

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Minutes of February 15, 2008**

**FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**PROXY**

Louella Moore—Chair		P
Shivan Haran- Vice-chair of the Senate		P
Bill Humphrey—Past President		A
Lillie Fears —Secretary Faculty Association		P
Judith Pfriemer—Secretary of the Senate		P

**AGRICULTURE (1)**

Bert Greenwalt	Spring 08	A
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**BUSINESS (3)**

Mark Foster	Spring 09	P
Richard Segall	Spring 08	P
Ahmad Syamil	Spring 08	P

**COMMUNICATIONS (2)**

Pradeep Mishra	Spring 08	P
Mary J. Pitts	Spring 09	A

**EDUCATION (5)**

Andy Mooneyham	Spring 09	P
Daniel Cline	Spring 09	P
Tom Fiala	Spring 09	A
Stephanie Davidson	Spring 09	A
Amy Claxton	Spring 09	P

**ENGINEERING (1)**

Shivan Haran	Spring 09	P
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**FINE ARTS (3)**

Stacy Alley	Spring 08	P
Ron Horton	Spring 09	P
Bill Rowe	Spring 09	P

**HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (6)**

Robert Baum	Spring 08	A
Win Bridges	Spring 08	A
Richard Burns	Spring 09	P
Peggy Robinson-Wright	Spring 09	A
Alex Sydorenko	Spring 09	P
Richard Wang	Spring 09	P

**LIBRARY (1)**

Myron Flugstad	Spring 09	P
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**MILITARY SCIENCE (1)**

Jeffrey Helms	Spring 09	A
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**NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS (4)**

Donna Caldwell	Spring 08	P
Richard Freer	Spring 08	P
Mike McDaniel	Spring 09	A
Judith Pfriemer	Spring 09	P

**SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS (4)**

Richard Grippo	Spring 09	P
Jeff Jenness	Spring 08	P
Jie Miao	Spring 08	A
Open	Spring 08	

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (1)**

Gloria Bridges	Spring 08	P	Margaret McClain
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Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

## **I. MINUTES:**

Minutes from February 1, 2008 presented for approval. Approved

**II. OLD BUSINESS:** Dr. Moore presented a follow up to the Senate Financial Committee Report. She stated that the report has been sent to Dr. Wyatt, Dr. Potts, Dr. Howard and to the press in Jonesboro and Little Rock. The executive committee had meet with Dr. Potts to discuss the report.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

Dennis White representing the Beck Pride Center gave a brief oral report on the center. Dr. White is the community liaison for the center and stated was glad to be back on campus. The center is housed in the College of Nursing and Health Professions and serves America's wounded soldiers and is focusing on providing personal, rehabilitation, individual developmental and education needs of the armed service men and women. Dr. White gave a few examples of individuals who have already sought services. His email is [DWWWhite@astate.edu](mailto:DWWWhite@astate.edu) or you can contact the director Susan Tonymon at [stonymon@astate.edu](mailto:stonymon@astate.edu) There is also a web site at <http://cp.atate.edu/pride>

Dr. Howard VCAAR addressed the Senate. He provided a briefing outline and his comments on the:  
Finance Committee Report

Appreciated the hard work that went into the report and that the data sets were most revealing. He stated salaries at all faculty levels were below regional and state levels. These problems accrued over time and the faculty have his personal commitment to help address faculty salary deficiencies. He further stated Dr. Potts and Dr. Glen Jones shared this commitment. He asked for faculty support as follows: "Trust that advocacy and incremental results/improvements will occur in faculty salaries; support institution initiatives to help generate revenue; and avoid rhetoric that does not contribute to the solution" We need to work together to ensure that ASU acts to recruit and retain well-qualified faculty members.

### Focus on Revenue Generation

Items that contribute to enrollment growth are domestic undergraduate and graduate students. He wants a tracking system in place for quick, early and frequent communication with individuals who express an interest in ASU. These communiqués should come from his office, the deans and chairs in the appropriate colleges as well as from admissions. The international program needs a proactive approach including an updated website, rework or replace all publications, the creation of a recruiting DVD and power point presentation, the creation of a first rate English as a Second Language (ESL) program, the processing of completed ESL applications within 1 business day and development of contractual relationships with reputable agencies in foreign countries. He further reviewed the benefits of international students which contribute both financial and culturally to ASU.

### Enhancing extramural support via grants and contracts

The office of Research and Technology Transfer will be more proactive, He wants to link grant/contract to faculty and connect faculty who have shared interests across campus and provide support for proposal preparation and post award compliance.

### Contributing to Capital Campaign

He stated ASU was in a silent phase of the campaign and that he has experience in this area. He has spoken with the Deans to find the strengths, threats, opportunities and the needs of the colleges. He would like to enhance the relationship between the academic community and the Advancement Team.

### Facilitate the movement of ASU from a Masters Comprehensive to a Research Intensive Institution

This will be done by increasing doctoral degrees offered, increase in extramural research funding, and that one of the benefits will be a modification to the State Funding formula for ASU that will warrant additional appropriations.

### Legislative Funding Formula Matters

Dr. Howard reviewed the presentation by Dr. Jim Purcell, Executive Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education to the Chief Officers earlier in the week which included Performance Based Funding or \$5 to \$10 million based on Suggested Allocation Weighting Degrees Conferred (25%); Retention Rates (30%); Graduate Rates (25%); Two Institution Specific Measures (20%). 10 peer institutions (for each institution) from outside of Arkansas will serve as comparison group. Institution-specific measures will involve internal comparison (current 2 years vs. past 3 years). ASU could use increase of diversity and increase of international students. "If ASU does not act prudently to address the above, it will experience a contraction in legislative appropriations; conversely, if ASU acts prudently it will keep from losing a portion of legislative appropriations and may gain additional financial support." ASU must recruit more qualified students, provide better diagnosis of students entering ASU; move remedial Math and English into University College and award associate degrees along the way to baccalaureate degrees.

Dr. Howard then presented a power point he had worked up for the international students' recruitment. The floor was opened for questions:

**Bill Rowe:** Expressed concerns about ESL being up and running this summer since he had students who will need the program. **Dr. Howard** explained the changes in further detail. The program is running now even though there are only 4 students and the ESL program is being brought to the community. ASU is currently looking for a director of the program.

**Richard Burns:** Didn't know that Arkansas offered a degree in English as a Second Language. **Dr. Howard** stated he also did not know but ASU would be addressing that with plans for ASU program to grow to a degree granting institute.

**Dick Freer:** Asked that turning back to the financial report what was realistic funding for the upcoming year. The drain on EIG to athletics continues and what is Dr. Howard's position on that transfer. **Dr. Howard:** I haven't worked on the transfer as this is only my 45 day but the BOD is unlikely to move away from Division I athletics and that a large portion of the budget goes to support scholarships and they contribute to graduation rates. "I am focusing on anything I can control" "One of the dimensions of the capital champagne is to raise athletic funds and we need a coordinated campaign."

**Dan Cline:** Though there is a lot of figure pointing is at athletics it is a small part of the picture. There has been a shift away from education to other areas such as 200% increase in administration. We have become an orphan. **Dr. Howard:** "You will not be an orphan. You will be well supported" He stated he is touring the different colleges and there is a need to spend additional funds on the academic facilities, infrastructure and supplies.

**Ahmad Syamil:** Concerns of ASU current support to the international students and the need to have a first rate program to assist the students. **Dr. Howard:** ASU will be proactive. We will meet them at the Memphis airport with a native speaker, their beds will be made and waiting for them since they will have traveled a distance and be tired. There will be a formal international student orientation as will a domestic student orientation. As much as possible will be personalized. All international students will have my cell phone number.

**Bill Rowe:** Stated his concerns with changes in Pell grant funding, the students further needs in his department and then their need for expansion, and lastly ASU ability to compete with Fayetteville on performance based funding. **Dr. Howard:** In performance based funding ASU will not be competing against Arkansas schools but rather against 10 schools we choose from outside of the state. The modern foreign language department will most likely see an increase in students taking a foreign language that is not English or their native language. We will be recruiting now from Japan and those students will be interested in all of our majors, and India whose students will be interested in any of the business degrees except for accounting, engineering, computer science and all forms of communications.

**Richard Wang:** What can you tell us about the budget, specifically salary raises? Are we going to see any increase in money to ENG budget to fund cost of living raises and will this be separate from merit? **Dr. Howard:** Arkansas is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the biennium and funding becomes more restricted, peer institutes in Arkansas have not yet set their tuition for next year but the BOT will most likely not increase the tuition more than single digits. This will be a lean year but the some of the money brought in by tuition from the international students will be earmarked for faculty salaries. At this time I do not know if it will be across the board or a % to merit and % to across the board. It has taken ASU a long time to get here and it will take us a while to get where we want to be. We are getting closer. Glen Jones and I visit. We want to do something over and above for faculty and we are looking at new revenue sources to accomplish this. If we bring in 200 to 300 International students we will be able to dedicate a % of the tuition and we may be able to grant a 0.5 to 1% raise above what is currently available.

Dr. Howard closed by stating he would do his level best to represent faculty.

#### **IV. Announcements**

Judy Pfriemer announced that nominations for President Elect were being accepted by nominating committee. Everyone is encouraged to consider running this important position. Only restriction is the individual cannot be from the College of Business

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.