



THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE, CHATTANOOGA, MARTIN, TULLAHOMA, MEMPHIS

**UT Faculty Council Meeting 5:
March 10-11, 2008, UT Chattanooga**

MINUTES

March 10, 2008, 5:30-8pm: The Boathouse Restaurant in Chattanooga

Attending: George Cook, Elaine Harriss, Beauvais Lyons, Lyn Miles, John Schommer, and Gavin Townsend.

The Council held a preliminary meeting over dinner to discuss issues of mutual concern and to plan for our March 11th meeting. Issues discussed included (1) campus policies on prayer/invocations at public events that was inclusive of all faith traditions, (2) concern regarding checks and balances in the tenure review process and (3) the recommendations to President Petersen made at Meeting 4 in January on the agenda for March 11th. Discussion stressed proposals that might have the most potential to benefit the UT System as a whole.

March 11, 2008, 9am, Heritage Room, University Center, UTC

Members Present:

UTK	David Patterson, Beauvais Lyons
UTC	H. Lyn Miles, Gavin Townsend
UTHSC	Peg Hartig, George Cook
UTM	Elaine Harriss
Trustees	Candace White, John Schommer
Administration	John Petersen, Katie High, Margie Nichols
Guests	Jesse Poore
Quorum?	Yes

Not Present

Nancy Warren

1. Welcome – H. Lyn Miles, Chair

Lyn thanked everyone for attending, with a special thanks to Katie High for working with the Council in planning the meeting agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 18, 2008

Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 1: Institutional Planning & Decision-Making

President Petersen should be encouraged to stress the importance of involving the University Faculty Council in institutional planning and decision-making. The principle should apply to system level task forces and standing committees.

Petersen talked about the role of the UFC as faculty leaders – and talked about resistance from the campus Chancellors to its formation. He views the UFC as a resource for the development of faculty leaders, to build communication and not so much as a governance organization. Beauvais stated that since members of the University Faculty Council are elected by faculty, are the current campus Faculty Senate Presidents and Faculty Trustees, the Council is a valuable representative body to assist the system administration in its work.

4. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 2: Task Forces

System Vice-Presidents should be sent an annual letter from the UFC Task Force Coordinator at the beginning of each fiscal year inviting them to use the University Faculty Council as a resource.

Lyons reported that R.J. Hinde, UTK Professor of Chemistry and Associate Dean in UTK's College of Arts and Sciences is serving on the system Diversity Task Force. He asked for President Petersen's support in encouraging Vice-Presidents to work with him in identifying faculty to play an advisory role on any future task forces, citing the example of a Professor of Business Administration at UTK who helped the Athletics Department better manage its cash flow.

5. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 3: Council Web Site

The University Faculty Council should establish a web site to enhance communications and initiatives that include a listing of faculty on system-level task forces and committees.

Beauvais Lyons expressed thanks to Katie High for signing a UNIX special account request form. He invited members of the council to send suggestions for revision to the web site narrative in the report below before posting it, and will send the url for Council review of the site before it officially goes public. He plans to have the site functioning by the end of March.

6. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 4: Faculty & Board of Trustees

A voting faculty trustee should always be on the agenda of the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee to give a report on concerns from the University Faculty Council on faculty matters.

John Schommer said that he would talk about this matter with Andrea Loughry and Rhynette Hurd to seek opportunities for the Faculty Trustee to address the Board of Trustees. John expressed concern about the desire that Chancellors have opportunities to speak with Trustees. Katie suggested reports from the Faculty Trustee might be most constructive at off-cycle meeting of the Committee.

7. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 5: Improved Communication

The Council requests that it meet with President Petersen at its next meeting to discuss the need for improved communication between the trustees and campus leaders;

George Cook stated that there has been some improvement in system to campus communications, such as faculty meetings with President Petersen and Trustees. However there has been some inconsistency with internal communications. Petersen said that he will seek more opportunities to communicate with faculty on the campuses.

8. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 6: UT Scorecard

The Council requests that it meet with President Petersen at its next meeting to discuss the nature of the UT scorecard.

Candace White expressed concern that the UT Scorecard is not inclusive of non-scientific modes of research. She reported on a group of faculty who met with President Petersen regarding this issue. Petersen talked about problems with the previous scorecard, and the need to have a limited number of measurable goals. He stressed the need for a third party that provides the data on activities that are measurable. He also emphasized that our mission to provide access to and success in higher education, fostering economic development and enhanced quality-of-life opportunities is broad enough to encompass what faculty do.

9. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 7: UT Entrepreneurial Research Focus

The Council requests that it meet with President Petersen at its next meeting to discuss the risks/benefits associated with entrepreneurial research, and a projection for return on entrepreneurial investments to support the academic mission.

Candace White stressed the role of UFC as a communication vehicle – and that there is concern on the campuses regarding the switch grass initiative. Candace asked if President Petersen can assure us that there will be return on the state’s investment. He said that it really is not our money, as it was not designated for education – but for economic development. If we generate 400 million dollars a year tax-based industry - it will support the state’s economy. David Patterson asked about the economics of the number acres committed for growing of switch grass, and will it be sufficient to drive this initiative. Petersen indicated that venture capitalists will do this. He talked about several ways the initiative might be successful, including (1) bringing businesses into the state – with potential secondary outcomes, and (2) intellectual property in this area could have secondary outcomes, and (3) the ways this will change the culture of rural counties educationally and in terms of healthcare.

Petersen also talked about a cyber infrastructure initiative proposal he plans to present to Governor Bredesen giving access to the new supercomputer in Oak Ridge, with nodes throughout the state to serve industry in Tennessee.

10. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 8: UT Budget

The Council requests that it meet with President Petersen at its next meeting to discuss State funding, legislative status, and UT budget transparency and accountability.

Gavin Townsend said that while we have made progress in recent years, he wants to make sure faculty members are working in coordination with the UT administration in communications with the Legislature. Petersen said that in his reports to committees in Nashville, the emphasis

has been to support salaries with less emphasis on operating dollars. This year he will try to keep tuition increase in the single digits. The real expense comes in salary increases to non-formula units that do not benefit from tuition dollars such as the Institute for Agriculture, The Health Science Center and The Institute for Public Service. He stressed the value of faculty working in coordination with Anthony Haynes in their lobbying efforts.

11. Prior Meeting 4 Recommendation 9: Merit Pay

The Council affirms its prior recommendation to address the cost of living before merit pay is awarded.

Because campuses are different in terms of retaining the people they need, Petersen said the larger merit component is more important at UTK and UTHS. Depending upon funding, we will continue to have (1) a flat raise for the least compensated employees, (2) a base percentage across the board, and (3) a portion of the pool to address equity, merit and market. He is seeking flexibility from THEC in these allocations.

12. Meeting 4 Recommendation 10: IT & Communication Issues

The Council requests that President Petersen should provide the Council with a follow-up report on the status of IT and communication issues.

The Council had met with the new Vice President for Information Technology Jesse Poore earlier in the meeting. A record of the proceedings is in the minutes below. Lyn stated that she was pleased that there will be follow up between Dr. Poore and the Council.

13. Meeting 4 Recommendation 11: Appeal Processes

The UT Faculty Council will work with President Petersen and the General Council's Office to create a task force to review the appeal policies in all Faculty Handbooks and to determine whether there are fair and timely processes on each campus as well as at the system level.

Due to time constraints, there was no opportunity for discussion. This matter will be discussed by the Council in the future.

14. Meeting 4 Recommendation 12: UT Library System

UT faculty members should have better access to library resources across the system and the UT Library system should move toward campus-wide access modeled after the Georgia and North Carolina state university system.

Candace White has a report that will be presented later. See minutes below.

15. Meeting 4 Recommendation 13: Council Meetings

Whenever possible, and for convenience and cost, the Council will plan a meeting time and location in association with meetings of the Board of Trustees. A portion of the agenda for the Council meeting will include discussions only among the faculty Council members, while a portion will include discussions directly with the President and any administrative staff present.

Lyn Miles stated since most of the members of the Council are members of the Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee, it made sense to hold some of the Council meetings in conjunction with meetings of the Board of Trustees.

16. Meeting 4 Recommendation 14: Written Reports

The Council members agreed that campus and task force reports should be sent in writing (electronically) in advance of Council meetings to allow the Council members to digest the material, and to focus on discussion, action plans, and faculty recommendations at its face-to-face meetings.

Lyn Miles noted that it helped the work of the Council to have these sent in advance of this meeting. They are copied below. It was agreed that this practice should continue for future meetings so that our time and activities are focused.

NEW BUSINESS

16. UT System IT & CIO – Vice President Jesse Poore

The Council met with Dr. Jesse Poore beginning at 9am to discuss IT system issues. These include:

Duties: Jesse indicated in addition to his new responsibilities he will continue his previous duties, conducting research, teaching and running the Science Alliance. However, a significant percent of his effort will be devoted to being Chief Information Officer of the Knoxville campus and Vice President for system IT. He is interested in addressing not just the problems, but to look at structural matters to position IT for future success. He has been promised all of the help and resources he needs to advance IT.

IT Challenges: One area that is moving quickly is the student information system, and the project manager for system-wide student information system will report to him. A request for proposals for Banner are currently out – and we do not have to go with any bidder. He is especially concerned about the UTC information system, which is fairly old, and is the top priority for conversion. UT Martin is also on Banner. Lyn asked what would be the ideal system. Jesse would advocate for much less expensive open source software – but that is not the way things are. He did note that there are various forms of Banner. He also said that he felt faculty play a key role in using IT – and should be at the table for setting IT policies and procedures. Jesse also discussed the importance of enterprise software across the system. The current (SAP) IRIS system has a number of user problems. He noted that many faculty are keeping a shadow system on Excel spread sheets. An important task ahead is to make the IRIS system more usable. He said the IRIS system is good for those who are properly trained. He regarded personnel training as key to any enterprise software. He also advocated for implementing software upgrades incrementally. He stressed the importance of investing in properly trained UT IT staff as Banner charges \$400,00 per person/year. Implementing Banner at UTK, which recently completed at service upgrade or UTC, which needs a student upgrade. In some cases where there are potential liabilities with personal and medical data, some of the work may be best outsourced.

What works well: Most things at UTK are working fairly well. New NSF track II computer is a great asset, putting us in the top 5-6 universities in the US, which positions us well with NSF. It will be a resource across the system – which can serve Health Sciences, HBCU in the region, industry, etc. He noted that networking is pretty good at UTK, and he is learning more about efforts on the other campuses.

What can we do: Jesse will be glad to meet with us in the future, and believes we should know what the ambitions of the faculty are. He offered to meet with us again in the future, and was receptive to the idea of forming an IT advisory committee including faculty members.

17. UT Library – Candace White

Candace White met with Barbara Dewey, Dean of the UTK Libraries, to discuss the possibility of increased system-wide access for databases and other library resources for faculty. Barbara said the librarians on all campus are discussing this issue because of the university's interest in offering more online degree programs, which would require state-wide library access for online students. The librarians will have a conference call on March 12, and on April 30 will have a meeting with all provosts. They hope to develop a working strategy for sharing resources and a proposal for implementation that includes a funding proposal, possibly with the help of a consultant. Barbara also said this has been under discussion for several years, but the roadblock is always money. The cost for system-wide access would be a 7-figure amount. The UT Knoxville library budget is not sufficient to add other license agreements to its databases without additional funding from the system. The role of the UFC will be to monitor progress and help convey the need at the system level.

The Library group will meet with the Provosts in the future. Petersen said this is important in terms of how we mount distance education in the state, and that the UT system has brand-name potential more than the University of Phoenix and the TBR system.

18. UT Searches – John Petersen

There was not time for a report. Much of this information is listed on the university web site.

19. Student Information System – John Petersen

This matter was covered with Vice President Jesse Poore and is reported above.

20. Faculty Evaluation Procedures – George Cook

This will be a priority for our next meeting.

21. Simplifying General Education & Graduation Requirements – John Petersen

Petersen said there are a couple areas where we hurt ourselves, including articulation agreements in the state. It is most prevalent with UTK. He noted differences with General Education requirements between campuses. The other issue is that 60 percent of students change their majors, which means different general education requirements. Katie High indicated that the Provosts will address articulation agreements at their meeting in April. There was discussion about forming better lines of communication between undergraduate councils on the various campuses, and Katie indicated she will pursue this.

22. Campus & Task Force Reports Discussion (if any) – Beauvais Lyons

This matter was discussed with item 4 under Old Business above.

23. Motion for Adjournment – 11:30 a.m.

Following the Meeting: there was discussion with Katie High regarding the operations of the Council. There was additional discussion of how the meetings are scheduled in conjunction with Board of Trustees meetings, the value of meeting sometimes with President Petersen and sometimes holding working meetings separate from him. The Council will be in contact regarding the possibility of holding a meeting in June.

REPORTS FOR MARCH 11, 2008

FACULTY COUNCIL WEB SITE REPORT Beauvais Lyons, UT Knoxville Council Representative

Katherine High has signed a UNIX account request for hosting a web site for the University Faculty Council. I anticipate that the url for the site will be: web.utk.edu/~utfc. The site will conform to the UT System web template and will be moderated by a member of the University Faculty Council. I will serve as the initial moderator of the site.

I have collected all relevant documents for the web site (charter, bylaws and minutes to date and have prepared them in pdf format for posting). I am proposing that the front page of the site will include the following text based on the UTFC Bylaws:

The University of Tennessee System Faculty Council reports to the respective UT campus Faculty Senates regarding its activities and seeks input and advice from these Senates on issues that come before the UFC. It also confers with appropriate faculty on the campuses as necessary to carry out its advisory activities with the UT President and staff.

Membership on the Council includes the Faculty Senate Presidents from each of the campuses of the University of Tennessee: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, University of Tennessee at Martin, University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center. In addition, the Council includes one representative from the full-time tenured faculty of each campus with each representative serving a term of three years. Faculty Trustees of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees who are not currently serving as Senate President of their campus are also members of the

Council. Ex-officio, non-voting members of the Council include the President of the University of Tennessee System and the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Life of the University of Tennessee System.

Future meetings of the Council are planned for (information here).

This web site provides information on the charter, bylaws, membership, minutes and reports of the Council, as well as links to resources of use to the Council. For more information, contact Lyn Miles, Chair of the University Faculty Council or your campus representative.

Web Site Navigation Buttons will Include:

UFC Charter

UFC Bylaws

Membership (with photo, name, address, phone, email and when term expires)

Minutes and Reports

Resources (with links to campus Faculty Senate web sites and the BOT site)

UT CHATTANOOGA CAMPUS REPORT

Gavin Townsend, UT Chattanooga Senate President

With the completion of the Chancellor's new Strategic Plan for UTC, several dozen faculty and staff members have been divided into twenty-eight committees, one to address each of the recommendations outlined in the Strategic Plan:

<http://www.utc.edu/StrategicPlan/UTCStrategicPlan.pdf>. Most of these recommendations involve efforts to support UTC's goal to enhance its partnerships with organizations outside the university with the unstated (but understood) goal of eventually securing for UTC a Carnegie Foundation citation for "Community Engagement." An important stipulation of the Plan involves the creation of a new University Planning and Resource Advisory Council (UPRAC). This council, constituted by representatives from all parts of the campus (including four faculty members), reviewed during the last week of February a series of financial presentations by various campus units. Academic Affairs represented the interests of the faculty by requesting a budget of \$2.6 million, much of that designed to boost the existing faculty raise pool for next year to between 4 and 5%. Later this Spring the council will provide the Chancellor with recommendations for how to best expend our resources to meet the aims of the Strategic Plan.

UT HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER REPORT

George Cook, UTHSC Representative

Several major events have occurred on the UTHSC campus since the last meeting of the UFC with President Petersen in Knoxville in September 2007. This report is primarily for the benefit of the University Faculty Council as President Petersen and the UT System administration are thoroughly aware of these events.

1. The search for Chancellor was put on hold indefinitely. This eventually led to a request by President Petersen to the Board of Trustees that Interim Chancellor Wall be made

Chancellor until a search can be restarted. The Board will vote on this at its March 2008 meeting.

2. President Petersen has made Governor Bredesen, THEC and other state officials aware of under funding of operating expenses for the UTHSC campus over several years. This is the first time a UT President has acknowledged the shortfall.

3. President Petersen presided over a Town Hall meeting with UTHSC faculty in the Fall of 2007. It was the first time a UT President has met with all faculty on our campus to answer questions and discuss concerns of the faculty. The meeting was well received by our faculty in spite of the serious concerns discussed.

4. A power failure in Crowe Research Building brought attention to the lack of capital expenditures by the State of Tennessee on the UTHSC campus for maintaining and renovating older buildings and for funding new building construction. The few newer buildings on campus have been built with private funds or the sale of bonds. The loss of a transformer in the Crowe occurred on Thanksgiving Day 2007. A diesel generator was put in place to supply power to the building until normal power could be restored in February. The power failure caused losses of research materials in excess of \$150,000 and loss of faculty and staff time in assessing losses and restarting research projects.

5. The recent power failure intensified efforts by the UTHSC administration to invite state administrators, state legislators and UT Board of Trustees members to tour the campus to observe for themselves the condition of buildings used for teaching and research. The UTHSC administration has also been promoting a new \$250,000,000 strategic plan for redevelopment of the campus buildings using private funding. The plan includes demolition of the Beale, Randolph and Feurt buildings which cannot be adequately renovated, construction of new research facilities, clinical facilities, an education annex, a student center annex, and renovation of Crowe, Nash and Whittenborg buildings for administration/faculty offices.

6. Email migration to the Exchange server was completed in December 2007 with minimal disruption of service. The migration was accomplished one computer at a time to avoid problems encountered elsewhere in the system.

7. The UTHSC administration has initiated budget changes to support IT services and faculty salaries for the animal care facilities and move away from the 100% cost recovery system that has been in place for many years. These changes have resulted in increased levels of service and in decreased charges for long distance telephone service from 18 cents to 3 cents per minute and elimination of internet access charges from \$11 per month per connection to zero. IT has recently begun to address concerns presented by the Faculty Senate to provide a document server and to provide computers to faculty members.

UT KNOXVILLE CAMPUS REPORT

David Patterson, Senate President

This report documents the major actions of the UT Knoxville Faculty Senate since the last meeting of the UFC on January 18, 2008.

1. A special meeting of the UTK Faculty Senate with President Petersen was held on January 22 in response to the strong negative faculty reaction to President Petersen's dismissal of Chancellor Loren Crabtree. The results of the faculty survey conducted by the Senate's Executive Committee were presented. There were 1175 respondents: 87% UTK, 12 % Agriculture, 1% Space Institute, and 1% ORNL. Two primary findings were only 18% of respondents expressed some degree of satisfaction with the President Petersen's performance and only 19% indicated some degree of confidence in the President's performance. President Petersen stood for questions from the Senators and other members of the audience. The minutes of that meeting are available at (<http://web.utk.edu/~senate/minutes/2007-08/SenateMinutes20080122.pdf>). A link to the video file of the meeting is available at <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/reports.shtml> under Minutes, Senate Meetings.

2. President Petersen named the UT Knoxville Chancellor Search Committee on January 22. As a result of feedback provided during the January 22 Senate meeting regarding the absence of a committee member from the humanities, President Petersen named Palmira Brummett, Professor of History and Distinguished Professor of Humanities, to the search committee. The initial plan for the search envisioned identifying a pool of applicants and conducting interviews before the end of spring semester. Recognizing the problems with such a short timeframe, the committee now expects "to have primary candidates selected and on campus early in the next academic year." Information on the UTK Chancellor search is available at <http://chancellor.utk.edu/search>.

3. The UTK Faculty Senate met on January 28. In response to the continuing absence of faculty input in the planning of the Cherokee Campus, the President of the Senate pointed out that Faculty Handbook is the Board of Trustees contract with the faculty. The UTK Faculty Handbook states... "The faculty role in campus-wide governance is through the senate, the representative body specifically charged by the board...to consider, advise, and recommend to the administration policies about a wide range of issues affecting the general welfare of the faculty." These include... "c. priorities for the university development plan d. changes in physical facilities."

The Senate President cited AAUP Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities, section c. Internal Operations of the Institution, which states..."The framing and execution of long-range plans, one of the most important aspects of institutional responsibility, should be a central and continuing concern to the academic community." "A second area calling for joint effort in internal operation is that of decisions regarding existing or prospective physical resources. The board, president, and faculty should all seek agreement on basic decisions regarding buildings and other facilities to be used in the educational work of the institution."

At the January 28th meeting, there was further discussion of the results of the faculty survey. The Senate was provided with a cross-tabulation report indicating that in general, respondents from the Institute for Agriculture (12% of the total) held a more favorable view of President Petersen.

The Senate heard from an organizational psychologist and psychometrician who conducted a more thorough statistical analysis of the results. He found... “The lack of satisfaction with Dr. Petersen’s performance as President of UT and the lack of confidence in his ability to lead UT in the future did not vary much in magnitude by academic affiliation, faculty rank, tenure status, longevity, and membership in the faculty senate. If one were to use the closest survey response category for most of these results, one could say that, on balance, respondents were “Moderately dissatisfied” with Dr. Petersen’s performance to date and they had “limited confidence” in his ability to lead UT in the future.”

“Any efforts to improve how the faculty regard Petersen and how he regards the faculty will likely have to deal with the issues of a shared vision for UT, mutual governance, and the structure of administrative oversight.”

During the January 28th meeting, there was discussion of drafting a resolution of no-confidence in President Petersen. There was an extended discussion of this possibility resulting in the suggestion that a small group of the Senate leadership meet with President Petersen in an effort find a constructive resolution to the problematic issues.

The minutes of this Faculty Senate meeting are available at <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/minutes/2007-08/SenateMinutes20080128.pdf>.

4. On February 22, seven members of the Senate leadership met with President Petersen and Margie Nichols, the President’s Chief of Staff. The President announced that Dr. Jesse Poore was to be named as the interim CIO and Vice- President on a limited duration appointment. The President indicated that an excellent candidate for the Chief Human Resources Officer had been identified and that there was a good possibility of hiring this individual in the near future. (As of this date, that has not occurred.) It was announced that the VP for Academic Affairs would attend the Senate’s Executive Committee meetings. A set of questions had been prepared in advance of the meeting and shared with the President’s Chief of Staff. The issue of the shared governance of the university was discussed. Faculty took the position that many of the recent problems between the UT System and UT Knoxville could have been avoided if input from the faculty had been sought. There was a call for greater dialog between the President and faculty/administrators of the campuses. In regards to the development of the Cherokee Campus, it was pointed out that despite public statements by UT System administrators that there would be faculty input into the plans for its development, to date there had been no faculty input. The President suggested that input could come through the UT Knoxville Strategic Plan. The results of the faculty survey were discussed. The President acknowledged there had been problems in communication with the faculty. The President indicated he thought the survey was biased. The President declined to answer when asked if he thought the results would be different if a more refined professional survey was conducted. In regards to the relationship between UT and ORNL, the President stated that in joint projects with ORNL, if the faculty were from UTK, then the F&A would come to UTK. The matter of financial transparency was discussed. The President indicated that there is a committee working on understanding and documenting the complex financial relationship between the UT System and the campuses.

5. The UTK Faculty Senate met on February 25. The Faculty Senate President reported on a

meeting he had with the faculty and staff of the Institute for Agriculture. The meeting was described as a spirited and collegial exchange. The Institute for Agriculture faculty members expressed concern that the views of the UTK Faculty Senate, expressed by its leadership, were not consistent with many of their views of President Petersen and that some aspects of the debate were having deleterious effects on the perceptions of donors and those using their services.

The President of the Senate reported that the logjam surrounding construction of the Joint Institute for Advanced Materials building apparently has been broken. One concern had been that while the project was delayed the funds for it had been melting secondary to inflation and rising construction costs. Further, the long delayed construction of the new Engineering building had begun, representing another move forward.

The President of the Senate reported on the meeting between the Senate leadership and President Petersen. Meeting participants shared their perspectives on the meeting, several indicating their frustration with the lack of clear answers. There was discussion of a vote of no-confidence. It was noted that the efforts of the Faculty Senate had led to some changes and that the Senate could retain the option of a vote of no-confidence, while monitoring the actions of the President for positive changes.

The Research Council is sponsoring a four part series of research forums (town hall fashion). The forums have been described in the following announcement. In this time of transitions and conflicts, Faculty Research, Creative and Scholarly Activity are affected. The Campus/System interface is in play in many issues that affect budgets, facilities, properties, education, research space, faculty collaborations, services, specialized personnel and graduate students. Within the UTK campus as flagship of the University, we as faculty have leadership and educational roles to play, and need adequate resources to be productive and achieve excellence. Providing a space for dialogue with one another, the Research Council is sponsoring a Forum via a series of Panels and Open Discussions in a town hall format, under the title "Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity: The Road Ahead".

The minutes of the February 25th meeting are posted at <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/reports.shtml>

UT MARTIN CAMPUS REPORT

Elaine Harriss, Senate President

Senate Meetings: Since the last UFC meeting, the UTM Faculty Senate has met once, on February 12. Three guests made presentations. Scott Robbins, Director of Public Safety, spoke to us about emergency planning and recent changes in safety procedures. Shannon Burgin, Assistant Vice-Chancellor and Chief Information Officer reported on security concerns in technology, especially with regard to academic sensitive information. Richard Saunders, UTM Museum Curator and Archivist introduced us to UTM's new scholarship institutional repository. At this meeting a faculty member raised the question of equity pay raise calculations. The matter was referred to the Budget and Economic Concerns Committee who subsequently heard his and a fellow faculty member's concerns. The Vice-

Chancellors for Academic Affairs and for Finance were present and agreed to make sure that all deans would be given clearer information next year so there would not be another problem.

Full Faculty Meeting: On February 21, the Senate hosted the spring semester full faculty meeting to which all faculty are invited. The chancellor brought campus updates and he and the Vice Chancellors were available to answer questions. Items discussed included cancellation policy for inclement weather (due to recent tornadoes), Christian prayers at graduation, projections for enrollment, etc.

New Vice-Chancellors: Dr. Margaret Y. Toston has been named University of Tennessee at Martin Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs effective July 1. Toston, Central Connecticut State University Vice President for Student Affairs, was named by Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, following the completion of a national search. Dr. Jerald Ogg has been named University of Tennessee at Martin Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs effective July 1. Ogg, who has been serving as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs since July 2007, was named by Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin Chancellor, following the completion of a national search.

Mission Statement: The Chancellor asked the Senate to review the current Mission Statement to see if any updating and/or changes were needed. A committee made up of the Senate Executive Committee and two additional faculty members (to have representation from all colleges) met twice and will bring the following to a vote at the next Senate meeting.

The primary purpose of The University of Tennessee at Martin is to provide a quality undergraduate education in a traditional collegiate atmosphere characterized at all levels by close collaboration among students, faculty, and staff. In addition, the University is dedicated to meeting life-long educational needs by providing graduate programs, distance learning opportunities, and other creative endeavors. Furthermore, the University is committed to advancing the regional and global community through scholarly activities, research, and public service.

Lock-down: Following a robbery at a nearby bank (one mile from the university), on March 7, campus security initiated a lock-down when they discovered the get-away vehicle parked in a campus lot. The notice was sent via email and text messaging. The lock-down lasted an hour.

UFC Representative Election: Nancy Warren has resigned as UTM's representative-at-large to the University Faculty Council. A call has gone out to the faculty for nominations for election to a three-year term. Three names will be chosen from those receiving the most nominations and agreeing to accept the nomination. These three will then be voted on by the faculty.

