

MINUTES OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

March 7, 2007  
Martin, Tennessee

The Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee of the Board of Trustees of The University of Tennessee met at 8:00 a.m., Central Time, Wednesday, March 7, 2007 in Rooms 206A-B, Boling University Center, Martin, Tennessee.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Andrea Loughry, Chair Pro Tempore, called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Dr. Bob Levy called the roll, and the following members were present:

Ms. Anne Holt Blackburn  
Mrs. Barbara Castleman  
Ms. April Cheung  
Mrs. Andrea J. Loughry  
Dr. John Petersen  
Dr. Larry Pfeffer  
Mr. Karl Schledwitz  
Mr. Joseph Sturdivant  
Ms. Anna York  
Ms. Lydia Grafton  
Professor Louis Gross  
Mr. James Orr  
Professor John Schommer  
Ms. Barbara Zielke

Chair Loughry noted that a quorum was present. Due to scheduling conflicts, Ms. Hurd, Dr. Givens, Dr. Seivers, Dr. Rhoda, Professor Kennedy, Ms. Baldi, Mr. Woodruff, Mr. Olles, Professor Townsend and Professor Cook were unable to attend. Professor Peg Hartig attended the meeting on behalf of Dr. Cook.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Chair Loughry called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 3, 2006 and January 31, 2007 meetings as presented at the meeting. As there were none, Mr. Sturdivant moved approval of the minutes. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR GRANTING TENURE TO DR. PETR PLECHAC**

The Chair called on Dr. Petersen to discuss the first item of business. Dr. Petersen stated that typically the Board grants tenure once a year at the Annual meeting. He stated that occasionally the Board would be asked to grant tenure in an expedited process for an exceptional hire of a new faculty member. He recommended that the Board grant tenure to Dr. Petr Plechac. He stated that Dr. Plechac was hired as the first mathematics Joint Institute for Computational Sciences (JICS) faculty member, after an extensive search carried out with ORNL and the UT Mathematics departments. He stated that since the JICS search was restricted to senior candidates, the candidates under consideration were already tenured. He stated that in order to attract an outstanding candidate who already has tenure it is generally necessary to offer tenure with the appointment. He noted that Chancellor Crabtree, Provost Holub, Dean Bursten and the entire UTK Mathematics Department unanimously endorse the candidate and recommendation for tenure. Mr. Schledwitz moved the approval of the recommendation to grant tenure to Dr. Plechac. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried.

#### **V. APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO AWARD HONORARY DEGREES**

Dr. Petersen stated that he once again has the pleasure to recommend an honorary doctorate be awarded to Senator Baker. He stated that the degree, Doctor of Healthcare Leadership would be awarded by UTHSC. He stated that Senator Baker has championed legislation to improve public healthcare, chaired the Board of the Mayo Clinic's Foundation and hosted the Baker Center's first Mayo Clinic Health Policy Forum. Dr. Petersen noted that Senator Baker previously received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from UT Knoxville, based on his many accomplishments in the Senate, the White House, and as Ambassador.

Dr. Peffer moved approval of the recommendation to award and honorary degree to Howard H. Baker, Jr. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Dr. Levy requested that an additional recommendation for an honorary degree be added to the agenda. He referred the Committee to the materials on the table in front of each member.

Mr. Schledwitz moved approval to add an additional agenda item. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Dr. Petersen stated that he is very pleased to recommend the award of an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters to Ms. Ruth Holmberg. He stated that the honorary degree would be awarded by UT Chattanooga. He stated that

Ms. Holmberg possesses outstanding qualities that make her a deserving recipient of this award. He reported that she was the first woman to head a major Chattanooga business, when she served as President and Publisher of The Chattanooga Times. He stated that Ms. Holmberg has served on the UC Foundation board, as a THEC commissioner, as a founding member of the Tennessee Arts Commission and Chair of the Hunter Museum board, as Chair of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Public Education Foundation, and as President of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Pfeffer moved approval of the recommendation to grant an honorary degree to Ms. Ruth Holmberg. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved.

## **VI. CREATION OF NEW ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS**

The Chair discussed the next item of business, Creation of New Academic Departments. She referred the Committee to the materials in the meeting notebook. She stated that Chancellor Brown recommends approval of three new academic departments at UT Chattanooga to satisfy accreditation requirements and for specific administrative initiatives. Dr. Levy stated that the addition of these three departments increases the total number of academic departments on the UTC campus, which requires approval from the Board and from THEC. He discussed each proposal, the creation of a Department of Social Work, the separation of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, and the separation of Accounting and Finance.

Dr. Gross noted that UT Knoxville has eliminated the department of Computer Science and join it with its Electrical Engineering Department based on initiatives particular to UT Knoxville.

Mr. Sturdivant moved approval of the creation of the new academic departments at UT Chattanooga. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved.

## **VII. Chancellors Reports on Campus Safety**

### UT Chattanooga

Chair Loughry called on Chancellor Brown to report on Campus Safety for UT Chattanooga. Dr. Brown referred to the Power Point presentation previously distributed to the Committee. The presentation illustrated crime statistics reported on UT Chattanooga campus. He discussed the reporting and calculation methods utilized to prepare the status reports. He stated that violent

crimes were almost negligible. He discussed alcohol and drug violations. He stated one of the reasons why there appears to be a recent increase in these types of violations is because of the 40 to 50% increase in the number of residents over the past several years. He stated that the campus is not complacent about the issue and is diligent in reducing campus alcohol and drug violations. He next discussed weapon violations on campus. He discussed an unfortunate incident last fall where a student brought a firearm into his residence hall and fired the gun after a late night party. No students were harmed. The student was immediately dismissed. He discussed security measures for residence halls to restrict access to non-residents, increasing housing security guards, adding security fencing and upgrading fire sprinklers. He noted a new program whereby campus police live on campus in residence halls. He stated that there are currently two officers living in residence halls. He stated that the number of security cameras has been vastly increased. In response to a question he noted that some are monitored and some store images to a tape. He discussed security and policy presence on campus, defensive safety classes available on campus, and improved pedestrian parking lot lighting. Chancellor Brown stated that the safety and security of UT Chattanooga students is always the number one priority of the campus.

Mr. Schledwitz asked about the availability of 2006 statistics. Chancellor Brown stated that the campus has that data, but it was not standardize for this report format. He added that he receives a weekly incident report and a monthly trend report. He stated that the trend for 2006 shows that the 2005 spike in alcohol and drug violations has leveled off.

Ms. Grafton stated that the UT Chattanooga SGA is working to increase the sense of community on campus to ask students to look out for each other. Ms. Grafton asked whether the student from the fall incident was a UTC student or a Chattanooga State student. Chancellor Brown stated that there was a past agreement that permitted Chattanooga State students to live in our residence halls. He stated that as UTC has more students living on campus, fewer of those rooms are available to those students. He stated that some of the young people involved in the incident were visitors to Chattanooga State students. They were neither UTC nor Chattanooga State students. Dr. Brown stated that the incident has resulted in very strict monitoring of residence hall entrances after 10:00 p.m. Chancellor Brown stated UTC will phase out Chattanooga State student residents very soon. Ms. Ziekle noted that efforts by the Weed and Seed campaign have reduced homeless persons on campus.

#### UTHSC Memphis Campus

Chancellor Owen discussed campus safety on the UTHSC Memphis campus. He provided a PowerPoint presentation of crime statistics on campus. He discussed the source for the data presented. He reported that a particular

challenge to the campus is that Shelby County is known to be troubled by criminal activity and state data clearly reflects that. He discussed trends over the past several years and data comparing the Memphis campus crime statistics to peers in the area. He discussed the work of a task forces assembled a year and a half ago to review campus security. Dr. Owen shared with the Committee some of the findings by the task force. He stated that the security force on the UT Health Science Center campus in Memphis is very well trained, however the work force is small. He noted that there is a lot of competition in Memphis for talented security personnel. He stated that campus officers are sometimes compensated 40% less than other security positions. He stated that campus is working to improve accreditation and certification for the officers and has increased the budget for campus police. He stated that the campus currently has 25 police officers certified by the state.

Dr. Owen discussed efforts by the campus to increase lighting in walkways and parking areas, staffing in buildings after hours and video surveillance. He discussed "high security corridors" that the students are encouraged to use to get around campus. They are staffed with police, well lighted, have call boxes and video surveillance.

Mr. Sturdivant commended Dr. Owen and the Memphis campus security forces for the excellent work they have done over the past two years. He noted that many students commute, which can lead to theft of vehicles or items from vehicles that are unmonitored throughout the day. He stated that he feels there has been a significant reduction in these crimes. He asked that Dr. Owen commend the security force but also challenge them to sustain this high level of progress. He discussed some security concerns regarding an outer lying parking area. Dr. Owen stated that he had a conversation with the Dean of Medicine about the additional parking lot used by the medical students. He stated that they are working on establishing a "high security corridor" for that lot. He noted that the challenge in that situation is that they have been looking for participation in the effort from surrounding partners. He noted however that the School of Medicine would go forward to create a "high security corridor" regardless of partner input. Dr. Pfeffer asked if the benefits packaged offered to security personnel was sufficient to counter act the potential for them to be lured away. He stated that the loss of personnel was not entirely due to money but also due to the work environment. Although UTHSC cannot meet the competitive salaries offered elsewhere, he stated that the campus has strived to create an environment of higher retention by providing opportunities for training, and focusing on security personnel as professional police force. He stated that the benefits package favoring UTHSC has become a smaller factor over time.

Professor Hartig stated that she is starting her twentieth year on the Memphis

campus. She stated that in the past couple of years it has become significantly easier for her to receive security escort when she works late. She noted that the security officers wait for her to drive off which is very comforting for her. She suggested for the future that campuses provide their campus security reports in similar formats to enable easier analysis.

### UT Knoxville

Chancellor Crabtree discussed campus security on the Knoxville campus. He reviewed a slide presentation illustrating statistical data regarding crime activity on the Knoxville campus for 2006. He noted that assaults declined significantly in 2006. He stated that this was partially due to the more qualified security force and their increased presence on campus.

He highlighted some of the particular issues in Knoxville. He stated that the Knoxville campus is challenged by being situated within the city of Knoxville and having over 26,000 undergraduate students. He added that cyber security is also a big issue for the Knoxville campus. He stated that the campus is removing social security numbers from campus identification cards. He discussed additional challenges for security arising from athletic events such as home football games, which draw over 105,000 fans to campus to tailgate and attend the game. He discussed the campus security force and its reporting structure. He stated that Police Chief August Washington came to UTK from the University of Florida and has been a tremendous asset to the campus. He stated that Chief Washington ensures that the UTK police force is professionally trained and fully accredited.

Chancellor Crabtree discussed key safety programs available to students and employees on the Knoxville campus. He discussed a recent campus safety walk conducted with student and employee representatives to review lighting, call box locations and cameras. He added that there is a current budget proposal to add more personnel to monitor the security cameras. He stated that there were more than 60 emergency call boxes on campus. He reported that the campus shuttle, the T, runs on weeknights until 2 a.m. and on weekends until 3:30 a.m. to provide safe transportation for students. He discussed the emergency management plan that is updated on an annual basis. He also discussed pandemic planning for the campus.

Chancellor Crabtree then discussed the national increase in binge drinking. He stated that three years ago UTK was at the national average and has been declining since then. He stated that part of the reason for the decline was attributable to the work of the SEE Center on campus. He stated that the Center's purpose is to provide awareness training and help students understand that the normal behavior does not include binge drinking, alcohol or drug abuse. Chancellor Crabtree then discussed theft offenses on campus. He stated that

there has been an increase and part of that is because the campus is encouraging reporting of theft and vandalism crimes. He discussed firearm violations and stated that no student may bring a firearm on to the campus.

Mr. Sturdivant asked Chancellor Crabtree if the data presented regarding assault includes students assaulting other students. Dr. Crabtree stated that the data represents assaults by both a student or employee and an outsider.

Dr. Gross discussed cyber security issues and noted that the effort should be coordinated across the campuses. Dr. Petersen stated that while some functions of IT will be distributed to the campuses, the security functions will be retained by the System so that it can be orchestrated in a uniform manner across the campuses and units.

### UT Martin

Dr. Dunagan discussed campus security issues on the Martin campus. He discussed the presentation materials circulated in advance of the meeting. He presented the crime statistics for the Martin campus. He stated that the crime rate for UT Martin was extremely low in comparison to other colleges across the state. He discussed efforts over the past couple of years to improve fire safety for the campus. He noted that four years ago, the Board approved a capital improvement project for the campus to coordinate all the fire alarms on campus to a central dispatch unit. He discussed campus security improvements over the last two years such as camera surveillance, extra lighting and security personnel training. Lastly he updated the Committee on awareness training efforts with students to help them enhance their personal safety.

## **VIII. Update on Student Information System**

The Chair called Dr. Levy to discuss the Student Information System (SIS). Dr. Levy referred the Committee to the materials included in the meeting notebook. He stated that SIS will allow us to help our students move either physically or electronically from one campus to another with much greater ease than they now have. He stated that a UT Martin student who lives in Knoxville and goes home for the summer will have a much easier time taking a UT Knoxville summer course if she wishes to. He noted that creating SIS requires combining very complex systems on the campuses. He stated that SIS is a multi-year project and will take approximately two and half more years to complete. Dr. Linda Painter has been named to head the SIS project. He stated that she was instrumental with her work on the Knoxville campus system. He stated that she will be forming a steering committee across the campuses to run the implementation phase. He discussed the costs of the project, noting that the

increase was not terribly significant because upgrades on each campus system would ultimately be required. Lastly, he stated that the campus wide implementation of this system will afford us the opportunity to make system wide upgrades to security for sensitive data.

#### **IX. LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF XAP PORTAL ONLINE APPLICATION**

The Chair stated that the next item of business was a live demonstration of XAP Portal Online. Dr. Rakes discussed the history of the use of XAP for online college education. He stated that the state purchased this program for the intuitions. He discussed some of the many programs that can be utilized by XAP such as college prep courses and educational programs. He introduced the UT Martin Director of Admissions to demonstrate the use XAP for college applications in Tennessee. She demonstrated how students and parents can use the system to efficiently apply to Tennessee institutions and apply for financial aid. She demonstrated the use of the system by college administrators to effectively process applications. She stated that she hoped that high schools will start encourage students to begin using the program in the freshman year of high school to start a profile and add biographical information, track activities, awards and honors. She provided a website for XAP and encouraged the Committee to take some time to explore the system in the future (collegefortn.org). In response to a question from the Committee, she stated that a student may pull up information on any college that is a client of XAP not just Tennessee institutions. She discussed the number of applications UT Martin, UTC and UT Knoxville have received to-date through XAP. She stated that there will be a state-wide introduction of this program with billboards and public service announcements.

#### **X. UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S ACADEMY OF MATH AND SCIENCE**

The Chair recognized Jan Simek to update the Committee on the Governor's Math and Science Academy. Dr. Simek stated that a press release was issued this week announcing this exciting program. He stated that the Tennessee Governor's Academy for Mathematics and Science (TGA) will open this fall with its first class of 24 high school juniors. TGA students will have the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in a life of science and math thanks to a unique living opportunity and learning community located on the campus of the Tennessee School for the Deaf with access to UT's resources. The student's academic calendar will be based on a concept known as "modules". He stated that these four-to-seven week periods each would focus on an essential question, which could range from fundamental physics to an examination of science in a larger context. He stated that Vena Long, associate Dean of Research and Professional Development in UT's College of Education, Health and Human Services will oversee TGA. He stated that TGA's opportunities will reach beyond the normal school day and into student's lives. In their residential cottage communities,



students will work together to prepare meals and beautify their cottages. He stated that they will learn Chinese and practice martial arts, activities meant to expose them to different cultures and help them develop a sense of focus.

Ms. Grafton asked Dr. Simek to discuss recruiting for this program. He stated that there are three recruiters, spread across Tennessee. He stated that this program targets the high ability math and science students, however real progress for this group will also come from selecting a diverse student group. Therefore this program will not just simply recruit the best math and science students. He stated that high school principals and guidance counselors will be engaged in the process and asked to nominate their students for enrollment in this program.

#### **XI. UPDATE ON TENNESSEE P-16 COUNCIL**

The Chair asked Katie High to update the Committee on the P-16 Council. She referred the Committee to the memorandum included in the meeting materials. She discussed the composition of the council and noted that Dr. Petersen serves on the council. Due to the concern of the preparedness of Tennessee students in math and science, the council charged a task force to look at what can be done to prepare students, first in mathematics and then in science. She discussed the work of the task force. She stated that ACT put together a report that contends that a student needs to score a 22 or higher in the math portion of the ACT to be successful in a general education college math course (75% chance of passing the first year of math). In 2006, Tennessee high school graduates had an average of 19.9. She stated that 34% of Tennessee's high school graduates are prepared to pass the first year of math in college. She stated that this compares with 42% nationally. She stated that the task force's objective is to assist Tennessee high school students to score at least a 22 on the math portion of the ACT. She stated that the task force reviewed curriculum with grade school math. She stated that the curriculum is in-line however more depth is necessary. She stated that the task force is working to update curriculum's to accomplish this. She added that the task force is also looking to change the high school graduation requirements for math from three to four classes, meaning students will have a math course every year of high school. She stated that the task force is challenged by a severe shortage of math teachers. She discussed efforts by the state to increase the number of math teachers.

#### **XII. UPDATE ON UTSI REVITALIZATION PLAN**

The Chair called on Don Daniel to discuss the revitalization of UTSI. Dr. Daniel began by briefly reporting on campus security efforts on the UTSI campus. He

stated that the campus benefits by being small, rural and surrounded by federal property. Dr. Daniel referred the Committee to the detailed report included in the meeting materials. He reviewed a summary of the report presented in a Power Point presentation to the Committee. He discussed enrollment, programs and graduation rates for UTSI. He stated that the revitalization plan itself is a multi-year document issued in 2004. He stated that UTSI is half way through the six-year plan and has made significant progress. He discussed the goals and benchmarks included in the plan. He stated that the plan calls for status reports to be issued to state legislative committees, which have been provided. He specifically discussed two goals outlined in the plan included in the meeting materials. He briefly discussed funding and the budget for UTSI.

The Chair thanked Dr. Daniel for his presentation and asked that due to time constraints that the Committee hold their questions for Dr. Daniel until after the meeting.

### **XIII. DISCUSSION OF A UNIVERSITY STUDENT COUNCIL**

Dr. Levy discussed the student's request to meet with the President in a manner similar to the Faculty Council. He called on James Orr, SGA President at UTM to discuss the creation of the Student Council. Mr. Orr stated that the students modified the charter of the Faculty Council to create the Student Council. He stated that he has worked with Dr. Levy and his staff to begin to initiate meetings of the council. He added that the student body is very excited about this additional opportunity to interact with the administration.

### **XIV. REPORT ON NAME CHANGE FOR COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AT UTC**

Dr. Levy discussed the name change for the College of Business Administration at UTC to simply the College of Business at UTC.

### **XV. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chair asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. There was none.

### **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Executive and Compensation Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

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Robert A. Levy

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student  
Success