

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
Committee Meeting  
January 20, 2017**

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The Athens State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee held a meeting on January 20, 2017 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 1:15 p.m. by Ms. Crystal Brown.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following committee members were present:

Ms. Crystal Brown (for Dr. Mark Heinrich)  
Mr. Clint Shelton  
Mr. Nate Mitchell  
Dr. James Gadberry  
Dr. Lisa Rich  
Dr. Mark Gale  
Dr. Vic Wilson  
Dr. Joe Delap

Dr. Mark Heinrich, Dr. Jeanne Payne and Mr. Ronnie Smith were absent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Joe Delap announced new faculty members hired who began their duties Spring 2017 semester:

- Dr. Dalvin Hill, Assistant Professor of Computer Science
- Dr. William Newell, Assistant Professor of Secondary History/Social Studies Education

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Delap shared information about new minors and certificates that are being added for the 2017/2018 academic year.

College of Education

- Minor in Middle Level Education (18 semester hours) – Dr. Pat Sims, Dean of the College of Education stated that this minor will give students specialized knowledge and skills in teaching grades 4-8. This minor will give elementary and secondary education majors an additional credential to seek employment in these grades.

- Minor in Autism & Developmental Disabilities - This new minor will allow students the opportunity to gain specialized knowledge and skills in teaching students on the autism spectrum. Dr. Debbie Ferguson, Department Chair and Professor of Special Education, explained that incidents of autism have increased over the years. Knowledge of teaching strategies for this population will be beneficial to all education majors and students in other colleges who might work with children outside of public education.
- Certificate in Autism & Developmental Disabilities – This certificate will provide current teachers the opportunity to add a credential with the knowledge of teaching strategies for children on the autism strategies.

#### College of Business

- Minor in Forensic Accounting – Assistant Professor of Accounting, Emily Corzine, explained that there is an increased demand in the field of Forensic Accounting due to an increase in white collar crimes and increased regulations established to prevent these crimes. This minor will also prepare students for the major professional certifications in forensic accounting.
- Minor in Accounting – This minor will provide a solid foundation of essential accounting concepts. An accounting education can be applied to all professions.
- Certificate in Accounting – This certificate will give currently working individuals the opportunity to complete a finite program in accounting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Pat Sims has been appointed to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Board of Trustees.

Dr. Delap and Dr. Stephen Calatrello, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs at Calhoun Community College, are working on a joint professional development event for faculty at Athens State University and Calhoun Community College. Dr. Ken Bain, author of “What the Best College Teachers Do” will be the featured speaker for the March 17 event. Dr. Bain is currently the president of the Best Teachers Institute.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Crystal Brown adjourned the meeting at 1:49 p.m.