

**Meeting Agenda**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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. Carey Whitworth and Ryan Stinnett
3. Ms. Krissy DeAlejandro, tnAchieves
4. Approve Minutes - Please see attached
5. System Updates
  - a. Dr. Savarese
  - b. Dr. Etzkorn
6. Handbook Revision Concerns

## **UT Systemwide Topics/Questions for President Boyd**

- N/A

## Minutes

### **President Boyd**

- Provided a legislative update that included:
  - Discussion of state budget
  - Major investments across the UT System
  - UT Partnerships
  - Higher Education Capital Projects Modernization Act
    - HB 1217
  - Briefly noted other important legislation
- Will be visiting each campus with Carey Whitworth to discuss the legislative session
- Will be working on the Value of Higher Education initiative
- Asked UFC to begin focusing on what needs to happen in the 2024 legislative session
- Provided an update on leadership searches
  - UTM
  - Oak Ridge National Lab
- Fundraising
  - Trying to match or beat the 2<sup>nd</sup> best year, \$314 million

### **Carey Whitworth**

- Discussion of legislative session and how it impacts UT
- The new amendments to HB 1376, Divisive Concepts, was discussed
  - It was stressed that this does not impact the classroom

### **Frank Lancaster**

- Discussed misinformation surrounding HB 1376
- Emphasized this does not impact the classroom

### **Q&A**

- A question was asked about if the UT System would mandate how the salary pool will be divided this year. President Boyd said that the campuses would have discretion in how to allocate the salary pools.

### **Krissy DeAlejandro**

- Provided a discussion on tnAchieves

### **Dr. Etzkorn**

- Discussed new, modified, and developing academic programs
- Discussion about professional development for department chairs
  - Should be in effect for Fall 2023

### **Dr. Savarese**

- Provided an update on the Associate Vice President of Research search
- Discussed preparations for the June BOT meeting
- Mental health
  - UT System-wide summit in June
  - Discussion around a system-wide RFP – Tele mental health

### **Q&A**

- A question was asked about the Viewpoint Diversity Survey administered earlier this AY. Dr. Savarese said that the results, organized by campus, would be released in the June.

### **Handbook Revision Concerns**

- Discussion of how to move forward with getting handbook revisions implemented in a timely and efficient manner. UTK reported that they have handbook revisions that are supported by the Provost and the Faculty Senate that have languished with the Office of General Counsel for more than a year. Represented from other campuses shared similar challenges with the Office of General Counsel. Dr. Savarese said that he would follow-up.