

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting
January 23, 2015**

The Athens State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee held a meeting on January 23, 2015 in the Sandridge Student Center Conference Room.

**PRESIDING: DR. MARK HEINRICH
CHAIR, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The Academic Affairs Committee meeting was called to order at 10:39 a.m. by Dr. Mark Heinrich.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following committee members were present:

Dr. Mark Heinrich
Mr. Clint Shelton
Ms. Mary Scott Hunter
Dr. Tedi Gordon
Dr. Jess Brown
Ms. Vicki Johnson
Dr. Ron Ingle
Mr. Joe Collazo
Judge David Breland

Also present were Ms. Belinda Krigel, CIO/Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dr. Jackie Smith, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Tina Hicks, Recorder. Mr. Macke Mauldin, Ms. Cathy Dickens, Ms. Stacie Hughes, Dr. Vic Wilson and Dr. Bob Glenn were absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mark Heinrich welcomed the members to the inaugural meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee and stated that he was delighted to chair this committee.

Dr. Heinrich asked the members present to introduce themselves and tell something about themselves and their association with Athens State University.

Dr. Heinrich offered congratulations to the College of Education for the positive report received by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Dr. Heinrich then asked Dr. Ron Ingle, Athens State University Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, to take over the meeting.

Dr. Ingle gave a brief biography of himself. Dr. Ingle stated that he was at Athens State University to do a job based on the needs of the institution. He stated that he was still learning what those needs are. Dr. Ingle stated that the faculty will be working on increasing participation in student evaluations of courses/faculty. He said he

sees the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees assisting with curriculum and educational program development. Dr. Ingle stated the importance of active faculty committees operating under the Athens State University Faculty Senate.

Dr. Ingle shared several information items with the committee:

- Athens State University will change the name of the Master of Arts in Religion to Master of Arts in Religious Studies before submitting the proposal to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) in February. We have received comments from other institutions regarding our proposal. Comments were favorable with one suggestion which could be addressed with this name change.
- Athens State University currently has a partnership with the University of North Alabama who is offering their MBA and an MAEd. in Elementary Education on our campus. Athens State intends to expand on this partnership to possibly develop our own Master's degree in Education in the future.
- Most of the issues that Dr. Ingle is hearing from Athens State employees are issues he has heard and worked through before in different environments.
- Athens State University is currently conducting a search for a Writing Center Director.
- Athens State University will be submitting a Substantive Change to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) seeking accreditation at a higher degree level. The application is due to SACSCOC April 8, 2015.

Dr. Ingle recognized the College of Education for their work on NCATE accreditation.

Dr. Ingle announced that the College of Business will be conducting the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) self-study this year.

Dr. Heinrich asked the Athens State University faculty representatives to talk about their college and issues that are important to them.

Dr. Tedi Gordon, College of Education, discussed the following:

- College of Education gives the students "real-life" experiences through field experience and internships.
- College of Education offers courses through Athens State University Distance Learning Centers and University Centers.
- Concerns regarding courses offered through distance learning.
- Laboratory schools

Dr. Jess Brown, College of Arts and Sciences, chairs the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee. He distributed a copy of the committee's mission and responsibilities. He stated that he views the Academic Affairs committee as the guardian of academic quality. Dr. Brown discussed his concerns with distance learning courses:

- The balancing act between distance learning and quality instruction.
- His ideas to increase quality of distance learning instruction.
- Distance learning is most effective when it is interactive with students and faculty.

Dr. Heinrich stated that the Board of Trustees values the input of the Athens State University faculty.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Mark Heinrich adjourned the meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee at 11:53 a.m.