

# **MINUTES**

## **TBR PRESIDENTS MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015 – 9:00 am (CT)**

The TBR Presidents met on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 9:00 am (CT) at the TBR System Office. The following were in attendance:

President Alisa White, APSU; President Brian Noland, ETSU; President Phil Oldham, TTU; President Glenda Glover, TSU; President David Rudd, UOM; Interim President Fannie Hewlett, ChSCC; President Karen Bowyer, DSCC; President Bruce Blanding, JSCC; President Mary Lou Apple, MSCC; President Janice Gilliam NeSCC; President Anthony Wise, PSCC; President Chris Whaley, RSCC; President Nate Essex, STCC; President Jerry Faulkner, VSCC; President Wade McCamey, WSCC.

Dr. Brad Bartel attended on behalf of Dr. Sidney McPhee, MTSU; Dr. Denise King attended on behalf of Dr. William Seymour, CISCC; Ms. Mary Cross attended on behalf of Dr. George Van Allen, NSCC; and Mr. Danny Gibbs attended on behalf of Dr. Chris Whaley, RSCC.

The following Tennessee Board of Regents staff were in attendance:

Chancellor John Morgan; Vice Chancellor Dale Sims; Vice Chancellor David Gregory; Vice Chancellor Warren Nichols; Vice Chancellor Tristan Denley; Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson; Associate Vice Chancellor Patrick Wilson; Tom Danford; Monica Greppin-Watts; Mary Moody; Tammy Gourley Birchett; Pat Massey and Jona Coppola.

Chancellor Morgan made brief opening remarks and provided an update on the three presidential searches at Southwest Tennessee Community College, Motlow State Community College and Chattanooga State Community College. He acknowledged and thanked Dr. Hewlett for stepping in to serve as interim President at Chattanooga State for the last few months and acknowledged and thanked Dr. Apple and Dr. Essex for their years of service and dedication to their institutions and the many students whose lives they have touched through the years.

Chancellor Morgan also mentioned the email sent to presidents requesting information regarding their relationship with employers and how they are best meeting the needs of businesses in their area. The information will be gathered and compiled to be part of the discussion at the Board meeting in June.

Vice Chancellor Sims gave an update on the work of the Formula Review Committee that has been meeting monthly since January with plans to wrap up by the end of June. He called on Vice Chancellor Tristan Denley, President David Rudd and Vice Chancellor Warren Nichols for highlights from the meetings. Dr. Denley reported there have been a wide range of issues

discussed with some potential changes. One area of interest involves universities moving from a 24, 48, 72 progression metrics to 30, 60, 90. Another area involves the change in outcomes as a result of SAILS since fewer students need learning support, and an ongoing conversation regarding the pros and cons of the allocation of money as one unified system. Dr. Rudd highlighted discussions of uniformity of university transfer issues and a debate on the different types and identification of the sub populations. Dr. Nichols highlighted discussions regarding counting all certificates and awards produced.

Vice Chancellor Sims presented a system compensation strategy proposal and asked that each institution provide a summary of the planned implementation of any proposed compensation plan adjustments and/or cost of living adjustments and/or faculty promotions to April Preston by August 14, 2015.

#### **TBR Policy 4:07:00:00 – Business Meals**

Vice Chancellor Sims advised that the recommended revisions are for the purpose of properly clarifying documented business meals must have a clear business purpose and setting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended revisions as presented.

#### **TBR Policy 4:02:20:00 – Disposal of Surplus Personal Property**

Vice Chancellor Sims advised that the recommended revisions clarify exceptions to the policy which are consistent with state law may be granted by the Chancellor or his or her designee and that the Chancellor or his or her designee may not approve a method of disposal which is not specified in Sections I.A. or II.C. of the policy. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended revisions as presented.

#### **TBR Guideline B-110 – Fixed Assets and Sensitive Minor Equipment**

Vice Chancellor Sims advised that the recommended will extend the useful life of buildings from 40 years to 60 years. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended revisions as presented.

#### **Proposed New TBR Guideline B-030 – Assignment of Motor Vehicles Pursuant to the TBR Motor Vehicle Policy**

Vice Chancellor Sims advised that Section II of the TBR Policy 4:03:02:00 provides for the assignment of an institutional motor vehicle to certain persons for their official use. Positions included within this policy are the Presidents of institutions, TCAT Directors, the Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, and Legal Counsel. The purpose of this guideline is to provide structure to the assignment of vehicles under this policy. A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended revisions as presented.

Vice Chancellor Sims addressed a concern some of the institutions have regarding the Pearson learning support software agreement. In 2012, a process was developed and there was a consensus that Pearson was the best system to enter into an agreement with for learning support software and the institutions were allowed to charge a course fee for the product. This procedure is still available; however, in March, when reviewing proposals for instructional materials, there was discussion regarding students being able to purchase materials at bookstores without a fee or to be able to get text for less and whether or not this process interfered with the Pearson contact or not.

The Presidents then participated in a conference call with Mr. Robert Moran, Deputy Education Policy Director with Senator Lamar Alexander's office to discuss issues and concerns related to the Reauthorization of Higher Education Act which has been designed to improve and enhance academic quality and student success at colleges and universities.

Following the conference call, Chancellor Morgan moved to the next item on the agenda regarding dual enrollment courses offered by community colleges and universities. Following an in depth discussion, Chancellor Morgan asked the Presidents to begin thinking about dual enrollment courses and the best ways to work collaboratively to reach more students and serve more areas.

### **TBR Policy 3:04:01:00 – Student Scholarships, Grants, Loans and Financial Aid Programs**

Vice Chancellor Tristan Denley advised that the revisions to the policy allow for greater flexibility for campuses to determine the type of service that a student may engage in for the scholarship. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed revisions.

Vice Chancellor Denley then provided an update on the work of the Accessibility Task Force regarding the system approach to making instructional materials more accessible and an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan Indicator Review Committee which includes representation from every university and community college. Dr. Denley provided information regarding the Committee's progress in developing success metrics for the strategic plan, methodology for reporting those metrics and goals for each metric. In addition, he provided updates on current Academic Affairs initiatives including co-requisite data, high impact practices, NASH Taking Student Success to Scale, trajectory analytics, convenings and Microsoft IT Academy.

At the request of the Faculty Sub-council, Vice Chancellor Denley presented Jackson State Community College's Position Statement on Tenure adopted on March 25, 2015 and a statement on Tenure from the American Association of University Professors.

Associate Vice Chancellor Patrick Wilson unveiled the new brand identity for TBR online education. The new brand identity replaces the current RODP/ROCC branding and provides opportunities for institutional co-branding. Under the new brand identity, all TBR online programs and an extensive library of courses will be featured and marketed via a

comprehensive website portal with robust search capabilities. This approach will make it dramatically easier for prospective and existing students to find and explore their online education options. The website portal aims to contribute to improved access, retention and completion.

Vice Chancellor Wendy Thompson gave a brief update on access and diversity funds and advised that the funds were allocated around 2006 and since that time, the allocation methodology has not been reviewed, and we now want to take the opportunity to gauge the effectiveness of the funds and provide additional guidance to the campuses. The first stage of review will look at the student finance assistance portion of the funds and advised that the auditors on the campuses have been asked to help with that. Ms. Tammy Gourley Birchett advised that the audit will take only a couple of weeks to complete and the auditors on campus will notify the presidents when the process begins and that results will be provided once complete.

Vice Chancellor David Gregory updated on the Governor's desire to bring efficient measures into state government and specifically Empower Tennessee which relates to energy savings.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm (CT).