

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

October 24, 2008
Knoxville, Tennessee

The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Tennessee met at 8:30 a.m. EST, Friday, October 24, 2008, on the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture campus in Knoxville, TN.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Spruell Driver, Chair of the Committee, called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Dr. Bonnie Yegidis called the roll, and the following voting members were present:

Mr. Spruell Driver
Ms. Anne Holt Blackburn
Mr. John Foy
Ms. Brittany McGruder
Mr. Karl Schledwitz
Dr. John Schommer
Ms. Betty Ann Tanner

The following non-voting Trustee members were present:

Mr. Tyler Forrest
Dr. John Petersen
Dr. Verbie Prevost
Dr. Rich Rhoda
Mr. Charles Anderson, Jr.
Mr. William Carroll
Mr. George Cates
Mr. Crawford Gallimore
Ms. Monica Hagler
Mr. James Hall
Mr. Doug Horne
Mr. Don Stansberry
Mr. Charles Wharton

The following non-voting faculty and student representatives to the Committee were present:

Mr. Josh Batterson
Dr. Pedro Campa
Dr. Kathy Evans
Dr. Karen C. Johnson
Dr. John Nolt
Mr. Jeff Wilcox

Dr. Yegidis announced a quorum was present.

IV. WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Driver welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that even though this meeting was held publicly, it was not a public meeting and that the Chair would only recognize members of the committee, senior staff members, and individuals who are on the agenda. He welcomed new trustees, John Foy and Betty Ann Tanner. He also welcomed the new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success, Dr. Bonnie Yegidis, and new members Dr. Verbie Prevost and Tyler Forrest.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2008 MEETING

The Chair called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the June 20, 2008 meeting. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Schledwitz, seconded by Ms. Blackburn, and approved unanimously.

The Chair requested that before starting the business items on the agenda that the committee hear a report from Interim Chancellor Jan Simek on Student Recreational Fields at the Knoxville campus.

Interim Chancellor Simek shared information regarding obtaining more property to increase student recreational fields on the Knoxville campus. This property needs to be located where it can be utilized and enjoyed by students. Property has been located in the Lake and Terrace area. This location would double the size of the recreational fields, but this is a short-term solution.

V. FALL ENROLLMENT REPORTS

Dr. Yegidis discussed some of the overall enrollment information. Since 2004, enrollment at the University of Tennessee has increased over 12% with the largest percentage growth at the undergraduate level at UT Martin, which also

saw the largest enrollment increase among the four-year institutions in the state. Growth in undergraduate enrollments at Chattanooga and Knoxville is also very positive overall. She stated that in our graduate programs, we have very strong enrollment growth at both the UT Health Science Center and the Space Institute, as well as in Knoxville and Chattanooga. Enrollment in doctoral programs has steadily grown by 40% over the last decade. Dr. Yegidis referenced the information in Tab 17 which shows that enrollment at the system level continues to grow across the board. Yegidis further stated that the University of Tennessee has experienced growth at each level – undergraduate and graduate – over the past year. Overall enrollment is up 12.7%.

Dr. Yegidis called Chancellor Roger Brown (UTC) to speak about enrollment, budget and other issues important to UT Chattanooga.

Chancellor Brown (UTC) reported that UTC has seen a healthy and manageable growth rate, and that there is capacity for growth at the upper division courses and at the graduate level. However, at the freshman and sophomore levels, they are nearing capacity with the current enrollment levels. They have begun a discussion of budget cuts, and the “right sizing” of the campus. UTC will continue to be a relatively moderately sized, urban campus that reaches out into the metropolitan area using the video laboratories and cooperative internship opportunities for students, and at a size that some families choose over the large research institution. UTC believes this serves the system well to have that distinction in size and mission.

UTC is taking a very serious approach to look at this year’s budget cut, which will amount to roughly \$1.5 million dollars for UTC. They are asking university leaders to consider how these cuts will change the way they conduct business, examining administrative overhead, staffing, and any function that is not central to the core mission. They are trying to take a long-term review of the way they pay for utilities on the campus, including putting more buildings on automated climate control systems. In itself, that is a savings of hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in utility costs. They would like President Petersen to think about, and approach to the Tennessee Valley Authority as a system, to discuss the effect that rate increases has had on the University’s operation, and to see whether there is any kind of negotiations on a system-wide basis that would help to economize energy costs.

With regard to the academic programs, UTC is exploring strategic realignment, reorganization and budget savings. An ad hoc committee has been constituted which includes broad representation from the faculty senate, student organizations and administrative department heads. This group is examining profiles of every academic department to consider the following principles:

centrality of the program to the university mission; metrics on the quality and performance of that academic program; ways that the academic program impacts the state's needs; the fiscal integrity of the program; and any added value contribution that that program presents to the overall mission of the university. Through that process they are hoping to identify any possible reorganization, consolidation, limitations, and growth that is required in order to pursue the mission of the university and to contribute to the state's needs.

UTC has also asked all division heads to look beyond the immediate budget cuts, to include larger than 3% – 5% permanent cuts that may be anticipated for July 1, 2009.

Mr. Schledwitz discussed the “right sizing” of our campuses and having a strategic plan for campus growth. There was a suggestion to develop a five-year plan for each of the campuses and consider what the growth will involve for campus facilities and housing. The University needs to consider the impact the growth will have on revenue and the bottom line to the University.

Chancellor Brown agreed with Mr. Schledwitz and states that it is essential that we develop a five-year plan for resource allocation. UTC is currently doing that on a rolling basis, but would welcome the opportunity for an invitation to present our strategic resource allocation to the Board. Chancellor Brown stated that the 12,500 enrollment figure is not a “magical” number. Mr. Schledwitz stated that he agrees with the figure. We are going to learn that the mix of upper classmen and lower classmen is also very critical. A strategy needs to be developed to get more community college students transferring into Chattanooga and Knoxville because where we have gaps in Chattanooga, as Chancellor Brown indicated, is in that junior and senior class. It's not just number of students, but whether they are upper or lower division students.

Chancellor Brown talked briefly about the Capital Campaign and his priorities for faculty compensation enhancements.

Chancellor Tom Rakes (UTM) provided additional information for UTM's enrollment growth, which is dramatic. The target this year was for 7500 students, and UTM is already at 7600 this fall. Chancellor Rakes indicated that the growth is probably too brisk. Most of the enrollment growth is at the off-campus centers at Gadsden, Ripley, and Parsons. On-line enrollment is up about 10% and part of the growth is in transfer student enrollment, which is up nearly 16.88%. First time freshman enrollment growth is up about 5%. UTM has plans to build three new residence halls. Dual credit enrollment, from four high schools, from Murfreesboro to Memphis, was up about 15% this year as well. Chancellor Rakes also commented on the overall freshman to sophomore year

retention, which is about 71-72%. Retention for African American students from freshman to sophomore year is up to 71.7%.

Last spring UTM revised its mission statement and also established an Operations and Efficiency Task Force Committee comprised of twelve members with representation from Faculty Senate, Student Affairs, Development and Finance. The group has met several times and also held open forums on campus.

Chancellor Rakes presented data about revenues and expenditures on campus, stating that tuition at UTM is currently 8% below our peer average. UTM students carry 8% less debt in student loans. Faculty salaries are 13% below their peers and staff salaries are also below our peer averages. The campus is lean administratively, but the campus has ambitious goals to expand research and productivity. The campus needs private support to endow professorships and enhance faculty salaries.

The overall climate on campus varies depending on with whom you speak. People understand that there will be changes made in staffing and likely in programs and services. A plan is underway for development later this semester.

Trustee Schledwitz: What process do you use to pick professors for endowed positions?

Chancellor Rakes: You go to each college and establish a set of criteria. On a five-point scale, the professor has to be a four or five. If your average is below that, you do not qualify. Each college will have one, but you might end up with three or four, depending on where the productivity is.

Interim Chancellor Simek (UTK) reported that UT Knoxville is a great bargain and provides students with a great education. Enrollment is about 27,700 students, that is at or over capacity. UTK is now a selective university. However, UTK is facing deep budget cuts this year and next.

Trustee Schledwitz asked Simek to share with this group ways to enhance revenue about the concept of changing our tuition to start charging by the credit hours, with a base, the benefits and shortcomings of that process.

Interim Chancellor Simek stated that there are a number of ways one can look at revenue which don't necessarily involve tuition, but as it is UTK is still one of the great bargains in higher education. The cost of attending the University of Tennessee is very low compared to all our peers. Tuition is a critical revenue element. There are different models on how to charge tuition. UTK uses a block

tuition plan where full-time students pay for twelve hours although they may be enrolled for considerably more than twelve hours. If UTK were to charge by the unit, it would increase revenue without raising tuition. There are costs that are incurred in the actual teaching that should be transferred to the students in one way or another. Those costs are actually increasing fairly rapidly because often they include construction materials, art materials, and tangible set of expenses.

Professor Campo asked if athletics is affected by the University budget cuts.

Dr. Petersen stated that the UTK Athletic Department is an auxiliary and is totally self-supporting.

Chancellor Wall (UTHSC) reported on enrollment at the Health Science Center. The College of Pharmacy enrollment increased to 200. The College of Medicine increased enrollment by fifteen. We anticipate an increase in tuition in the College of Dentistry, the College of Nursing, and the College of Pharmacy.

Chancellor Wall stated that the 5% budget cut means \$7.6 million for UTHSC. The total cuts since July have been \$12 million. There is a freeze on all staff hiring and all Deans have been asked to look at faculty hiring. However, a new dean has just been recruited for the College of Dentistry, which will be reaccredited in 2010. The UTHSC leaders have been told that these budget cuts are permanent. They are anticipating a 3-5% cut for fiscal 2009-2010. They must have a new Research Building at \$40 million. UTHSC has had no new buildings in twenty years. Chancellor Wall stated UTHSC must continue to move ahead, and cannot afford to stand still for two or three years while we wait for recovery of state revenues.

VI. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO THE UTHSC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Dr. Steve Schwab presented information on the UTHSC Graduate Medical Education program which offers residency programs in 53 specialty areas that lead to board certification. The Accrediting Council for Graduate Medical Education requires that a statement of commitment to Graduate Medical Education be approved by the governing board of the UT College of Medicine, which is this Board of Trustees.

Chairman Driver asked for a motion to approve this statement of commitment. Trustee Schommer moved approval of the statement of commitment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Schledwitz and unanimously approved.

VII. PLAN FOR TRANSITION OF THE AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAMS

Dr. Yegidis presented an overview of the plan for transitioning the Audiology and Speech Pathology Degree programs from UTK to UTHSC. Dr. Yegidis stated that the decision to transition these programs was developed after extensive review of the programs by the leadership of the University of Tennessee in consultation with the faculty and the Board. There are two components to this plan: the first provides for the transfer of the graduate degree programs to UTHSC and the second provides for a phase out of the undergraduate degree programs in audiology and speech pathology.

Dr. Yegidis stated that the transfer of the graduate programs of the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology from UTK to the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) at the UTHSC advances the strategic priorities of both UTHSC and UTK. These programs are an outstanding fit with the CAHS and will benefit from the current infrastructure there that supports clinical education and research. This move, effective July 1, 2009, will continue to enhance the state of Tennessee by providing graduates who are critically needed to service the state and its citizens; and by providing access to low cost clinical services in East Tennessee by the students in the clinical education program.

Dr. Yegidis stated that all three graduate degree programs will transfer to UTHSC. The current M.A. degree will transfer as an M.S. degree, which is a change that is appropriate to the disciplines. The Doctoral degree programs will also transfer to UTHSC and will not be changed in any substantive way. Thus, as of July 1, 2009, all graduate students enrolled in these programs will be Health Science Center students. The transition will have minimal impact on faculty and facilities. Tuition rates for students in the M.S. in Speech Pathology and the Doctoral programs will increase to be more reflective of programs in the health sciences and to be competitive with similar programs in the southeast region. Dr. Yegidis stated that we do not anticipate any loss of enrollment due to these increased rates.

UTK will phase out the undergraduate degree programs over the next six years by following the regular curriculum review process in place on campus. Undergraduate students will be allowed to declare Audiology and Speech Pathology as majors until August 2010 and must graduate by August 2014. Undergraduate courses in audiology and speech pathology will be maintained by UTK to allow students majoring in education the opportunity to take these specialty courses as a concentration within Special Education.

Trustee Schledwitz praised the UTHSC staff for their efforts on this transition plan. He also asked if the University Hospital proceeds provide a million dollar a year supplement. Are these the funds still in reserve from the sale of the Knoxville hospital?

President Petersen stated that we are moving a program which is going to generate a part of the formula over the long haul. When the hospital was sold there was some cash but also an accrual of dollars every year. We have traditionally used the money that comes in from the hospital to do various things within the system, but recently we used a portion at UT Memphis. We have dollars accrued in that fund that will now cover the four year commitment that we've made for that transition.

Trustee Schledwitz asked how much of the hospital proceeds will be used to subsidize Audiology and Speech Pathology?

President Petersen answered that the funds are committed there for four years, but considering the fact that as that burden is alleviated, other dollars that potentially could be used for other things in the Health Sciences will be available.

Dr. Yegidis stated that the proposal before the committee is the acceptance of the academic plan moving forward and a vote is necessary.

Chairman Driver called for a motion to approve the plan for the transition of the Audiology and Speech Pathology Degree Programs. Trustee Schledwitz moved approval of the transition plan. Trustee Blackburn seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

IX. PROPOSAL FOR A PROGRAM OF STUDY LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ATHLETIC TRAINING AT UTC

The Chair stated that the next item on the agenda, under Tab 20, is the proposal for a program of study leading to the Degree of Master in Athletic Training at UTC.

Dr. Yegidis stated that this program was originally approved as a major in 1997 and was transitioned to a concentration area within Health and Human Performance in 2002. New accreditation standards of the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education require that graduate programs in athletic training be organized as independent degree programs. This request is to return the program to its original organizational structure. Since the program is already in place, no new resources will be needed.

The Chair called for a motion on the proposal for the Master of Science of Athletic Training at UTC. Trustee Foy moved to approve the proposal. Trustee Blackburn seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

X. PROPOSAL FOR A PROGRAM OF STUDY LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE, MAJOR: NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AT UTK

Dr. Yegidis stated that this new major follows a national trend in curricular initiatives across the country advancing the study of natural resources and environmental economics. The program represents a repackaging of existing courses in the physical, natural and social sciences and offers a cross-disciplinary approach to the study of environmental economics. Only one new course is needed to round out the major, a course in Advanced Policy Analysis for Environmental and Natural Resource Management. With approval from the Board of Trustees, this program will go to THEC for approval and will be in effect in the spring or fall of 2009.

The Chair requested a motion for approval of this new program of study. Trustee Blackburn moved for approval and Trustee McGruder seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

XI. RECOMMENDATION OF TENURE FOR DR. JAMES P. THOMPSON

Dr. Yegidis provided a brief overview of the tenure process and referred the committee to Tab 21 for more information. Dr. James Thompson was appointed Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, effective October 1, 2008. His qualifications for tenure at The University of Tennessee have been thoroughly reviewed by all appropriate review committees and have received the full recommendation of these bodies, the interim Dean and the Vice President for the Institute of Agriculture. This recommendation of tenure for Dean Thompson comes as a recommendation from President Petersen.

The Chair requested a motion for approval of tenure for Dr. Thompson. Trustee Schommer moved for approval and Trustee Foy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

XII. AWARDING THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE TO LESTER VAN MIDDLESWORTH, PH.D., M.D.

Dr. Yegidis stated that Dr. Lester Van Middlesworth is nominated for an honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the UT Health Science Center. Dr. Van

Middlesworth has been a member of the UTHSC faculty for more than 50 years and is nationally and internationally recognized for his studies on the thyroid gland. The nomination of Dr. Van Middlesworth for this honor was initiated by Chancellor Wall and has followed the review procedures of this Board.

Chancellor Wall spoke briefly in support of awarding this honor to Dr. Van Middlesworth.

The Chair requested a motion for approval of this honorary degree. Trustee Schledwitz moved for approval and Trustee Foy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Bonnie L. Yegidis
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success