ATTENDING: John Vincent, Clark Midkiff, Jeanette Vandermeer, Ed Stephenson, Shane Street, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Melondie Carter, John Mason, Roy Maize, Margaret Garner

ABSENT: Karen Steckol, Dee Goldston, Rona Donahoe, Marcia Barrett, David Arnold, Lowell Baker, Carolyn Cassady

Roll call and quorum check by Secretary Clark Midkiff.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee minutes of June 12, 2007 were approved.

President’s Report – (John Vincent) The Quality Enhancement Plan for 2006-07 was distributed by John Dew, Director of Continuous Quality Improvement, before departing The University of Alabama for another position at Troy University. Dr. Margaret King, Vice President for Student Affairs, has resigned this position to devote time to teaching. Mark Nelson is the interim Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs. Nelson will be speaking to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting in September. Dr. Keith McDowell, Vice President for Research, has resigned this position to take a position in the University of Texas system. Joe Benson is the interim Vice President for Research. Benson will be speaking to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee in the near future. Academic Misconduct and Conflict of Interest policies and responsibilities were discussed.

The five-year Construction and Financing Construction Plan from all three UA institutions was presented to the Steering Committee. The University has eight projected academic building plans for the next five years. The plan includes finishing the renovations of Lloyd Hall, $17.6 million dollars; Science and Engineering Phases II through IV complexes, $150 million dollars; Foster Auditorium renovation, $11.3 million dollars; College of Nursing, $17 million dollars; Ten Hoor renovation, $8 million dollars; Doster Hall, $4.6 million dollars; Morgan Hall renovation, $4.4 million dollars; and Rowan-Johnson Hall renovation, $5.5 million dollars. Additional projected projects include parking deck, $9 million dollars; Rose Towers renovation, $27 million dollars; Mary Burke renovation, $8 million dollars; Martha Parham renovation, $4 million dollars; athletic facilities including indoor tennis courts, end zone seating expansion, baseball stadium, RV parking, Crewe team, $71 million dollars; infrastructure, $56 million dollars including new energy plants, $30 million dollars; and storm sewers, $18 million dollars. The total of the proposed five-year plan is $396 million dollars. University property acquisition, financing, and bond issues for new construction and ongoing projects were discussed.

The “Books for Baghdad” project has been suspended due to lack of participation by campus groups that pledged support for the project.
Secretary’s Report – (Clark Midkiff) Concern was expressed about the flow of traffic on campus with the increased number of students, the closing and rerouting of streets, and the addition of buses. Access to certain parts of campus, particularly by emergency vehicles, will be difficult along with traffic congestion at 4:45 PM. Incorrect and conflicting information is publicized concerning road closings. Continued concern about evacuation due to severe weather remains. The last campus closing caused by a weather crisis resulted in evacuation chaos. Communicating procedures to follow for students and faculty is still lacking. Tolerance for late arrival of students for class due to the new transportation system will be requested.

Legislative Agenda – (Margaret Garner) The Higher Education Partnership Leadership Retreat will be held August 8 through 10. Faculty Senate Presidents are invited. There will be student delegates participating in leadership training. The Legislative Breakfast meetings were discussed.

Meeting adjourned 4:05 PM.