



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 27, 2024

To: CEAC Board

From: Administration

Re: Memo of Dept. Highlights

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Text in **blue** are links for deeper review.

Academic Report

- [ATS Accreditation Timeline](#)
 - We have completed the first several steps in the ATS Accreditation Timeline and we were provided a positive staff visit report from our ATS Staff Liaison.
 - The ATS Board voted unanimously in May to recommend Stark for Associate Membership. The ATS members voted June 19, 2024 to grant Stark Associate Membership.
 - The linked timeline to achieve ATS Accreditation by Summer 2026 is still on track.
- Approved Curriculum Additions (Approved by digital vote on July 12 by the Executive Committee)
 - [Accelerated BA to MDiv](#)
 - Meant for advanced students to accelerate through their Bachelors and Master of Divinity at an expedited rate. Students will be eligible to apply after at least one year in undergraduate programs at Stark and be required to meet Master of Divinity admission requirements, provide a writing sample, and take a minimum number of hours per semester in order to qualify.
 - [Bachelor of Arts in Ministry \(Track Template\)](#)

- This curriculum allows for the addition of specialized tracks to be added to the BA in Ministry when student and market needs indicate one is warranted.
- [Bachelor of Arts in Ministry - Christian Counseling Track](#)
 - Many prospective and current Bachelor students have expressed a need for a Christian Counseling Track of the Bachelor of Arts in Ministry. Much like a Pre-Med Bachelor degree offers the opportunity for students to gauge interest in medicine and ensures prerequisite courses are taken before medical school, the Christian Counseling track would allow prospective students interested in an MA in Counseling or LPC certification the opportunity to gauge their interest and take necessary prerequisite courses. **Received ABHE approval for this degree on July 18, 2024.**
- [MDiv in Chaplaincy](#)
 - Stark faculty are working with Christus Health on an MOU to provide a pathway for Christus Spohn CPE students to pursue the Master of Divinity degree with Stark in tandem with their CPE units required for Chaplaincy Certification. The CPE units would count toward Competency completion in the Competency Based MDiv.
- Master of Arts in Faith-Based Nonprofit Leadership
 - Stark completed a [needs analysis](#) to determine if this degree is something of interest to prospective students and the market. We conducted listening sessions with non-profit organizational leaders this summer and are offering a Special Studies course in the field in the fall. We hope to have a curriculum built by the November Board meeting for approval.
- The curricular changes were updated in the catalog which was added to the consent agenda of the Board Meeting Minutes.
- Memorandums of Understanding/Articulation Agreements
 - Stark is seeking or has completed MOUs and/or Articulation Agreements with the following organizations and higher education institutions in order to provide promotional opportunities for our programs, to gain more students through a variety of pathways and partnerships, and providing continuing education opportunities for Stark students and graduates:
 - Buckner International - all levels (completed)
 - Christ Mission College - graduate levels (completed)
 - Christus Health - chaplaincy graduate level (signing in August)
 - Dallas Baptist University - all levels, emphasis with MBA & MA (in process)
 - Southern Bible Institute and College - graduate level (in process)
 - Texas Baptists Discipleship Certificate Programs - all levels (in process)

Student Experience

- [2023-2024 Enrollment Report](#)

- Summer 2024: 109 students*
- 2023-2024 Unique (Unduplicated) Students: 263
- Churches Served: 122

*Highest Summer Enrollment to date

Business & Finance Report

- [Stark Financial Statements - June 30, 2024 \(UNAUDITED\)](#)
 - **Cash balance.** Our cash balance as of June 30th was \$195,649 compared to \$125,664 last year. While not directly cash, it is worth noting that the balance in SCS' HighGround account has increased by \$184,431 vs. last year.
 - **Contributions.** General Fund Contributions for the month came to \$174,346 vs. LY of \$9,480 and a budget of \$64,583. Designated and Restricted Fund Contributions came to \$13,100 vs. LY of (\$58,004) and a budget of \$6,667. For the fiscal year, General Fund contributions are \$189,373 above budget and (\$441,751) below LY. The decrease vs. last year is related to decreased Borchers' Trust income in the current year. YTD Designated and Restricted Fund Contributions are \$48,155 above budget and \$25,901 above LY.
 - **Tuition.** Net Tuition revenue of \$322,087 YTD has come in \$22,087 above budget and \$71,017 above last year. This is an increase of 28% vs. LY.
 - **Total Income** for the month came in at \$229,169 vs. LY of (\$19,580) and a budget of \$152,093. YTD Total Income is \$200,408 above budget and (\$298,283) below LY. The YTD decrease vs. LY is due to the decreased Contributions. Investment income of \$543,451 YTD is (\$68,668) below budget and \$38,458 above LY.
 - **Expenses** for the month came in at \$136,538, which was below budget and below LY. YTD, Total expenses of \$1,863,865 were \$39,370 above budget and (\$62,534) below LY. The largest variances to LY occurred in Salaries (up by \$62,139), Event and Activity Expense (up by \$30,962) and Utilities (up by \$17,933), largely offset by lower spending on Building Maint & Occupancy (down by \$125,465) and Miscellaneous Expenses (down by \$26,218). Our primary increases vs. budget were in Technology Expenses (up by \$14,054), Building Maint & Occupancy (up by \$21,058), and Communications & Promotions (up by \$20,096).
 - **Summary.** Our YTD net operating surplus came in at \$161,663 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$624 and a surplus LY of \$397,411. This means we ended June YTD \$161,039 above budget and (\$235,749) below LY YTD.
- Oil and Gas Revenue Update
 - The oil and gas royalties for the Borchers estate are down significantly from previous years. The average quarterly income for SCS from the estate was \$335k in FY2022-23, but has decreased to an average of \$169k per quarter in FY2023-24. According to Chad Meyer from Prosperity Bank, the monthly income has held steady from January to June of 2024.
 - The trust continues to have other potential sources of income including the solar project with Intersect Power in Victoria County and most recently, APEX Clean Energy has shown interest in leasing the Shiner property for wind energy.

Development

- [Development Dashboard](#)
 - Received \$75,000 of a \$150,000 pledge from donor for 2024-25 fiscal year to help launch MA in Faith-Based Nonprofit Leadership degree
 - Raised \$56,000 “support our mission” funds in May-June, which have been received
- [Trustee Attendance & Giving Dashboard](#)
 - 41.18% Trustee giving for 2024 calendar year as of July 24, 2024