Chairman Smith called for a report from the student representative to the Board. Mr. Collins gave a PowerPoint presentation on the various University events he had participated in, along with photos. He reported that annual student leadership retreat had been held during the weekend of September 11-13, 2009, and that more than 20 students were in attendance to represent more than 10 organizations, and that everyone was reminded that Homecoming Week was fast approaching. He announced that SGA meetings are every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. He stated that 26 students attended the Retreat in Dubois, Illinois, and that it was most successful and informative. He added that the retreat focused on leaders as individuals with discussion topics including creativity, innovation, effective fund-raising, stress management, time management, ethics, multitasking and health and safety. Mr. Collins noted that the overall emphasis was placed on how to balance work and fun.

Chairman Smith then asked President Givens to discuss Board Committee Assignments. Mr. Givens called for the distribution of Board Committee Assignments. He stated that members of the Board will work with the Administration within their designated assignments. He then reminded members that an orientation date would be set for Regents Rollins, Hollingsworth and Cook.

President Givens reported that he and members of the HSSU administration attended the Council on Public Higher Education (COPHE) and Coordinating Board of Higher Education (CBHE) meetings on September 9 – 10, 2009. He stated that the focus of the meeting was Dr. Robert Stein’s announcement to retire, and as a result, CBHE is in search of a new commissioner. He stated that the Board asked higher education presidents to submit suggestions for the announcement of the position in hopes of finding one of the best and most qualified individuals. He asked Mrs. Gully to comment.

Dr. Shaw reported that communication regarding the Swine Flu has been disseminated to faculty, staff and students by way of posters and correspondence. She stated that a hand sanitizing campaign and a vaccination campaign are underway for individual prevention, and that procedures are being reviewed for self-isolation including, but not limited to, continuity of student learning and operations, utilization of Blackboard online instruction program and encouraging faculty, staff and students to stay home if they are ill. She stated that all of the procedures regarding the Swine Flu could be found in the Harris-Stowe State University Flu Prevention and Planning Manual that will be distributed campus-wide. She noted that Courtney McCall and her staff have spearheaded the printing of posters to alert students about symptoms and what they should do, and that the Board of Regents would be kept informed of ongoing strategies.
Dr. Zakery reported on student chapters of national professional organizations. She stated that these organizations included Delta Mu Delta Honor Society, Accounting Students Association, Association of Information Technology Professionals, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), Entrepreneurship Club, and the Financial Management Association International. She added that she is most pleased that ABSB students have the opportunity to participate in these professional organizations and societies.

Dr. Zakery stated that she was most pleased to report that Shnell Ceasar, an ABSB senior, conducted student research in long term care, and that her research has been accepted for a presentation at the McNair Heartland Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 25-27, 2009.

Mr. Gooden reported that all 228 beds are filled in Gillespie Residence Hall. He stated that there was a safety check performed of suites and no violations were found. He then reported that some of the activities that had already been held for student residents included Intervarsity – Campus Ministry; a financial seminar presented by U.S. Bank representatives; the refurbishing of the pool table in the game room and a meeting conducted by Executive Director of Enrollment Management LaShanda Boone.

Mr. Gooden reported that the Student Activities Office sponsored a very successful New Student and Freshman Orientation. He stated that 632 new students and 44 transfer students had registered and engaged in experiences that included learning the new culture of higher education. He further stated “Welcome Week” included six days of events and activities for students enrolled for the fall 2009 semester.

Mr. Gooden reported that the Department of Career Services has been developing plans for the academic year’s job fairs. He stated that over the past few years, the department has registered a total of 1,700 Students who have résumés online. He added that Career Services is also offering interview workshops for students.

Mr. Gooden reported that plans had already begun for Homecoming Week, October 2-10, 2009, at Harris-Stowe. He stated that the theme for the 2009 Homecoming celebration is New Additions Enhancing Historic Traditions. He then reported that the band has grown, and that its first performance would be in the St. Louis Gateway Classic Parade on September 26, 2009. He noted that the groups would also be performing in “Dancing in the Streets” at Grand Center.
Mrs. Gully reported that the Financial Report for August 2009 was reviewed and discussed in detail with the Board Finance Committee on September 17. She further reported that budgeted revenues realized to date were at 32.41% and expenditures were at 13.30% through August 31, 2009. She further reported that Gillespie Residence Hall’s total revenue was at 56%, expenditures at 12%, and remains at 100% capacity. She stated that HSSU is looking at the strong possibility of financing another residence hall. She noted that grants and contracts, without the recent $2 million grants reported earlier in the meeting by President Givens, were at $4,059,468 to date.

Mrs. Gully reported that the Clay Early Childhood Development/Parenting Education Center is in full operation and that the infant and toddler areas are almost full. She stated that the Center is seeking assistance from the Head Start Program to fill the pre-school side, which has been a challenge because of the economy.

Mrs. Gully reported that HSSU is being afforded an opportunity to participate in the U.S. Bank Student Electronic Refund Pilot Program. She reminded everyone that HSSU has partnered with U.S. Bank, the fourth largest retail branch network in the country, for many years, and that the University’s beautiful entryway arch is as a result of its generosity. Mrs. Gully reported on the strengths of U.S. Bank, its standards for security, U.S. Bank’s compliance with the Department of Education regulations, the many benefits of participating in the program and explained the E-Disbursement Service as a low-cost, streamlined disbursement solution for the University.

Communications & Marketing

Ms. McCall distributed copies of the new HSSU Alumni newsletter to Board members. She gave kudos to her staff member, Nisa Korte, who works closely with the Alumni Association and assisted the organization with developing the attractive newsletter.

Ms. McCall reported that the Harris-Stowe Alumni Gold Gala would be held on October 10, 2009, at the Renaissance Hotel St. Louis Airport. She stated that she and members of her staff have worked diligently in assisting the Alumni with planning the event. She noted that the annual event is most enjoyable and encouraged everyone to attend.

Ms. McCall reminded everyone that President Givens had given the report on the jazz concert earlier in the meeting. She then distributed very impressive media packets on the concert to Board members.

Ms. McCall stated that she was happy to “boast” about the HSSU Honeycomb team this semester. She reported that there are a total of 29 members including varsity and junior varsity teams. She added that they will participate in the Gateway Classic Parade, Grand Center Dancing in the Street – an event the Honeycombs have participated in for three years. She stated that the group was asked this year to do a special Michael Jackson tribute, and that they were contacted by Grand Center for three Honeycombs to appear on KMOV-TV. She noted that the Honeycombs also raised money for new uniforms, and passed on their old uniforms to the new HSSU Flag Corp. She concluded by stating that working as the fast growing dance team’s founder and ongoing director, is a lot of hard work, but a labor of love.
Dracula, presented by the HSSU Players, will open November 19, 20 and 21, 2009, in the Emerson Performance Center’s Bank of America Theatre. Come out and support one of the most talented theater groups in the state, our very own HSSU Players, under the dynamic direction of Mrs. Beverly Brennan. For ticket information, please call (314) 340-5975. Get your tickets early, as the show is sure to sell out!

Picture of the Month: The HSSU Marching Hornets! How proud are we of our growing group of musicians, dancers and flag corp? True HBCU activities at its finest. They’re being sought out all over the city! Hopefully, everyone will come out and support the Hornets during basketball season!