




Tennessee Board of Regents

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MEMORANDUM

TO: TBR Presidents

FROM: Charles W. Manning 

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Quarterly Presidents Meeting on May 12, 2009

DATE: June 24, 2009

Attached are the minutes from our May 12 quarterly presidents meeting. Should additional information be needed, please let me know.

CWM/pa

Attachment

cc: TBR Senior Staff

Austin Peay State University • East Tennessee State University • Middle Tennessee State University • Tennessee State University
Tennessee Tech University • University of Memphis • Chattanooga State Technical Community College
Cleveland State Community College • Columbia State Community College • Dyersburg State Community College
Jackson State Community College • Motlow State Community College • Pellissippi State Technical Community College
Roane State Community College • Southwest Tennessee Community College • Volunteer State Community College
Walters State Community College • Nashville State Technical Community College • Northeast State Technical Community College
The Tennessee Technology Centers

MINUTES
PRESIDENTS MEETING
Tuesday, May 12, 2009 – 9:00 A.M.

Attendees: President Tim Hall, APSU; President Paul Stanton, ETSU; Dr. Sidney McPhee, MTSU; President Melvin Johnson, TSU; President Robert Bell, TTU; President Shirley Raines, UOM; President Jim Catanzaro, ChSTCC; Dr. Charles Hurley, ClSCC; Dr. Karen Bowyer, DSCC; Dr. Bruce Blanding, JSCC; Dr. MaryLou Apple, MSCC; Dr. Gary Goff, RSCC; Dr. Nate Essex, STCC; Dr. Warren Nichols, VSCC; Dr. Ellen Weed, NSCC; Dr. Allen Edwards, PSTCC

TBR Staff: Chancellor Charles Manning, Tom Danford, Tammy Gourley, David Gregory, Margaret Mason, Mary Morgan, Dale Sims, Paula Short, Wendy Thompson, Heidi Zimmerman, Bob Wallace, Phyllis Anderson and Christopher Lewis, Intern in the Office of the General Counsel.

Chancellor Manning opened the meeting by stating that TBR may need to study what we are doing with the pricing of on-line courses. He indicated he would pull together a group starting first with the university presidents and bring back suggestions to the full presidents group and proceed from there.

Legislative Update

Vice Chancellor David Gregory provided an update on the current legislative session. Mr. Gregory updated the presidents on the current status of TBR's Sunset Bill. In regard to higher education governance, Mr. Gregory told the presidents the Governor has talked with the leadership of both the House and Senate and indicated he is not going to propose anything relative to governance in this session but discussion could continue during the summer. Also, Mr. Gregory alerted the presidents to calls being made to campuses by the National College of Business and Technology regarding accreditation and the transferring of credit.

Update on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Mr. Dale Sims gave an update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Mr. Sims indicated the state has to file an application and the Governor has to file an application and once the Governor signs off on the application, we can expect the funds from the Federal government in 30 to 45 days. Once the state receives the money from the Federal government, the state will immediately release the amount of funds that are required to restore the first piece of the appropriation reversion. The remainder will not be released until after the appropriation bill passes that restores our budget and sets the budget for future years. Mr. Sims indicated his office is working to minimize the required reporting efforts on the recovery act money. Additionally, Mr. Sims reminded the presidents of the competitive grant opportunities that are out there and encouraged the presidents to explore those opportunities.

Banner Upgrade/Modifications and Costs

Mr. Tom Danford led a lengthy discussion regarding Banner update, modifications and costs. Mr. Danford referenced the materials forwarded to the presidents regarding the budgetary breakdown for upgrading to Version 8, bullet points of the functionality of what Banner was going to be and a resolution that the IT sub-council wanted to put before the presidents on the upgraded plan. Mr. Danford indicated the most important part of the plan is that SunGard will de-support the version of Banner we are currently using in September of 2010. One of the major items the IT sub-council wanted the presidents to be aware of is that with the modifications going into the next version, it will be more beneficial for us to do that internally. Mr. Danford indicated that internally, our staff has the skill sets and can do existing operations, business processes and know how the existing modifications

work. Mr. Danford expressed concern about SunGard doing support since most of their help is now off-shore, with their mod development now in India. Also, Ms. Margaret Mason from the IT staff provided details on various modifications we are currently using.

As a summary of the discussion and suggestions by many of the presidents, Chancellor Manning indicated TBR would follow-up by forwarding to the presidents for review the draft RFP put together to evaluate our modifications and would then follow-up with a telephonic meeting of the presidents and their appropriate staff to answer any questions.

Proposed TBR Guideline on Teaching Quality Initiative

Vice Chancellor Paula Myrick Short presented a proposed guideline on the teaching quality initiative which is intended to set forth program expectations for teacher education preparation. The proposed guideline was developed with the help of the university deans. Vice Chancellor Short did indicate the teacher redesign program is getting ready to connect in the community colleges and the team will be working to bring in the community college chief academic officers and representatives for their collaboration on the teacher quality initiative. Also, Vice Chancellor Short informed the presidents that the TBR teacher education redesign program has been recognized by NCATE and will be one of six programs in the country recognized at a press conference later in June.

This proposed guideline was unanimously approved by all three academic sub-councils prior to bringing before the presidents for their approval. Implementation of the proposed guideline is over a four year period. The proposed guideline was approved by the presidents as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 3:04:01:00—Student Scholarships, Grants, Loans and Financial Aid Programs

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented revisions to TBR Policy 3:04:01:00 which changes any reference on desegregation to diversity. Ms. Thompson referenced the section that requires consultation with legal counsel if you are going to offer scholarships based on protective classes. A recommendation was made to spell out access and diversity in the sections of the policy where abbreviated. Revisions to the policy were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 2:02:10:01—Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented a revision to TBR Policy 2:02:10:01. The revision moves the section on “sexual harassment” from the last paragraph to Section B. The revision also changed the name of the Policy to “Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment” to more accurately reflect the types of actions included in the policy. Revisions to policy were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 5:01:00:00 - General Personnel - and Proposed Revision to Guideline P-010 – Personnel Transactions and Recommended Forms

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson discussed proposed revisions to TBR Policy 5:01:00:00 and Guideline P-010. The proposed revision for the Policy and Guideline was to change the reportable salary level for appointments, promotions and/or transfers from \$75,000. Staff recommended the reportable salary for universities be changed from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and from \$75,000 to \$80,000 for community colleges. A motion was made to amend the recommendation and make the reportable salary level \$100,000 for both universities and community colleges. Amendment was approved. Both policy and guideline would be effective July 1, assuming the Board approves the policy at their June 2009 meeting. Changes to policy and guideline were approved.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 5:01:02:00 – EEO, Affirmative Action, Discrimination and Nepotism

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented revisions to TBR Policy 5:01:02:00 for the purpose of removing the language referencing diversity and nepotism. Since the section on nepotism was being removed, staff also recommended changing the name of the policy to Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action. Revisions to policy were approved.

Proposed Policy 5:01:00:06 – Nepotism

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented the proposed policy 5:01:00:06 on nepotism. Since nepotism language was being separated from Policy 5:01:02:00, the new policy was recommended. The proposed policy was approved.

Proposed Revision to Guideline P-090 – Nepotism

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented a proposed revision to Guideline P-090. The only revision to the guideline is the reference to TBR Policy 5:01:02:00 that has been changed to reflect the proposed policy on nepotism. Policy revision was approved as presented.

Proposed Policy 1:09:00:00 – Diversity

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson recommended a proposed policy on diversity. This general policy would contain the language previously included in the policy on equal opportunity and affirmative action. The policy will also include the practices currently in place concerning campus diversity plans. The proposed policy was approved.

Proposed Revision to Guideline P-130 Educational Assistance for TBR System Employees

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson recommended changes to Guideline P-130 adding language to reflect the fact that campuses may have to administer educational and professional development programs pursuant to their campus diversity plans. Revisions to the guideline were approved.

Proposed Revision to Guideline G-120 – Method of Administration for Compliance with Office of Civil Rights Guidelines, Title VI, Title IX and Section 504

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented and recommended a revision to Guideline G-120 which would update the guideline and outline periods of review. The guideline would also reflect that the Office of Access and Diversity would have oversight of the responsibilities outlined instead of the Office of the Tennessee Technology Centers. Revisions to the guideline were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to Guideline P-043 – Compensation

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson presented the change to Guideline P-043 – Compensation which would reflect the change of the reportable salary of \$100,000 for appointments, promotions, and/or transfers at universities and community colleges. Guideline revisions were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 4:01:05:60 – Identity Theft Prevention

Mr. Dale Sims presented revisions to TBR Policy 4:01:05:60 on red flags. Current language requires that service providers have policies and procedures in place and that they review the institution's program and report any red flags to the program administrator. The suggested revision clarifies that the service provider either require, by contract, that service providers have such policies and procedures in place or require, by contract, that service providers review the institution's program and report any red flags to the program administrator. Revisions to the policy were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Policy 4:02:10:00 - Purchasing Policies and Procedures

Mr. Dale Sims presented revisions to Policy 4:02:10:00 which are based on an Executive Order issued last year by the Governor requiring all state agencies to use energy star standards when purchasing equipment. As a result, a new section is being added regarding energy efficiency standards that are used by the Federal government in contracting for major energy-consuming products. Revisions to the policy were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Guideline B-060 – Fees, Charges, Refunds and Fee Adjustments

Mr. Dale Sims presented proposed revisions to TBR Guideline B-060. The revisions address the tuition cap adjustment but they also change the refund date for academic terms that have a Saturday starting date. Suggested language would be added that states that the 100% refund period will extend through the weekend until 12:00 a.m. on the Monday following the Saturday starting date. Revisions to the guideline were approved as presented.

Proposed Revision to TBR Guideline G-080 – Memberships and Subscriptions

Mary Morgan presented proposed revisions to Guideline G-080 which was being revised so that an institution may subscribe to newspapers within or outside of its service area. The section on the approval of a newspaper clipping service was revised so that approval may be made by the president or his or her designee(s) instead of TBR. Revisions to the guideline were approved as presented.

Voluntary Buyout Plans

Mr. Dale Sims provided an update on the Voluntary Buyout Plans approved in the TBR System. Mr. Sims will share a summary of the percentages system-wide once compiled.

Insurance Update

Mr. Dale Sims indicated the State Group Insurance Plan will implement a \$50 per month surcharge for those members who use tobacco, beginning January 1, 2010. A request was made by President Goff that clarification be made that the \$50 is the employee's responsibility and not the employer's responsibility. Mr. Sims will follow-up.

Foundations

Mr. Dale Sims led a discussion regarding foundations and indicated the TBR Central Office would be working toward convening a work group later in the year to take another look at the Board policy on foundations in light of developments since the policy was re-visited. President Raines expressed support of such a group and suggested that when the group is formed we should consider having a great number of development officers on the task force. Mr. Sims indicated he will keep presidents updated as we proceed.

Summary of State Audit Findings

Ms. Tammy Gourley provided in the mail-out a summary from the last audit committee meeting. She indicated there is also a report available of the actual findings and weaknesses and she can forward to the presidents if interested. A request was made by the presidents that Ms. Gourley also look into reporting corrective action as a part of the audit reports. Ms. Gourley asked that campuses make her aware when corrective action is taken.

Additionally, Ms. Gourley made the presidents aware that audits on presidential expenditures will be starting soon in order to complete by the August 26 deadline.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15.