The Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 20 at 9:00 AM.

Committee members present:
Marianne Smith Edge, Chair
Phillip Patton
Russ Williams

Committee member absent:
Steven Reed

Other Board members present:
Penny Brown
Jeff Dembo
Becky Ellingsworth
Ann Brand Haney
Myra Tobin

Student Affairs staff present:
Patricia Terrell, Vice President for Student Affairs
Mary Bolin-Reece, Director of Counseling and Testing
Anne Coke, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs
Jeff DeMoss, Executive Director of Dining Services
Victor Hazard, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
John Herbst, Director of the Student Center
Rhonda Strouse, Director of Student Activities, Leadership and Involvement
Betsy Mahoney, Director of Student Affairs Administration
Greg Moore, Director of University Health Services
Jim Wims, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Residence Life

University staff and students present:
Kathy Johnson, Public Relations
Barbara Jones, University Counsel

Marianne Smith Edge opened the meeting by welcoming Becky Ellingsworth as the new Student Government President and new Board of Trustee member. Ms. Edge stated that Ms. Ellingsworth hit the ground running and looks forward to working with the Student
Government Association. In the future, the Governing Regulations, the Administrative Regulations, Student Government by-laws, and the Code of Student Conduct will be looked at carefully. Barbara Jones updated the committee on the current situation. The Circuit Court ruled in favor of Ms. Ellingsworth. The University has filed two appeals. There is no time limitation to responding to the appeals, but the University could hear something in the next eight to twelve weeks. The focus has been on the process of selecting a president; not on who is the president. Ms. Ellingsworth was asked to comment. Student Government had their first Senate meeting. Cabinet members were appointment as well as other appointments were made. They are meeting tomorrow to approve the budget. Student Government is working on initiatives. Ms. Myra Tobin asked how long the term is for. The response was for a fiscal year. Ms. Smith Edge stated that there are exciting things happening despite the unfortunate occurrence.

Mr. Jim Wims was asked about current plans in Residence Life. Mr. Wims said that the highlight was the opening of the four new residence halls. The response has been positive. The student recycling group comprised of 11 students recycled 34,000 pounds of cardboard during the move in process. Mr. Williams asked if the group realized any income. Mr. Wims replied that they do and it is approximately $12-$14,000 per year. Dr. Dembo asked how the students will know we discussed this effort at today’s meeting. Mr. Wims replied that he told them he would be bringing this to the BOT Student Affairs Committee’s attention at today’s meeting and the students were pleased to hear this. Dr. Terrell suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the students from the committee chair. Ms. Smith Edge would like to invite the group to a future BOT meeting by having them stand up and be recognized for their efforts. Ms. Tobin thought a human interest story would be nice in the Lexington Herald Leader. Ms. Johnson said she would look into this.

Dr. Terrell brought to the attention of the Committee members Jim Wims’ efforts on diversity within Residence Life. Residence Life has the highest ethnic minority hires than any other area at the University. Mr. Wims was appreciative of the remarks and wanted to share the praise with his staff. Ms. Smith Edge commented that that was a sign of a good leader.

Dr. Terrell asked Mr. Hazard to comment on UK FUSION, Meijer Mania, and Super Start. Mr. Hazard said that 56 agencies in the Lexington area and 950 UK students participated in UK FUSION. Meijer Mania is a new UK Welcome event and was held on Tuesday, August 23rd. Meijer’s provided buses to transport students to their store in Hamburg for back to school shopping. Approximately 500 students took advantage of this shopping excursion. Super Start entered its third year of providing information (campus and Lextran bus routes), directions to classroom buildings, bottled water, and highlighters during the first two days of classes. Welcome tents and tables were set up at the Student Center patio area, the front of the Classroom Building, and on Rose Street next to the Mining & Minerals Building. Dr. Terrell added that next year we may look into adding service projects on UK’s campus as we have maxed out all community agency efforts. Another UK Welcome event, was the performance, “In Our Own Voices,” a play coordinated by the UK Women’s Place. This
play was written, directed, and acted by UK students. It featured actual UK student experiences and addresses a broader range of issues involving violence against women. Counseling & Testing Center staff psychologists were on hand after the performance to debrief anyone who needed to talk due to the intenseness of the content. A question regarding extending FUSION throughout the year was asked. Dr. Terrell replied that we could look into extending it throughout the year. She is aware that some of UK’s faculty is integrating the service component into their curriculum. Ms. Strouse said that FUSION takes all year to plan and we see students returning to participate once again. Dr. Terrell said that 97% of the students returned from last year and stated that they would do it again and recommend it to their friends. Mr. Williams said that this year’s BOT retreat was held on the same day. He would like to see the BOT members participate in this project.

Dr. Dembo mentioned that convocation for KY Welcome is a nice ceremonial opening but it is held on the hottest day of the year in the non-air-conditioned Memorial Coliseum. Over 5000 students and their families attended. Dr. Terrell said that there is a scheduled meeting to discuss this very matter for next year.

Mr. Patton said that there is a decline in the African-American enrollment. The students are meeting the requirements but are going elsewhere for their education. What are our thoughts on this? Dr. Terrell said that recruitment is not a part of Student Affairs and that Don Witt could better speak on this issue. Recruitment of African-American students is highly competitive. These students are receiving scholarship offers from other universities.