

Meeting Agenda**August 18th, 2021 – Videoconference**<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8659743843>**3:00 pm (CST)/4:00 pm (EST)****UT Faculty Council Voting Members (Quorum, 5 voting members)**

UTHSC Tayebeh (Fruz) Pourmotabbed (Faculty Senate President)
Martin Donaldson (Campus Representative)

UTK Lou Gross (Faculty Senate President)
David Patterson (Campus Representative)

UTM Anderson Starling (Faculty Senate President)
Sean Walker (Campus Representative)

UTC Tammy Garland (Faculty Senate President)
Elizabeth Crawford (Campus Representative)

UT Southern Michael Cathey (Faculty Senate President)
Being voted on in August (Campus Representative)

Faculty Appointee to Education, Research, and Service Committee (Ex-Officio voting)

UTHSC Phyllis Richey (Board of Trustees ERS Committee faculty appointee)

UT Faculty Council Ex- Officio Non-voting Members

UT Randy Boyd (President)
Linda C. Martin (Vice President, Academic Affairs & Student Success)

UT Faculty Council Guests

UT Karen Etzkorn, (Director of Academic Affairs)
Stacey Patterson (VP Research, Outreach & Economic Development)

Order of Business

1. President Boyd
2. Approve Minutes
3. System Updates
 - a. Dr. Martin
 - b. Dr. Patterson
 - c. Dr. Etzkorn
4. Bylaw changes?
5. UT System Mask policy versus TBR?
6. ERP – Faculty Voice
7. Student’s role on managing student activities

8. Other new business?

Please find my notes from today's UFC meeting.

President Boyd opened the meeting by providing his usual updates that included:

- Welcome to UT Southern
- Everywhere you Look UT Tour
- He will be visiting each campus this Fall
- Budget information about this past AY and upcoming Budget plans
- UT is asking for funding to help replace obsolete equipment at UTIA
- UT is looking for new funding sources to help fund some initiatives
- Colleges of Education across UT System are working together on the Center for Literacy
- State of TN has agreed to fund new buildings (apparently they had said they weren't going to)
 - 3 proposals coming from UT System including the Test Hub at UT Martin
- State of TN has \$3 billion in surplus funds as well as \$1.3 billion from the federal government

President Boyd provided some information:

- Policies:
 - Parental Leave Policy is in effect and is NOT retroactive
 - UT System is looking for new benefits/programs to provide employees
 - UT HR is working on a new accrued time off policy for 9-month faculty.
- ERP System
 - We are looking into a new ERP system
 - It will be system wide
 - It is required to change because our current system is going to be obsolete
 - Working with LGIs to create a streamlined/standard system
 - The Governor's office may pay for this (\$45-\$50 million cost to UT System)
- Covid
 - Thank you for navigating 2020
 - We did not lose any faculty/students
 - Enrollment/graduation/retention all went up
 - We adapted last year in how we operate and will continue to do so
 - Campuses are independent and able to make their own decisions on operations
 - He detailed his decision-making process
 - We are assessing the situation daily
 - He mentioned the comptroller report on mental health and our need to be mindful of it moving forward
- Q&A
 - Discussion about how to safely operate during the Fall began
 - A request was made to require masks indoors
 - President Boyd said he is working on something.
 - More to come
 - Expect communication
 - Trust me

- A question was asked if we could use some federal funds to improve air filtration systems in older classrooms/rooms
- A concern about student fees/decision making that stems from the Board changing how those funds are distributed

Dr. Linda Martin

- Detailed her interim role at UTIA
- Dr. Etzkorn will handle day-to-day operations
- Discussed the search for the Assistant Vice President of Student Success and what that role will be focused on

Dr. Karen Etzkorn

- 2 new academic programs at UT Martin moving forward
- Several modification of programs at other campuses
- Diploma/Transcript redesign is moving forward
 - This process will make it more streamlined (saving money) and standardized (i.e., the look) across the UT System
- New contracts for RFPs on Faculty Productivity
 - Campuses can choose either Digital Measures or Elements
 - LGIs joining to make cheaper
- Q&A
 - Do chairs of excellence do post-tenure review?
 - Do we actually need the post-tenure review still?

Dr. Stacey Patterson

- Discussion about metrics for the UT System research portfolio
- Annual report for research foundation to be presented to BOT in October
- New Governor Chairs hires
- Several other projects going on

Final Comments:

UFC members agreed that we need to continue to fight for the elimination of post-tenure review and to ask for a faculty member on the full BOT and not just ERS.