

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Friday Evening, August 8

6:00 PM: Dinner (Shelbridge, the home of ETSU President and First Lady Brian and Donna Noland)

6:00-6:30 Meet and Greet

6:30-7:30 Dinner

7:30-8:15 Comments/Reflections from Dr. Noland

ETSU attendees will be available in the Carnegie Lobby to guide you to Shelbridge

Saturday Morning, August 9

8:30 AM: Light Breakfast provided, meeting sessions held on the main campus in the Humphrey Academic Center, ETSU Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, 2nd Floor of MSHA Athletics Center (Mini Dome)

9:00 AM: Welcome, approval of the Agenda and August 2013 Meeting Minutes

9:15 AM: Reports of the Senates

10:30 AM: Break

10:45 AM: Guest Speaker Dr. Houston Davis, Vice Chancellor Georgia University System

Dr. Davis has experience with Georgia's programs that are similar to Tennessee's Drive to 55, Complete College Tennessee, etc.

Noon: Lunch (on your own, ETSU attendees will suggest and direct to nearby local restaurants [Mediterranean Garden-Turkish, Firehouse Barbeque, etc.]

Saturday Afternoon, August 9

1:30 PM: Reports of the Senates, Continued

2:30 PM: Discussion of Emerging Issues (guns, academic freedom, health care, TUAPA, contingent faculty, training/retreats for chairs and deans, etc)

3:30 PM: Break

3:45 PM: Where TUFS goes from here. How can we improve communications so we can act as a body in a more timely way? How can we address the stereotype of faculty and higher education with legislators? What one or two goals should TUFS leadership concentrate on for 2014-2015? Are campus faculty aware enough of TUFS achievements and potential to "buy in" to our goals? Is it time for TUFS to have a small budget contributed by member Senates so it can be more effective, or is there still a learning curve on some campuses regarding the benefits of TUFS? Perhaps TUFS best function at the present time is just a coming together and sharing of ideas?

5:15 PM: President Elect Caucus (UT Members)

5:30 PM: Break for Dinner, Tour of ETSU campus if interested.

Saturday Evening, August 9 (Optional)

6:45 PM: Informal Discussion **Jack's City Grill** (<http://www.jackscitygrill.com/menu/>) located at 1805 North Roan Street #A1---North Johnson City.

Sunday Morning, August 10

9:00 AM: Selection of Dates and Location for Spring 2015 Meeting

9:15 AM: Election of Officers

9:30 AM: Wrap Up of Remaining Business

Noon (or earlier): Adjournment

Directions from the Carnegie to the Culp University Center

The Carnegie is directly across State of Franklin Road from the ETSU Main Campus. From the Carnegie parking garage, turn left on Millennium Place at the roundabout go right. Cross State of Franklin Road and enter the ETSU Campus on Gilbreath Drive. Continue straight on Gilbreath Drive through the 4 way stop, and turn left onto Stout Drive at the next 4 way stop just past Dossett Hall on your left. Turn left into the parking lot in front of the D.P. Culp University Center and parking should be plentiful, no parking permit is required on the weekends. Our meeting will be in the East Tennessee Room, 3rd Floor of the Culp Center.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Weekend Guest Internet Wifi access:

Username: ETSUGuest1

Password: TUFS@ETSU

TUFS Agenda
 Fall 2014 Meeting
 August 8-10, 2014
 Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Tennessee University Faculty Senates Fall 2014 Meeting Attendees

University	Voting Member	Also Attending
Austin Peay	Mercy Cannon	Tim Leszczek
East Tennessee State	Randy Byington	Virginia Foley, Tom Schacht, Susan Epps, David Champouillon, Paul Trogen
Middle Tennessee State	Bill Canak	Tricia Farwell
Tennessee State	Artenzia Young-Seigler	
Tennessee Tech	Holly Stretz	
University of Memphis	Maria Elaea Delavega	Tom Banning?
University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences	Martin Donaldson	
University of Tennessee-Chattanooga	Lyn Miles	
University of Tennessee-Knoxville	Jo Anne Hall	
University of Tennessee-Martin	Brian Donavant	

Officers-President, Lyn Miles, UTC
 President Elect, Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Tech (unable to attend)
 Immediate Past President, Tom Schacht, ETSU
 Secretary, Tom Banning, UofM

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Reports of the Senates

Austin Peay State University Faculty Senate Summary Report (Submitted by Mercy Cannon, Faculty Senate President)

Administration Changes

- Dr. Alisa White, former provost at University of Texas, Tyler, began her presidency on June 30, 2014.
- Tim Hall, our former president, became president of Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, NY in June.
- Our Interim VP for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, Brian Johnson, became president of Tuskegee University this summer.
- We will be conducting a national search for the Provost position this year.

SACS

- We passed our SACS review with several minor points to address, most of which were TBR issues rather than campus issues. We revised our QEP outcomes.

Compensation

- We are entering our 4th year in the current compensation plan, and have begun to formulate the new plan, which will go into effect 2016. This process will involve faculty and staff at all levels.

Discussions

- We invited Rep. Joe Pitts to talk with Senate executive committee members about the TN Promise and its impact on state universities. We have also had productive email exchanges with other TUFS members (Randy Boyd) about ways to address TN Promise.
- Russ Deaton, Associate Executive Director for Finance and Administration at THEC, presented information about the performance-based funding formula to Faculty Senate.

Campus Improvements

- In 2013-14, we opened a new building, the Maynard Math and Science Building. We also opened three new dorms (300 beds).
- Our renovated football stadium will open soon. Our nationally-recognized sinkhole has been filled in.

News

- APSU listed among the “great colleges to work for” in the Chronicle of Higher Education for the third year in a row, receiving Honor Roll distinction. Shared governance seems to be a significant part of the areas of satisfaction.
- The Eriksson family donated APSU’s largest gift. They are giving APSU’s College of Education (which has been renamed the Martha Dickerson Eriksson College of Education) \$1 million a year for the next three years, then \$330,000 a year until the estate gift of \$10 million. Focus on STEM teachers.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

East Tennessee State University Faculty Senate Summary Report

(Submitted by Randy Byington, Faculty Senate President, President Elect Virginia Foley, Past President Tom Schacht, Vice President Susan Epps, President Emeritus David Champouillon, President Emeritus Paul Trogen)

1. The Senate along with our TBR Faculty Sub-Council Representative, Dr. Jim Bitter, spearheaded an effort that resulted in a change to TBR policy to extend the protection provided by academic freedom in teaching and research, to the realm of service in shared governance.
2. A complete rewrite and expansion of disciplinary guidelines, including right of information, ability to respond in a timely fashion, and progressive discipline has been sent to the Provost and a working committee of Academic Council will refine the policy. When implemented, it is hoped that this will stop anyone from being placed in a position of “resign or be fired,” again.
3. The Senate has advocated for changes to the TBR policy regarding current limitations on adjunct pay and on a career path for instructors. A career path for instructors was approved this summer.
4. We are near a final draft of a faculty code of ethics for the University. UT faculty learned to their surprise last year that a code of ethics had been imposed upon them. We wish to help avoid that happening here.
5. We have facilitated changes to the faculty handbook related to the search process for Department Chairs. Now, those who know the needs best, the faculty of the department doing the search, represent a majority of the individuals on the committee.
6. A 6 year effort has culminated in the implementation of a systematic quality of work life survey at ETSU (Great Colleges to Work For). Substantive changes to work life issues should be made based upon data and GCWF will provide ETSU with data as well as comparative/peer data.
7. The Senate endorsed a faculty initiated resolution for partners’ benefits and in partnership with ETSU Senior Administrators, advocated for its adoption at the TBR level.
8. The Senate worked to extend the eligibility criteria for internal grants to include lecturers.
9. The Senate has worked closely with Academic Affairs staff as ETSU moved from a paper-base SAI system to an automated system.
10. We are implementing changes to improve the annual Fall Faculty Convocation, some changes this year and others scheduled for implementation the following year.
11. We have streamlined our Standing Committee structure (established in the 1970s) and now have limited standing committees but more ad hoc committees that are formed to address current and emerging issues.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Middle Tennessee State University Faculty Senate Summary Report
(Submitted by William Canak-Faculty Senate President)

September

A proposal to declare 2014 as MTSU's Year of the Veteran was discussed and rejected.

An ad hoc committee was established to examine standing committees to determine their current status, viability, functioning and to make recommendations for changes. The report is due at the end of the academic year.

October

Campus technical support staff presented a workshop on the Argos dashboard launched/training for data analysis

Discussion about reporting midterm grades. Changes were made to the reporting system consistent with concerns that students get timely feedback on their progress in courses.

United Campus Workers solicited support for their proposal to have a marketing table at the annual fall organization and benefits fair. The Senate did not take a position on this request and sent it to President McPhee for consideration.

November

Discussion of a campus attendance policy for classes and related reporting expectations

December

Povost initiative to review promotion and tenure standards and policies at MTSU discussed.
MTSU partnership with USA Funds and Rezolve group to develop predictive models for student retention and graduation discussed; MTSU institutional research initiatives on this subject noted.

February

The Quest for Student Success leadership team (Vincent Windrow, Mike Boyle and Roy Moore) presented a workshop on this university wide initiative to invest resources aimed at improving retention and graduation rates.

Discussion regarding whether or not the university will be evaluated on students being placed in jobs in their field.

Senators discussed a proposed spring semester meeting with local legislators

Information gathered regarding classroom attendance policies to be used for a possible university-wide attendance policy

Faculty expectations document draft submitted and is being revised

March

Discussion regarding Non-Instructional Assignments and possible revisions to the policy as currently applied.

Discussion of the provost's initiative to clearly define faculty expectation, including expectations for on-campus office hours

Campus initiative to address highly variable rates of DFW in GE courses discussed as part of a campus-wide project to improve course content and student engagement and retention.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

April

-Quality Enhancement Plan process reviewed with staff assigned to lead MTSU's preparations for SACs review.

-President McPhee leads a series of four Town Hall meetings regarding the Quest for Student Success initiative and changes to the advising program aimed at improving student retention and graduation rates.

May

Discussion of factors that may influence enrollment, including zero tuition for Tennessee community colleges and technical centers.

MTSU faculty senate rejects sponsoring a fall tailgate event at one of the football games.

A planned meeting with legislators was cancelled, and may be rescheduled in November

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

Tennessee Technological University Faculty Senate Summary Report

(Submitted by Brian O'Connor-Faculty Senate Immediate Past President, Holly Stretz voting representative)

The Faculty Senate met twelve times during the 2013-14 academic year, six in business session and six with President Philip Oldham. Many of the meetings were not brief; in fact, some rivaled in length the Porky Pig version of Hamlet. We discussed many topics, and heard from many guests.

These presentations included the following: the new Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, Western Governors University, library acquisitions and space reallocation, a proposed Honors College, the new-improved College of Interdisciplinary Studies, TTU's 2016 Quality Enhancement Program, plans for landscaping on campus, including tree removal and replanting, and the role of the Faculty Handbook; that it is not a contract, but a best attempt at a compilation of relevant policies and procedures that govern our being at TTU.

We heard from President Oldham about plans for building renovation and construction, including the 30 year master plan for the campus, plus doings in the State Legislature and TBR, and where the money is coming from for all the projects on campus. We were told that for the most part it was due to increased enrollment.

The Senate was asked for its opinion on how future Evaluations of Administrators should be conducted and invited to provide suggestions to a committee dealing with revising our admission policies. In addition, four Senators volunteered to be on an ad hoc committee looking at the tenure and promotion policies. The Senate made a few requests during the year. One request is that the Office of Disability Services expand their hours to accommodate exams given during the noon hour or evenings. The President said that he will look into the matter. Another request dealt with shuffling class days in order to make the new, less-improved TBR Common Calendar work as well as possible.

In action items, the Senate noted that the Budget Committee, to which two Senators had been regularly elected, had not met in years, and requested that the committee be reactivated. Two Senators were selected for that purpose. At its February 24 meeting, the Senate passed, without opposition, the following motion: "We [the members of the Faculty Senate] support tenure for current and future library faculty." Provost Bahman Ghorashi had expressed his view that library faculty should not be hired on tenure-track, but said after the vote that he would respect the Senate's wishes.

Much of the rest of the time was spent in asking questions about various important initiatives that were taking place with very little knowledge by the faculty. They included the status of lecturer and instructor positions, the new Fitness Center, proposals for rewarding merit apart from the current faculty salary equity model, the cost of hiring new administrators, sometimes without searches, inclement weather policy, regulations on e-cigarettes, year-long scheduling, and the new budget model with possible impoundments, as proposed by the Provost. The Centennial Plaza between the University Center and Derryberry Hall is scheduled for construction beginning this summer, even though the committee that met twice to discuss plans had reached absolutely no consensus on its features. Many tree cuttings and plantings have already been done on campus with virtually no advance notice to the campus at large.

This year for the Faculty Senate was extremely busy, but it was also at times difficult and frustrating. The Senate struggled constantly with trying to get information in a timely fashion, but often it came after the fact, just before the fact, or too late to provide meaningful input. We had to frequently search for and find news in the Oracle, on Facebook, on blogs, or by word of mouth, hoping that someone who happened to be on a committee charged with a certain task would convey information to the Senate. The Faculty Senate at Tennessee Tech has had a proud tradition of cooperation, wanting what is best for the University and working toward that goal. We were told this year that in order to stay competitive, we have to change and

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

we can't spend a lot of time talking about things; we need to act quickly. In response the Faculty Senate stated that it can and should be a partner in these endeavors.

As for the future, one important topic the Senate will address is the Faculty Handbook: what it is, how to change it, and how to make sure policies are correct, current, consistent, and able to be found.

Next year's Senate President will be Corinne Darvennes from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and next year's Secretary will be Sharon Holderman from the library. They follow Brian O'Connor, who has been the President for the last two years and Regina Lee, who has been a faithful Secretary for the past several years.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

(Submitted by Deborah McAllister, Immediate Past President, Lyn Miles voting representative)

The continued academic focus is on the Complete College Tennessee Act (CCTA). A task force was selected, with much faculty involvement. Four subcommittees focused attention on the following areas: (a) strategic enrollment planning; (b) retention, progression, and degree completion; (c) student life and support services; and (d) the built environment/infrastructure for living and learning. The subcommittees reported their work to the Provost, and a single report was written. Feedback on top priorities was sought. A list of top priorities has, not yet, been reported. These include both no-cost items and items that require funding. Plans for a new, traditional-style dormitory are being discussed.

A team represented UTC at the UT Advising Summit, in Nashville, in September. Deborah McAllister, Vicki Steinberg, and Kay Cowan participated, as Faculty Senate/UT University Faculty Council members. Since the summit, Deborah was asked to join the UTC Advisors Council [as, then, Faculty Senate President].

Susan Davidson, Professor in the School of Nursing, was elected as Faculty Senate President, for 2014-2016.

Health and family leave policies, for 9-month faculty, remain under discussion.

Academic calendar changes have been made, beginning with Spring 2015, to better schedule exams and the grade submission date.

Planning is underway for department moves. Two state office buildings, as well as other properties, have been acquired. Renovations and reconfigurations are needed in those, as well as other, buildings.

A new, faculty forum listserv was created to facilitate academic discussion.

The Faculty Senate and its committees are involved in new and ongoing projects:

- Faculty Handbook - Changes for Chapter 2 (Faculty Organization and Governance) are awaiting approval, at the UT System level. Much of the content of Chapter 2 has been placed into a bylaws document that can be modified with campus-only approval.
- Student Rating of Faculty Instruction Committee – A framework for release of faculty course evaluations was approved by the Faculty Senate. The release will include quantitative items, only, and will be available to students, faculty, and staff through a secure portal. The Student Government Association will be responsible for the cost, and will work with the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Institutional Research for release of the data. No percentage threshold of student participation was placed on the release. (This has not been completed.)
- General Education – The new General Education curriculum has been implemented for Fall 2014 freshmen. The General Education Committee certified and recertified courses, throughout the last academic year.
- Curriculum Committee - Approximately 50 curriculum proposals were approved, at the January 16 Faculty Senate meeting.
- Budget and Economic Status - Faculty and staff compensation plans, including compensation for adjuncts, continues to be an important issue.
- Faculty Senate approved a motion from the Academic Standards Committee: Faculty Senate directs to the Honor Court that the removal of eligibility for Latin Honors be an available sanction for Honor code violations. This change will be published in the appropriate areas. This has been sent to Honor Court, legal, and the Dean of Students.
- The Faculty Development Grant Committee has piloted a new mechanism for accepting, reviewing, and tracking proposals, and this will be extended to include the Faculty Research Grant Committee's proposals.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

- The TEDx Committee (ad hoc), in conjunction with the associated student organization, is planning for a TEDx event, in Chattanooga, in October 2014.
- Invited updates were provided on the following topics: (a) capital projects, (b) Coursera, (c) intramurals and campus recreation, and (d) instructional technology and Qualtrics.

Campus headlines and events: <http://www.utc.edu/>.

Faculty Senate: <http://www.utc.edu/faculty-senate/>.

Academic Affairs: <http://www.utc.edu/academic-affairs/>.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

(Submitted by JoAnne Hall, Faculty Senate President)

The UTK Faculty Senate is/has been engaged in the following ongoing and new activities in the past year:

- The Faculty Affairs Committee held two open forums to discuss the Senate's plan for a resolution on academic freedom. In April, the Senate passed a resolution on Academic Freedom and Shared Governance.
- The Senate passed a resolution that seeks to extend benefits provided by the Family Leave Policy to tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty and to domestic partners.
- D. Golden sent several messages to the UTK faculty urging them to contact their legislators to urge them to oppose legislation that would prevent use of UT funds to support outside speakers. As a result, UT advocacy reported that more than 4000 letters were submitted through their portal alone.
- The Senate passed a resolution urging that urges that tuition assistance should be granted to domestic partners of employees regardless of gender and to children of domestic partners.
- The Senate passed a resolution that calls upon the university's President and the Board of Trustees (1) to defend these core values and the university's educational mission and (2) to ensure that any body established to reform the current student activity fee system includes significant faculty and student representation to ensure that any reforms made to the student activity fee system are consistent with these core values.
- D. Golden was appointed to a committee to address the TN Senate's joint resolution that calls for the UT Board of Trustees to oversee the allocation of Student Activities Fees. The committee prepared a recommendation that was approved by the Chancellor and forwarded to President DiPietro. The President's Office has submitted a plan for Student Activities Fee allocation to the BOT for presentation at the June meeting.
- The Senate approved the Executive Council's appointments for Secretary and Information Officer. In addition, the Senate elected a new President-elect (Bruce MacLennan) and Representative to the University Faculty Council (Candace White).
- D. Golden submitted a proposal to Chancellor Cheek to provide compensation to the Senate President and the President's home department/college. The Chancellor agreed to a stipend for the President and a proposal from the home department/college for funds to offset release time for the President. This has been implemented.
- Much effort by David Golden, the Senate Executive Council, the Faculty Senate and the Administration was spent throughout the year regarding State Senate proposed bills, in discussing issues surrounding Sex Week, and pertinent issues of academic freedom, free speech, and students' prerogatives, for which the Faculty Senate is grateful.

TUFS Agenda
Fall 2014 Meeting
August 8-10, 2014
Hosted by East Tennessee State University

University of Tennessee-Martin
(Submitted by Brian Donavant, Faculty Senate President)
Report in following pdf document

Remaining Senates to Report at the meeting.