and sports show on 89.5 KCAC for you easy listening pleasure. You can catch it on rocket launcher live so tune in tomorrow for updates about the school and athletics. Also, our conference games are carried on 106.5 the Planet, the rocket landed on the planet.

Starting next fall, softball. We are super excited, as soon as it stops raining to break ground on a softball field. Currently we have eight signees for our softball program and what is surprising is that they come from schools you never that we could get into. Bryant High School 7A high school, Benton Arkansas, Sheridan, Vilonia...you know schools before this had never heard of SAU Tech. This young lady right here is Cloyie Mitchell, she comes from Benton Harmony Grove, which happens to be my alma mater and I hear she is a beast on the mound hitting about 62 miles an hour. We are glad to have Cloyie as a part of this. If you haven't heard, we hired a husband and wife to co-head coach the softball team.

This young lady is one of our signees from Bryant, Arkansas and her name is Casey Shavers. The reason I have a picture of her lifting there, is that she set a Bryant High School record for dead lift - 405 pounds. That's some strong legs there and she is quick as she plays center field. She has amazing speed and she is super strong.

Scholars program - we are desperately trying to create so we can have 20 scholarships this fall.

We still need money - it cost about \$20,000.00 to fund 20 students and we are just a little bit more than half way there. IF you know a friend or anybody and they want to support a scholar student at SAU Tech, please let me know because these students are doing amazing things at SAU Tech and giving back to the community.

Now, a project that has lasted over a year. The solar field. We broke ground on the solar field and I can report to you that the bill that was dealing with solar energy did pass the senate committee at 10:00 o'clock today and it is moving on to the senate floor and what is in the bill should be very kind to us and future solar projects. Let's hope it moves through the senate and house without any major changes. This is something that I cannot tell you how long...we have literally worked on it for a year to get to the point where we can break ground and get a solar farm. It should be completed by June 1 so we can flip the switch and start saving money at SAU Tech, to save about \$110,000.00 a year on utilities. Thanks to Today's Power, Michael Henderson, and Ouachita Electric - they are the ones who really helped make this happen and to all our legislators that support SAU Tech and making sure legislation that comes through protects institutions and their ability to save money.

Our nursing program - We got renewal for our nursing practitioner program and it is setting the stage for our RN program as we are going through the process of getting approval to start in the summer of 2020. So our LPN program has had a 94 percent pass rate for the past three years so we are looking forwards to bridging the LPN to the RN-LPN program and that will start like I said in the summer of 2020.

Our forestry program has been a little sluggish but we are getting more student inquiring about it every day. I visited with our instructor, Danny Glaze, he is a forester and from day one, they did not sit in the classroom and talk about the syllabus. They went out to the woods and they pretty much spend every day out in the woods learning what you need to learn about being a forest harvesting technician. We have high hopes for this program and pretty much move into the future as student inquires have increased. We look to have growth.

The next board meeting, I am going to have our workforce trainers to come in and give an update on workforce training because this is something we are seeing tremendous growth. I am sorry, I cannot provide you with picture of our new digital x-ray but the people that are supposed to put it together have not been down to put it together. We now have a radiography machine and digital x-ray machine. We have two C & C machines, plasma cutter and new electronic training equipment. We also provide all new hire training for Aerojet. So, for every new employee hired at Aerojet, they go through a six-week training process under the direction of Eddie Horton. We are glad to have that partnership with Aerojet.

This is some of our new programmable logic controller equipment that we just received. Out of my will house. I probably need Mr. Lee to explain some of the PLC technology. We had equipment that was 15-20 years old and we are now in the process of updating all of our electronics and robotic equipment so we can provide high quality education in the area.

Our science lab - I will tell you. Thanks to SAU and the money they gave us last year to build our science lab, it has been a tremendous asset to the institution. The students love having an actual science lab to work and study and practice. I don't know if you saw a few weeks ago, I like to go around campus and do Facebook Live post, I did one over dissecting the heart. I appreciate SAU, the system, and their contribution to give a high quality-nursing program.

We are always out there hustling. When it comes to money, Kim Coker and I are the two primary people in fund raising at SAU Tech and we are out there constantly asking for donations and we are still looking for \$20,000.00 for our scholars program and \$20,000.00 for athletics and \$10,000.00 for enhancement. It doesn't seem like a lot but I promise you, to SAU Tech it is more than the world when we receive donations.

We just wrapped up our Black History Month. We have 630 people at the dinner and Dr. Rick Rigsby delivered. I am not sure you have seen Dr. Rigsby on YouTube, but the greatest lesson is learning from a third grade dropout. You need to YouTube him. He loved it so much that he cornered me afterwards and said if I ever wanted him to come back to do a graduation speech, just let him know. He loved Camden. He said he had never been received so much attention and hospitality in all his journeys in the country and across the world than he did in Camden, Arkansas. I appreciate Dr. Rigsby's words for that.

Mark your calendar for April 13. Walt Coleman, NFL Referee will be on campus. This will be our first ever scholarship, fundraiser dinner. We are looking for a big turn out and it will help raise money for athletics, Tech scholars program and other scholarships so we are hoping everybody will come out for this event and help. Do not forget in June we will have flipped the switch and turned those solar panels on.

Any questions as to what is happening at SAU Tech?

[00:43:30.18] David Nelson: Very good information from SAU and SAU Tech. Dr. Lanoue has some academic program changes.

[00:43:40.07] David Lanoue: Good afternoon. Dr. Berry mentioned one of the things we look at when we propose programs and changes to programs are not only what contracts students to SAU, although obvious, that is very important, but also what can put students on the to a good paying job when they get out. All of these changes that we will talk about, we have four of that I want to present to you for your consideration are all based around the basic premise.

The first is a BA in History. It is a BA in social studies education. I am a political scientist and I know that 15-20 years ago, they didn't need any more political science teachers, they had plenty. Well that has shifted now, it has shifted radically, and it is due in part to the overall decline in teachers we have in Arkansas and they are desperately in need of social studies teachers. There is another job opportunity, particularly for students who major in history to get their education minor, go into the public schools, and teach social studies and the social studies area. Our first proposal is to add a track in history for that social studies secondary education field so that students can move right into the teaching field and address the lack of teachers that we have in the state.

The second is the revamping of our English and Foreign degrees. Right now, we have separate degrees in English and English Literature and a couple of foreign languages. What we propose to do is put them all under a single major, a BA in Modern Languages and so English, English Literature, Spanish and French would all be tracks within that overall major. The idea really comes from the sense of what can we do to give our students the best opportunity to be employable. One thing I always hear from my English department is parents ask what can you do with an English major? Well, putting this all together we are saying that if you are an English major and you have experience in other languages that is going to increase your probability for being employed. If you are a Spanish major, you have a deep understanding of how to write, that is going to make you much more employable.

This overall modern language degree with these various tracks is going to give the students a broader understanding and broader experience than what they currently have with the individual majors and that will make them more employable, not for just the jobs that exist now, but for international jobs in the future.

The third is the BS in Science, the poultry track. I don't have to convince anyone in the room how important poultry is to Arkansas and one of the things we care deeply about because we are here to serve our region. Is what kind of majors can we have that can allow students to have good careers right here where they come from where they don't necessarily have to go to Denver or Dallas or California or even Little Rock. They can stay here in south Arkansas and have the kinds of careers that can help them raise families and build their community so the poultry science track in Agriculture Science degree is a big part of that for us, as we know the demand it there.

We have documentation of that from the major poultry industries in the state, we are very excited about this, and we think this will be an opportunity for our students and for our ability to serve the people of Arkansas.

Finally, as Dr. Berry mentioned, a new program in cybercriminology. Dr. Berry knows because he was visited by the FBI and was told there is a desperate need in the region and really across the country. It would bring together computer in cybersecurity with criminology and criminal behavior and criminal activity. It now allows us to marry our strong computer science department with the great people we have in criminal justice and bring them together for a major in cyber criminology. We were assured after talking with the FBI that there are jobs waiting for those students when they come out in those degrees. That is the four degrees that I propose to you and I will be happy to take any questions.

[00:48:49.12] David Nelson: Thank you Dr. Lanoue. We will need a motion from the Board to accept the academic program changes that Dr. Lanoue just addressed.

[00:49:03.24] Charley Jackson: I move to accept the changes.

[00:49:05.21] Monty Harrington: Second

[00:49:05.21] David Nelson: We have a motion and a second to accept the changes. All in favor say "Aye."

[00:49:10.22] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:49:11.05] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:49:11.05] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:49:11.26] David Nelson: Any opposed? Motion carried.

Next, we have Valerie Wilson.

[00:49:20.19] Jason Morrison: I am Valerie today. We have two today. One is a public Health and AAS in Health Sciences and we are working with SAU on a 2+2 transfer agreement. The

second one is an option under associate of applied science and industrial technology and an option in non-destructive testing. That option will also include a TC and a CP. We are creating an academic program so that students can go out and x-ray bombs and rockets. Any questions about those two.

[00:50:10.28] David Nelson: We will need another motion to accept the changes at SAU Tech as well.

[00:50:16.29] Therral Story: I make a motion to accept these changes.

[00:50:19.21] Monty Harrington: Second

[00:50:19.21] David Nelson: I have a motion and a second to approve the academic changes of SAU Tech. All those in favor say "Aye."

[00:50:26.18] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:50:26.18] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:50:26.18] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:50:26.18] David Nelson: Any opposed? Those are approved as well.

Roger Giles is going to give us a house keeping update on the resolution for reimbursement of Board members.

[00:50:42.01] Roger Giles: In order for us to reimburse you for your expense for travel, we annually have to pass the resolution to authorize us to do so. It is a state law that we have to do this on annual bases.

[00:51:03.28] David Nelson: I think Dr. Berry is going to read that for us.

[00:51:04.07] Trey Berry:

Whereas, Act 1211 of 1995 provides that boards and commissions of the state of Arkansas may provide for the reimbursement for their member's expenses while performing official board duties. The expense rate shall not exceed the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations.

Whereas, to implement this Act, a board or commission must by a majority vote of the total membership of the board cast during its first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar year express an authorization for the reimbursement of expenses for board members performing official duties.

Therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Southern Arkansas University on this its first regular meeting of 2019 authorize the reimbursement of expenses for board members performing official duties of the Board of Trustees as provided by Act 1211 of 1995.

Approved this 5th day of March, 2019.

Mr. Chair, we ask that the board approve this resolution.

[00:52:13.25] Monty Harrington: So moved.

[00:52:12.15] David Nelson: We have a motion to approve this resolution regarding reimbursement for expenses.

[00:52:27.17] Charley Jackson: Second

[00:52:27.17] David Nelson: We have a motion and a second to approve. All in favor say "Aye."

[00:52:29.26] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[52:29.26] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:52:29.26] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:52:34.18] David Nelson: Any opposed? All right now, we are going to address a resolution regarding the Norvell-Cook Engineering Building.

[00:52:42.28] Trey Berry: As you all know, Mr. Edna Norvell has been an unbelievable patron for our engineering program over the past few years. She continues to be that person. She is very interested in SAU. This year in 2019, she will be celebrating her 100 birthday and we are excited to present this resolution in naming the engineering building for her and her husband. If it is okay, I will read the resolution.

Whereas, Edna Cook Norvell has never forgotten her ties to southwest Arkansas and Southern Arkansas University. Mrs. Norvell moved to Buckner in the 1930s. She attended Stamps High School and Magnolia A & M. She graduated in 1938. She then launched on a teaching career that spanned 55 years, nine states, and four countries: Japan, Libya, Germany, and England. Her husband Major Robert Norvell (USAF, Retired) was an engineer and served during World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Whereas, throughout their careers the importance and love of education was never lost. This passion has resulted in gifts and commitments of over two million dollars to fund engineering scholarships. Mrs. Norvell stated that she chose to make an investment in SAU because of all the generous people who helped her while she was a student at Magnolia A & M. Dr. Trey Berry's responding for SAU stated "Her gifts are truly transformational, both for our Engineering students and all of SAU. We are blessed by her kindness and care for her alma mater"

Whereas, the Engineering Center became possible when the National Guard Armory reverted to SAU, and with strong industry support in the region. The Center was remodeled to contain six labs, three large classrooms, and a machine shop for hands-on instruction and training. The financial support for students in the Engineering Program deserves lasting recognition. Thus, the University recognizes the significant investment by Robert and Edna Cook-Norvell through the naming of the Engineering Center.

Therefore be it resolved, in grateful appreciation of the Board of Trustees, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of SAU, the Engineering Center will be known as the Norvell-Cook Engineering Center.

Approved this 5th day of March, 2019.

Mr. Chair, we ask that the Board approve this resolution.

[00:55:34.15] David Nelson: We are very thankful for Mrs. Edna and her gift to SAU and the Board will entertain a motion.

[00:55:41.00] Therral Story: I make a motion that we approve this resolution.

[00:55:43.05] Monty Harrington: Second.

[00:55:43.26] David Nelson: I have a motion and a second to renaming of the engineering building to the Norvell-Cook Engineering Building.

All those in favor say "Aye."

[00:55:53.07] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:55:53.07] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:55:53.07] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:55:56.03] David Nelson: Any opposed?

Very good. Motion carried.

We have a resolution pertaining to Rural Studies and other things.

[00:56:12.12] Trey Berry: This is hopefully going to be a surprise.

Whereas, the Board of Trustees retains the privilege from time to time to appoint an individual to the rank of Distinguished Professor. According to the Faculty Handbook, the credentials guiding such an appointment are an earned doctorate or comparable terminal degree or

equivalent scholarly achievement, national recognition as a scholar and teacher based upon research, teaching, and/or scholarly pursuits at this or some other institution.

Whereas, a current Southern Arkansas University faculty member, Dr. Ben Johnson exceeds these guidelines and is deserving of the appointment to the rank of Distinguished Professor. His record of teaching, research, and public service, is very deserving of this special recognition. Dr. Johnson began his career at SAU in August of 2001 as an Associate Professor of History. He was designated the John G. Ragsdale, Jr and Dora J. Ragsdale Professor of Arkansas Studies in 2012. Dr. Johnson served as Dean of Liberal and Performing Arts for three years beginning in 2007-2008 academic year and an Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for the 2015-2016 academic year. He is an Arkansas historian and has written three books: *Fierce Solitude – The Life of John Gould Fletcher*, *John Barleycorn Must Die*, and *Arkansas in Modern America 1930-1999* (This book is in the process of being updated). In addition, he has written numerous articles for such publications as the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, and presented papers at state, regional professional meetings.

Therefore be it resolved, that Dr. Ben Johnson is hereby appointed to the rank of Distinguished Professor of History.

Approved this 5th day of March, 2019.

Mr. Chair we ask that the Board please approve this resolution.

[00:58:29.18] David Nelson: We need a motion to approve this resolution honoring Dr. Ben Johnson as a Distinguished Professor.

[00:58:37.00] Charley Jackson: I move that we honor Dr. Ben Johnson as a Distinguished Professor.

[00:58:43.14] Monty Harrington: Second.

[00:58:43.14] David Nelson: I have a motion and a second to approve this resolution. All in favor say "Aye."

[00:58:47.29] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[00:58:49.11] Therral Story: "Aye."

[00:58:51.12] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[00:58:51.12] David Nelson: Any opposed?

Congratulations.

[00:59:09.24] Trey Berry: Mr. Chair, I have to give Dr. Johnson an apologize. I got him here on false pretenses.

[00:59:29.27] David Nelson: I am sure he will let that slide. The last item on the agenda for today meeting is Josh Kee for an alumni MOU.

[00:59:39.18] Josh Kee: I will make this quick. As part of the alumni governance committee outstanding work, you have before you a Memorandum of Understanding between SAU and SAU Alumni association. The alumni Association is one of the Universities two affiliate 501C3 organization and per the University non-profit policy you are to have an MOU in place. Over the past year, the Alumni Governance committee made up of alumni Board of Directors, University administration and alumni at large have been tasked with the review and revision of the alumni association documents. This process mimicked the process that was performed on the SAU Foundation in 2016. In the additional step, this group conducted an extensive review and revision of the bylaws of the alumni association and our next step was to clearly state the role and scope and define the relationship between the alumni association and SAU through the MOU you have before you. The alumni association board of directors approved this MOU at their meeting in November and now we bring that to you for your consideration and approval.

[01:00:56.29] David Nelson: Anybody have any questions for Josh on that MOU?

We will entertain a motion to approve it.

[01:01:09.05] Charley Jackson: I move that we approve the MOU presented by Josh Kee.

[01:01:13.08] Therral Story: Second.

[01:01:14.20] David Nelson: I have a motion and a second to approve the alumni MOU. All in favor say "Aye."

[01:01:19.07] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

[01:01:19.23] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[01:01:19.23] Therral Story: "Aye."

[01:01:20.20] David Nelson: Any opposed?

That concludes our items on the agenda for today's Board of Trustees meeting. I want to thank everyone for being here. Appreciate all that everyone does. I appreciate the Board of being here and unless there is anything else, I entertain a motion to adjourn.

[01:01:46.05] Monty Harrington: So Moved

[01:01:46.14] Therral Story: Second

[01:01:46.14] David Nelson: All in favor say "Aye."

[01:01:46.14] Therral Story: "Aye."

[01:01:46.14] Charley Jackson: "Aye."

[01:01:46.14] Monty Harrington: "Aye."

Adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Board of Trustee Chair

Board of Trustee Secretary

Recorder of Record: La'Tricia Davis