



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE January 26, 2024

A Special Meeting of the Education, Research, and Service Committee of The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees was held at 8:45 a.m. (ET) on Friday, January 26, 2024. The meeting was held virtually with all Committee members participating electronically or by telephone. The meeting was hosted from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus.

Committee Members Present: Jamie R. Woodson, Committee Chair; John C. Compton, Board Chair; Charles Hatcher, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Shanea A. McKinney; Donald J. Smith; Sean Walker (Faculty Representative); and Woodi H. Woodland (Student Trustee).

Other in Attendance:

Trustees: Christopher L. Patterson; William (Bill) C. Rhodes III; David N. Watson, and T. Lang Wiseman.

University Administration: President Randy Boyd; Bernard Savarese, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, Research, and Student Success; Cynthia Moore, Board Secretary and Special Counsel; Chancellor Steve Angle (UT Chattanooga); Chancellor Peter Buckley (UT Health Science Center); Chancellor Yancy Freeman (UT Martin); Interim Chancellor Linda Martin (UT Southern); and Chancellor Donde Plowman (UT Knoxville). In addition, other members of the UT senior leadership and administrative staff were present.

Ms. 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.

Opening Remarks of the Committee Chair

Board Chair John C. Compton announced that he would be chairing today's meeting at the request of Committee Chair Jamie Woodson.

Proposed Academic Program Modifications

Dr. John Zomchick, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor at UTK, presented an overview of the academic program modifications being proposed for the Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs (Baker School): (i) a change in a Degree Designation to establish a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs; and (ii) a change in the

Degree Designation and Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code for the Master of Public Policy and Administration.

Change in a Degree Designation to establish a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs, UTK

The University administration is requesting that: (i) the existing Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Public Administration Major (BSBA) be moved from the Department of Economics in the Haslam College of Business to the Baker School; and (ii) the academic degree designation of the existing BSBA degree be changed to a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs (BSPAf) to reflect an expanded core curriculum that includes public administration, public policy, government, economics, civics, and data analytics. Both the Baker School and Haslam College have agreed to these changes. Dr. Zomchick reviewed the number of credit hours, the proposed time period for implementation, the projected enrollment, the resources needed, the accreditation process, and the intended purpose and outcomes of the program.

Change in the Degree Designation and CIP Code for the Master of Public Policy and Administration

The University administration is seeking to modify the existing Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) degree program by separating it into: (i) a Master of Public Policy (MPP); and (ii) a Master of Public Administration (MPA). Currently, there are only nine MPPA programs across the country, three of which are accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPPA). Conversely, MPA and MPP programs represent 85% of programs accredited by the NASPPA. This change would allow the University's degree programs to reflect commonly recognized academic offerings, allow students to pursue either an MPA or MPP degree, and support workforce needs and student demands. If approved, distinct Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes will be assigned to each program. Dr. Zomchick reviewed the number of credit hours, the proposed time period for implementation, the projected enrollment, the resources needed, the accreditation process, and the intended purpose and outcomes of the program. He also noted that a final component of the proposed strategy would be to add fully online modalities of these programs for working professionals.

Responding to questions raised by the Committee members, UTK Chancellor Donde Plowman and Marianne Wanamaker, Dean of the Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs, provided the following additional information:

- While similar master's programs exist, the programs under consideration are unique.

- The programs will create multiple sources of revenue. Of particular note, is that when the online module is established it will generate revenue that will assist in offsetting expenses.

Upon recommendation of Board Chair Compton, and without objection from the members of the Committee, the Committee considered the two Proposed Academic Program Modifications as a single action. Upon motion duly made and seconded, following a roll call vote, the Committee approved a recommendation that the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, adopt the Resolutions modifying the academic programs at the Baker School of Public Policy and Public Affairs.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Cynthia C. Moore
Cynthia C. Moore
Secretary and Special Counsel

Appendix - Supplemental Materials

- Proposals - Academic Program Modifications, UTK
 - Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs
 - Master of Public Policy and Administration