



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

UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

Meeting 97
November 2, 2017
Videoconference
MINUTES

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

UTHSC	Martin Donaldson (Faculty Senate President)	present
	Phyllis A. Richey (Campus Representative)	present
UTK	Beauvais Lyons (Faculty Senate President)	present
	Bruce MacLennan (Campus Representative)	present
UTM	Chris Caldwell (Faculty Senate President)	present
	Robert Nanney (Campus Representative)	absent
UTC	Gretchen Potts (Faculty Senate President)	present
	Gavin Townsend (Campus Representative) – Left at lunch	present

Trustees (Ex-Officio voting)		
	Susan Davidson (Board of Trustees faculty voting member)	present
	Terry Cooper (Board of Trustees faculty non-voting member)	present
UT Faculty Council Ex-Officio Non-voting Members		
UT	Dr. Joe DiPietro (System President) – left after lunch	present
UT	India Lane (System Office of Academic Affairs and Student Success)	present
Faculty Council Guests		
UT	David Golden (System) – Left at lunch	present

Call to Order 12:15 PM EST by Bruce MacLennan

Change order of agenda and begin with New Business: (2) Discussion with President DiPietro

Dr. DiPietro

- New record for lowest tuition increases for last three years, 3%.
- THEC recommends 0 – 3%. Want to stay at academic price index (3.7%), but will stick with THEC suggestion. Challenged campus Chancellors (except UTHSC) to be at 0% increase.

- Enrollment: in a steady state, up about 1% across system. Martin is up 11% for undergrads. UTC and UTK consistent in undergraduate, UTC graduate enrollment has grown 14%. Has been a strategy at UTC. Transfers at the two regional campuses are up 13 – 16% (16% at UTC). UTK has stayed even. Most likely result of TN Promise and relationships with community colleges.
 - UTK Beauvais: how are the growth and transfers at UTC/UTM compared to TBR?
 - Dr. DiPietro: UTC/UTM are almost two-fold higher than TBR schools, but report is not out yet.

- Tenure: still working on tenure policy. Will not have any actions at this BOT meeting, but at Executive and Comp meeting in December to allow for feedback

- Academic Program Effort: had first meeting of the task force, includes faculty, trustees and institutional research. Tasked with providing advice on how we should work through the process. Want a uniform process across the system. Looking at implementing EAB across all campuses and then internalizing the process.

- Legislative Session: should be interesting, first session with the locally governed institutions - LGIs (MTSU, TN Tech, ETSU, etc...), Will change the paradigm and we will need to change efforts in the plaza.
 - RISE Initiative
 - Request to provide research infrastructure for LGIs and UTM/UTC.
 - Ask is \$60M.
 - Would provide opportunity to get money in competitive grant program, competitive infrastructure program, and capacity allocation.
 - Dr. DiPietro expressed concern that without proposals from UTK and UTHSC this effort could result in mission creep. THEC needs to understand we have a difficult time supporting current research at UTK/UTHSC.
 - Would be one time money to be put in the bank and used over 5 years. Believes project is too big for current administration in their last year. Three major thrust areas are in UTK wheelhouse. If going to allocate: UTK and UTHSC should be allowed to participate.
 - Budget/research interests: UTHSC interest in opioid crisis and how do you put in place preventative measures, \$3M asks, SmartCities program at UTC, UTK – Governor’s chair program, UTK – livestock pavilion
 - The upcoming budget year may not be as robust a year this year in the State budget for universities.
 - Upcoming Legislative Issues
 - Guns: current state law says no student carry
 - Tuition: bills dropped on freezing tuition (7 or 8 last year)
 - Tenure: Elected officials believe it is a job for life (not true, due to the mechanisms for performance review) and think the review process is not extensive enough.

- UTK Beauvais: BOT plays an important role to make sure are policies that ensure the process has rigor on all campuses, but they do not have disciplinary expertise to evaluate tenure dossiers, and that this should be undertaken by the faculty, deans and chief academic officers for the campuses and system.

UTK, Beauvais: Resolution from U. of Memphis on control on employee retirement accounts?

- Dr. DiPietro: Treasurer is working with general assembly to correct for the issue of control of their ORP by faculty on retirement.

Lunch, President DiPietro and David Golden left, returned to meeting agenda

- UTK, Beauvais moved approval, UTHSC Martin seconded, no changes to minutes suggested

The minutes of Meeting 96, October 19, 2017, were approved unanimously.

New Business (Continuation from before lunch)

1. Discussion on Recoding of UFC Meetings

- UTK, Bruce mentioned that it had been discussed for UTK FS Exec, but was rejected
- UTK, Bruce: if the policy is to use it as a temporary aid, can it be used and then deleted?
- VC for Academic Affairs: Linda Martin: if it was sanctioned as a policy, you would need to maintain it as a public record.
- UTC Voting BOT Member, Susan: BOT meetings are recorded and broadcast. This committee is public committee, if we are going to record it then it cannot be destroyed.
- General conversation is that UFC members do not want to record meetings
- UTC, Gretchen: the core issue is how to improve sound during Zoom meetings.
- India: hope to use 7th floor conference room in the future, also could have everyone connect by Zoom, will use Morgan Hall room for meetings associated with board meetings
- UTC, Gretchen: Good idea to put Zoom on mute when one is not speaking.
- UTK, Bruce: we do not want to record meetings but will focus on fixing the sound

2. Discussion with President DiPietro: completed before lunch (earlier in minutes)

3. Discussion of Board of Trustees agenda

- India: Last session, the legislature started into topic of free speech on college campuses, with the major concern that conservative voices were potentially being suppressed. There were some high profile speakers who were disinvited at other universities (UC Berkeley). By the end of the session, Matthew Scoggins and Anthony Haines were heavily involved

with the state law. It seems to satisfy both sides as a model legislation, was endorsed by ACLU, and has text from AAUP

- Bill says each governing institution of the Tennessee institutions must have a policy addressing free speech
- Proposed BOT policy mirrors state law
- UTK, Beauvais: Speech is shut down when safety outweighs everything else, law says there must not be “free speech” zones setup, but is putting up barriers, as was done by the City of Knoxville with the demonstrations on a Confederate monument establishing a free speech zone?
- India: barricades provide safety not free speech zone, would be a question for Matthew Scoggins. With the law we can’t charge extra money to cover safety, can’t disinvite unless have legal standing of group inciting violence.
- UTK, Bruce: safety comes out of our budget not theirs.
- Consent Agenda, India
 - Set of changes for UTHSC that bring things into the handbook
 - Honorary degree
 - Fall data report: new graduate and professional student numbers are up, graph on freshmen and transfer applications
- Academic Affairs and Student Success Agenda Overview : India
 - Chattanooga MPH program: focuses on chronic disease and healthy living
 - Follow-up on August BOT Workshop (retreat)
 - Draft policies: there will be many questions related to these, not voting, still waiting on feedback from Universities
 - UTC, Gretchen
 - Who is on the decision maker on what is free speech outside of your discipline?
 - India: Initially up to department head because a student or students are going to say that a professor is outside of their area, will be decided by folks in the area
 - Linda: typically resolved at departmental level
 - Administrative retreat salaries as they return to faculty: why 150%?
 - India: Concerns on recruitment because policy is very specific, but there is a clause that board can make exceptions
 - UTK, Bruce: do we know what our peers are doing?
 - India: will research
 - UTK, Beauvais
 - Q4 (tenure track tied to external entity), thinking of faculty who have dual appointment at facilities that are being closed, affects ORNL and UTHSC
 - India: it needs to be addressed, potentially appointment letter will be more specific and address these situations.
 - UTHSC Nonvoting BOT Member, Terry: Already in letters, but would like it codified

- Will postpone until January for UFC Vote

5. **Additional meeting:** Look for called meeting in November on draft policies. India will coordinate scheduling.

Next scheduled meeting: January 17, 2017 at 4 PM by teleconference

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen E. Potts (temporary secretary)
UFC Member