**Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs Committee
Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014
President’s Conference Room**

The Academic Affairs Committee met on Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014 on the Ozarka College campus in Melbourne.

 Those present were Trustees: Mr. Bob Evins, Mr. Jack Yancey, Mr. Paul Weaver, and Mrs. Darla York via teleconference, also in attendance: Dr. Richard Dawe, Dr. Dennis Rittle, and Tess Weatherford.

Dr. Dawe contacted Trustees Darla York via conference call for the meeting.

Dr. Rittle called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Dr. Rittle provided the committee with a PowerPoint of the following Academic initiatives for 2014/2015 year:

**Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts:** Dr. Rittle explained that the AAS in Culinary Arts will be integrating a new course, a Café Internship course that will help increase learning experience for student in the culinary program. Dr. Rittle explained that the Café internship will provide students with “real work” experiences as they will work in the Student Service Center Café and learn the interworking dynamics of café operation while interacting with customers on a daily basis. Dr. Rittle also informed the committee that this Café Internship course will increase the ability to obtain programmatic accreditation from the American Culinary Federation. The committee agrees the Café Internship will be a great learning experience for those in the Culinary Arts program.

**Associate of Science in Education:** Dr. Rittle explained to the committee that the education system in the state of Arkansas is making a transition in the postsecondary educational requirements for new elementary and secondary educators. He said these requirements will have Ozarka College transition from offering the existing Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree to an Associate of Science in Education (ASE) degree. Dr. Rittle explained the reasoning for this change; he said it enables the program to remain current with teacher training requirements and supports transferability between a graduate’s 2-year degree and 4-year degree with partners, such as University of Central Arkansas and Arkansas State University.

**Certificate of Proficiency in Information Science Technology**: Dr. Rittle informed the committee that the Certificate of Proficiency in Information Science Technology proposes to integrate a new course which prepares students to successfully pass the Computing Technology Industry Association A+ Certification. Dr. Rittle explained this is an 18 hour certificate of proficiency that will enable students to further their education or complete a stand-alone program of study to increase their technology skills. Dr. Rittle also said integrating the new course for this program will help provide cutting-edge technology skills to increase success in the field of information technology in areas such as web design, programming, and information security.

**Technical Certificate in Information Science Technology:** Dr. Rittle talked to the committee about a new program, Technical Certificate in Information Science Technology. Dr. Rittle explained that this program will incorporate the six foundational courses in information science technology as well as include two general education courses, a computer applications course, and a programming course. The technical skills within this certificate will include:

* computer programming
* web design
* local area network set-up
* database management
* computer and network security
* software and hardware troubleshooting.

 Dr. Rittle said this program is a 30 hour technical certificate and will also prepare students to receive the Computing Technology Industry Association A+ and Network+ Certifications. Dr. Rittle said new IST Instructor, Brad Lawrey will be teaching both Technical Certificate in Information Science Technology and the Certificate of Proficiency in Information Science Technology courses. Dr. Rittle said new instructor Brad Lawrey is a Highland High School graduate and a former Ozarka graduate who obtained his Bachelors and Master’s degree from the University of Central Arkansas and will now be teaching on the Ozarka College Ash Flat campus.

Dr. Rittle explained that these are the four items that will be presented at the December 18th board of trustees meeting.

With no further discussion, Dr. Rittle closed the meeting at 2:26 p.m.