After showing the “Welcome to Aggieland” video, Porter S. Garner III ’79, President and CEO of The Association of Former Students, called the Winter Leadership Council Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Zachry Family Rooms in the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Garner recognized Dr. Bowen Loftin ’71, Texas A&M President; John Sharp ’72, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System; Dr. Ed Davis ’67, President of the Texas A&M Foundation; and Colonel Sam Hawes ’81, Assistant Commandant for Recruiting of the Corps of Cadets. Michael McVey ’12, Corps of Cadets Chaplain, provided the invocation while Dr. John Thomas ’59, Class Agent Emeritus, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT AND CEO’S REMARKS

Garner shared stories of Council members honoring fellow Aggies including Shariq Yosufzai ’74 and Jorge Bermudez ’73 who provided funds to purchase an Aggie Ring for Anand Narayanan ’11, Ph.D. candidate and Buck Weirus Award recipient, who could not afford his Aggie Ring; and MG David Rubenstein ’77 who presided as general officer over the service and presented a flag on behalf of The Association to the family of Lt. Col. David Cabrera ’92 who was killed in Afghanistan; and Jon ’68 and Johnette ’70 Jarvis who funded the cost of an Aggie Ring which was presented by Garner and Loftin at the May 2011 commencement to Chris Hsiao ’10 who lost his Ring in a car accident. Garner reminded the Council members to make plans to attend inaugural Volunteer Leadership Workshop scheduled for June 23-24, 2012. Garner also reported the Texas Aggie magazine is available in both electronic format as well as the traditional print format and donors can select their preferred delivery on AggieNetwork.com. Garner announced 12 former students have been named 2012 Distinguished Alumni, including the twelve Aggies who received the Medal of Honor: George D. Keathley ’37, Horace S. Carswell, Jr. ’38, Dr. Eli L. Whiteley ’41, Turney W. Leonard ’42, Thomas W. Fowler ’43, William G. Harrell ’43, Lloyd H. Hughes ’43. Other recipients include Bob J. Surovik ’58 and Donald A. Adam ’57 who were notified through surprise announcements, and the families of posthumous recipients Tommie E. Lohman ’59 and Dr. Robert V. Walker ’45 have been notified. The remaining recipient will be announced through an upcoming surprise announcement. Garner also announced the 2012 Outstanding International Alumnus Award recipient is Dr. Rafael Augusto Ledesma Schoowe ’68 from the Dominican Republic.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2012 ASSOCIATION CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Garner introduced Otway Denny ’71 as The Association of Former Students 2012 Chair of the Board and recognized him for his outstanding service to The Association and Texas A&M University.
CHAIR'S REMARKS

Denny greeted the Council and stated he looked forward to serving as Chair of the Board. He thanked Immediate Past Chair, Jorge Bermudez '73, for his noble service to The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M University.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: (JOHN C. MAYFIELD '58/LT. COL. JERRY GASS, USAF (Ret) '71) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FALL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 6, 2011 BE APPROVED. Carried.

TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION REPORT

Dr. Ed Davis '67 thanked the staff of The Association of Former Students for the Distinguished Alumnus Award surprise announcement for Donald A. Adam '57 that he witnessed Thursday, February 23, 2012. Davis stated the Sterling C. Evans Medal recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Texas A&M University's philanthropic efforts. Three of the 2012 recipients have been announced: Howard and Nancy Terry for founding the Terry Foundation which provides full-ride scholarships to Texas A&M students; Dan A. Hughes '51 for his gift to renovate Military Walk and contributions to the Berg-Hughes Center for Petroleum and Sedimentary Systems. Davis reported at fiscal year end in June, 2011, there was an approximate 22% return on the endowment and an approximate plus six percent return in 2012. The Council for Aid to Education’s 2011 fiscal year numbers collectively ranked Texas A&M University, The Association of Former Students, Texas A&M Foundation and the 12th Man Foundation fifteenth in the nation among public universities with $185,000,000 in contributions. The Memorial Student Center renovation and expansion project contributions totaled $15,000,000 in February, 2012. Davis stated the third comprehensive capital campaign accounting began June 1, 2012 and he introduced Mark Klemm '81 as Campaign Manager.

THE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Finance Report

Kathleen Gibson '81, Board Member and Chair of the Finance Committee, reviewed the 2011 financial report and stated the total Association revenues for all funds, including trust funds and building contributions, in 2011 exceeded total expenses by $1,434,582. Total operating revenues were $12,139,287. Total operating expenses were $12,054,590. Gibson reported the total cost to raise one dollar was $.208, which is well below the Better Business Bureau’s benchmark of 35 cents. As of December 31, 2011, The Association's net assets totaled $81,508,473.

Fundraising Report

Bo Bradbury '89, Board Member and Chair of the Fundraising Committee, reported The Association raised $7,490,858 in the 2011 Annual Fund. The Endowed Century Club Trust Fund, including 42 new funds, totaled $14,316,475. There were $407,445 in gifts and pledges received for memorial and other scholarships. There are currently 11 Aggie Ring Scholarships and the fund balance is $139,993 which does not include five planned gifts. Bradbury also reported $16,832,611 has been raised to date for the building enhancement campaign. Bradbury noted the 2012 Annual Fund goal is $7,100,000 with $1,361,494 raised as of February 25, 2012. Bradbury introduced Jose Garcia '13, student leader and Buck Weirus Spirit Award recipient, who explained how The Association of Former Students scholarships enhanced his experience at Texas A&M by becoming...
involved in many student organizations and thanked The Association’s donors for the scholarships and donations.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM REPORT

John Sharp '72, Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, stated that due to losses of $1,000,000 per year, studies were made to determine if privatization of facilities and dining services would benefit Texas A&M University. The A&M System has issued a request for proposals for a private entity to operate dining services, and will seek future request for proposals for custodial services, building maintenance and landscaping services. Surveys will be done to determine the best needs and interests of Texas A&M and its employees and students. Sharp stated he will be working with Dr. Loftin to make Texas A&M University one of the nation’s top ten universities in research. Sharp thanked the Leadership Council and staff of The Association of Former Students for what they do for Texas A&M.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY REPORT

President R. Bowen Loftin ’71 stated 2012 will be an important year for Texas A&M as it celebrates 12 Impacts for 2012 by showing how the 12th Man impacts the world, and this month George Mitchell ’40 will be illustrated for his impact in the oil and gas industry and his contributions to Texas A&M. 2012 is also the 150th anniversary of the passage of the Morrill Act which established the land-grant college system. Loftin reported the unofficial spring enrollment is 46,618, and 31,457 applications were received for the fall 2012 freshman class, with approximately 8,254 freshman admitted. Loftin stated the Dwight Look College of Engineering will celebrate the dedication of its Emerging Technologies Building in April, the Memorial Student Center’s Rededication Ceremony will take place on April 21, and new construction includes the $120 million classroom building and expansion of the Small Animal Hospital in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Loftin expressed his appreciation to the Leadership Council for their dedication and service to The Association of Former Students and Texas A&M University. Loftin answered the Leadership Council’s questions.

CORPS OF CADETS REPORT

Colonel Sam Hawes ’81, Assistant Commandant for Recruiting of the Corps of Cadets, stated the Commandant’s three priorities for the Corps of Cadets are academic excellence, recruiting and retention, and diversity. He reported there are 874 freshmen in the Class of 2015, of which 119 are women, and 187 freshmen scored 1300 or better on the SAT. Hawes offered thanks to The Association of Former Students for their assistance in sending the Corps of Cadets to the Arkansas game.

CHAIR’S CLOSING REMARKS

Denny expressed his appreciation to have been selected to serve as Chair of The Association of Former Students in 2012 and thanked the Leadership Council, fellow members of the Board, and The Association staff for their support. Denny announced the 2012 Sul Ross Reunion is scheduled for March 7-9 and the Fall Leadership Council Weekend is scheduled to be held November 16 and 17, 2012. To close the meeting, former Yell Leaders led in the singing of the Spirit of Aggieland.
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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