

Full Faculty Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 25, 2020 3:00 PM
University Center Auditorium

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie Harvey at 3:12 pm. A motion to approve the minutes from the Monday, September 30, 2019 Full Faculty Meeting was put forward by Beth Crawford and seconded by Gretchen Potts. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Reports

Chancellor Steve Angle:

On March 4th in the UC Auditorium from 3:00-4:30 pm Randy Boyd, Interim UT President, will be here on campus for a Town Hall meeting to make his case for serving as UT President. Both the Board and Randy Boyd really want participation and input from campus stakeholders. He will be taking questions, responding, and interacting. Please take advantage of that opportunity and attend to share your perspective. The Board will gather feedback from these sessions and make their decision about the 5 year contract for Randy Boyd in the near future.

Campus is launching a search for a new VP Alumni Affairs and Development after the departure of Brian Rowland. Lofton Stuart, a former administrator in various roles at UT, is serving as our Interim. We will be using a search firm for the recruitment.

We will also soon be launching a search for a Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Engagement. This person will be tasked with coordinating all of our diversity activities at UTC. This is a crucial job and placing someone in this role will really help us as a campus. We will be using the same search firm for this recruitment as well.

Provost Hale:

New Strategic Plan -The Steering Committee met today for the first time to get this process underway. There will be a second meeting tomorrow with the remaining members of the group (with such a large Steering Committee the initial meeting was divided into two identical sessions back to back). The timeline for the process is being prepared. There will be listening sessions with faculty, students, alumni, community members, city and county government, legislators, chamber of commerce and more. So far the Steering Committee has reviewed the 2015-2020 plan and read through the periodic reports from that process. One of the tasks is to decide which goals to keep, which to edit, and which new ones to add. An assessment piece will also be explored / examined. There will be a dedicated website for the Strategic Plan that will provide timely and current information on all meetings and the work of this group.

SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process - UTC is a member of the SACS class of 2022 so we have to get to work on this process now. Our documents are due to SACSCOC in the Fall of 2021 and our on campus site visit will take place in Spring of 2022. There will be a kickoff event in the weeks ahead and everyone will be invited to play a role in this major undertaking. It's a chance to celebrate what we've done since the last visit and to look forward to the work ahead.

Vice Provost(s) Searches - Interviews have been completed. Provost Hale is In the process of making a decision on how to reorganize Academic Affairs and determining how many we need to hire and how the office might function under a new arrangement.

Dean of Arts and Sciences Search - The Committee conducted Zoom interviews with 14 candidates. They are in the process of selecting finalists to bring to campus. There will likely be 4 finalists. 2 before spring break and 2 after. There will be emails sharing their information and interview schedules. Please keep abreast of search and attend meetings with candidates when you can.

Dr. Richard Brown

Dr. Brown highlighted some \$150 million in ongoing projects around campus. Lupton Hall is being outfitted with classrooms, departmental offices, and student space. It should be on schedule to open in the Fall of 2020. The Fine Arts Center is also undergoing a renovation. Work is underway on the Mapp building which will house continuing education and executive education. The College of Business is in the midst of their renovation of Fletcher Hall. In the next year Hunter Hall will also be in line for a renovation. Finally, the McKenzie Arena will be receiving some much-needed updates including meeting space, a new sound system and brick details on the exterior.

In regards to the budget for next year, 60% of our revenue comes from tuition and fees. Out of the total budget, 40% will be dedicated to instruction. We are above our peer set in what we spend on instruction. We also had a recent Voluntary Retirement Incentive. Of the 176 faculty and staff who were eligible, 49 applied and 37 eventually signed agreements.

Other details on Dr. Brown's presentations on both capital projects and the budget can be found in the full presentation which is posted on the Full Faculty Minutes page.

Faculty Senate Report

Faculty Senate President Jamie Harvey gave a report on the many activities of the Senate thus far in the year including the following:

- The Honor Court has added 12 new faculty to alleviate bottlenecks (thank you faculty for volunteering!)
- The Handbook Committee codified the section on evaluation practices for our Non-Tenure Track positions (lecturers) with assistance from the NTT Committee

- The General Education Committee requested a change in the bylaws to allow for updating our Gen Ed assessment practices in order to align with the expectations of SACSCOC.
- Parking services shared information on the implementation of new parking systems. Remember you will need to park nose in from now on in order for plates to be read by the scanning system.
- Senators heard about the new UT System-wide mental health and student success initiatives. A mental health summit was held in November in Knoxville.

There are two remaining Senate meetings this year. Please notify your senators if something is on your mind. The goal of the Senate is to create dialog, and discuss issues that challenge us. It also aids in maintaining cohesion and allows us to get to know each other.

President Harvey closed by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve. It has impacted her career and given her the chance to participate in collaboration, communication, and collegiality.

President Harvey also reminded Senators that TUFs represents us at the state level and brings issues forward that are of concern to all faculty. There has been a significant focus on the new UT Promise - which offers a free 4-year degree to Hope eligible students with a parent income below 50K. President Randy Boyd encourages all faculty members to sign up to be UT Promise Mentors in the year ahead to insure those students get off to a strong start.

Announcements

There will be a campus town hall meeting with Randy Boyd next week. Please make every effort to attend. Announcements will be sent out in advance.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was offered by Gretchen Potts and seconded by Susan Thul. The meeting adjourned at 3:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Cairns
Senate Secretary