

Board of Trustees: Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee
October 20, 2023
Student Center Room 126
Minutes

- I. Call to order: 1:15 p.m. by Chairman, Jim America; Zoom recording started.
- II. Roll Call: Present - Jim America, Mitchell Bazzel, Scott Henry, Patrick Patterson and Sandra Sims-deGraffenried (Zoom)
Absent – Jimmy Baker and Mary Beth Johns

Presenters: Patrice Broaden, Richard Collie, Helen Crider, Amy Garrison, Tracy Raby, Michael Radden and Derrek Smith
Attendees: Elizabeth Bowden, Tracey DiCicco, Linda Graves, Kayla Kohanek-Tankersley, Belinda Krigel, Penny Roberts, Brittani Stone and Kim Troupe
- III. Approval of Agenda: Mitchell Bazzel and Scott Henry motioned to approve.
- IV. Approval of July 21, 2023 Minutes: Patrick Patterson and Mitchell Bazzel motioned to approve.
- V. New Business:
 - i. Overview of recent changes in Organizational Chart – Tracy Raby
 - ii. Overview and updates within Student Services Departments
 - a. Admissions – Helen Crider
Question: What information do we get from the students on the Strive Scan?
Answer: Name, address, email, conference information, school system, dual enrollment, program of interest and a place for notes.
 - b. Student Financial Aid (Handout) – Mitchell Bazzel
 - c. Registrar – Tracy Raby
 - d. Student Success – Derrek Smith
Question: Are most of the meetings with the students virtual or in-person and can you tell a difference?
Answer: Combination of virtual and in-person. We prefer Zoom over the phone so we can share the student's degree plan. It is important for students to see what is being talked about.
Question: Are there advisors or is a success coach an advisor?
Answer: Recruiters are enrollment advisors/recruiters who see prospective students prior to transfer. The recruiter reviews the student's credit hours, advises the student on what is needed to transfer and helps the student develop a plan to attend. Once the student is admitted they have success coaches who are subject matter experts. The student also has a faculty advisor who is the content expert/advisor.
 - e. Student Inclusion Initiatives – Richard Collie
 - f. Student Engagement – Amy Garrison

- g. Accessibility Services/Counseling – Patrice Broaden
- h. Career Development – Michael Radden

VI. Old Business: None due to time restraints.

VII. Closing Comments: Tracy Raby stated this is a new committee. Is the format and the materials given acceptable? Jim America stated it is great and wished we had more time.

VIII. Adjourn: Jim America made a motion to adjourn at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Pam Clark

Packet contents: Agenda

July 21, 2023 Minutes

Organization Chart

Overview and Updates from Student Services Departments

Handout: FAFSA Simplification Fact Sheet



Agenda
Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee
October 20, 2023
Student Center Banquet Room
1:15 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes (July 21, 2023)
- V. New Business
 - i. Overview of recent changes in Organizational Chart (Tracy Raby)
 - ii. Overview and Updates within Student Services Departments
 - a. Admissions – Helen Crider
 - b. Student Financial Aid – Mitchell Bazzel
 - c. Registrar – Tracy Raby
 - d. Student Success – Derrek Smith
 - e. Student Inclusion Initiatives – Richard Collie
 - f. Student Engagement – Amy Garrison
 - g. Accessibility Services/Counseling – Patrice Broaden
 - h. Career Development – Michael Radden
- VI. Old Business
- VII. Closing Comments from Committee Members
- VIII. Adjourn

Board of Trustee: Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee

July 21, 2023

Student Center

Minutes

- I. Call to order: 1:14 p.m. by Chairperson, Missy Ming Smith; Zoom recording started.
- II. Roll Call, Present: Dus Rogers, Lauren Blacklidge, Dr. Elizabeth Pruett (zoom), Dr. Randy Parker, Dr. Elizabeth Bowden, Emerald Simmons, Richard Collie, Dr. Elmer Ragus, Morgan Meadows, Penny Roberts, Valerie Sellers, Ashley Miller, Tracy Raby, DJ Doorenbaus, Jennifer Mares, Derrek Smith, Mitchell Bazzell, Amy Garrison, Brittani Stone, Tina Jihn.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Rogers approved.
- IV. Approved Minutes (May 2023): Rogers and Blacklidge approved.
- V. New Business:
 - i. Intro. Of Jennifer Mares, Success Coach
 - ii. Congratulations to Dr. Patrice Broaden, Ph.D for graduating with doctorate.
 - iii. Diversity Day Celebration: Almost 80 participants, diverse community celebration-Salsa dancing, presentations by various community members including Men of Kennis, etc.
 - iv. Intro. Of Career Development Center staff: Dr. Michael Radden, Dr. Elizabeth Bowden (experiential learning, work study program, co-op and interns), and Emerald Simmons (career development advisor and adjunct instructor-main focus is supporting students and the UNV 400 course development).
 - v. Fall Enrollment Update: Degree works was down and greatly impacted our numbers of enrollment; 2 documents in packet - skip the 7/17 file and look at the 7/20 document. We aren't where we want to be but we gained momentum and will keep up the steam and hopefully surpass last year's enrollment.

Q: Who enrolls in the last 3 weeks? A: they are grads of community colleges and waiting to send their transcripts and also our students wait until they get their grades. We also think some are adults wait because they fully self-fund their courses and wait to enroll and pay.

Comment: We made a lot of calls the last week, 235 calls, reaching out to target groups to enroll. Success coaches have been working late/overtime in order to get registrations completed.

Comment: Chairperson Smith wants to see data from application to see "how they find out about Athens State?"

- vi. Summer Graduation Application Report: 165 applicants as of 7/17 and 4 more since then manually entered. (96 College of Business, 43 College of Arts and Sciences, and 30 College of Education). Approximately 130 plan to walk at commencement.

Comparing with Summer 2022 we awarded 176 including degrees.

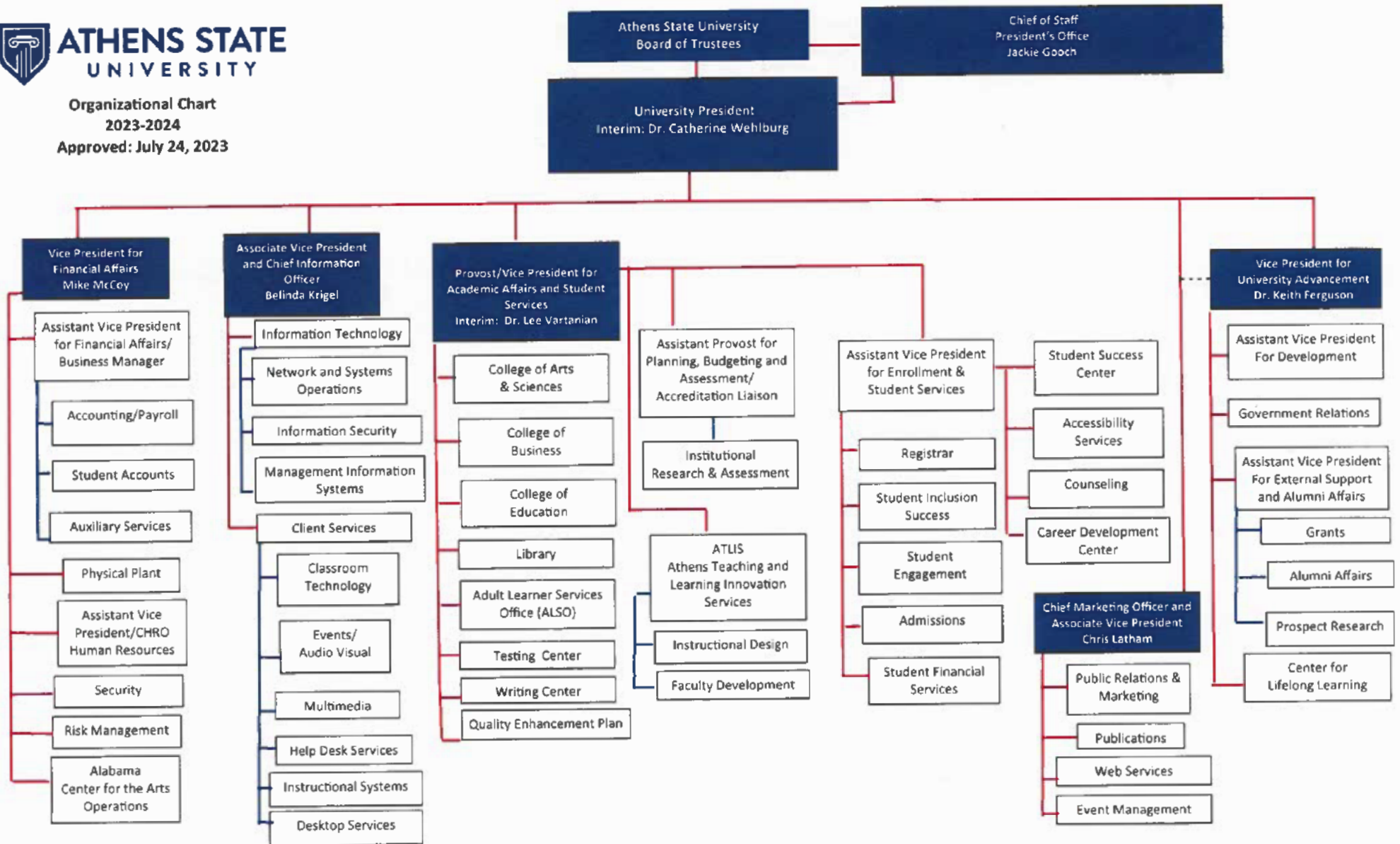
First Honors Program graduate, Evan Marsh, this summer with a major in science and math. Honors Program will be listed on their transcript.

- vii. Community College Partnerships and Efforts: Randy reports meeting with instructional officers, deans, and deans of students: talked about collaboration and financial aid, reverse transfer, Men of Kennis program, promoting 2+2 articulation and MOUs, braided programs where students can be enrolled at 2 colleges. Also met with AL Association of Public Continuing and Adult Ed.
- viii. Financial Aid: Scholarships awarded today, almost 5000 financial aid waivers thru October.
- ix. Two scholarship highlights: Impact Diversity Scholarship and the Endeavor Scholarship that is successful.

- VI. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Smith and Rodgers.



**Organizational Chart
2023-2024
Approved: July 24, 2023**



Board of Trustees Meeting October 20, 2023

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

- ADA Report for Fall 2023.
 - Number of Registered Students
 - Number of Registered Faculty and Staff
 - Renewal of Counseling contracts with The Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama and TalkCampus.
 - ADA Committee Meetings
- Internship Opportunity for Students and Recent Graduates with Disabilities.
 - Overview of the Workforce Recruitment Program
 - How many students registered for the program

CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Employer Relations over the last 2 years
 - Corporate Roundtables
 - Career Fair 2022 – 44 companies, 2023 – 70 companies (largest in school history)
 - Employer Spotlight – Boeing, Amazon, PolyPlex
 - Chamber Ambassadorship
 - Dr. Elizabeth Bowden serves as interim director of The LaunchBox
- New focus ahead – Student Engagement and Faculty Awareness
 - Industry Tours – Blue Origin, Navistar, United Launch Alliance (Oct. 25th 1p.m. – 3p.m.)
 - Internships
 - Mock Interview Days
 - Professional Head Shots
 - Increased awareness of technology tools – Handshake and iHire job boards
 - Networking through social media – LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

- Enrollment Review
 - Fall 2022-2023 Comparison
 - Headcount = 2,955 (↑2.07%)
 - UG = 2,531 (↑0.40%); GR = 424 (↑13.37%)
 - Credit Hour Production = 27,105 (↑2.15%)
 - UG = 24,606 (↑1.14%); GR = 2,499 (↑13.33%)
 - New Enrolled = 682 (↓ 8.08%)
 - UG = 567 (↓ 4.06%); GR = 115 (↓ 23.84%)
 - Looking towards 2024 – Admission applications received as of 10/12/2023
 - 733 applications:
 - Spring 2024 =637
 - Summer 2024 =12
 - Fall 2024 =83
 - By Type:
 - Undergraduate Degree =518
 - Undergraduate Certificate & Non-Degree Seeking =56
 - Graduate Degree =147
 - Graduate Certificate & Non-Degree Seeking =12
- Highlight of Fall Events
 - Counselor Appreciation Breakfast (September)
 - Preview Day (October 2023)
 - Fall recruiting events completed as of 10/12/2023 = ~200
- Strive Scan
 - ALACRAO has partnered with Strive Scan, an app provider that generates a QR code for students/attendees at Fall ALACRAO fairs.
 - We scan those codes and collect student data.
 - As of October 12/2023, we have collected:
 - 1511 Total Scans
 - Event Scans =1225
 - Missed Connections =286
- Office of Admissions Team
 - Currently in the process of hiring 2 Enrollment Advisors/Recruiters

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

- Entered into contract with Watermark for catalog and curriculum software
 - Will provide a more streamlined order of business for initiating and implementing new programs and courses
 - Will provide a digital trail of progression for curriculum edits
 - Will provide an interactive academic catalog, instead of the current PDF of a Word document
 - Will provide a workflow from curriculum to catalog, with a digital trail of progression
 - Intent to be live with the 2024-2025 Academic Catalog in late Spring 2024
 - Upgrade of self service (MyAthens Self Service)
 - Should be live by close of business, October 20
 - Offers a modern experience with a redesigned user interface
 - Provides student information in an easy to navigate manner with both mobile and standard web enhancements for registration, etc.
 - Students were notified of update in early October
 - Self-help Student User Guide provided in Athens State Knowledge Base
 - Quick demo available if desired by committee
-

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Welcome Week: We welcomed students back to campus with loaded snack and swag tables in Athens and at the Alabama Center for the Arts, at the College of Education Internship Orientation, and lunch for the ASSIST Scholar Orientation.
- Athenian Ambassador Orientation: We kicked things off with a bang, welcoming 21 fantastic Athenian Ambassadors. They learned trivia about the university, team work skills, communication skills, and more about their role. Ambassadors have worked dozens of campus, community, and recruiting events since August. They have provided hundreds of hours of service this semester.
- Student Organization Recruitment Exclusive Hebrew T-shirt Giveaways: We gave out hundreds of exclusive Hebrew the Bear t-shirts to students joining student organizations.
- Social Media Prize Packs: We have out 6 amazing swag bags to students that engaged in our social media.
- Student Leader Breakfast with the Cabinet: Our Student Leader Breakfast was a delightful morning filled with camaraderie and brainstorming. Our student leaders are the heart of our campus, and we cherished the opportunity to share ideas and a delicious breakfast with them.

- Cupcakes and Canvas: 30 students, ambassadors, and President Wehlburg created Hebrew works of art on canvas over dinner and dessert.
- tiny Campfire! 25 students are registered for this virtual student activity that includes a gourmet s'mores kit shipped to the students and a facilitated Zoom with ghost stories and camp games.
- The Fiddler's Convention brought out 73 students and faculty/staff student organization advisors to volunteer at the Backstage Area and Cotton Candy Concession Booth for a combined total of 273 hours volunteering at the event.
- Fall events are still being planned as well as winter and spring.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

- Fall Financial Aid and Scholarships Data Points
- FAFSA Simplification Act Changes

STUDENT INCLUSION INITIATIVES

- SGA Advocacy Workshop/ with Higher Education Partnership
- Birmingham Promise College and Career Fair
- Meeting with Lawson State to expand the MOK program
- Discussion with the John Lewis Young Leaders Fellows program
- SGA/Higher Education Partnership Legislative Meet and Greet.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Beginning the final year, year 5, of the U.S. Department of Education Title III Grant

- In the process of reconciling the 4th year

Recap of Overall Highlights:

Success Coaches

- Increased from 3 to 6 success coaches to improve consistent and ongoing student support and advising
- First year achieved the university's highest retention rate, 78%
- Created a collaborative advising team that includes faculty, success coaches and financial aid
- 99% of students advised before to the start of their first semester (roughly 1,200 new students annually)
 - Currently, nearly 50% of the admitted new spring 2024 students scheduled with success coaches as of 10/13/2023

- Nearly 62% of the undergrad students enrolled in fall 2023 met with a success coach
- Implemented and manage the Navigate Student Success Platform-advising platform
 - Deployed early alerts to enrolled student

Workshops/Lunch and Learns

- Nearly 40 events to date
 - Conduct three events a semester (fall, spring and summer) and an annual diversity day (10 events a year)
 - Past speakers and topics include: Chief Diversity Officers from Huntsville City and Hudson Alpha, VP of Talent Management Huntsville Utilities, front office staff NFL, Netflix series star, "Multi-Generational Workforce" "Budgeting," "Investing," "How to Market Yourself" to name a few

Peer Mentor Program

- Embed in the first semester UNV 300 course

New Courses: Pathways to Success UNV 300 (3 credits) and Career Seminar UNV 400 (1 credit)

- Writing and research, teamwork, digital learning, degree competition, workplace and societal benefits of diversity, analyze post-graduation career (You Science career assessment testing)
- Students share a common objective of seeking a career or upward career mobility, therefore this ensures students have this skillset.

FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION FACT SHEET

Overview of changes



WHAT IS THE FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION ACT?

- a more streamlined application process
- expanded eligibility for federal financial aid
- reduced barriers for certain student populations
- a better user experience for the FAFSA form

CURRENT KEY INFORMATION & TALKING POINTS:

2024-2025 FAFSA
NOT AVAILABLE
UNTIL DECEMBER
2023

STUDENT AID
INDEX (SAI) IS
REPLACING EFC IN
THE FORMULA

CHANGE WILL
MEAN MORE PELL
FOR SOME
STUDENTS



**COST OF
ATTENDANCE**



**STUDENT AID
INDEX**

=



**FINANCIAL
NEED**

BENEFITS & WHAT'S NEXT

www.athens.edu/admissions/financial-aid/

256-233-8122 | finaid@athens.edu

FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION FACT SHEET

Overview of changes



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR STUDENTS?



REPLACING THE EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION WITH THE STUDENT AID INDEX

The new Student Aid Index will be a better measure of a student and their family's ability to pay for college.



The new formula removes the number of family members in college from the calculation, adds the value of small businesses and farms, and allows a minimum aid index of negative \$1,500 to give financial aid administrators more insight when making determinations for students with especially challenging situations.



EXPANDING ACCESS TO FEDERAL AID

The FAFSA Simplification Act expands the Federal Pell Grant to more students and links eligibility to family size and the federal poverty level.

WHAT'S NEXT

DECEMBER 2023:
**2024-25 FAFSA
RELEASED**

JANUARY 2024:
**ELLUCIAN TO
RELEASE SOFTWARE
UPGRADE**

APRIL 2024:
**ESTIMATED
FINANCIAL AID
OFFERS RELEASED**



**[HTTPS://STUDENTAID.GOV/
HELP-CENTER/ANSWERS/ARTICLE/FAFSA-SIMPLIFICATION-ACT](https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/article/fafsa-simplification-act)**

www.athens.edu/admissions/financial-aid/

256-233-8122 | finaid@athens.edu