UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL



Meeting Agenda February 15, 2023 – 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 Jillian McCarthy-Maeder (Faculty Senate President)

Martin Donaldson (Campus Representative)

UTK Elisabeth Schussler (Faculty Senate President)

Beauvais Lyons (Campus Representative)

UTM Clinton Smith (Faculty Senate President)

Sean Walker (Campus Representative)

UTC Jennifer Boyd (Faculty Senate President)

Felicia McGhee (Campus Representative)

UT Southern Michael Cathey (Faculty Senate President)

Kenneth Vickers (Campus Representative)

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

UTK Andy Puckett (Board of Trustees ERS Committee faculty appointee)

UT Faculty Council Ex- Officio Non-voting Members

UT Randy Boyd (President)

Bernie Savarese (Acting Vice President, Academic Affairs & Student Success)

UT Faculty Council Guests

UT Karen Etzkorn, (Director of Academic Affairs)

(VP Research, Outreach & Economic Development

Order of Business

- 1. President Boyd
- 2. Guest: Krissy DeAlejandro
- 3. Guest: Dr. Mara Krishnamurthy
- 4. Research Support and Collaboration
- 5. Approve Minutes Please see attached
- 6. System Updates
 - a. Dr. Savarese
 - b. Dr. Etzkorn
- 7. BOT Meeting
 - a. Who is attending in-person?

- 8. Local Board Representatives a. Can they attend UFC?

UT Systemwide Topics/Questions for President Boyd

None were shared

Minutes – February 15th

President Boyd

- Attended the budget hearing in Nashville
 - o Believes it went well
 - o Thankful for what UT received in the Governor's budget
 - Still a few things UT will be lobbying for
 - Most notably, none of the 3 buildings were funded, this impacts UTC, UTK, and UTHSC directly
 - Discussed State Building Commission changes
 - This will make getting buildings constructed much easier
 - o Discussed questions on D.E.I. bills
 - A question to him was voiced about the role of our diversity officers across the system
 - B.O.T. 3 trustees confirmed in the past week, including Bill Rhodes today (February 15th)
 - Good news for UT
- Q&A for President Boyd
 - A question was asked about THEC and where it will be going moving forward

Dr. Maha Krishnamurthy

- New President of the UTRF
- Dr. Krishnamurthy provided an overview of who UTRF is and what they do
- Discussed her vision for moving forward
 - o This included strengthening relationships with campuses like UTM and UTS

Dr. Etzkorn

- Student Experience Survey will be open March 1st through March 31st
- Updated us on academic programs across UT
- The UT System is working on responding to bills being proposed in the state legislature
 - o One specifically noted was SB 0089 which would allow 4-year institutions to offer remedial education
- Brief Q&A about the student experience survey

Dr. Savarese

- UT is discussing moving the Student Experience Survey to yearly instead of in the Fall and Spring
- Gallup climate survey closes Monday
 - o 10,000 responses system-wide
 - 40% for faculty
 - 40% for staff
 - 10% for students
 - o Results will be publicly available, likely on the UT Transparency page
- Mentioned some updates the UT System will be providing during the ERS committee meeting next week
- UT System will be working with the campuses to update/improve leave of absence policies
 - He said there are some inconsistencies across campuses

Minutes – February 22nd Meeting

- UFC had an active discussion regarding PPPR
- Dialogue focused on identifying valid points for elimination of PPPR

Minutes - February 23rd Meeting

Chairman Compton

- Wants to focus on two points:
 - o Diversity
 - Enrollment moving forward
- Discussion on diversity
 - Focused on questions from the state legislature about what UT does (and doesn't do) in relation to diversity.
 - o UFC was asked to review the UT Diversity Statement and provide feedback
 - o A brief Q&A focused on how UT is interacting with the state legislature to better clarify what we do/don't do and minimize these misperceptions.
- Discussion on enrollment
 - o Chairman Compton noted that we are a victim of our own success
 - o An extensive discussion regarding in-state versus out-of-state students was initiated by Chairman Compton
 - Concerns about legislation, mirroring other states, could limit the number of out-of-state students that could be admitted.
 - Strengths and weaknesses of this were discussed
 - President Boyd noted that those applicants that meet the admission requirements at UTK but are not admitted will automatically be submitted to another UT campus and admissions is guaranteed.
 - Students would then be allowed to complete 24 hours at the other campus and then transfer to UTK
 - Comments were made regarding the development of programs being created/implemented to attract more in-state students
 - President Boyd noted that to keep up with the labor demand of the growing industries in TN, we will need out-of-state students
 - Also noted that approximately 50% of out-of-state students stay in TN

Q&A

- PPPR was discussed in detail
 - Chairman Compton reaffirmed his commitment to a full cycle (6 years) of data before making any decisions regarding PPPR
- Early Tenure was briefly discussed
- Discussion regarding the mix of TT versus NTT faculty was brought up
 - o President Boyd noted that there is no BOT nor UT System directive on quotas