

# Projects, donations and the media

Trustees meeting highlights positive growth and continuing challenges for FSU

By Courtney "NuNu" Taylor  
Voice Staff Writer

The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convenes one to three times per semester to discuss various topics ranging from budget issues and scholarship funding to athletics and student government association. *The Voice* attended the latest meeting, held Sept. 23 at Chestnut Library. Here's a highlight reel of what went on at that meeting:

## PROJECTS AND EVENTS:

Over the summer FSU held a football jamboree where 18 schools participated from various counties and 4,000 fans. FSU's new scoreboard was briefly discussed. Dr. Janice Haynie discussed her interview with sophomore Tatiana Mosley, who expressed her experience on the trip in Africa with Coca-Cola, where she attended the World Cup, a safari, and a day with actor Idris Elba.

The Office of Student Affairs also discussed a possible Health and Wellness Initiative, which aims to tackle the problems with obesity, sexually transmitted diseases on campus, and promote fitness and nutrition. FSU will also host its annual Dancing with the Stars event in April to raise money for low income housing families

## DONATIONS

During the 2009-2010 year, \$1.9 million was raised for the university. For 2010-2011, there will be an Advancement Marketing Branding Committee Initiative to take on more sponsors for the university. The Tom Joyner Campaign became a huge success, increasing fundraising by \$240,000, however, in late December 2010 the Tom Joyner Cam-



Voice photo by Nathaniel Stevenson

Student Government Association President Jermaine Pittman (left), relaxes with other board members during a break during the recent Board of Trustees meeting.

aign for FSU will end. Dr. Fleming's banquet was a great success. Alumni donations have increased by 200 percent with more than 1600 paid members.

Majors gifts donated to the university were from Ford Motor Company, Morgan-Stanley, Bank of America, Food Lion, Thurgood Marshall, and Wachovia. Future sponsors would be Coca-Cola, BB&T, and Johnson & Johnson.

## THE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Anderson expressed his appreciation and gratitude for a \$500,000 grant from the Housing and Urban Development for the redevelopment of Murchison Road. In addition, he said that next year, the university may be eligible for another \$800,000 toward the redevelopment of Murchison Road. A \$5 million proposal for the Math, Sciences, and Military Initiative was also discussed.

With this proposal the Chancellor has been dealing closely with Ron Blakely, who works with the Obama Initiative in improving the stance of HBCUs.

The Chancellor also wants to establish a committee for major capital, whose duty will be setting a target never set in FSU history.

Chancellor Anderson also encouraged all members of the board to support athletics and academic events.

## FSU IN THE MEDIA:

So far FSU was mentioned in national media 325 times and FSU videos were viewed 2100 times. Monday, FSU Director of Public Relations met with media representatives to discuss the lack of positive-based journalism efforts focused on FSU. He feels the media chooses to journal what they want and is selective about the information they put out. FSU's name and image must be protected.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

SGA President Jermaine Pittman gave an update on the affairs of SGA and great success. The Student Housing Initiative was discussed. The estimated cost will be \$50 to 60 million and it will be SGAs duty to inform students of the prospective costs when the time comes for re-housing. Mr. Pittman concluded by reminding the Board of SGA's 2010-2011 motto, which he vowed to adhere to: "You Speak, We L.I.S.T.E.N (Lead, Inspire, Speak-Out, Teach, Encourage, and Network)"

## COMING UP NEXT...

The next meeting is Dec. 9, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the J.C Jones Board Room, located on the second floor of Chestnut Library. Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public.

# Need financial aid help? Know where to go

By Krystal McDaniel  
Voice Staff Writer

Have you ever walked into the Office of Financial Aid, signed in and waited for a long period of time only to find out you're in the wrong place?

Have you heard this before: "The place you need to be in is student accounts."

Many students are confused when it comes down to the duties of financial aid staff versus the respon-

sibilities of student accounts staff.

In most instances, students have issues pertaining to the Office of Student Accounts, yet they'll head straight for the Office of Financial Aid without reviewing their account in banner or ensuring all their responsibilities are taken care of.

Financial Aid deals with scholarships, loans, work study and grants to help students pay for college. Student accounts, on the other hand, deals with a variety of things such as refund checks, accounts re-

ceivable, third-party billing, refund check corrections, student inquiries about their account or tuition bill information.

Tavoria Wax, a student account representative, says they may do a workshop to educate students so they know which office they need to go to in the event of inquiries.

"Some of the staff are great help, but as far as decisions about students' money, it could be a lot better," said Fayetteville State University sophomore Melissa Robinson

"It could be that they find something wrong with your account at the last moment and expect you to pay something that you didn't even know about... Also when you go to the financial aid they send you in big circles."

Many students express ill feelings about the Office of Financial Aid due to long wait times. But time is wasted by students who did not meet necessary deadlines, complete mandatory verification forms, submit tax sheets, or do other necessary

work.

Time is also taken up by students who have inquires about their financial aid award. This can be avoided if students view their account in banner and check their email regularly. Holds, changes in the FAFSA process and many other important notifications are sent by email.

Although there is room for improvement in both offices, students must take care of their respective responsibilities. Punctuality and efficiency can make all the difference.