

**President's Report**

**Board of Trustees**

**October 15, 2012**

**Capital Projects**

**Ayers Hall Transportation Building Expansion**

The contractor, Goodgame Company Inc., of Pell City completed this project. This additional space provides new opportunities for the Department of Technology and Engineering to complete material testing and other laboratory/ simulations for our students.

**Replacement Projects**

- Pete Mathews Coliseum Boiler Replacement
- Stone Center Boiler Replacement
- Wallace Hall Boiler Replacement
- Ayers Hall Transportation Building Expansion
- Crow Hall Chiller Replacement
- Merrill Hall Roof Replacement
- Pannell Hall Roof Replacement
- Stephenson Hall Gamecock Diner Roof Top HVAC Units

The new boilers will be energy efficient units and reduce the University's carbon footprint and utility usage on campus.

**Forney Street Parking Lot**

Eugene Turner General Contractor, Inc. of Anniston was the low bidder on this project. Work began on July 9th to construct two adjacent parking lots of 196 parking spaces, bus shelters, and turn in lane off Forney Avenue. The project is being funded with a Federal Transportation Grant.

### **Stephenson Hall Wellness Center**

Substantial Completion occurred on February 13, by the contractor, RFI but a final change order is still pending. Also, the roof warranty issue is still being addressed. This attractive facility is heavily used by students.

### **Softball Field Pressbox Project**

Boatner Construction Company of Rainbow City, AL was the low bidder on this project. Work has commenced; concrete retaining wall has been formed and poured, underground drainage pipes have been installed, and footings for the building have been dug and poured. This project is scheduled for February 2013 completion.

### **Tennis Court Project**

This is being designed by Holcomb, Norton and Partners of Birmingham and should be completed by the end of October. At this time, the original 12 tennis courts are being patched and recoated by Lower Brothers, Co., Inc. of Birmingham.

### **University Activities**

#### **Enrollment and Credit Hour Production Report Fall 2012**

Under “Tab 4” in your binder is the “Census” and “JSU at a Glance” both reports from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. The “Census” report provides a comparison of credit hours and enrollment by headcount for Fall 2012 compared to last Fall 2011. Overall our numbers have decreased from last year. Our first time freshman class is down 83 students from last year but it is the second largest freshman class in the University’s 130 year history. This freshman class does hold the record of any entering class because it has the highest average ACT score at 22.3 of any in the institution’s history.

The “JSU at a Glance” gives a variety of demographic for our 9,161 students enrolled this Fall Semester. Our new students composed of First-time Freshman and First-time Transfers equal 2,001 this year and our distance education courses continue to enroll a record number of students.

#### **University Housing and Residence Life Report**

The occupancy reports for all university housing, approximately 2,000 units is at 93.2 percent. Apartments and specialized housing is occupied at an average of 95.6 percent. Residence halls are occupied at 92.6 percent. Individual reports for each facility is located in the Academic and Student Affairs report in your binder under Tab 4.

## **Government Affairs**

Under Tab 4 in your binder you will find two reports from the Alabama Commission on Higher Education the first is the “2011-12 thru 2012-13 Annual Tuition and Required Fees Report.” I appreciate this Board’s support in holding our tuition below the median increases by other universities. Alabama’s four year universities increased tuition by a median of 5.2 percent. JSU has kept its increase to 3.9 percent which places our University below the median cost for undergraduate and graduate tuition and fees for Alabama’s public universities. Our students appreciate your policy in keeping our tuition and fees below the median of other public institutions in Alabama.

The second ACHE report is the” Preliminary Fall Enrollment Alabama Public Four-Year Institutions Fall 2011 and Fall 2012.” This report indicates that nine universities lost enrollment this fall. Probable causes for this are the changes in federal grants and loans which began earlier this year and of course the economy. It is interesting to note that of the three institutions reporting growth, two that grew by more than seven percent where in the major metropolitan areas of Birmingham and Montgomery.

## **Academic Affairs and Student Affairs**

Dr. Rebecca Turner, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs has prepared her report in your binder under “Tab 4” which you may read at your leisure. Dr. Turner and her staff have prepared a specific report to address our enrollment management challenges and our strategic initiatives to address these opportunities to grow and meet our goal of 10,000 students.

## **Athletics**

Mr. Warren Koegel, Director of Athletics has provided an update on our Fall Semester Sports which is in your binder. I will ask him to make any special announcements at this time.

## **Government Affairs**

Mr. Marty Fuller our advocate in Washington D.C. is here to present his report on activities which he has conducted on behalf of JSU over the last several years. His full report is in your binder under Tab 4.

## **Information Technology**

Mr. Vinson Houston, Vice president for Information Technology will give you a follow-up report on activities toward Wi –Fi connectivity and broad band access on campus.

### **Institutional Research and Assessment**

Dr. Alicia Simmons, Director of Institutional Research and Assessment has a new video to share about our Institute for Research and Collaboration and a new project CORE.

### **University Advancement**

Dr. Charles Lewis, Vice President for University Advancement will update you on activities with the JSU Foundation Inc. and the Advancement Division.

William A. Meehan