UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

Meeting Agenda
May 17th, 2023 – Videoconference
https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8659743843
3:00 pm (CST)/4:00 pm (EST)

UT Faculty Council Voting Members (Quorum, 5 voting members)

UTHSC  Jillian McCarthy-Maeder (Faculty Senate President)
        Martin Donaldson (Campus Representative)

UTK   Elisabeth Schussler (Faculty Senate President)
       Beauvais Lyons (Campus Representative)

UTM  Clinton Smith (Faculty Senate President)
       Sean Walker (Campus Representative)

UTC  Jennifer Boyd (Faculty Senate President)
       Felicia McGhee (Campus Representative)

UT Southern  Michael Cathey (Faculty Senate President)
              Kenneth Vickers (Campus Representative)

Faculty Appointee to Education, Research, and Service Committee (Ex-Officio voting)

UTK  Andy Puckett (Board of Trustees ERS Committee faculty appointee)

UT Faculty Council Ex-Officio Non-voting Members

UT  Randy Boyd (President)
    Bernie Savarese (Acting Vice President, Academic Affairs & Student Success)

UT Faculty Council Guests

UT  Karen Etzkorn, (Director of Academic Affairs)
    (VP Research, Outreach & Economic Development)

Order of Business
1. President Boyd
2. Faculty Handbooks
   a. Guest: Esther Henry
3. Approve Minutes - Please see attached
4. System Updates
   a. Dr. Savarese
   b. Dr. Etzkorn
5. Resolution from UTHSC – Please see attached
6. BOT Information – Please see attached
7. Elections in June
UT Systemwide Topics/Questions for President Bovd

- N/A
Esther Henry

- Office of General Counsel
- Invited guest to discuss revisions to BT 0007
- BT 0007 revisions would make it so that only Tenure and Tenure-track employment decisions went to the BOT.
  - This would allow non-tenure-track faculty decisions to be made at the campus level
- Q&A surrounding how this might impact NTT faculty

President Boyd

- Thank you to faculty!
  - He has attended 5 commencement ceremonies with 4 more to go
  - Very appreciative of what faculty do!
- Summer work plan
  - Campus search update
    - Expects a recommendation for UT Martin Chancellor on his desk by July 1st
  - Enrollment strategies are being looked at
    - This includes in-state versus out-of-state students
  - Campus visits
    - Security tours over the next 4 weeks
      - Met with Governor and his team to discuss security funding for Higher Education
- Q&A
  - Is the growth of out-of-state students solely at UTK or other campuses?
  - Does the growth of out-of-state students for UTK help offset stagnant tuition for in-state?
    - It was noted that a couple of campuses will likely be asking for an increase
  - A comment was noted that the safety survey needs to include a focus on mental health

Dr. Etzkorn

- Program updates
- Vendor and Service Provider
  - Watermark
    - Has several offerings including student rating instruments
    - If a campus uses, it is based on system-wide FTE and not Campus FTE
  - Quality Matters
- System-wide Professional Development Opportunities for Department chairs/heads
  - Included in this will be a survey to chairs/heads to ask what they would like included
  - Q&A – any training on faculty handbooks?
- It was noted that President Boyd and campus leadership are beginning to look at what a common academic calendar across campuses would look like

Dr. Savarese
• Briefly discussed enrollment strategies
• Search for the Associate Vice President of Research begins next week
• Discussed UT System efforts for the BOT meeting in June
• It was mentioned that we are looking at how federal financial aid applies to courses outside of a student’s program of study
• Q&A – a question/comment was made about funding for minors/double majors should be considered
• Emphasized that President Boyd, Carey Whitaker, and others are beginning to look at legislative priorities for next year
• Q&A – what is the status of the viewpoint diversity survey results
  o Met with Gallup this week
  o Will release a 1-page summary to each campus
  o A more holistic and expansive report will be on the UT Transparency page

Resolution from UTHSC
• UTHSC passed a resolution to provide additional information/scenarios where a tenure clock can be suspended
  o Included is asking for more consistency in how such suspensions apply
• UFC decided it would be most appropriate to:
  o Send to other campus senates to consider
  o Invite Frank Lancaster to discuss concerns
  o Encourage a conversation with campus administrative leaders