

Arkansas State University
Staff Senate Meeting
March 21, 2007

The Arkansas State University Staff Senate met on Wednesday, March 21, 2007, in the Dean B. Ellis Library Board Room on the ASU-Jonesboro campus. President Laura Cremeens called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. In attendance:

Lesley Bauders – present	L. C. Kennedy – absent
Margaret Brewer – present	Donna Kirksey – present
Steve Brown – absent	Jerrod Lockhart - absent
Carol Byrd – proxy Sharon Lee	Randy Martin - present
Joycelyn Coleman –present	Dena May – present
Laura Cremeens – present	Terry Merriweather – present
Patrick Dixon – present	Don Neldon – proxy Jeff Gulley
Tami Freeman – present	Jerry Sailor – present
Vanita Harvey – absent	Mia Sheppard-Taylor – proxy Helen McCoy
Toni Holt – present	Brandi Thompson – present
Jennifer Jasinski – present	Natalie Turney – absent
Debbie Jernigan – absent	Vicki Walker – present
Rhonda Keith – present	Evelyn Weatherford - present

Past President:
Victor Hill – present

Minutes:

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Treasury Report:

Senator Rhonda Keith, Treasurer, distributed a one-page report of Staff Senate account balances as of February 28, 2007. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Old Business:

President Cremeens passed out proposals for changes to Staff Senate officer positions. The proposal is to combine the secretary and treasurer positions into one, and to create a new position as a communications officer to help streamline and simplify all outgoing and incoming questions, to place all documents on Access groups and update the website as needed. The floor

was opened for discussion. After consideration a motion was made by Senator Keith to create the new position for Vice President of Communications to start with the election of new officers in 2007. Senator Freeman seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Senator May made a motion to keep the secretary and treasurer positions as is. Senator Sailor seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

President Cremeens stated that two staff senators need to be on the Education Stipend Award Committee with the staff senate treasurer as an ex-officio. Senator Merriweather made a motion to have the treasurer as an ex-officio on the Education Stipend Award Committee, Senator Keith seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

President Cremeens asked the senators to consider changing the vice president position to president elect. The floor was opened for discussion on the pros and cons of this proposal, a lengthy discussion followed. Senator Sailor made a motion to keep the current vice president position as is, Senator Thompson seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

President Cremeens passed out a Shared Governance Proposal recommendation to change the eligibility requirements for University Honors Scholarship and Academic Merit Award. The University Honors Scholarship proposal is to raise the current minimum ACT score to 30 and lower the current GPA to 3.5. The Academic Merit Award proposal is to raise the current minimum ACT score to 22. Proxy McCoy made a motion to accept the current proposals, Senator Martin seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Other Business:

Chris Enger, Wellness Program Coordinator, reported that the second round of cardiovascular health screenings has been completed. The April screenings are booked and more sessions will open up in June. He also stated that 400 employees have signed up for the Arkansas

Fitness Challenge. And, on April 12 a nutritionist will be on campus for the Lunch and Learn session and will be talking about healthy eating on the run at noon in the Student Union Mockingbird Room, you must RSVP to register for this event.

Other Announcements:

Senator Keith announced that the A-State Update will be held April 3 from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Student Union. Scheduled guest speakers are Dr. Potts, Chancellor of ASU Jonesboro campus, Dr. Susan Allen, Vice Chancellor for Research and Student Affairs, Jennus Burton, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and Jo Ann Nalley, Director of Child Care Center. Human Resources will have two sessions and cover topics such as catastrophic leave, sick leave and other programs that the staff may be unaware of. Publicity for the event will be placed in the Herald, ASU Digest and fliers to all offices.

Senator Freeman announced that the Distinguished Performance Awards ceremony will be held May 3 at 2:00 p.m. Nomination forms will be sent out by campus mail to all staff and placed in the ASU Digest and on the Staff Senate website.

President Cremeens announced the Staff Senate Picnic Committee announced that the picnic will be May 16 from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm. and the committee's first meeting will be March 29.

Vice President Bauders announced that nomination ballots for the election of new senators are in and the final ballot will be sent out by campus mail next week and asked to be returned by April 6.

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.