# THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## MINUTES OF THE ADVANCEMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

# October 13, 2016 Knoxville, Tennessee

The Advancement and Public Affairs Committee of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met at 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, October 13, 2016, in the Hollingsworth Auditorium on the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture campus.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sharon Pryse called the meeting to order.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Anthony Haynes, Vice President for Government Relations, called the roll. Committee members present were:

Ms. Sharon Pryse, Chair

Mr. Shannon Brown

Dr. Joe DiPietro

Mr. Raja J. Jubran

Ms. Rhedona Rose

Ms. Iulia Wells

Mr. Charles Wharton

Mr. Haynes announced the presence of a quorum.

## III. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Chair Pryse called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2016 committee meeting. Trustee Wells moved approval, Board Vice Chair Jubran seconded, and the motion carried.

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## IV. ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

President DiPietro presented the Annual Report to the General Assembly (Exhibit 1) and discussed the change in format and content of the report. More details were to be discussed during the full Board meeting on Friday, October 14, 2016.

A motion was made that the Advancement and Public Affairs Committee recommend approval of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: The 2015-2016 Annual Report to the General Assembly is approved as presented in the meeting materials (Exhibit I), with authorization for the administration to update the Fall 2016 enrollment data, if necessary, before presenting it to the Governor for transmittal to the General Assembly.

Board Vice Chair Jubran seconded, and the motion carried.

Chair Pryse commented she would like to continue to invite legislators to Board dinners because telling the University story one-on-one is important.

# V. NAMING THE PROPOSED ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE BUILDING AT UT MARTIN

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff at UT Martin, Interim Chancellor Robert Smith asked the Board to approve naming the proposed Engineering and Science Building the "Latimer Engineering and Science Building" in recognition of a recent generous gift and in honor of generations of the Latimer family of Northwest Tennessee who have generously supported the development of UT Martin into a comprehensive university in service to West Tennessee (Exhibit 2). The family's long history in the region traces back to 1852. Three generations of Latimers have attended UT Martin or its predecessor institution. The family represents an entrepreneurial spirit and are stewards of the land held in their care. Their recent \$6.5 million gift is the single-largest to UT Martin in its history.

Anthony Haynes reported last spring Senator Stephens met with the Governor and made a passionate plea about this building situation and the limited resources for fundraising that exists in that region. A few weeks later, Mr. Haynes was called into the office of Senator McNally who said the Senate Caucus was supportive of Senator Stephens' passion for this and how important it is to

the University so they agreed to reduce the required match by one half if the University could raise the dollars in the first year.

Trustee Wells moved that the Advancement and Public Affairs Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: The proposed Engineering and Natural Science Building at The University of Tennessee at Martin shall be named the "Latimer Engineering and Science Building" in honor of generations of the Latimer family of Northwest Tennessee who have generously supported the development of UT Martin into a comprehensive university in service to West Tennessee.

The motion was seconded and carried.

# VI. REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Trustee Wells reported the Subcommittee on Community and Alumni Relations held its first meeting earlier in the day. It was an organizational meeting to review the purpose of the committee, which is:

- 1. To gather input from and to provide a forum for stakeholders.
- 2. To develop and recommend policies to address interest and concerns of the university community.

The subcommittee discussed ways in which input could be gathered. The subcommittee agreed that upon receiving input, it should ensure sure a response is provided so stakeholders feel they have been heard. The subcommittee will meet twice a year, probably in conjunction with regularly scheduled Board meetings.

# VII. REQUESTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADRESS THE BOARD

A. Elizabeth Owen, UT Knoxville alumna and employee in the Undergraduate Admissions office, on past and future salary increases. Ms. Owen stated that about a quarter of higher education workers across the state make poverty wages and thousands more are a paycheck or two away from disaster. She declared that all higher education workers deserve jobs that offer dignity and decency and make a decent living working full-time for the state. She asked the Board to make living wages a budget priority and that any raise be a flat dollar amount for the biggest effect on workers who really need it.

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- B. Elizabeth Stanfield, UT Knoxville fifth-year student, on outsourcing of facilities services. Ms. Stanfield said that, as a student, she has been in most buildings on campus and one commonality has been that each building has been highly maintained through hard work and dedication by the facilities workers. They are part of the University community and care about the facilities, faculty, staff and students, Ms. Stanfield said, and asked that the University support them. Some of these workers have served the University for 10 and 20 years and deserve basic benefits, good health insurance and good retirement plans, Ms. Stanfield said. She asked again that the University support these workers the way they support the University community every day.
- C. Joel Rummage, UT Knoxville Landscape Foreman, on outsourcing of facilities services. Since the announcement of Governor Haslam's plan to privatize facilities 14 months ago, Mr. Rummage said he has been concerned about the effect it would have on himself and other workers and their families. From the outside, he said, it appears to him the state is proceeding as if outsourcing was a foregone conclusion. He said he's not sure how a large facilities management company would be able to make this exercise worth their while if they did not terminate long-term employees and replace with lower services. About 20 years ago, janitorial services were outsourced and this resulted in dismal customer satisfaction, he said. Years later the jobs were brought back in-house and improvement was immediate, he said, due to the employees being part of the University community and taking pride in their work and themselves. This community is 220 years old and hopefully will go on far into the future. This is a defining moment for the University and is certainly an important time for those who might lose their jobs, he concluded.

In response, President DiPietro said the final decisions aren't expected until the new year, most likely mid-March. He will ask each campus and institute to evaluate the opportunity and whether to outsource or not, and they must justify their decision to the system office as well as the Board. President DiPietro asked Dr. Richard Brown, representing the core team in Nashville to give an update on the process.

Dr. Brown, executive vice chancellor of finance and administration at UT Chattanooga, reported the core team has been working with state government for two months exploring development of the RFP for an outsourcing initiative. Every campus and institute within the University of Tennessee will make its own choice whether to participate. This will not be a

top-down process and the actual decisions will be made by the chancellor and leadership teams of the given campus and institute in consultation with President DiPietro. Working on the specific RFP, "guardrails" have been put in place to ensure all state employees are protected. If a campus elects to participate, the vendor will be required to hire employees who are eligible at a "make-whole" arrangement, meaning compensation and benefits equal to what they are being paid by the University. The vendor will also have a guardrail that states during the life of the contract they cannot reduce the compensation and benefits of those employees. Brown said these are powerful protections being put in place for all University employees. When the RFP is concluded, it will be an instrument any campus could use if they find there are efficiencies and effectiveness by use of that particular contract.

Board Vice Chair Jubran thanked Dr. Brown for explaining that the University's commitment from the beginning was to wait for the whole process to be finished before determining whether the campuses and institutes might benefit from it. If its use is justified and it can save money, protections are in place. Jubran said he hoped the issue will be explained on all campuses in detail as the report given by Dr. Brown.

Trustee Evans sought to assure the three individuals that spoke today that they were heard and will be considered.

### VIII. REPORT OF SYSTEM OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Chair Pryse referred the committee to the written report in the materials (Exhibit 3).

### IX. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND ADVOCACY REPORT

Chair Pryse referred the committee to the written report in the materials (Exhibit 4).

### X. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Tonjanita Johnson Vice President for Communications

and Marketing

Mr. Anthony Haynes Vice President for Government Relations and Advocacy

Mr. Rickey N. McCurry

Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs President/CEO, UT Foundation/Inc.