

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE  
MASCOT COMMITTEE MEETING  
March 1, 2006

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Mascot Committee met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2006, in Administrative Conference Room #622 on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the ULM Library. Committee members present: Chairman George Luffey, Wayne Brumfield, Skeet Creekmore, Kyle Gallman, Eveta Gambrah, Laura Harris, Richard Hood, John Knesel, John Rettenmayer, Dorothy Schween, Don Skelton, Bobby Staub, Elee Trichel, Rod Washington, Don Weems, Chris Wilson, Amanda Wing, James Wright, Keith Brown, Sue Edmunds, and Joe Farr. Committee Members absent: Dave Norris, Mary Ann Newton, Stacy Lamb, Joey Trappey, and Stuart Keyes. Others attending by invitation were: Kevin Stuart, Lindsey Wilkerson, Lillian Brown, and Mazie Williams. The media personnel attending was Jordan Blum – News-Star.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 3:30 p.m. by Chairman Luffey with Don Skelton being asked to execute a roll call of members. Following a review of the minutes of February 22, 2006, on a motion by Richard Hood, second by Joe Farr, and vote of the committee, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairman Luffey thanked the Committee members for their hard work and willingness to serve in this capacity. He also stated that he appreciates everyone's valuable input and participation as the Committee moves forward in this selection process to do what is best for the University.

Don Skelton handed out Subcommittee assignments which were reviewed and accepted by the Committee. A handout listing all the suggested mascot names was handed out to each Committee member, and Don Skelton advised the Committee to add three additional names that had been received through the mail and postmarked by the designated deadline. Lindsey Wilkerson informed the Committee that the prefixes "ULM" or "Louisiana", if suggested, have been omitted before mascot names as they are redundant. However, other prefix adjectives such as "fighting" or "bayou" have been left on as was suggested.

Kevin Stuart advised the Committee a card soliciting community participation in the next polling process is being prepared and would be mailed out to a group of over 50,000 persons, to include donors, alumni, and friends of the University. This card will include instructions on how to participate in the polling process and give each recipient a unique identification number and password. Participation in the polling process by ULM faculty, staff, and students will be targeted via email. However, anyone can request an identification number and password on the ULM Mascot Website to become eligible to participate in this process. A discussion followed about the selection process, and Amy Weems made a motion that each participant be allowed to select up to three of the ten semifinalists, and Elee Trichel seconded the motion. Lindsey Wilkerson advised the Committee that a person will have only one chance to submit up to three choices. Amy Weems requested that a place be provided by each mascot name for a person to give an optional brief explanation of why they are selecting a particular name as one of their choices.

Don Skelton stated that the next step in the selection process was for the four Subcommittees to break out to begin the process of narrowing down the mascot names to the top ten semifinalists. He requested that each Subcommittee designate a spokesperson to report back to the full Committee at the next meeting on Wednesday, March 8. He also requested that the Subcommittees take into consideration gender during their selection of the semifinalists, making reference to women's athletics.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m. for the Subcommittees to breakout.