**Ozarka College**

**Board of Trustee’s**

**Academic Affairs Committee Minutes**

**December 5, 2017 at 2PM**

**President’s Conference Room**

The Academic Affairs Committee was called to order at 2:10 p.m. Those present were Trustees: Fred Holzhauer and Darla York (via telephone.) Tim Gammill was unable to connect on the conference call due to technical difficulties, also in attendance: Dr. Richard Dawe, Dr. Keith McClanahan.

Discussion revolved around approval of the Academic Affairs Committee minutes of November 29, 2016 and four academic affairs items that were to be discussed during the regular Board of Trustee meeting on December 14, 2017. There was discussion concerning informational items presented regarding changes to existing degrees to create stackable credentials.

The first item was discussion on the proposed Associate of Science (AS) in Information Science Technology (IST). The committee members were briefed that this proposal as well as the other action items on the Academic Affairs Committee agenda will be considered for approval at the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) meeting scheduled for January 26, 2018. The purpose of this new AS Degree is to provide transfer opportunities for IST graduates and to create stackable credentials demonstrating work skills deemed important by Information Technology industries.

The second item was the proposed Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Aviation-Commercial Pilot. This new degree allows students to complete their FAA multiengine and Instrument ratings so that the graduates of the program can begin work in the aviation industry upon graduation. This degree is specifically for those students interested in Aviation who do not intend to seek a Bachelor’s degree at the conclusion of the program.

The third item for discussion was the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Welding Technologies. This is a degree that has been requested by several high school superintendents and other school officials as well as students seeking a welding program. This AAS has several stackable credentials embedded in the normal curriculum and provides multiple skills that graduates of the program can use to gain employment in manufacturing or welding related industries.

The final item discussed was the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Agriculture. This degree had been requested by interested students during the career days attended by the Agriculture program instructor and will meet the needs of people who do not desire to obtain a 4-year degree upon graduation from Ozarka College’s AAS in Agriculture.

After discussion, the committee supported all four requests and approved them to be taken to the full Board of Trustee meeting to be held December 14, 2017 on the Melbourne campus.

With no further business to be discussed, the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.