Chairman’s Report

Chairman Smith called for the swearing-in ceremony for the new student representative to the Board of Regents – Mr. Leonard Johnson. The ceremony was conducted by the Honorable Jimmie Edwards, St. Louis Circuit Judge. Chairman Smith welcomed Mr. Johnson to the Board.

President Givens remarked that Leonard Johnson is an outstanding student, former president of the Student Government Association, and that he led the fundraiser for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Monument in Washington, D.C., along with the former Saint Louis University SGA President Evan Cross. He added that Mr. Johnson is well respected by members of the faculty and staff.

Judge Edwards thanked Dr. Givens for inviting him to conduct the ceremony. He stated that after working with many juveniles, it was his pleasure to swear in a student as a representative to the Board of Regents.

Everyone congratulated Mr. Johnson.

President’s Report

Dr. Givens reported that Lt. Governor Kinder would be on Harris-Stowe’s campus following the meeting, to sign an important bill regarding combat veterans returning to attend college. He explained that the bill allows Missouri institutions of higher education to charge combat veterans no more than $50 per credit hour for 10 years. He then invited everyone to attend the bill signing ceremony. He noted that the bill signing ceremony would be another important event taking place on Harris-Stowe’s campus.

President Givens called on Dr. Watson to give an update to the Board on the first year actions of the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Dr. Watson reported that the first year of the strategic plan has essentially been successful. He had given a detailed report to the president, and would therefore be brief with members of the Board. He stated that the Division of Executive Affairs had somewhat failed in the area of faculty salary adjustments because of state legislation failure to act on faculty equity, and that the University was unable to produce the requested adjustments. He then reported that strategic plans for Student Affairs have begun, and that the most important one is the establishment of student learning centers, which is essential. Dr. Watson then reported that Business and Financial Affairs has met every goal for the first year, and that the internal audit program, the automatic book program and online reporting systems are in place. He reminded the Board of his concerns regarding the technology and information systems at HSSU. He stated that Harris-Stowe was fortunate to obtain the services of SunGard IT consultants, who came and met with faculty, staff and administrators to help with analysis and data needed in daily office functions. Dr. Watson reported that Academic Affairs’ first year has been on target. He stated that student registration at Harris-Stowe now begins in spring instead of fall. He further stated that adjunct faculty with poor performance had been released. He noted that this is critical because faculty must produce for students in a timely and effective manner. Dr. Watson then reported that Academic Affairs has established a requirement for faculty to produce mid-term grades, which are important; an administrative drawdown policy; more research and application grants are being developed – some already very successful, and they are hopeful about pending grants.

Dr. Watson then reported that Teacher Education is preparing for NCATE and that everyone is pulling their load -- working together effectively to meet deadlines. He reported that Business faculty have been engaged in applying for grants and putting out proposals. Dr. Watson then reported that as Harris-Stowe’s campus becomes more open and accessible, security must be enhanced, and that cameras have been installed, along with a proposal for a security contract of which Harris-Stowe will be in complete charge of the vendor that provides the service. He noted that this would enable security to cover more of the campus. He noted that everyone is enthusiastic about the progress, and that there is a definite pathway to making sure that every aspect of the Five-Year Strategic Plan is implemented.

President Givens noted that because of the bill signing ceremony, his other agenda items would be held until a later date.
This Month’s Kudos

Congratulations to Dr. Linda Kleeman of Teacher Education. She was recently appointed to the Association for Childhood Education International Awards and Grants Advisory Board and President’s Council.

Eight Harris-Stowe students and recent graduates served as representatives to the Thurgood Marshall College Fund Teacher Preparation Institute, which took place in Atlanta, July 27-30, 2008.

Dr. Kemp accompanied the following students to the conference:

Leah Crawford
David Huling
Tammy Kilgore
Kenneth Moore
Kelmitra Pierson
Marquita Robinson
Maureen Simmons
Susana Sullins
Charles Jenkins

Dr. Smith reported that as a part of Senate Bill 389, Missouri state institutions were charged to work with the Commissioner of Higher Education in the development of competencies for the first general education courses in key disciplines. He stated that the goal of the Curriculum Alignment Initiative is to develop one set of entry-level and exit-level competencies to be successful in first-year and second-year general education courses. He noted that the Curriculum Alignment Initiative also focused on entry-level competencies that high school seniors should possess upon entering college. The process of developing the Curriculum Alignment Initiative took at least a year to complete and consisted of nearly 400 individuals from all educational stakeholders in Missouri, and that Harris-Stowe had faculty representation, particularly from the Department of Arts & Sciences, on the various committees. He added that the ramifications of the Curriculum Alignment Initiative for higher education in Missouri is that eligibility for new institutional funds beginning with FY 2009 will be linked to evidence that the work of the initiative is moving forward. He then noted that Academic Affairs would keep the Board abreast on this critical initiative.

Dr. Smith gave an update on another segment of Senate Bill 389, which is the Consumer Information Mandate, that every public institution in Missouri must have faculty information on their Web site, such as academic background, degrees awarded and courses taught. He stated that this information will be cross-sectioned with the course schedules, and that this will provide students with an understanding of the courses they are taking and the faculty teaching those courses. He then stated that student evaluations must be available by registration for fall 2009, and that Harris-Stowe is complying with both mandates.

Dr. Kemp gave an update on preparation for Harris-Stowe State University’s NCATE/DESE Continuing Accreditation Review and Self-Study. He began his report by expressing appreciation for the sincere wishes during his illness. He reported that the major goal is to write the institutional report, and that seven faculty members are working everyday this summer to write this report. He stated that in years past, NCATE was more descriptive, but that new NCATE standards are more prescriptive nationwide, which is a new reality in national accreditation. Dr. Kemp then stated that faculty members experience seven hours of intensive preparation from the training modules purchased, which were purchased by Harris-Stowe State University, and that the University is right on target for where it needs to be.

Dr. Zakery stated that in the interest of time, she would hold her report for the next meeting. She then stated that accreditation is essential for keeping quality in tact at the Busch School of Business Administration. She reported that she recently attended the Association of Collegiate Businesses Programs Conference, of which Harris-Stowe has been a member for 16 years. She displayed Harris-Stowe’s ACBSP certificate to members of the Board. She then noted that the Busch School of Business Administration would work harder and make sure that programs are quality programs. She then distributed the monthly BSBA newsletter.

Mrs. Gully reported that the Financial Report was reviewed and discussed in detail with the Board Finance Committee on June 19th. She reported on budgeted revenues realized to date were 97 percent and expenditures 86 percent through May 31, 2008.

Mrs. Gully provided members of the Board with the monthly update on the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center. She stated that the update, provided by the construction manager from KWAME Construction, could be found under Tab 9 of the June 2008 Board booklet. Mrs. Gully reported that as indicated in the report, efforts during the month of May focused on the evaluations for the construction bids. She stated that following Board approval last month, a limited notice to proceed was issued. She further stated that President Givens executed the final construction contracts after legal review. She added that the project is currently on schedule and within budget.

Mrs. Gully showed a PowerPoint presentation that included the objectives, basic assumptions and FY2009 budgeted revenue of the HSSU 2008-2009 Operating and Housing Budgets. Increased enrollment has added revenue, and Harris-Stowe is now approaching students at higher academic levels. More than half of the rooms at Gillespie Hall were full for the fall semester 2008. She stated that the University’s Budget Planning, Control and Review Committee had worked diligently to draft the proposed FY 2008-2009 operating budget of HSSU and that the work of the Committee was guided by the maintenance of current university programs and service levels and the adequate funding of the operation and maintenance of the physical plants on both the Main and South Campuses. There will be a 4.2 percent increase in the university’s State appropriation, over and above the FY2008 funding level.

Ms. Tilghman presented the recommendation and reported that a committee comprised of various departments reviewed numerous proposals to partially outsource the Harris-Stowe State University Campus Public Safety operation.
Ms. Jordan reported that the Harris-Stowe Alumni Recognition Luncheon would be held on June 28, at the Hilton Frontenac. She stated that the luncheon would be held to celebrate the Harris-Stowe State University pathfinders, which included graduates that are more recent and students who graduated from the Pathways to Careers Program under the leadership of Armetta Whitmore. She noted that at the time of this meeting, the numbers were still growing on the University’s Alumni online network.

Ms. Jordan reported that the Alumni Buy-A-Brick campaign is now well underway. She stated that the bricks could be purchased in three sizes for $250 - $1,000. She stated that if anyone was interested in purchasing a brick, they could contact her office. She then reported that the alumni project and bricks will be laid in front of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building and that she and other administrators have met with contractors and received a proof of the layout.

Ms. Jordan noted that more than 100 individuals have purchased bricks.

Ms. Jordan showed members of the Board the “End-of-the-Year” media wrap up video, which covered university events from academic year 2007-2008. The video included coverage by all local media television stations (2, 4, 5 & 11).

Mr. Gooden reported that during the 2007-2008 academic year, the Athletic Department experienced growth in competitive and academic achievement. Ninety-six students received athletic scholarships; 42 were named scholar-athletes for achieving a GPA of 3.0 or better and teams were successful in the American Midwest Conference of the NAIA. He further stated that 19 Harris-Stowe athletes were named to their specific AMC All-Conference teams and the women’s basketball team had a national ranking of #20. Baseball, men’s basketball, women’s softball teams received invitations to the conference tournaments and performed well. As HSSU prepares for academic year 2008-2009 with additional skilled recruits, greater success and recognition is expected from all teams. The department appreciates the support and encouragement from the entire university family, and is dedicated to providing excellent academic and athletic representation.
Are you ready to welcome Harris-Stowe State University’s largest incoming freshman class to date? (I know we say that every year, but we can’t help it if our enrollment is growing tremendously on an annual basis!) We’re glad that they’ve chosen HSSU to continue their education, and we definitely look forward to serving them for the next four years. We ask that you encourage them to get involved and support university events, while making the most of their time here, for a more fulfilling college experience. Go Hornets!

*Picture of the Month:* Man, you gotta love our president, Dr. Givens. Reliving his Kappa Alpha Psi days, he’s shown here posing with the newest members of the fraternity. Don’t they look honored to be in his presence (and to be Kappas?!)? How many college presidents do you know that will mingle with the students the way that ours does?