

**Air University Board of Visitors
Meeting Minutes
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama**

April 2-3, 2024

This report and the recommendations contained herein are based upon the Air University Board of Visitors (AU BoV) independent assessment of the facts presented by the Department of the Air Force and Air University. The AU BoVs' recommendations are based upon the consensus opinion of the members and were reached without any influence from interested parties. Committee members are encouraged to submit Minority Statements if they disagree with the majority position.

Respectfully submitted by: DR. SHAWN P. O'MAILIA, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Air University.

I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, the subsequent minutes are accurate and complete.



DR. JUDITH L. BONNER

Chair, Air University Board of Visitors

Date Approved: 12 April 2024

Section 1: AU BoV Meeting Attendance

Section 2: AU BoV Activities and Discussions

Section 3: AU BoV Actions, Recommendations, Requests, Observations, and/or Commendations

Section 4: 13 Feb 24 CCAF Subcommittee Minutes

Section 1: AU BoV Meeting Attendance

A. AU BoV Members Present:

- 1) Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair
- 2) Lt Gen (Dr) Robert J. Elder, Jr., USAF, Ret; AFIT Subcommittee Chair
- 3) Col (Dr) Richard J. Bailey, USAF, Ret
- 4) Dr. Wayne T. Davis
- 5) CMSgt (Dr) Tamar S. Dennis, USAF, Ret
- 6) Maj Gen Sharon K.G. Dunbar, USAF, Ret (*Attended Virtually*)
- 7) Dr. John D. Schmisser
- 8) Dr. Elane K. Seebo
- 9) Billy L.B. Starkey, J.D., MBA

B. AU BoV Members Absent:

- 1) Dr. Ruben M. Flores, CCAF Subcommittee Chair
- 2) Dr. Mildred Garcia
- 3) Col Michael D. Cartney, USAF, Ret

C. Public Attendees: No public attendees

D. Designated Federal Officer: Dr. Shawn P. O'Mailia

E. Air University Attendees:

- 1) Lt Gen Andrea D. Tullos
- 2) Dr. Mark J. Conversino, AU/CAO
- 3) CMSgt Stephen Blazier, AU/CCC
- 4) Brig Gen (ret) Chris Kemp, AU/CET
- 5) Dr. Walter F. Jones, AFIT/CL
- 6) Lt Col Thomas P. Talafuse, CCAF/CC
- 7) Dr. Yolanda Williams, AU/A7
- 8) Mr. Scott Wilson, AU/A6
- 9) Dr. Patricia Maggard, Barnes/DE
- 10) Dr. Jacqueline Cahill, GCPME/DE
- 11) Dr. Ella Temple, AU/A7
- 12) Dr. Christine Ross, AU/A7
- 13) Mr. Jeff Geidner, AU/A7

Section 2: AU BoV Activities and Discussions

Tuesday, 2 April 2024

A. Convene Public Meeting and Federal Register Announcement – Dr. O’Mailia, DFO

Dr. Shawn P. O’Mailia began the meeting by emphasizing that the AU Board of Visitors (BoV) functions as a federal advisory committee, operating under the guidelines of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. He underscored the Act's key principles of openness and transparency. Additionally, Dr. O’Mailia informed attendees that the meeting had been officially announced in the Federal Register on March 28, 2024. During his presentation, Dr. O’Mailia outlined the functions and duties of the AU BoV, as well as his specific responsibilities as the Designated Federal Officer.

B. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair

Dr. Bonner welcomed the AU BoV Members and expressed gratitude to Lt Gen Tullos and all attendees for their presence. She then presented Dr. Mark J. Conversino with a resolution from the AU BoV, appointing him as an honorary member. Following this, Dr. Bonner requested that all AU BoV Members introduce themselves. Subsequently, she invited everyone in the room, including AU staff, to introduce themselves as well.

C. Air University Opening Remarks, Charge to AU BoV, and Reorganization of Air University – Lt Gen Andrea D. Tullos, Commander and President, Air University

Lt Gen Tullos expressed gratitude to Dr. Bonner and the AU BoV Members for their commitment to serving on the AU BoV. She highlighted specific challenges facing the Community College of the Air Force, including issues related to academic credit counting. Lt Gen Tullos also discussed AU's role in education amidst great power competition and the importance of agile learning.

The remainder of Lt Gen Tullos's discussion focused on the Department of the Air Force Reorganization. She outlined various ways AU was reorganizing to support this effort and provided details on the structure of the Red Tail Officer Education Center.

D. CCAF Subcommittee Report and Discussion – Dr. Elane K. Seebo; Member, Parent Committee and CCAF Subcommittee

Dr. Seebo reported that the CCAF Subcommittee convened virtually on February 13, 2024, with Col (ret) Michael Dr. Cartney, USAF representing Dr. Ruben M. Flores (Chair, CCAF Subcommittee) in his absence. She provided an overview of the attendees from the CCAF Subcommittee, HQ AU, and CCAF, and highlighted key topics discussed by HQ AU and CCAF.

Dr. Seebo then outlined the CCAF Subcommittee’s key findings in several areas, including Competency-based Education, the CCAF System, AU Registrar, and AU Accreditation. Following this presentation, she invited AU BoV Members to ask questions or engage in discussion.

After the discussion, Dr. Seebo requested approval from the AU BoV for the minutes of the February 13, 2024, CCAF Subcommittee Meeting as presented. The AU BoV unanimously approved and accepted the CCAF Subcommittee Minutes, which are included in this report (refer to Section 4: February 13, 2024, CCAF Subcommittee Minutes).

Vote: Approved

E. Fifth-Year Interim Report and QEP Update – Dr. Yolanda E. Williams; Deputy Provost and SACSCOC Liaison

Dr. Williams detailed the comprehensive steps that Air University has initiated to kickstart the narrative writing and associated evidence collection necessary to meet the SACSCOC standards for the Fifth-Year Interim Report (FYIR). She emphasized the strategic importance of these measures in ensuring a successful outcome for the FYIR, which is scheduled for submission in March 2025.

Dr. Williams transitioned the discussion and provided a thorough update on AU's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which has integrated a critical dimension of ethical leadership into the university's curriculum. This initiative represents a significant enhancement to AU's educational framework, fostering ethical awareness and leadership development among its students. Dr. Williams highlighted the positive impact of the QEP on AU's academic programs and emphasized its alignment with broader institutional goals and values.

F. CCAF Taskforce Update – Lt Col (Dr) Thomas P. Talafuse, CCAF Commandant

Lt Col Talafuse provided a concise update on the CCAF Task Force, outlining its five lines of effort. He highlighted key achievements, including the successful integration of military course data into the AU Student Information System (SIS) and the ongoing consolidation of AU/CCAF Registrar functions, resulting in a significant reduction in backlog and improved automation processes. Lt Col Talafuse also mentioned the implementation of a university-wide contract with Parchment for AU transcript processing.

Transitioning the discussion, Lt Col Talafuse introduced the Faculty Qualifications Tracking Tool (FQTT), an AU-approved faculty management system, explaining its relevance to CCAF operations. He noted that 100 CCAF Instructional Sites and 34% of instructor records have been migrated to FQTT.

Lt Col Talafuse then addressed CCAF Degree Consolidation, outlining plans to streamline approximately 70 degree programs by categorizing them into 10 degree programs reflecting broader degree classifications that align with CIP codes. He discussed CCAF Credit Awarding policies, emphasizing AU's requirement of 45 instructional contact hours per credit hour and identified issues with inadequate documentation of out-of-class student work. He highlighted a recent evaluation by CCAF, which found that over 450 courses lacked sufficient contact hours to be credit-bearing, with 113 courses falling short of the required threshold.

Lt Col Talafuse noted the reliance on Upgrade Training and Department of Labor registered apprenticeships through the United States Military Apprenticeship Program to support CCAF initiatives.

K. Student Life-cycle Management (SLcM) Update – Brig Gen (ret) Christopher R. Kemp, USA; Director, Educational Technology

Brig Gen (ret) Kemp provided a comprehensive system overview of the Student Lifecycle Management (SLcM) and highlighted the interconnected nature of various systems that comprise or contribute to the SLcM framework. He elaborated on the intricate ecosystem of systems that support student lifecycle management within Air University.

Brig Gen (ret) Kemp detailed the timeline for AU's Enterprise Enrollment Management System (EEMS) Continuous Systems Improvement (CSI) initiative, spanning from the first quarter of calendar year 2024 to

the second quarter of calendar year 2025. This roadmap underscores AU's commitment to enhancing its enrollment management capabilities through systematic improvements.

Addressing the concept of governance through data stewardship, Brig Gen (ret) Kemp delineated four distinct levels of individuals involved in ensuring data integrity and governance: 1) Data citizens, 2) Data stewards, 3) Data officer, and 4) Command data officer. He emphasized the importance of these roles in upholding data governance standards across AU's enterprise systems.

Brig Gen (ret) Kemp discussed the enterprise systems Full Operational Capability Plus (FOC+), a milestone projected to be achieved by January 2025 and beyond. This initiative marks a significant advancement in AU's enterprise systems capabilities, facilitating enhanced operational efficiency and effectiveness across the university's administrative functions.

G. Lunch – AU BoV Members, AU/CAO, AFIT/CL, AU/A7 and DFO.

H. International Officer School Overview and Honor Roll – Col (ret) Mike Homan, IOS/CD

Col (ret) Homan initiated his discussion by providing a detailed overview of the strategy and guidance outlined in the Interim National Security Strategy Guidance, National Defense Strategy, and relevant provisions from Title 10 and 22. He emphasized the importance of fostering relationships and partnerships as key elements of these strategic frameworks.

Moving forward, Col (ret) Homan delved into the significant return on investment that the United States receives from the International Professional Military Education program offered by Air University. He elaborated on the program's impact in advancing U.S. national security interests and strengthening international partnerships.

Transitioning to Air University's educational engagements during Academic Year 2023-24, Col (ret) Homan highlighted the diverse global outreach efforts conducted by the International Officer School (IOS). He provided insights into the resident Professional Military Education (PME) preparatory courses offered by IOS, underscoring their role in preparing international military officers for advanced studies.

Col (ret) Homan then spotlighted the AU International Alumni of Distinction Seminar, discussing its strategic imperatives, objectives, participant demographics, and the integrated curriculum designed to address contemporary security challenges.

Col (ret) Homan addressed the significance of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF) and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (CMSAF) International Honor Roll, providing context on its background, objectives, demographics of inductees, and key discussion points for the upcoming 2024 induction ceremony. This recognition program serves to honor distinguished international military leaders and further strengthens bilateral and multilateral relationships critical to global security and defense cooperation efforts.

I. Financial Management Update – Mr. Gary Alexander; Director, Financial Management

Mr. Alexander commenced his presentation by providing the Air University Board of Visitors (AU BoV) with a comprehensive FY23 End of Year Review. This review included a breakdown of the \$35.1 million executed during the fiscal year, with \$25.6 million allocated to education initiatives and \$9.5 million designated for facility projects.

Continuing with his report, Mr. Alexander presented a detailed comparison between FY23 and FY24, noting a reduction of \$4.5 million from FY23 to FY24, with total expenditures amounting to \$30.6 million in FY24 compared to \$35.1 million in FY23.

Mr. Alexander then shifted focus to AU's FY24 Outlook, emphasizing an initial distribution of \$677 million scheduled for April 2024. He highlighted the ongoing Mid-Year Review Corporate Process, in collaboration with Air Education and Training Command (AETC), aimed at identifying and addressing top education-related unfunded requirements.

Looking ahead, Mr. Alexander outlined upcoming activities, including the FY25 Execution Plan set for April and May 2024. He also provided a detailed overview of the FY25-29 Program Objective Memorandum (POM) and the FY26-30 POM update, underscoring AU's strategic financial planning for the upcoming years.

Mr. Alexander discussed the AETC FY26 POM Timeline and outlined key milestones and deliverables associated with the FY26 Program Objective Memorandum. This comprehensive overview provided the AU BoV with a clear understanding of Air University's financial performance, outlook, and future planning initiatives within the broader Air Force Education and Training Command framework.

L. AU BoV Executive Time and Discussion – Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair

After AU personnel left, Dr. Bonner and the AU BoV discussed the meeting topics and shared their impressions. They also talked about potential issues to raise with the SecAF on May 7, 2024. Dr. Bonner then outlined the process they would follow the next day to formalize their recommendations, requests, observations, actions, and commendations. This involved synthesizing their discussions into actionable proposals to support Air University's mission and strategic objectives.

M. Dinner – AU BoV, AU/CAO, AFIT/CL, AU/A7 and DFO

N. Adjourn for the Day

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

O. Call to Order – Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair

Dr. Bonner called the meeting to, welcoming everyone to Day 2. She expressed her gratitude to Dr. Conversino, who graciously stood in for Lt Gen Tullos, for hosting the dinner the previous evening. Dr. Bonner also acknowledged and appreciated the dedicated support of the staff in facilitating the successful continuation of the meeting.

P. Great Power Competition and ACSC Agile Learning – Dr. Mark J. Conversino; Provost and Chief Academic Officer and Col Matthew O. Berry; Commandant, Air Command and Staff College

Dr. Conversino delivered a comprehensive overview detailing how Air University is strategically addressing the challenges posed by Great Power Competition, specifically highlighting the significant threats emanating from Russia and China against the United States. He elaborated on the multifaceted approach

adopted by Air University to enhance national security preparedness and resilience in response to these evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Following Dr. Conversino's presentation, Col Berry provided an in-depth exploration of the Agile Learning Concept, emphasizing its key goals and inherent challenges. He then shifted the focus to provide a progress update on the Initial Operating Capacity (IOC) achieved in calendar year operations, highlighting developments at four specific locations: Barksdale Air Force Base, Maxwell Air Force Base, Scott Air Force Base, and Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. Col Berry also discussed the potential expansion strategy, outlining plans to potentially double the number of operational locations to eight, reflecting the commitment to advancing agile learning capabilities across Air University's educational framework.

Q. Air University Honorary Degree Nominees – Dr. Shawn P. O’Mailia, DFO

Dr. O’Mailia began by noting that Air University had last awarded an honorary degree to Mr. David McCollough in November 2015. He provided insight into the meticulous process undertaken for nominating and evaluating candidates for such prestigious recognition. Dr. O’Mailia explained that the nomination process involved the AU Faculty Senate, followed by a thorough evaluation by a selection committee. Ultimately, two distinguished individuals, Secretary Heather Wilson and General David Goldfein, emerged as the top candidates and were presented to Lt Gen Tullos for approval.

Dr. O’Mailia then shared that Lt Gen Tullos accepted and approved Secretary Heather Wilson and General David Goldfein as worthy recipients for endorsement by the Air University Board of Visitors (AU BoV). This decision was met with an invitation for questions and discussion from the AU BoV members.

Following a brief discussion, Dr. O’Mailia sought formal endorsement from the AU BoV for Secretary Heather Wilson and General David Goldfein to receive honorary degrees from Air University. The AU BoV unanimously expressed their endorsement, recognizing the outstanding contributions and achievements of these individuals deserving of this esteemed recognition.

R. Executive Session – Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair

After AU personnel left, Dr. Bonner and the AU BoV discussed their impressions of the discussions on Great Power Competition and ACSC Agile Learning. They also refined the topics and issues to be discussed with the SecAF on May 7, 2024, focusing on strategic priorities and key concerns for Air Force education and training.

S. Wrap-up and Closing Remarks – Dr. Judith L. Bonner, Chair

Dr. Bonner extended her heartfelt thanks to everyone at Air University for their crucial support, which was instrumental in ensuring the meeting's success. She appreciated the dedication and efforts of AU personnel in coordinating and executing the discussions effectively, highlighting the importance of teamwork and collaboration in achieving positive outcomes during the engagement with the AU Board of Visitors.

T. Working Lunch and Drafting of Minutes – Dr. Judith L. Bonner

After dismissing the AU attendees, Dr. Bonner, along with the AU Board of Visitors (BoV) Parent Committee, promptly commenced the process of synthesizing the information presented during the meeting into actionable items. They collaboratively formulated a series of actions, recommendations, requests, observations, and commendations based on the discussions and insights shared. These outcomes were meticulously documented and are detailed in **Section 3: AU BoV Actions, Recommendations, Requests, Observations, and/or Commendations** of the official meeting report. This structured approach ensured that key takeaways from the meeting were translated into concrete proposals and initiatives aimed at advancing Air University's mission and strategic objectives.

U. Meeting Adjournment – Dr. Judith L. Bonner

Dr. Bonner underscored the collaborative effort with Dr. O'Mailia, who served as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), to finalize the minutes of the 2-3 April 2024 Air University Board of Visitors meeting. She emphasized the meticulous attention to detail in preparing these minutes to accurately capture the discussions and decisions made during the meeting. Dr. Bonner informed the AU BoV members that they would have the opportunity to thoroughly review and concur with the final draft of the minutes before officially signing them, ensuring transparency and accuracy in documenting the proceedings of the meeting.

Section 3: AU BoV Actions, Recommendations, Requests, Observations, and/or Commendations

- AC-01-P-20240303: The AU Board of Visitors (BoV) unanimously accepted and approved the 13 February 2024 CCAF Subcommittee Report for inclusion in the 2-3 April 2024 AU BoV Parent Committee Report. Please refer to Section 4 for details: 13 February 2024 – AU BoV CCAF Subcommittee Report.
- AC-02-P-20240303: The AU BoV unanimously endorsed the nominations of Secretary Heather Wilson and General David Goldfein to receive an Air University Honorary Degree.
- The AU BoV commends Lt Gen Tullos (CO-01-P-20240303) for her progress and decisions regarding the reorganization of Air University. The AU BoV commends (CO-02-P-20240303) Air University, particularly Mr. Alexander and AU Financial Management, for its excellent financial management, optimizing funding to support both funded and unfunded mission requirements. The AU BoV recommends (RE-01-P-20240303) that the Secretary of the Air Force support Air University's continued advocacy for appropriate financial and personnel resources to sustain current and expanding mission requirements, ensuring readiness for Great Power Competition (GPC).
- The AU BoV observes (OB-01-P-20240303) the timing challenges for nominating and selecting DAF senior leaders, particularly in relation to the AU Commander and President position. These challenges are compounded by the need to fill Dr. Mark Conversino's position concurrently. The AU BoV also observes (OB-02-P-20240303) that while current AU personnel can temporarily fulfill Provost and Chief Academic Office duties, this is not sustainable long-term. The AU BoV recommends (RE-02-P-20240303) that hiring a permanent Provost and Chief Academic Officer be a priority for the successor AU Commander and President.
- The AU BoV commends (CO-03-P-20240303) Lt Col Talafuse and the CCAF staff for significant progress in consolidating registrar functions, collapsing degree programs, and tracking faculty qualifications. The AU BoV observes (OB-03-P-20240303) the importance of CCAF degrees for Department of the Air Force Airmen and Guardians. The AU BoV recommends (RE-03-P-20240303) continued refinement of processes to support them. The AU BoV requests (RQ-01-P-20240303) updates on CCAF progress during the November 2024 AU BoV meeting.
- The AU BoV commends (CO-04-P-20240303) Air University for progress on its FYIR and QEP, especially the addition of ethical leadership to the curriculum and its use as a QEP topic to SACSCOC. The AU BoV observes (OB-04-P-20240303) the challenges and time commitment involved in these initiatives alongside day-to-day work. The AU BoV recommends (RE-04-P-20240303) leveraging AU BoV expertise for guidance/reviews and requests (RQ-02-P-20240303) detailed briefs and reports at the November 2024 meeting.
- The AU BoV commends (CO-05-P-20240303) Brig Gen (ret) Kemp and the AU Team for progress on the AU Student Life-cycle Management (SLcM). The AU BoV observes (OB-05-P-20240303) the effort required for this task and recommends (RE-05-P-20240303) continued refinement of processes. The AU BoV requests (RQ-03-P-20240303) SLcM updates in November 2024.

- The AU BoV commends (CO-06-P-20240303) Col Ganster, Mr. Holman, and the IOS staff. The AU BoV observes (OB-06-P-20240303) the importance of the IOS mission in diplomacy with U.S. allies, recommending (RE-06-P-20240303) continued partnership building through shared education and mission success. The AU BoV observes (OB-07-P-20240303) AU would benefit from more international officers on its faculty and recommends (RE-07-P-20230303) the SecAF and AU investigate potential options.
- The AU BoV commends (CO-07-P-20240303) Dr. Conversino for addressing GPC. The AU BoV commends (CO-08-P-20240303) Col Berry, ACSC, and GCPME for developing the Agile Learning Concept. The AU BoV commends (CO-09-P-20240303) AU for establishing the JADS program. The AU BoV observes (OB-08-P-20240303) evolving GPC threats and recommends (RE-08-P-20240303) advancing Agile Learning beyond IOC with adequate resources. The AU BoV recommends (RE-09-P-20240303) socializing the Agile Learning Concept throughout the DAF and requests (RQ-04-P-20240303) updates in November 2024.

Section 4: 13 February 24 – AU BoV CCAF Subcommittee Report

**Air University Board of Visitors CCAF Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting**

February 13, 2024

This report and the recommendations contained herein are based upon the Community College of the Air Force Subcommittee's independent assessment of the facts presented by the Department of the Air Force and Air University. The Subcommittee's recommendations are based upon the consensus opinion of the members and were reached without any influence from interested parties. Subcommittee members are encouraged to submit Minority Statements if they disagree with the majority position. When submitted, these are attached to the final CCAF Subcommittee report for consideration by the Department of the Air Force and The Air University Board of Visitors (BOV).

Respectfully submitted by: DR. SHAWN P. O'MAILIA, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Air University.

I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, the subsequent minutes are accurate and complete.



COL (RET) MICHAEL D. CARTNEY, USAF
Acting Chair, CCAF Subcommittee
Date Approved: 21 February 2024

Section 1: CCAF Subcommittee Meeting Attendance

Section 2: CCAF Subcommittee Activities and Discussions

Section 3: CCAF Subcommittee Recommendations, Requests, Observations, and/or Commendations

Section 1: CCAF Subcommittee Meeting Attendance

A. CCAF Subcommittee Members Present:

- 1) Col (Ret) Michael D. Cartney, USAF; Acting Chair
- 2) CMSgt (Ret) Tamar S. Dennis, USAF; Ph.D.
- 3) Dr. Mary A.Y. Okada
- 4) Dr. Elane K. Seebo

- 5) **CCAF Subcommittee Members Absent:** Dr. Ruben M. "Mike" Flores

B. Public Attendees: No Members of the Public Present

C. Headquarters Air University Attendees:

- 1) Dr. Mark J. Conversino, Provost and Chief Academic Officer
- 2) Dr. Yolanda E. Williams; Deputy Provost; AU Liaison to SACSCOC
- 3) Dr. Shawn P. O'Mailia, Designated Federal Officer, AU Advisor Boards and Strategic Operations
- 4) Mr. Jeffrey J. Geidner; Chief, AU Enlisted and Continuing Education

D. Barnes Center and CCAF Attendees:

- 1) Lt Col (Dr) Thomas P. Talafuse; Commandant, Community College of the Air Force
- 2) Dr. Patricia R. Maggard, Dean, Barnes Center for Enlisted Education

Section 2: CCAF Subcommittee Activities and Discussions

Tuesday, 13 February 2024

A. Convene Public Meeting – Dr. O’Mailia, DFO

Dr. Shawn P. O’Mailia commenced the virtual meeting by announcing its public accessibility and the intention to include the meeting minutes in the AU BoV Parent Committee's 9-10 April 2024 meeting minutes, a task assigned to Col (ret) Michael D. Cartney, the CCAF Subcommittee Chair. Dr. O’Mailia delineated the roles and obligations of the CCAF Subcommittee Members, as well as his own as the Designated Federal Officer. Subsequently, Dr. O’Mailia ceded the floor to the CCAF Subcommittee Chair Nominee, Col (ret) Michael D. Cartney.

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Col (ret) Michael D. Cartney, USAF; Acting Chair

Col (ret) Michael D. Cartney welcomed the CCAF Subcommittee Members, expressing gratitude for their attendance, and acknowledged the absence of Dr. Ruben M. Flores, the CCAF Subcommittee Chair. Following these brief remarks, he requested all CCAF Subcommittee Members to introduce themselves. Additionally, Col (ret) Cartney invited the Headquarters Air University and CCAF Staff to introduce themselves.

B. Air University Opening Remarks – Dr. Mark J. Conversino, Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Conversino expressed gratitude to the CCAF Subcommittee Members for their time and service. He briefly discussed the recent announcement made by the SECAF regarding the reorganization of the Department of the Air Force. Dr. Conversino noted that the impact of these higher-level changes on Air University is still uncertain but assured that an update would be provided to the AU BoV Parent Committee during their 9-10 April 2024 meeting. He then sought the advice of the CCAF Subcommittee on the best approach to address the issues concerning CCAF, particularly regarding faculty oversight, credentialing, and credit awarding practices.

C. CCAF Update and Discussion – Lt Col (Dr) Thomas P. Talafuse, CCAF/CC

Lt Col (Dr) Thomas P. Talafuse initiated his discussion with an overview of recent articles in Air and Space Forces Magazine, notably focusing on the article titled "Why Does It Take So Long to get a CCAF Transcript?" He also touched upon other instances where CCAF has garnered attention in the news, including various Congressional Inquiries. Transitioning, Lt Col (Dr) Talafuse highlighted some positive developments at CCAF, such as conferring its 600,000th degree, increasing transcript production, and the establishment of the CCAF Task Force. He proceeded to discuss the CCAF Pathway to Success, emphasizing certificate and degree completion, as well as the AU-ABC program. Lt Col (Dr) Talafuse then shifted the conversation to CCAF's Credit Awarding Practices for a competency-based education model, reviewing key points presented to the AU BoV Parent Committee on 8 Nov 24. He also mentioned their efforts in consulting with peer institutions and expressed concerns regarding faculty qualifications, particularly in terms of upgrade training faculty. Concluding his remarks, Lt Col (Dr) Talafuse highlighted CCAF's initiatives related to stackable credentials.

D. Air University Accreditation Update: Related to CCAF – Mr. Jeffrey J. Geidner; Chief, Undergraduate and Continuing Education

Mr. Jeffrey Geidner initiated the discussion by outlining AU's advancements regarding the Fifth-year Interim Report to SACSCOC, aiming for completion by June 2024. He proceeded to address the persisting technical challenges with SLcM and transcript requests, which led to a formal complaint submitted to SACSCOC. Additionally, Mr. Geidner highlighted AU/CC's aspiration for collaborative efforts between CCAF and AU Academic Affairs to investigate the potential consolidation of degree programs, potentially reducing them to twenty or fewer.

E. Wrap-up, Closing Remarks, and Meeting Adjournment – Col (ret) Michael Cartney, USAF; Chair Elect

Colonel (ret) Cartney expressed gratitude to all attendees for their participation in yet another productive session. He mentioned that the CCAF Subcommittee would collaborate with the DFO to compose the minutes of the virtual CCAF Subcommittee meeting held on 13 February 2024 via email. He emphasized that prior to finalizing the minutes, members of the CCAF Subcommittee would have the opportunity to review and concur with the final draft.

Furthermore, Colonel (ret) Cartney stated that once the minutes were completed, he would provide an overview of the 13 February 2024 Virtual CCAF Subcommittee Meeting during the Air University Board of Visitors Parent Committee Meeting scheduled for 9-10 April 2024. After the overview and any ensuing discussion, Colonel (ret) Cartney indicated that he would request a vote to approve and accept the CCAF Subcommittee Minutes into the meeting minutes of the AU BoV.

Concluding the discussion, Colonel (ret) Cartney adjourned the 13 February 2024 Virtual CCAF Subcommittee meeting of the AU BoV.

Section 3: CCAF Subcommittee Recommendations, Requests, Observations, and/or Commendations

The CCAF Subcommittee commends (CO-01-C-20240213) the AU Team for their carefully crafted and informative presentations.

The CCAF Subcommittee thanks Lt Col (Dr) Talafuse for the update on CCAF credit-awarding process and recommends (RE-01-C-20240213) AU (CCAF and AU Academic Affairs) continue refining the weighting process in the credit-awarding process using a more polished competency-based education model. The CCAF Subcommittee observes (OB-01-C-20240213) the inherent challenge posed by such a task and recommends (RE-02-C-20240213) AU collaborate with other SACSCOC technical education institutions (e.g., Embry-Riddle, Polk State, etc.) who currently employ SACSCOC approved CBE models. The CCAF Subcommittee observes (OB-02-C-20240213) significant implications related to AU's institutional accreditation by SACSCOC and therefore requests (RQ-01-C-20240213) CCAF provide regular updates to the AU BoV, starting with the 9-10 Apr 24 AU BoV Parent Committee meeting and thereafter until AU successfully passes its fifth-year interim report.

The CCAF Subcommittee commends (CO-02-C-20240213) AU for their work to enhance benefits for both the military services participating in the CCAF programs and the CCAF students by pursuing more effective mechanisms to develop recognition of apprenticeships. The CCAF Subcommittee recommends (RE-03-C-20240213) AU continue to seek out innovated ways to further this work and requests (RQ-02-C-20240213) an update during the February 2025 CCAF Subcommittee Meeting.

The CCAF Subcommittee observes (OB-03-C-20240213) the Department of the Air Force's world-class technical training and education, taught by highly proficient faculty, the CCAF Subcommittee also observes (OB-04-C-20240213) the uniqueness of the CCAF-systems and the challenge it poses to the understanding of civilian institutions and accrediting bodies, such as SACSCOC. Consequently, it recommends (RE-04-C-20240213) AU pursue an in-depth exploration of options for effectively demonstrating how CCAF's unique, service-wide system meets related SACSCOC requirements, and requests (RQ-03-C-20240213) AU provide updates to the AU BoV Parent Committee and the CCAF Subcommittee related to this endeavor.

The CCAF Subcommittee commends (CO-03-C-20240213) AU for consolidating AU and CCAF Registrar functions to reflect common higher education practices and the inherent efficiencies gained. The CCAF Subcommittee also observes (OB-05-C-20240213) and appreciates the magnitude and scope of tracking +65 CCAF degree programs and the myriad of challenges associated. The CCAF Subcommittee recommends (RE-04-C-20240213) the AU Registrar investigate the application of CIP, SOC codes, or other generally accepted categorizations to reduce the number of degrees, and requests (RQ-04-C-20240213) AU provide a conceptual brief to the AU BoV, starting with the 9-10 Apr 24 AU BoV Parent Committee meeting.

The CCAF Subcommittee observes (OB-06-C-20240213) and understands the onerous task of gathering required data from multiple and sometimes non-integrated data sources required to craft narratives in preparation for their 2025 Fifth-Year Interim Report to SACSCOC. The CCAF Subcommittee recommends (RE-05-C-20240213) AU stay the course and requests (RQ-05-C-20240213) AU provide regular updates to the AU BoV, starting with the 9-10 Apr 24 AU BoV Parent Committee meeting and thereafter until AU successfully passes its fifth-year interim report.