

President's Report

Board of Trustees

July 23, 2012

Capital Projects

Ayers Hall Transportation Building Expansion

The contractor, Goodgame Company Inc., of Pell City is ahead of schedule and should have the expansion project completed by the end of July. This additional space will provide new opportunities for the Department of Technology and Engineering to complete material testing and other laboratory/ simulations for our students.

Boiler Replacement Projects

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

- Pete Mathews Coliseum
Low bidder was Jake Marshall Service of Birmingham.
- Stone Center Boiler Replacement
Low bidder was Jake Marshall Service of Birmingham.
- Wallace Hall
Low bidder was Hale Building of Anniston

Computer Center UPS/Generator

Installation of the generator and various components is complete and system operational.

Crow Hall Chiller Replacement

Jake Marshall Service of Birmingham has completed the project.

Harwell Street Sidewalk Project

The new sidewalk has been installed from Highway 204 to Trustee Circle behind the International House and on the east side of Ayers Hall. This sidewalk enhances pedestrian traffic and safety and was completed by Logan Construction of Jacksonville.

Merrill Hall Roof Replacement

Rycars Construction Inc. of Atlanta, GA is scheduled to complete this project on July 29 if the weather cooperates.

Pannell Hall Roof Replacement

GKL Companies Inc. of Rainbow City, AL is scheduled to complete this project on July 31 if weather cooperates.

Stephenson Hall Gamecock Diner – Roof Top HVAC Units

Coosa Heating and Cooling of Gadsden is working on this project and scheduled to be completed in early August.

Stephenson Hall Wellness Center

Substantial Completion occurred on February 13 by the contractor, RFI. Final change order is being processed and roof warranty issue being addressed. The attractive facility is heavily used by students.

Softball Field Pressbox Project

This project has been designed and bid by Holcomb, Norton and Partners of Birmingham. The project bid, opened on July 17, 2012 and the apparent low bidder is

Tennis Court Project

The project is being designed by Holcomb, Norton and Partners of Birmingham and should be out for bid in August.

University Activities

Fall Application Count 2012

Under "Tab 4" in your binder is the Office of Admissions Application Count. This report provides a great deal of information, including: the "Conversion Rate" (percentage of accepted applications, first time freshman and first time transfer students that become enrolled students) over the last five years is 53%, accepted fall semester applications for first time freshman and transfer students are a total of 3,317 as of July 18th. This is 83% of last year's final number and 87% of the last five year average with one month and one week before classes begin.

The numbers look good at this time for an increase in enrollment of new students. First time Freshman accepted applications are at 91% of last year's total which was a record high for freshman enrollment. This fall marks the third year of the Board's Scholarship Initiative which has increased freshman enrollment and retention among scholarship recipients. Also in your binder is the Housing Occupancy Report for University Housing which indicates 87.3% occupancy before the last orientation and registration session in August.

Government Affairs

The Education Trust Fund Budget passed and was signed by Governor Bentley in mid-May. The University's operating and maintenance (O&M) budget was reduced by four percent. Our appropriation (with line items) is \$35,315,802 which is approximately \$14.5 million less than 2008. The University has absorbed reductions and/or proration of over 24% in its appropriation since 2008.

Under Tab 4 in your binder you will find JSU's itemized appropriation. In addition to our O&M appropriation of \$34,601,375 the university received line items of: \$188,233 for Little River Canyon, \$426,194 for the Northeast Alabama Film and Entertainment Initiative Program and \$100,000 for the Alabama Scenic River Trail.

I appreciate this Board's support in attempting to hold our tuition level. Although a number of Alabama's four year universities have announced increased tuition, JSU has kept its increase below 4 percent which was this Board's pledge to students. Not all institutions have completed their tuition increases for fall but so far JSU has increased tuition by the least amount. When this year's tuition and fees are reported by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, JSU will remain below the median in the state of Alabama.

Among the Acts passed by the Legislature this session are two which allow more flexibility for JSU. The first allows the Board to have a member(s) participate in an official meeting by electronic means if a quorum of the Board is

physically present at the posted meeting site. The other raises the bid law from \$7,500 to \$15,000 for any purchase without requiring a bid. This change puts regional universities at parity with other institutions of higher education.

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 will mention some of the significant academic affairs announcements and she also has some special guests to report on their trip to China, and an opportunity for a new radio station for the University. Before Dr. Turner begins I want to thank her and our entire faculty, academic and professional staff. On Friday July 13th the University received confirmation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and its Commission On Colleges that its Board of Trustees had approved JSU as a Level V (doctorate granting) institution with any need for a follow up review. That was indeed good news on Friday the 13th.

Athletics

Mr. Warren Koegel, Director of Athletics will update you on the completion of our sports session. I am very proud that JSU has won 51 OVC Championships since joining in 2003 considerably more than any other conference member.

Government Affairs

Mr. Killingsworth will introduce our Alabama lobbyist the Miller Group.

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 some announcements of recent grants and recognitions for Program Review.

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