

Staff Advisory Committee to the President
May 8, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

Members Present: Joy Cook, Brooke Dedmon, Kevin Edwards, Susan Henry, Patrena Hicks, Kaye Loftis (presiding), Randal McCloud, Cheryl Sullivan and Denette Way

Others Present: John Brooks, President Oldham and Terri Taylor

President's Comments

President Oldham opened the meeting stating that progress is on-going on campus. The Provost recently sent an update of Academic Affairs initiatives by capturing all that has occurred over the year and also initiatives in progress. The list was 30 plus items long. Progress is being made to connect the students, University and community. Change creates stress, but the administration is optimistic of progression of the right things at the right time.

Relative to budget, governing boards are finalizing tuition adjustments for the upcoming fiscal year. The current structure was developed when 70% of budgets were provided by the state, but now, only 28% of budgets are received from the state. This creates a competition for state schools to compete like private institutions. The Governor's "Tennessee Promise" of providing free tuition and fees to graduating high school seniors to community colleges and TCAT schools for two years was approved. This is not expected to impact TTU as we are a first choice institution with our freshman; TTU's competitor is UT-K. The Hope Scholarship reduction for years one and two will be \$500, but TTU is implementing changes to the scholarship program to become more aggressive to provide funds for the biggest return.

Building projects are underway with the biggest challenge being scheduling. Parking near the baseball field is being constructed, and a shuttle service will be provided for transport to major campus stops. The ROTC Program will be moved to the current University Police Building with the police unit moving to Foundation Hall. This location should provide a good space visible to the student body for the ROTC Program.

Election of Chairman

Chairman Loftis opened the floor for nomination of a chairman for the upcoming fiscal year. Ms. Sullivan nominated Kevin Edwards. The motion was seconded by Ms. Henry. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Edwards was elected by acclamation.

Other Such Matters

Associate Vice President for Human Resources John Brooks announced a number of upcoming changes being implemented by Human Resources. On-line leave reports, personnel action forms

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and performance reviews are to be moved to on-line within the coming months with training to be provided. A Benefits Fair will be held at a later date to provide employees with resources. Also, on-line orientation is being planned for reviews and to be a source for automatic information. The sick leave bank structure is also currently under review for updating as well as worker's comp for streamlining.

There being no further business, Chairman Loftis adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Terri Taylor, Recorder