

**ACTION SHEET**  
**JOINT MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2015**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Larry N. Williams Student Community Center, ASU-Newport**  
**7648 Victory Boulevard, Newport, Arkansas**

Representative Bruce Cozart, the Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN ATTENDANCE:** Senator Jane English, Chair; and Senator Eddie Joe Williams.

**MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN ATTENDANCE:** Representative Bruce Cozart, Chair; Representative Charles L. Armstrong; Representative Michael John Gray; and Representative Mark McElroy.

**OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ATTENDANCE:** Senator Ronald Caldwell; Senator John Cooper; Representative Les Eaves; Representative Stephen Meeks; Representative Brandt Smith; Representative Dan Sullivan; and Representative Dwight Tosh.

**The Honorable Michael John Gray**, State Representative, District 47, was recognized, and made opening remarks.

Welcome to ASU-Newport Campus

*Presenter:*

**Dr. Sandra Massey**, Chancellor, ASU-Newport (ASUN), was recognized, and welcomed the members of the General Assembly in attendance. Dr. Massey, utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, stated that ASUN is the youngest two-year college in the state. She said it became a stand-alone institution in 2001, and added the Marked Tree and Jonesboro locations in 2008. She said *Community College Week* named ASUN as one of the fastest growing two-year colleges in the state in 2014, with a record enrollment exceeding 2,500 students. She noted the fall increase was 22.3%, and the spring increase was 12.9%. She said ASUN is one of only six (6) two-year colleges that experienced growth in 2014. Dr. Massey related other pertinent information, stating that concurrent enrollment at ASUN grew to 744 students; ASUN works with nine (9) area high schools, including Newport High School, and one career and technical education center; online enrollment exceeded 1,150 students; the five-year increase in associate degrees awarded was 66% and the five-year increase in workforce training was 33.9%, ranking ASUN second among two-year colleges in 2014. She stated the student to faculty ratio at ASUN is 17:1.

Dr. Massey continued with an extensive discussion of various academic programs and curricular offerings at ASUN that included the following:

1. Presentation on Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC)
2. Presentation on Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Surgical Technology, Welding, and High Voltage Training Programs
3. Presentation on Concurrent Partnerships and Summer Camps
4. Presentation on Prison Education Program

Issues Included in the Discussion:

- licensing and credentials,
- goal of having industry certification within programs,
- CDL s; rigorous background checks for a CDL,
- relationship with the Arkansas Department of Correction's Grimes and McPherson units,
- getting everyone connected to make things happen,
- practical job applications of programs offered,
- counseling students' study toward high-demand, vital fields,
- using zero-based budgeting approach for co-ops,
- moving co-op services to junior colleges,
- instructor role in online programs,
- giving incarcerated persons a second chance, and
- federal Pell Grants.

**Mr. Shane Broadway**, Vice President, Governmental Relations, ASU System, and former member of the Arkansas House of Representatives and the Arkansas Senate, was recognized, and made closing remarks.

Handouts:

Arkansas State University – Newport, Information Packet:

Arkansas – Proud to Call Arkansas Home

ASUN Marketing Materials: Automotive Body Technicians; Computer Networking Technicians; Diesel Technicians; Industrial Maintenance Technicians; Renewable Energy Technicians; Welders

ASUN – Rebuilding the American Dream, 2014–2019 Strategic Plan

Eye On Jackson, August 2015

Quick Facts; A Success Story – Kimberly; A Success Story – Eleni; Placement and Employment; Programs

Next Scheduled Meetings:

Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. in the Wal-Mart/Regions Room, First Floor, Student Center, ASU-Beebe, 1000 Iowa Street, Beebe, AR 72012

Monday, September 14, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. in Committee Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock

Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

*Approved: 09/14/15*