



Arkansas Department of Higher Education

114 East Capitol • Little Rock, Arkansas • 72201-3818 • (501) 371-2000 • Fax (501) 371-2001

Mike Beebe
Governor

Shane Broadway
Interim Director

September 9, 2011

The Honorable Mike Beebe
Governor of Arkansas
Room 250, State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Governor Beebe,

For the past eight months I have had the distinguished honor of working with the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) as Deputy Director and now as the agency's Interim Director. I am grateful for the opportunity each and every day to work with a tremendous group of people at our agency and a board that understands the importance of higher education to our state. I also have been honored by the relationship we have built as an agency with the institutions of higher education across our state. Collaborating together to find ways to improve student success is important to our state's future and I sincerely appreciate the leadership and support of our Presidents and Chancellors.

Serving as Interim Director of the ADHE is a tremendous honor but it is also a position that requires a great deal of time away from home. As you and the First Lady know, Debbie and I have been presented with new challenges over the past month in our ongoing battle with Debbie's Multiple Sclerosis. We are truly grateful to the both of you for your friendship and support during this time, and for always being there for us. Presented with new challenges has focused both of us on what is best for our future at this time. We have spent a great deal of time discussing a plan and in prayer about what we can and should do to focus our collective energies.

Therefore I would respectfully request that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) begin the process of searching for a permanent Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

On Tuesday of this week, I met with our Chairman, David Leech to discuss our decision and since that meeting I have visited individually with each member of our board, the Presidents and Chancellors and our staff at ADHE at our monthly staff meeting this morning. The Chairman will begin working with our staff and the board to begin the process of the search needed to find a new director.

Honorable Mike Beebe
September 9, 2011
Page 2

During that process I will be willing to continue serving in my current role as Interim Director until a new Director can be secured and begin at the agency. I have already begun the process of adjusting my schedule to meet the needs of the agency and those of my family. If the new Director so chooses, I would be willing to stay at the agency as Deputy Director to focus on the many issues we have before us and allow the Director to also represent our state to the many state, regional and national organizations that we are currently working with to improve student success. Doing so will allow me to focus my energies closer to home.

It is a great honor to be a part of your administration and to work with you and your excellent staff. Through your leadership and support of higher education we will continue to work each day to improve the lives of the people of this great state. Finally, Debbie and I are grateful to you and the First Lady, my chief deputy Harold Criswell, our senior staff, staff and board at ADHE, my former colleagues in the Arkansas General Assembly and the leadership of our colleges and universities for their support and encouragement during this time in our lives.

With personal regards,



Shane Broadway
Interim Director

c: AHECB
Presidents and Chancellors
Workforce Cabinet
General Assembly