



THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE, CHATTANOOGA, MARTIN, TULLAHOMA, MEMPHIS

**FACULTY COUNCIL  
MEETING 38 - Minutes  
August 21, 2013, Videoconference 4:00 p.m. (EDT)**

**UT Faculty Council Voting Members (Quorum, 5 voting members)**

UTHSC George Cook (Faculty Senate President) - absent  
TBA (Campus Representative) - absent  
UTK David Golden (Faculty Senate President) - present  
David Patterson (Campus Representative) – present  
UTM Jeff Rogers (Faculty Senate President) - present  
Jenna Wright (Campus Representative) – present  
UTC Deborah McAllister (Faculty Senate President) - present  
Kay Cowan (Campus Representative) - present

**Trustees (Ex-Officio voting)**

Vickie Steinberg (Board of Trustees Faculty member - voting) -present  
Thad Wilson (Board of Trustees Faculty member – non-voting) - absent

**UT Faculty Council Ex-Officio Non-voting Members**

UT Dr. Joe DiPietro (System President) – absent  
UT Dr. Katie High (System Office of Academic Affairs and Student Success) – absent

**Faculty Council Guests**

UT Dr. India Lane (System Office of Academic Affairs and Student Success) – absent  
UTM Brian Donovan - present  
UT Missy Jenkins (System Office of Academic Affairs and Student Success) – present  
UT Erica Jenkins (UT System Office of Communications and Marketing) – present  
UT Mike Hardin - present

**Call to Order – 4:00 p.m. (EDT)**

**Roll Call – as above**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

*Approval of the June 19, 2013 minutes. Approved*

September 12, 2013

- Next UFC meeting at 9:00 a.m. (CDT).
- Next face to face meeting with Dr. DiPietro in Nashville at 10:00 a.m. (CDT).

Old Business

1. Report from the TUFSS meeting.

Jeff provided a report, regarding the August TUFSS meeting, stating that it was clear that the TBR members wanted a representative on UFC. There was neither a motion nor a resolution, from TUFSS. Deborah, also, attended the TUFSS meeting.

2. Sharepoint Faculty handbook tracking.

India's notes. We have used the system fairly successfully at UTK and are making a few modifications for this year:

1. Updating the names of senate presidents, etc. in the workflow and copy trail.
2. Changing the email titles and texts to be a little simpler and clearer as to when action is needed.
3. Seeing how documents can be uploaded in a "holding" pattern before starting the sign off process.

One more thing – the other campuses are all at varying stages in massive handbook revisions. Once the major revisions are approved it would then make sense and be easy to set up a sharepoint tracking system for other campuses, if they so desire.

3. Training for department chairs.

India's notes. Somewhat on the back burner due to all the current projects but a module is complete on Annual Performance Review (delivered to UTC). Next up is a module on P and T issues. Note that UTHSC, UTC and UTK are doing in- house training now.

4. Resolution to Dr. DiPietro about recognition of Faculty Senate service.

UFC members present believed the drafted statement was a bit weak, and wondered what consideration we want. It needs more specification. UTM is considering half-time release for the Faculty Senate President. Release time varies, across the campuses. We plan to discuss this, further, in email.

5. Update on MOOC's and Coursera involvement.

At UTM, there have been a range of reactions: the "beginning of the end" to ways to expand to reach students. The Committee on Instruction will look at the experiences, and will look, in depth, at advantages and disadvantages.

India's notes.

- 4 Coursera pilot courses are in development (one at UTM, two at UTC and 1 at UTK).
- 3 edX pilot courses anticipated – undetermined at this point.
- Statewide evaluation of the pilots is underway and a UT project focused on the faculty and staff load is underway.
- We do have the opportunity to do statewide courses and may do this in a collaborative program or for an IPS law enforcement training course.
- We are part of a multi-state working group trying to learn from these pilots and partnerships. Where can MOOC platforms help? How can blended or creative technology enhanced education (using any platform) help us reach goals of access and completion? Will need extensive faculty engagement and creativity, as well as good incentive/reward system. Questions and suggestions welcome.

6. UFC Web Site.

The new Web site went live on August 20: [tennessee.edu/systemfacultycouncil](http://tennessee.edu/systemfacultycouncil).

Erica, Mike, and Missy presented the Web site, and engaged in discussion, with UFC members. This segment occurred at the beginning of the meeting. There has been a change in host, from the UTK campus to the UT System. Navigation, through the Web site, was demonstrated. There will be an overhaul, in a year or so. Future changes will be considered. Search engine links will be redirected. Larger chunks of information were grouped. Recommendations had been folded into a .pdf, but a separate tab has been restored. The recommendations are listed in reverse, chronological order. Recommendations from 2010, forward, are needed. Deborah will check for these, and for additional documents.

7. System – Plan to draft documents for external review of teaching and service.

India's notes. (White papers for scholarship and teaching need to be posted under the Resources tab, with service to be posted, when available.)

External review of teaching white paper/best practices is done (distributed to UFC at an earlier meeting). India will make sure it is posted and distributed more widely. External review of service white paper forthcoming - maybe by end of 2013. Remember Dr. D is in favor of external letters in the p and t dossiers.

Discussion. UTM has a mission of teaching, so faculty believe that external review of scholarship is impractical. Vicki noted that an external letter can speak to all aspects of teaching, service, and publication. Through a course syllabus, innovations and teaching and testing can be documented. At UTC, the process of writing external review guidelines is being handled, differently, across Colleges, with some Colleges writing a single set of guidelines, and some departments tailoring guidelines to the discipline.

#### New Business

1. Secretary for the 2013-2014 year: Unfilled.
2. System Taskforce Faculty Coordinator: Unfilled.
3. List of faculty recruited for taskforces, work groups, committees, etc. from System initiatives. Deborah will check on this.
4. Curriculum - Approval of changes by administrators.

“A line is drawn” in the Handbook.

#### Other Business

**\*\*Tentative\*\*** Next meeting September 12 for a face-to-face meeting with Dr. DiPietro in Nashville, PARCC/Common Core update from Mike Krause (THEC), and the advising summit (September 12-13). UFC, at 9:00 a.m. (CDT); meet with Dr. DiPietro, at 10:00 a.m. (CDT).

Updates from India, 08/21/13

Just a couple of things that have come up this week that I wanted to share with UFC:

1. I wanted to add that Katie and I are happy to come to campus faculty senates and talk about coursera/edx and any other initiatives. We certainly want to help keep faculty informed and hear your ideas and concerns. We had a good visit at UTM Monday.
2. We are just learning the details of the Governor's Drive to 55 kickoff activities on September 4 that some of you may have been invited to. We have an inkling that the partnerships with Western Governor's U and the MOOC providers will be highlighted in some fashion.
3. Katie and others are actively engaged with state and federal legislators right now. Senator Corker's staff has visited UTC and is visiting UTK today. Senator Alexander's staff is visiting with Knoxville area and system officials on Monday (and maybe others). State legislator Harry Brooks is visiting UTM next week as well. We are taking messages to these groups about student need, federal research funding needs, infrastructure needs, etc. as well as the impact of increasing federal reporting and regulation and declining state support on costs.

From George Cook, 08/19/13

It seems very likely at this time that there will be no one from UTHSC attending the videoconference. Everyone will be at conferences or on vacation.

UTHSC will be submitting a request to the BOT to change evaluations from 4 levels to 5 levels just as UTK has done. We plan to use the exact same wording as UTK to avoid confusion. If other campuses are also submitting similar proposals, please let me know. I would also like to receive the wording that you are suggesting for your Faculty Handbooks.