THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

June 19, 2014
Knoxville, Tennessee

The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met at 8:30 a.m. EDT on Thursday, June 19, 2014, in Hollingsworth Auditorium on the campus of the Institute of Agriculture in Knoxville, Tennessee.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vicky Gregg called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Dr. Katie High called the roll.

The following Committee members and faculty/student representatives were present:

Dr. Joseph DiPietro
Mr. John Domanski
Mr. R.J. Duncan
Mr. Brian Ferguson
Mr. Robert Fisher
Mr. John Foy
Ms. Vicky Gregg, Chair
Dr. David Golden
Ms. Monice Hagler
Dr. Joanne Hall
Commissioner Julius Johnson
Ms. Kelsey Keny
Mr. Brad Lampley
Ms. Bonnie Lynch
Dr. Deborah McAllister
Dr. Jeff Rogers
Mr. Karl Schledwitz  
Mr. Chris Wilson  
Dr. Thad Wilson  
Ms. Jessica Welch

The following were absent:  
Ms. Dina Ali  
Dr. Martin Donaldson  
Ms. Laura Duncan  
Commissioner Kevin Huffman  
Ms. Sabrina Hurlock  
Dr. Rich Rhoda

Dr. High announced the presence of a quorum of the voting members of the Committee. Other Trustees, administrative staff, members of the public, and representatives of the media were also present.

Chair Gregg welcomed the group to the meeting and asked each of the new student and faculty representatives to introduce themselves to the Committee. She also recognized the outgoing student and faculty representatives.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of Last Meeting  
B. 2014 Comprehensive Listing of Academic Programs (Exhibit 1)  
C. Authorization to Confer Degrees (Exhibit 2)  
D. Report of Faculty Promotions (Exhibit 3)

Chair Gregg referred the Committee to the Consent Agenda and asked if any member wished to have an item removed from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no requests to remove an item, the Chair called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Schledwitz moved that the Consent Agenda of the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee (Exhibit 4) be approved, Trustee Hagler seconded, and the motion carried.

IV. DIVERSITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Chair Gregg asked Dean Noma Anderson to present the report of the Diversity Advisory Council (Exhibit 5).
There was a brief discussion regarding the increase in diversity at the Health Science Center, as well as the definition of the term “minority.”

Trustee Hagler expressed her view that a dedicated equity and diversity senior staff member is needed at the system level. She asked that the University take a strong look at how to move forward to implement the recommendations of the Diversity Advisory Council. President DiPietro agreed that the University will look at how to best implement the recommendations and will formulate a plan and a recommendation for moving forward.

V. THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE DIVERSITY STATEMENT

President DiPietro presented the proposed Diversity Statement to the Committee and asked for approval of the statement.

Trustee Thad Wilson moved that the University of Tennessee Diversity Statement (Exhibit 6) be approved, Trustee Lampley seconded, and the motion carried.

VI. UT KNOXVILLE FACULTY HANDBOOK REVISIONS

Dr. India Lane presented the proposed revisions to the UT Knoxville Faculty Handbook.

Trustee Thad Wilson moved that the UT Knoxville Faculty Handbook revisions regarding shared governance (Exhibit 7) be approved, Trustee Foy seconded, and the motion carried.

VII. REVISION OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE CHARTER

Dr. Katie High presented the proposal to revise the Committee’s charter to address an issue raised by a Southern Association of Schools and Colleges (SACS) accreditation team.

Trustee Hagler moved that the proposed revision of the charter for the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee (Exhibit 8) be approved, Trustee Lynch seconded, and the motion carried.
VIII. TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Katie High presented the President’s recommendations for granting tenure to certain faculty at the five campuses.

Trustee Schledwitz moved that the Board of Trustees grant tenure to the faculty members recommended by the President (Exhibit 9), Trustee Foy seconded, and the motion carried.

IX. RHODES SCHOLAR LINDSAY LEE

Chair Gregg recognized Chancellor Jimmy Cheek to introduce Lindsay Lee, who was recently selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

Ms. Lee spoke of her initial skepticism about attending The University of Tennessee and described the evolution of her thinking that eventually resulted in her decision to accept admission to UT and decline admission to Harvard. She then went on to describe her experiences at UT and how pleased she was with her decision.

X. ONLINE INNOVATION UPDATE

Dr. India Lane presented an update on the University’s online education initiatives, including some information about the pilot programs with Coursera and EdX (Exhibit 10). The University was awarded additional funds from THEC to continue these pilot programs.

Discussion followed regarding outcomes, expansion, future initiatives, and the effect on student/faculty interaction. Trustee Lampley asked for information about what UT’s peer institutions are doing in the area of online education platforms and courses.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.
XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Gregg adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine N. High
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success