

**Arkansas State University
Staff Senate Meeting
March 15, 2006**

The Arkansas State University Staff Senate met Wednesday, March 15, 2006, in the Dean B. Ellis Library Boardroom on the ASU-Jonesboro campus. Mr. Victor Hill, President of the Staff Senate, called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. In attendance:

Lesley Bauders – present	Rhonda Keith (Suzan Swan, proxy)
Tony Bittle – present	Donna Kirksey – present
Margaret Brewer - present	Jerrold Lockhart – present
Carol Byrd – present	Randy Martin - present
Barbara Coker – present	Dena May – present
Laura Cremeens – present	Don Neldon – present
Patrick Dixon – present	Carolyn Reece – present
Ann Ford – present	Mia Sheppard-Taylor – present
Jimmy Griffin – present	Natalie Turney – present
Jeff Gulley – present	Neal Vickers – present
Victor Hill – present	Evelyn Weatherford (Bill Kinard, proxy)
Toni Holt - present	

Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were approved without change. No meeting was held in February.

Treasury Report

Senator Ann Ford, treasurer, distributed a one-page report of Staff Senate account balances as of February 28, 2006. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

New Business

Wellness program update – Chris Enger, Wellness Program Coordinator, said a new schedule of employee wellness classes is available online at <http://hr.astate.edu/wellness/classcalendar.php>. Questions or comments about the wellness program may be directed to Chris at cenger@astate.edu, 972-3974.

Chancellor Search update – Dr. Glen Jones, Executive Assistant to the President for

Diversity Initiatives, provided an update on the current search for Chancellor for the ASU-Jonesboro campus. He said applications and nominations are currently being sought and the committee hopes to have candidates on campus in late May or early June. He said current information is always available on the Chancellor Search website (<http://www.astate.edu/chancellorsearch/>).

Holiday Vacation Schedule – Dr. J.W. Mason, Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration, distributed two handouts with options for the December holiday vacation. He asked for Staff Senate’s help in making employees aware of the options, and he requested a recommendation from the Senate regarding the option preferred by the majority of employees. President Hill directed senators to share the information with those in their EEO categories, collect responses and be prepared to vote on the options at the next meeting.

State of Arkansas Classification Compensation Pay Plan Study Update – Lori Roach, Director of Human Resources, distributed the timeline for completion of the pay plan study. She said Phase III of the study is underway.

When questioned about the university’s flextime policy, she said implementation is at the discretion of the department director.

New Senator Elections – President Hill said five senators’ terms will end soon. Election of new senators will take place in April and their three-year terms will begin in May.

Employee Picnic – Senator Ford reminded everyone of the employee picnic scheduled for May 17, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Pavilion. She requested the Senate’s permission to purchase baked beans and potato salad rather than relying on employees to donate those items. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Senator Jerrod Lockhart and seconded by Senator Donna Kirksey. The motion passed unanimously. Senator Ford reminded everyone that dessert donations are still needed.

Distinguished Service Awards – Tami Freeman reminded everyone that May 2 is the date for this year’s Distinguished Service Awards ceremony. The event will begin at 2 p.m. in

the Student Union Auditorium. Dessert will served in the Heritage Lounge following the ceremony.

Shared Governance Committee Appointments – President Hill asked for volunteers to serve as staff representatives on several shared governance committees. He said one does not have to be a Staff Senator to serve on committees – all staff members are invited to volunteer.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Submitted by
Laura Cremeens