

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting
July 15, 2016**

The Athens State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee held a meeting on July 15, 2016 in the Sandridge Student Center Conference Room.

**PRESIDING: MS. CRYSTAL BROWN
SUBSTITUTING FOR DR. MARK HEINRICH
CHAIR, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The Academic Affairs Committee meeting was called to order at 1:14 p.m. by Ms. Crystal Brown.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following committee members were present:

Mr. Crystal Brown (for Dr. Mark Heinrich)
Mr. Clint Shelton
Dr. Tedi Gordon
Ms. Vicki Johnson
Dr. Vic Wilson
Judge David Breland
Dr. Joe Delap
Dr. Bob Glenn

Dr. Mark Heinrich, Ms. Stacie Hughes, and Mr. Joe Collazo were absent.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Joe Delap announced that Athens State has sent a proposal to ACHE to add a Bioinformatics Option to the B.S. in Biology. This proposal will be on the September 9, 2016 ACHE agenda. The Bioinformatics Option was developed by the Biology program faculty in collaboration with the Computer Science program faculty. Bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary field that develops methods and software tools for understanding biological data especially in the area of genetic analysis. The employment demand is high in this field and starting salaries are high.

At the June ACHE meeting, Athens State University received approval to offer a third graduate degree. The College of Education will implement the M.Ed. in Career and Technical Education fall semester, 2017.

Athens State also received approval at that meeting for two new baccalaureate degree programs: B.S. in Information Technology and B.S.Ed. in Educational Studies. The B.S. in Information Technology will be implemented fall, 2017 and the B.S.Ed. in Educational Studies will be implemented fall, 2016.

With implementation of the third graduate program, Athens State University will gather data related to the implementation of the graduate programs. Once sufficient data has been gathered to support successful implementation of the graduate programs, the University plans to submit a request for a change in Instructional Role to ACHE.

On Saturday, July 16, Athens State will conduct a focus group meeting with current students in the M.S. in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management graduate program. Dr. Robert Burkhardt, retired Director of the Library, will facilitate the meeting. The focus group will be asked to provide feedback about their experience in the graduate program.

During the SACS level change visit in March, the visiting team suggested that a graduate program orientation be offered. The information gathered at the July 16 focus group meeting will be used to help create a graduate program orientation.

Dr. Patricia Sims, Dean of the College of Education, gave an update on the COE to the committee. Information shared included goals of the college, faculty scholarly activity, COE Summer Conference and the number of majors, minors, and certificate programs. Dr. Sims also shared that the COE is working on a “mid-level” minor that focuses on middle school education.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Crystal Brown adjourned the meeting at 2:01 p.m.