



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE
March 1, 2019
Martin, Tennessee

The Education, Research, and Service Committee of the Board of Trustees met at 8:00 a.m. CST on Friday, March 1, 2019, on the campus of The University of Tennessee at Martin.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Donnie Smith called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

Dr. Tim Cross, Chancellor of the Institute of Agriculture, called the roll, and the following members were present:

Donnie Smith, Chair
Randy Boyd
John Compton
Kara Lawson
Bonnie Ownley
Kenneth Packer
Alan Wilson
Jamie Woodson

Dr. Cross announced the presence of a quorum. Other Trustees, administrative staff, faculty members, students, and representatives of the media were also present. The meeting was webcast.

III. Requests to Address the Board (none appropriate for this committee)

IV. Consent Agenda

The Chair called the Committee's attention to the Consent Agenda and asked if there were any requests to remove an item. There being none, Ms. Woodson moved that:

1. Minutes of the November 2, 2018 meeting of the Committee be approved as presented in the meeting materials, provided that the Secretary be authorized to make any necessary edits to correct spelling errors, grammatical errors, format errors, or other technical errors subsequently identified; and



2. Resolutions presented in the meeting materials for the action items on the Consent Agenda of the Committee be recommended for adoption by the Board of Trustees.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Lawson and passed unanimously.

V. Tenure upon Initial Appointment at UTIA

The President explained that authority to grant tenure to a faculty member upon initial appointment, without serving a probationary period, is reserved to the Board, upon the President's recommendation and documentation that certain requirements have been satisfied.

A. Grant of Tenure to Professor Tong Wang

The President recommended that tenure be granted to Professor Tong Wang in her faculty appointment in the Department of Food Science in the Institute of Agriculture. Documentation of Dr. Wang's excellent academic credentials and satisfaction of all other requirements for tenure upon initial appointment was presented in the meeting materials, including that she currently holds tenure at Iowa State University and had two competing offers from UTIA peer institutions granting tenure. Mr. Packer moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to grant tenure to Professor Tong Wang in her faculty appointment in the UTIA Department of Food Science. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton, and the Chair called for any questions or discussion. Hearing none, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Grant of Tenure to Professor Hongwei Xin

The President recommended that tenure be granted to Professor Hongwei Xin in his faculty appointment in the Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science in the Institute of Agriculture. Dr. Xin has been appointed Dean of AgResearch effective May 16, 2019. Documentation of his excellent academic credentials and satisfaction of all other requirements for tenure upon initial appointment was presented in the meeting materials, including that he currently holds tenure at Iowa State University and had two competing offers from UTIA peer institutions granting tenure. Ms. Woodson moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to grant tenure to Professor Hongwei Xin in his faculty appointment in the UTIA Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton, and the Chair called for any questions or discussion. Hearing none, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. UTIA/UTK Policies and Procedures Governing Application for Tenure before the Sixth Year of the Probationary Period

Dr. David Manderscheid, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor at UT Knoxville, presented the proposed policies and procedures governing application for tenure by a UTIA or UTK tenure-



track faculty member before the sixth year of the probationary period. Following the presentation, Mr. Compton moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the UTIA/UTK policies and procedures as presented in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Mr. Packer, and the Chair called for any questions or discussion. Hearing none, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. UTIA/UTK Procedures for Enhanced Tenure-Track Review

Dr. Manderscheid presented the proposed procedures for enhanced tenure-track review of UTIA and UTK faculty members. Following the presentation, Ms. Woodson moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the UTIA/UTK procedures as presented in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton. Hearing no questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Revisions to the UTHSC Faculty Handbook on Peer Review of Teaching

Dr. Lori Gonzalez, UTHSC's chief academic officer, presented the proposed UTHSC Faculty Handbook revisions related to procedures for peer review of teaching when considering candidates for tenure. Following the presentation, Mr. Packer moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the UTHSC Faculty Handbook revisions on peer review of teaching as presented in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton. Hearing no questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Revisions to the UTHSC Faculty Handbook on Relationships with Students

Dr. Gonzalez presented the proposed UTHSC Faculty Handbook changes on faculty relationships with students. Following the presentation, Ms. Woodson moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the UTHSC Faculty Handbook revisions on relationships with students as presented in the meeting materials, and Mr. Compton seconded. Mr. Rhodes asked why a system-wide policy on this issue has not been developed. Dr. Gonzalez replied that policies affecting faculty are developed separately in consultation with each Faculty Senate. Ms. Woodson asked for information about collaboration among the campuses on matters like this. President Boyd said although many collaborations occur, more are possible, and a list is being developed. He added that currently Dr. Linda Martin is leading discussions across the System about improving enrollment strategies and student success, and David Miller is looking at collaboration in purchasing and capital projects. Ms. Woodson asked in what areas the faculty senates would support greater collaboration. Dr. Martin explained that faculty handbook differences are largely due to campus structure and the approval process. The framework is similar, but process and procedures are different. Dr. Ownley said there is more similarity in faculty handbooks than in the past, and she feels it is moving in the right direction. Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.



X. New Academic Program – M.S. in Data Analytics at UTC

Chancellor Steve Angle presented the proposal to add a new academic program at UTC – M.S. in Data Analytics. Following the presentation, Mr. Compton moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the proposal to offer a Master of Science in Data Analytics at UTC. The motion was seconded by Mr. Packer. Mr. Compton asked whether the same program exists at UTK. Chancellor Angle said UTK does not have a joint program between Business and Computer Science, and the proposed UTC program has a different curriculum than UTK’s M.S. in Data Analytics. Mr. Packer asked why the program would start in a face-to-face format with plans for a fully online option within five years. Chancellor Angle explained that some courses will be offered in both formats initially, but moving to a fully online program will depend on market demand and working out curriculum partnerships across the colleges. Based on her experience of hiring graduates from the UTK program, Ms. Miles said the projected five-year enrollment seemed low and asked whether it was based on indicators of interest or capacity. Dr. Angle said the projections are very conservative and based on expected demand by several of the larger companies in Chattanooga for graduates. Mr. Compton asked whether there is any collaboration between UTK and UTC in data analytics. Dr. Angle replied that collaboration has occurred in connection with the ORNL relationship and the Bredesen Center; collaboration should increase with the new Governor’s Chair in this area. Mr. Compton asked whether a student from Chattanooga who attends UTK and takes a class at UTC in the summer would receive credit for the class at UTK. Dr. Angle replied that credit for some courses would transfer, but specialized courses may not; students are advised to get prior approval from their primary campus. President Boyd said this subject was addressed at the Student Success Summit held last fall. Efforts will be made to facilitate a seamless transition from one campus to another if allowed by degree requirements. Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

XI. New Academic Program – B.S. in Information Sciences at UTK

Dr. Manderscheid presented the proposal to add a new academic program at UTK – B.S. in Information Sciences. Following the presentation, Ms. Woodson moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the proposed program, effective Fall Semester 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Packer. Mr. Wilson asked what other schools offer the program. Dr. Manderscheid said the program is not offered in any other school in Tennessee. Mr. Packer praised the program as being innovative, adding that as a 30-year old student, he already feels behind the times in technology. Dr. Manderscheid said the program deals with organization of all information in general, not just data. Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

XII. Proposed UTC Student Code of Conduct

Dr. Yancy Freeman, UTC Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, presented proposed revisions to the UTC Student Code of Conduct. Following the



presentation, Mr. Compton moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the proposed Code as presented in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Ms. Woodson. Mr. Compton asked whether the final decision maker on an appeal is the same at UTC and UTK. Dr. Freeman responded that the final decision at UTC is by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, while the final decision at UTK is by an appellate board. General Counsel Scoggins added that in a hearing under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act option, the final decision is by the Chancellor at both UTC and UTK. Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Proposed UTC Honor Code

Vice Chancellor Freeman presented proposed revisions to the UTC Honor Code. Following the presentation, Mr. Compton moved that the Committee recommend adoption of the Resolution to approve the proposed Honor Code as presented in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Mr. Packer. Dr. Ownley asked whether the proposed changes addressed the issue of self-plagiarism. Dr. Freeman responded that his office is working with academic affairs to help students understand self-plagiarism. Posters are being placed in classrooms providing definitions, and the subject is addressed in student orientation. Dr. Ownley asked whether a distinction is made between self-plagiarism and poor writing. Dr. Freeman said it is a fine line but is being addressed as much as possible. Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Chair called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Update on Student Success Initiatives

Dr. Linda Martin, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success, provided an overview of the various student success initiatives currently underway, with the following key points:

Underlying Principles Associated with Student Success

- Focus on enhanced student experience
- Integration of Student Life and Academic Affairs
- Retention initiatives
- Student-centered policies, procedures, and programming are essential
- Attrition is costly

Initiatives

- Enrollment growth
- Increase retention and graduation rates
- Joint academic affairs and student success summit
- Education Advisory Board (EAB) – Academic Performance Solutions (APS)
- National Association of System Heads (NASH) Leadership Academy
- Academic Affairs and Student Success website
- Working group on tuition assistance models and student success



- Mental health and wellness
- Student Success Innovation Fund

XV. Committee Discussion of Agenda Items for Future Meetings

The Committee identified the following items for discussion at future meetings:

- Collaboration opportunities, with input from faculty, student groups and other stakeholders
 - Administrative/bureaucratic possibilities
 - Programmatic (advancing the institution)
- Seamless transfers
- Student success
- How to increase research revenues across the university system
 - \$400 million is borderline; needs to grow
- Commitment to graduate education, including resources
- Teacher education programs - how are we preparing every new teacher? How to advance colleges of education
- Building a culture of trust and community across UT system, and the Board's role
- What is the organizational health of the faculty?
 - How do graduates feel about their experiences?
- Student career success post-graduate
- How to increase residencies and service to under-served rural communities
- Relate progress to President Boyd's six priorities

XVI. Other Business (none brought to the Chair's attention prior to the meeting).

XVII. Adjournment

There being no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim L. Cross
Chancellor, UT Institute of Agriculture