



# THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING January 21, 2022

The Executive Committee of The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met at 9:00 a.m. (EST) on Friday, January 21, 2022. The meeting was held at the Executive Conference Room, Joint Institute for Advanced Materials, located at the UT Research Park, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Committee Members Present: John C. Compton, Chair; Amy E. Miles; William (Bill) C. Rhodes III; Donald J. Smith; and Jamie R. Woodson.

Others in Attendance:

Trustees: Lane Gutridge (Student Trustee); Charles Hatcher, Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture; Decosta E. Jenkins; and Christopher L. Patterson.

University Officers: President Randy Boyd; Brian Daniels, Chief Audit and Compliance Officer; Linda Martin, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success; David Miller, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Cynthia Moore, Secretary and Special Counsel; Stacey Patterson, Vice President for Research, Outreach and Economic Development; Chancellors Steve Angle (UTC), Keith Carver (UTM), Mark La Branche (UTS), Donde Plowman (UTK) and Steve Schwab (UTHSC); and other members of the senior leadership team.

Board Secretary Cynthia Moore addressed requirements for meetings conducted with members participating electronically and announced the presence of a quorum. The meeting was webcast for the convenience of the University community, the general public, and the media.

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Chair John Compton opened the meeting by welcoming Trustee Woodson as a new member of the Executive Committee. He reported that Governor Lee appointed two new trustees, Ms. Shanea McKinney and Mr. David Watson, to fill the vacancies on the Board that occurred due to the recent resignations of Kara Lawson and Kim White. Trustees McKinney and Watson service became effective on the date of appointment, but their appointments remain subject to confirmation. Chair Compton indicated that he was making interim committee appointments (through the end of June 2022), with Trustee McKinney serving on the Education, Research, and Service Committee and Trustee Watson serving on the Finance and Administration Committee. All committee assignments for the next two-year term (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024) will be acted on by the Board at the upcoming Annual Meeting in June. Chair Compton provided an overview of the meeting agenda and called on President Boyd for his update.

### **President's Update**

President Boyd remarks focused on key accomplishments during 2021 under each of the five pillars of the UT System Strategic Plan (Enhancing Educational Excellence; Expanding Research Capabilities; Fostering Outreach and Engagement; Ensuring Workforce and Administrative Excellence; and Advocating for UT). A full copy of the written year-end report (2021 Objectives) was included in the meeting materials and is filed with these minutes.

President Boyd then shared information on the start of the Spring 2022 academic semester, including an update on the current number of COVID-19 cases and the campuses' current health and safety protocols. He also discussed budget priorities, anticipated legislation, and the move of the system administration to the UT Tower. President Boyd also advised that the goals and objectives for 2022 will be shared at the upcoming Winter Meeting of the Board in February.

Following his report, President Boyd then discussed the State of Tennessee's *Drive for 55* initiative to have 55% of Tennesseans have a post-secondary degree/credential by 2025. He highlighted that currently 44% of Tennesseans have achieved a post-secondary degree/credential. However, he noted that even if all of the high school graduates pursue higher education and those attending college graduate on time, the state will not meet this goal. President Boyd stated that more needs to be done to serve the needs of working adults and meet them where they are through online education. In this regard, the University engaged Huron Consulting Group to provide an online market assessment. President Boyd discussed certain findings from the report, including potential pathways for expanding the University's online education footprint.

The Trustees expressed their support for learning more about the University's current online offerings, the trends in the online education industry, and the advantages/disadvantages of the different models. It was stressed that any expansion into the online higher education market should be accretive in nature and should protect the brand of the University. Chair Compton recommended that this topic be presented and explored in more detail through the Board's standing committees.

### **Update on Compliance with Graduate Medical Education Accreditation Requirements**

Chancellor Steve Schwab provided a general overview of accreditation requirements as set forth by Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) applicable to graduate medical education. In response to a recent review of the UT Health Science Center's College of Medicine (Memphis), Chancellor Schwab presented the following two, time-sensitive items to the Committee.

1. Annual Institutional Review Executive Summary, Academic Year 2020-21. This report provides a summary of the findings of the most recent Annual Institutional Review (AIR), along with the College of Medicine's proposed action plan to address the findings. Chancellor Schwab noted that this report was required to be submitted to the Board of Trustees, but that such report does not require any formal action.
2. Statement of Mission and Commitment to Graduate Medical Education (2022-2026). Chancellor Schwab explained that the Statement has been updated to reflect the latest ACGME requirements and was being presented for approval by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved by unanimous roll call vote the updated Statement of Mission and Commitment to Graduate Medical Education (see *Resolution 001-2022* filed with these minutes).

### **Approval of Naming Opportunity - UT Knoxville**

Based on the recommendations of Chancellor Plowman and Vice President Linda Martin, in her capacity as Interim Senior Vice Chancellor & Senior Vice President for UT Institute of Agriculture, President Boyd recommended the approval of the naming of the Large Animal Hospital in the College

of Veterinary Medicine at UT Knoxville in honor of Charles and Julie Wharton. Trustees Woodson and Rhodes expressed their support of the recommendation.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved by unanimous roll call vote the naming of "Charles and Julie Wharton Large Animal Hospital" in grateful recognition of the Wharton Family's distinguished history of service, engagement and philanthropic generosity. (See *Resolution 002-2022* filed with these minutes)

### **Planning for Winter Board Meeting**

Chair Compton provided an overview of the schedule for the upcoming Winter Meeting of the Board, which will be held at UT Southern. In connection with reviewing the topics that would be addressed at the upcoming meeting, Chair Compton asked Vice President Linda Martin to provide a synopsis of what has been done to date and what is planned for the upcoming February meeting with regard to the topic of the campuses' undergraduate admissions policies. Dr. Martin provided an overview of the items presented at the special session of the Education, Research, and Service Committee meeting that was held in October. She then discussed the data that has been collected as follow-up items from the special session, which materials have been shared with the all the members of the Board. At the February meeting of the Education, Research, and Service Committee, the focus will be on answering any questions associated with the materials provided. She indicated that the Chancellors have determined that the latest date for proposing revisions to the admissions policies for the next admissions cycle (Fall 2023) would be the Board's Annual Meeting in June. President Boyd noted that he, Dr. Martin, and the Chancellors had a meeting with Dr. Penny Schwinn, Tennessee's Commissioner of Education, regarding standardized testing, which was very informative.

Chair Compton affirmed that the Bylaws require the Board to approve admissions policies and changes thereto. Accordingly, if the campuses wish to make any changes to the admissions policies that were in effect prior to the covid pandemic, these changes will need to be brought forward for the Board's approval no later than the June meeting.

### **Consent Agenda**

The Chair outlined the items listed in the Consent Agenda. No items were removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion. Upon motion duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken, and the Board approved the items set forth in the Consent Agenda. A complete list of the approved items on the Consent Agenda appears at the end of these minutes.

With no further business to come before the Committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Cynthia C. Moore  
Secretary and Special Counsel

### Approved Consent Agenda Items

- Minutes of Prior Meeting (September 10, 2021)
- Annual Report on Tuition and Fee Revenues, Academic Year 2020-21 (*Resolution 003-2022*)