

MINUTES
TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Summer Quarterly Meeting
July 23, 2015, 9:00 a.m. CST

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Evan Cope at 9:00 a.m.

Commission Members Present:

Mr. Evan Cope	Mr. Bill Lee
Secretary of State Tre Hargett	Treasurer David Lillard
Ms. Siri Kadire	Mr. Alex Martin
Mr. Jon Kinsey	Ms. Pam Martin
Ms. Pam Koban	Ms. Mintha Roach
Mr. David Kustoff	Mr. Keith Wilson

Commission Members Absent:

Dr. Sara Heyburn	Comptroller Justin Wilson
Mayor A C Wharton	

Opening Remarks

Chairman Evan Cope welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance. He then introduced new THEC members, Ms. Siri Kadire, student representative from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Mr. David Kustoff of Germantown, representing the 8th Congressional district and special guest Mr. Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Cope called for a motion to approve the agenda and noted that items IB, IC, and IG have been placed on the consent agenda and have been thoroughly reviewed and will be acted on in one vote and all others will be acted on accordingly. Secretary Tre Hargett made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Jon Kinsey seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Approval of Minutes, April 23, 2015, Meeting

Chairman Cope then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2015, Commission meeting. Mr. Keith Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. David Kustoff seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Cope commented on the productive worksession yesterday. He then called on Dr. Deaton for comments. Dr. Deaton introduced Mr. James Snyder, the new Tennessee Promise Director of TSAC and then recognized Mr. Mike Krause to provide an update on the TN Promise and Drive to 55 programs.

Mr. Krause reviewed the twelve initiatives only Tennessee was doing: SAILS, College Success Course, Tennessee Promise Summer Bridge Program, LEAP, Tennessee College Advisor, TN Promise, Degree Compass, MOOC's, Veteran Initiatives, TN Reconnect, Reconnect and Complete, and the Community College Reconnect Program and provided a brief overview of each and noted the FAFSA completion growth of 40 percent in Tennessee. Mr. Krause then stated that the Promise program expected 12,000 students this year and currently, there are 14,000 participants.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Russ Deaton, Interim Executive Director, was recognized. He began by commenting on the productive worksession yesterday and the senior staff retreat held last month to review future projects and next steps for staff. Dr. Deaton then introduced new staff members: Ms. Kelly Overton of the DPSA division and Mr. Kevin Bradley in the Adult Learner division. He then announced that Dr. Kimberly Martin of the lottery division has accepted another position with Armstrong State University in Georgia. He recognized Ms. Leah Louallen to comment on the McWherter reception. Ms. Louallen announced there would be a reception at the Executive Residence in honor of the McWherter Scholars program, a competitive scholarship program with over 1200 applicants, of which 48 were selected. She stated that applicants selected held a 3.99 GPA and scored an average of 34 on the ACT.

Dr. Deaton then recognized Ms. Jessica Gibson to provide an update on the Adult Learner Initiative. Ms. Gibson stated the Success for Tennessee Reconnect, an adult learner initiative, is attributed to the communities where they came together with community leaders to provide information and access to adult programs. She also noted that a grant from the Lumina Foundation to set up services for eight communities and \$1M in recurring state funds for the initiative. Ms. Gibson stated that by March 2016, three sites will be opening and another five sites anticipated by December 2016.

Recognition of Institutional Excellence

Chairman Cope recognized Dr. Karen Bowyer, President of Dyersburg State Community College, to present this report. Dr. Bowyer commented on the Skill Builder program at Dyersburg State Community College and noted the Academic Success Centers, opened in 2012 to enhance the skills necessary to be successful, and 342 students participated. Since its inception, over 1,900 students have participated in the program. Dr. Bowyer noted that success of the program is due to encouraging students to attend by calling and inviting them, having group sessions, and one-on-one tutoring in specific areas.

Systems' Reports

Tennessee Board of Regents

Mr. John Morgan, Chancellor, Tennessee Board of Regents was recognized. Chancellor Morgan began by announcing that Austin Peay State University has again been named as one of the greatest institutions to work for, for the fourth consecutive year, the only public or private institution in Tennessee to receive this rating. He then announced new institutional presidents: Dr. Tracey Hall, Southwest Tennessee Community College, Dr. Flora

Tydings, Chattanooga State Community College, and Dr. Anthony Kinkel, Motlow State Community College. Chancellor Morgan stated that the TCAT Jacksboro director's position was vacant and interviews were underway to fill that position.

Chancellor Morgan then commented on the Tennessee Reconnect Program and a substantial portion of the 11,000 applicants are interested in the LPN and other Nursing programs, Information Technology, and Business Administration Technology. He stated projections for the Tennessee Promise Program are ahead of initial projections and noted that most first-time full-time freshmen are TN Promise recipients.

Chancellor Morgan then noted in the fall, TBR institutions will scale up strategies and move to co-requisite support instead of pre-requisite learning support to identify areas of concern and address them before allowing students to enroll in credit bearing courses to ensure student success, which is expected to increase to 65 percent as opposed to the normal 12 percent. He stated another initiative to accomplish is to phase out undeclared majors and have all students in an area of focus.

University of Tennessee

Dr. Joe DiPietro, President, University of Tennessee System, was recognized. He began his report by commenting on the UT Board of Trustees meeting, specifically noting the tuition increase of three percent, the lowest increase in thirty years and also noted that this year's appropriations was the second best the UT system has seen in ten years. Dr. DiPietro commented on the budget models being put together and reviewed to correct deficiencies anticipated in the next several years in order to keep tuition low and close the gap in appropriations.

Dr. DiPietro then commented on the new independent foundation created to raise \$200 M per year and stated last year, over \$300 M was raised and \$85M in gifts was received. He then commented on the passing of Dr. Ed Bowling, who served as vice chancellor of UTK for 18 years. Dr. DiPietro also commented on the chancellor search underway for UT Martin and vice president search at the Institute of Public Service. In closing, he reviewed enrollment at each institution, UTK has an increase, Chattanooga was around the same as last year, and Martin is struggling to maintain.

Action Items

Election of Officers

Dr. Deaton was recognized to present the nomination recommendations for the 2015-16 officers. Secretary Hargett made a motion to approve the following recommended slate of officers: Mr. Evan Cope, Chair; Mr. Keith Wilson, vice chair; Mr. David Kustoff, vice chair; and Mayor AC Wharton, secretary. Mr. Kinsey seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Consent Agenda Items

Chairman Cope noted the detailed discussion at the worksession for items I.B, I.C., and I.G, which were placed on the consent agenda and will be approved with one vote. There being

no questions, he then called for a motion to adopt and approve the following consent agenda items:

Approval of New Academic Degree Programs

East Tennessee State University – Pharmacy Studies, BS
East Tennessee State University – Global Sport Leadership, EdD
East Tennessee State University – Post-Doctor of Nursing Practice Graduate
Certificates: Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner,
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Executive Leadership in Nursing
UT Chattanooga – Social Work, MSW
UT Chattanooga -- Interior Design, MID and MSID

Postsecondary Education Authorization

Authorization of New Institutions

Approval of New Programs

2015-16 Proposed Operating Budgets

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. Mr. Alex Martin seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Chairman Cope stated items I.D, I.E. and I.F would be voted on with a single vote, with no objections from Commission members. There being no objections, he recognized Mr. David Wright to present the 2015-2025 Master Plan.

Approval of the 2015-2025 Master Plan for Tennessee Higher Education

Mr. David Wright, Associate Executive Director for Policy and Planning, was recognized to provide the 2015-2025 Master Plan. Mr. Wright reviewed the major accomplishments to date, D55 framework for the work ahead such as adequacy and alignment, focus populations such as adult learners, low income students and academically underprepared students; available tools and strategies including D55 agenda that includes the TN Promise, Reconnect, and LEAP; CCTA addressing articulation and transfer and alignment of financing strategies with policy goals; Outreach which includes P-16, Adult Learners, building capacity in communities and ongoing evaluation for accountability and improvement.

2015-20 Quality Assurance Funding

Ms. Victoria Harpool, Assistant Executive Director for Academic Affairs, was recognized to present the 2015-20 Quality Assurance Funding. Ms. Harpool stated that quality standards for Performance Funding are evaluated every five years to ensure alignment with the public agenda and state high education priorities. She noted that an advisory committee comprised of Commission staff, governing boards and institutional faculty and staff collaborate to revise the standards that are then approved by the Commission.

Ms. Harpool stated the 2015-20 cycle standards reflect current state priorities outlined in the 2015-25 Master Plan and guided by the Drive to 55 and continue to challenge

institutions to promote the highest standards and strive for excellence. She noted the 2015-20 QAF standards reflect the professional judgment of the Advisory Committee, as well as a Scoring Sub-Committee, who worked with THEC staff to develop operational strategies in the evaluation of the standards. Commission staff expresses appreciation to both committees for their contributions to the 2015-20 QAF standards which are student learning and engagement and student access and success, with five defining features which include academic programs, institutional satisfaction study, adult learner success, Tennessee job market graduate placement and student access and success.

2015-20 Outcomes-Based Formula

Chairman Cope then recognized Dr. Deaton to provide the 2015-20 Outcomes-Based Formula. Dr. Deaton summarized the changes in the outcomes-based formula and noted the importance of process where a six month long committee to work through details of the decisions made to build a model. He noted there were several changes from the current model for Community College and University outcomes and weight structure of campus missions to reflect the imperatives of the Drive to 55 and increase the subpopulation premiums and focus population premiums. Secretary Hargett requested the staff bring any further changes to the formula before final approval.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Cope then called for a motion to approve agenda items I.D., I.E. and I.F. Mr. Wilson made a motion to combine items I.D., I.E. and I.F. under a single action item and approve each item for immediate implementation with the authority for staff to adjust and fine-tune the necessary details with the understanding that any substantive changes and final outcomes be brought back before the Commission for review and action as necessary. Mr. Martin seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

University of Tennessee Health Science Center Master Plan Update

Dr. Ken Brown was recognized to introduce Ms. Kris Osterby of Perkins & Will to provide a report on the 2015 UTHSC Campus Master Plan. Ms. Osterby discussed the existing challenges and the new goals and objectives of the Master Plan update to accommodate the anticipated needs of increased student FTE, research facilities and student housing needs. She stated one of the critical concerns was the condition of existing facilities, which range from 50 years old to 100 years old and noted the dilapidated conditions of those facilities which no longer fit the needs of the institution and would be completed in three phases. Chairman Cope called for a motion to approve the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Master Plan Update. Mr. Kinsey made a motion to approve the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Master Plan Update, as presented. Mr. Kustoff seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Information Items

Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Annual Report

Ms. Emily House was recognized to provide a brief overview of the annual TELS report. Ms. House stated this was the state's merit based program and includes four scholarship types: HOPE, Aspire (an income-based scholarship), GAMS (merit-based scholarship), and

Access. She then discussed eligibility and award amounts of each of the scholarships, which differ by institution type and enrollment status and are subject to future changes. Ms. House then noted that most students who receive awards receive the HOPE award and commented on the demographics, race, and family GPI of recipients. She also commented on renewal criteria and noted that around 56 percent renew their scholarship in year two. Ms. House then commented on funds transferred from the Lottery reserve to the Tennessee Promise and noted that funds are disbursed first from TELS prior to Tennessee Promise funds.

Diversity in Teaching Grant Awards, 2015-17

Mr. Herbert Brown was recognized to provide the Diversity in Teaching awards for 2015-2017. He stated that the program is to increase the number of K-12 teachers from underrepresented groups with a commitment to diversity as a tool for instruction. Mr. Brown noted that a total of eight proposals were submitted and the advisory committee recommended four of the eight proposals for funding. The four proposals recommended for funding totaled \$395,884 over a two year period from the following institutions: UT Chattanooga - Each One, Reach One \$99,984; UT Knoxville-Diversity in Teaching Intern Project \$100,000; Freed Hardeman University - Diversity in Teaching Recruiting and Training Initiative \$95,000; and Lee University - STEPS: Systematic Techniques to Equalize Personnel in Schools \$100,000.

Closing Comments

Chairman Cope recognized Mr. Dennis Jones, President, NCHEMS to provide remarks. Mr. Jones commended the staff on the Master Plan, the funding model and the extensive amount of information provided to improve higher education issues. He stated that the community and regional approaches and the way they are addressed are imperative to student success and Tennessee is doing a good job in its approach. He stated the largest remaining uncompleted piece of the Master Plan is the Drive to 55 and the strategy used to afford the aspirations of the initiative and the assurance of quality.

Fall Commission Meeting, November 18-19, 2015

Dr. Deaton stated the next meeting of the Commission will be held November 18-19 in Nashville.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Approved:

Evan Cope, Chair