

Arkansas State University

Staff Senate Meeting

July 15, 2015

The Arkansas State University Staff Senate met on Wednesday July 15, 2015, in the library boardroom (8th floor) on the ASU – Jonesboro campus, staff senate president, Nikki Turner called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

In attendance: Kiffany Banks, Proxy for Paula Broadway, Steven Brown, Robert Coggins, Shane Copeland, Ellena Cox, Timothy Cureton, Rodney Davis, Adrian Everett, Vera Forrest, Loretta Fulton, Brandy Hampton, Deanna Harris, Terry Locke, Jarrod Long, Randy Martin, Proxy for Carla McCain, Curtis Miller, Jennifer Novalick, Hope Phillips, Elaine Poynter, Amy Privett, Patricia Schreier, Amber Shipman, Proxy for Randall Tate, Nikki Turner, Natalie Turney, Scottie Wheat, Debra Wright.

June Minutes:

Minutes were approved with one correction made by Loretta Fulton.

June Treasury:

Treasury Report presented by Brandy Hampton.

New Business:

- a. **Terry Mohajir, Athletic Director** – Terry is an A-State Alum from 1991 and played ball on campus. He wanted the Staff Senate to know that we are their greatest ambassadors. He reminded the Staff Senate to always be positive and remember that our University is a great one. He asked that we remember to ask for A-State gear when we go to area businesses. He reminded us that A-State is the economic driver that moves this area and to help spread the word about everything that we do here to make people want to be a part of this University. He then moved on to game days. He wants people to know that we are a national school. He also mentioned that we recruit students, not athletes. When scheduling games, they are trying to cater to the community with the days and times of the scheduled games. They will have some games on ESPN on Tuesday nights. We need to make sure to fill the stands on Tuesday night ESPN games. He spoke a few words about the new press box. It has a projected finish date of 08/01/15. It was funded through private funds and cost \$25M. They hope this will grow revenue at the games. He isn't sure when the new football complex will be built and they are putting the finishing touches on the Student Activity and Recreation Center. They plan on having an open house when the students get back in August. He asked us to remember that staff receive 20% off on season tickets, which start at \$100.00. When asked about student attendance Mohajir said that they are contemplating new ideas to boost student attendance like ice cream and hiring DJ's for their section. He also suggested that we talk to them about coming to see the band or the cheerleaders who work just as hard as the team playing. When asked about the shuttle service Mohajir responded by saying that they want to make sure the shuttle service is always available to anyone who needs it. He also reminded us of the Limited Mobility Pass.

Old Business:

- a. **Update on Recognition Wall** – There have been 21 nominations. Food has been ordered for the reception on August 12th for 2:00 pm.
- b. **Staggered Terms** – In EEO category 60 all three senators will fall off at one time. This guideline is to break that cycle. This is important to establish continuity and always have the ability to elect new senators. These will not be part of the constitution and bylaws, but just a guideline to use in the future. Randy Martin asked if there should be a time limit on the number of terms they can serve. Nikki Turner explained that the max amount of time a person could serve would be five years and that this one only occur once. A senator suggested that the senators serving a one and two year term not be able to be re-elected for a three year term after serving their one to two year term. This would solve the problem of a person serving 5 years. After much discussion the idea of a senator serving 5 consecutive years did not seem like a large enough problem to change the guideline. Amy Privett made a motion to pass the guideline. Elaine Poynter seconded. The guidelines passed unanimously.

Report from the President and Open Discussion:

- a. Nikki called for staff senators to serve on the open committees. Several senators volunteered.
- b. Soon there will be someone coming to talk to the staff senate about the Freedom of Information Act. This is a legal issue that we need to be aware of.
- c. A-State Staff Senate now has a Facebook page. This will help senators and constituents communicate. The name is ASTATE staff.
- d. August 12th at 2:00 pm is the staff recognition awards ceremony.
- e. The constitution and by-laws are currently with the Executive Council.
- f. Next Meeting is September 16th, 2015 at 2:00 pm in the Board Room of the Library.
- g. Meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.