

Arkansas State University
Staff Senate Retreat
June 22, 2007

The Arkansas State University Staff Senate met on Friday, June 22, 2007, in the Student Union Chickasaw Room on the ASU-Jonesboro campus. President Randy Martin called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. In attendance:

Deanna Barton – present	Rhonda Keith – present
Lesley Bauders – present	L. C. Kennedy – present
Sandra Bramlett – present	Cameron Martin – present
Steve Brown – present	Randy Martin – present
Carol Byrd – present	Dena May – present
Phareta Calkin – present	Helen McCoy – present
Jon Carvell – present	Terry Merriweather – present
Glenda Childs - present	Elaine Poynter – present
Joycelyne Coleman – present	Gail Rasberry – present
Ellena Cox – present	Jerry Sailor – present
Laura Cremeens – present	Mia Sheppard-Taylor – present
Patrick Dixon – present	Brandi Thompson – present
Tami Freeman – present	Natalie Turney – present
Rosemary Freer – proxy Beth Silverthorn	Jennifer Jasinski - present
Vanita Harvey – present	Vicki Walker – present
Debbie Jernigan – present	Tim Weaver – absent

Minutes:

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Treasury Report:

Senator Freeman, Treasurer, distributed a one-page report of Staff Senate account balances as of May 31, 2006. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Administrator Reports and Updates:

Administrators from the ASU-Jonesboro campus gave a brief overview of their respective divisions/departments, along with an update on current projects and a summary of future goals. Each answered questions following their presentation.

Jennus Burton, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration gave an update on current construction projects and the Westside Overpass project. He stated that the university's postal contract had been extended to December 2007 and he provided updates on the Banner system and parking issues.

Rick Stripling, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs discussed the development of the new recreation center for students, the increased applications for new students entering in the fall semester, recent and upcoming improvements concerning campus safety issues and the new residential options that will be available to students based upon their enrollment status.

Glen Jones, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Academic Affairs gave an update on expanding online classes, the search for the new Vice Chancellor, the shared governance policy and recent efforts in making each department more service-oriented.

Steve Owens, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement gave an update on the Cooper Alumni Center which will house University Development and Alumni Relations. He announced that Dr. Ruth Hawkins will be in charge of planning for ASU upcoming centennial celebration. He also thanked everyone for contributing through Torchbearers and asked that if anyone had any "good news" in their prospective areas to let Tom Moore, Director of University Communications

Robert Evans, Executive Director for Governmental Relations gave an update on the state and federal government funding issues affecting higher education in Arkansas.

J. W. Mason, Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration talked about the probable increase in insurance rates, increase in pay for classified and non-classified employees and the transition from Applicant Harbor to People Admin software for individuals applying for jobs on campus. He also stated that the pay plan study is still active and he will keep the staff informed of any updates as they become available.

Other Business:

President Martin went over the three shared governance proposals that required a vote by the Senate. Discussion was heard on each one and voting results were as follows:

1. Academic Suspension Policy for Restart Students – Motion to accept by Senator Bramlett, second by Senator Brown, approved by majority vote with none opposing.
2. Acceptance of Transfer Work Policy (D Policy) – Motion to accept by Senator Cremeens, second by Senator Byrd, approved by majority vote with one opposing.
3. English Language Proficiency Policy – Motion to accept by Senator May, second by Senator Poynter, approved by majority vote with none opposing.

All other agenda items were tabled for discussion at the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.