

**AR Chapter AFS EXCOM Meeting  
Fort Smith, AR  
May 26, 2009**

An AR Chapter AFS EXCOM Meeting was held from 11:30am until 3pm on May 26, 2009 at the Varsity Sports Grill in downtown Fort Smith. President Darrell Bowman, President-elect Ginny Adams, Treasurer Jimmy Barnett, and Secretary Chris Racey were in attendance from the Arkansas Chapter EXCOM. Also in attendance were Richard Walker (UCA subunit secretary), James Vincent (OK Chapter president-elect), and Brent Bristow (OK Chapter president).

The goals of the meeting were to begin planning the 2010 joint OK-AR annual meeting and to hold a brief AR Chapter EXCOM meeting to discuss current issues. The group discussed possible meeting dates and decided that the joint meeting will be held February 3-5, 2010 in Fort Smith, AR. The general meeting format will be as follows:

Feb. 3: The meeting will start around 1pm. A plenary speaker will start things off followed by general presentations. There will be an opening social off-site with a student poster session.

Feb. 4: There will be technical presentations all day followed by an evening banquet. The OK live auction and OK/AR silent auctions will take place at the banquet. Several student awards will also be presented at the banquet.

Feb. 5: Both the OK and AR business meetings will be held separately in the morning immediately after any remaining technical presentations. Meeting will be adjourned by noon.

It was decided that AR would be in charge of making arrangements for the meeting, and OK would be in charge of the presentation schedule. While no venues are booked, the Holiday Inn has good facilities and is the most likely candidate for the meeting. AR will look into the possibility of making online registration available at their website. Both president-elects will work together to set up the meeting.

At this point, the AR Chapter EXCOM decided to take a few minutes to hold a brief meeting. Ginny announced that the Chapter now has a Facebook page that will be updated by UCA. She encouraged us to take a look at the page, and to post a link to the Facebook page on the website.

Chris presented a proposal from Beverly Birdsong to update and maintain the chapter website on a contractual basis. The initial cost will be a flat rate of \$500, which will cover all of the initial changes covered in the proposal plus six months of maintenance after the initial project is signed off. After 6 months, the chapter can renegotiate another contract or pay \$25/hour for regular maintenance. The EXCOM unanimously agreed to utilize Beverly's contract services, and thus she will now serve as the chapter's webmaster. Chris will acquire a contract from Beverly, and the EXCOM gave the approval for Chris to sign the contract to get things rolling. The signed contract will be archived in the secretary's box. Ginny asked Chris to inquire about the possibility of online registration on our website for both AR and OK Chapter meeting attendees. Chris will look into this, and report back to the EXCOM.

Jimmy then stated that we currently have a chapter computer and printer that do not work, and wanted the EXCOM's opinions on what to do with those two items. Jimmy stated that former

treasurer Mike Bivin had already removed all files from the computer, and they are being stored in a safe location. However, should they decide to dispose of these items, Jimmy asked that a written document be prepared with both his and Darrell's signatures on it to indicate what had happened to the computer and printer. Darrell also requested that the computer and printer be recycled. Darrell indicated that he wanted to think about this for a month or two before making a final decision.

A short discussion of where chapter information should be stored then ensued. Ginny suggested that an external hard drive may be a good investment. Darrell suggested we consider this option, but wanted us to consider alternatives as well. Darrell then reminded the EXCOM that we have an agreement with UCA to archive our chapter's folders and files. Ginny was tasked with looking into the archives that may already exist at UCA to see what we've got stored there.

Chris then brought up a potential issue with the bylaws, whereby several of the student chapters (UCA and ASU) were left out of Section 5 and Section 6 of the bylaws. Chris based this on the most recent bylaws that he had in the secretary's files and the bylaws on the website which were both dated as last revised on April 10, 2004. Ginny then found an email from July 27, 2008 that indicated that Chris and other members of the EXCOM had approved some changes to the bylaws. After a few minutes of discussion, it was decided that Chris will look into finding the most recent set of chapter bylaws before any further changes are addressed.

Chris reminded the EXCOM that Steve Lochmann had indicated his desire to step down as newsletter editor at the chapter meeting in February 2009. However, an email several days before the meeting clearly indicated that Steve was still actively engaged in the newsletter process. Darrell stated that he has not had anyone willing to step up to take over this position. Darrell then asked for ideas from the EXCOM and the following names were suggested: John Jackson (ATU), Mike Eggleton (UAPB), and Matt Schroeder (AGFC). Darrell will pursue these options and see if one of them is willing to take over the position.

This meeting was adjourned. Ginny, Darrell, and James toured several local venues in anticipation of setting up the meeting over the next few months.