

**Staff Advisory Committee  
September 18, 2017**

**Members Present:** Sherri Allen, Anna DeBord, Barbara Fenlon, Patrena Hicks, Jerry Keeton (Chair), Randal McCloud, Toni Nelson, Alan Robbins, Sharon Stevenson, Emily Vaughn

**Others Present:** Thomas Heard, Liz Kassera, Logan McCormick, President Phil Oldham, Terri Taylor

Chairman Keeton called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. in the Tech Pride room of the Roaden University Center. He extending a welcome to all in attendance and asked the 2017 SAC members present to introduce themselves. Upon conclusion of the introductions, Chairman Keeton advised the first order of business was to present the non-faculty grievance pool for approval. Liz Kassera motioned to approve and Toni Nelson seconded. The motion was APPROVED. Chairman Keeton then introduced President Oldham to address those in attendance.

**Presentation of Service Pins**

President Oldham requested to award service pins first before providing his comments. Those receiving service-pins represented a combined 585 years of service to the university. Recipients were as follows:

<b>5 Years</b>	<b>10 Years</b>	<b>15 Years</b>
Clifford Goodwin	Amy Foster	Marie Tucker
Pamela Malone	Debbie Gunnels	Terri Stidham
Misty Simpson	Precious Edmonds	Bryan Stansberry
Mark Davis	Becky Asher	Stephanie Hargis
Dawn Taylor	Marilyn Borch-Jensen	James Baker
Barbara Fenlon	Lorie Worley	
Kacie Scruggs	Debbie Mayberry	
Debbie Parker	James Dale	
Sharon Stevenson	Kenneth Daniels	
Geneva Phillips	Mark Greenwood	
David Garrett	Sandra Dodson	
Suzan Swartzentrover		
<b>20 Years</b>	<b>25 Years</b>	<b>30 Years</b>
Brian York	Beth Mannle	Elizabeth Walker
Phyllis Gaw	Sonya Bowman	Teresa Queener
Pam Goolsby		Rickey Flatt
Jody Webb		Kathy Buckner
Kevin Glover		Clay Randolph
Steven Norris		
Gary Bradford		

## **President's Comments**

President Oldham advised the fall semester is off to a great start with lots of energy and progress visible across our campus. Beginning with the RUC expansion project currently underway. Over the next year, we will see a tremendous change in how the RUC serves students. With the approximately 11,500 additional square feet, the students will have provide more outdoor seating and larger student lounge areas.

President Oldham also stated enrolment was initially projected to be down this year, but is looking up. A census is going on now to confirm the enrollment numbers. With one of the largest graduating classes on record last year, it is important to enroll new students and assist them in completing their degrees in a timely fashion. TTU is on track to do this. With the cost of higher education, our university provides graduates with one of the highest returns on compared to other Tennessee universities, according to Money magazine. This stands as a reminder of the competitive environment of higher education. We are striving to make TTU as affordable and accessible as possible for all.

Groundbreaking for the new Lab Science Building is scheduled during Homecoming week on Nov. 3. This will be a signature building on campus with 160,000 square feet of lab and workspace. It is expected to have a two-year construction phase. The sciences faculty continue to be actively involved in the design of this project. President Oldham thanked them for their continued input and involvement. Construction on the second signature building project, Recreation and Fitness Center is beginning on 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Dixie. If you have the opportunity to go over to the newly renovated Jere Whitson Hall, go. It is now a one-stop welcome center for students and families with Admissions, Financial Aid and Records departments all located in a single unified space. We also have other capital projects in the works including Kittrell and Bartoo Hall renovations on our historic quadrangle. The parking lot behind Tech Village is finishing up and the additional temporary lot on Willow Avenue is in use now. We will continue to monitor parking campus wide.

President Oldham then shared information on the Tech is Tennessee Tour. The tour began its focus on the local schools in the Upper Cumberland area. Spreading the message, that TTU values our local communities and how we encourage those schools and our university not to take each other for granted. Those schools have indicated TTU is doing a wonderful job creating the right experiences for our prospective local students. TTU has a unique opportunity being one of two Tennessee universities with a statewide focus. This tour will assist in expanding the footprint of TTU, as President Oldham plans visit schools in each of the 95 counties in Tennessee.

Lastly, President Oldham discussed the implementation of the Strategic Planning Committee. This committee is led by Dean Tom Payne and Dean Lisa Zagumny. They will prepare focus groups, one-on-one conversations as well as larger meetings shortly. The committee will serve as ambassadors for staff to contact and communicate in regards to suggestions and questions. President Oldham encouraged the audience to look at the committee members list and reach out

to them. Send your ideas and feedback to them via the committee website:

[www.tntech.edu/strategic](http://www.tntech.edu/strategic)

President Oldham has charged the committee to find ways to focus on how to serve others during a time of rapid technological change. In the highly competitive market of higher education, we want to create opportunities to distinguish us from other universities and provide experiences only TTU will be able to offer. The goal is to present a strategic plan to the Board of Trustees in mid to late spring semester. This concluded the President's comments. He then opened the floor for questions.

### **Other Such Matters**

There were no additional questions following President Oldham's updates. Chairman Keeton thanked President Oldham for presenting the service-pins and providing his updates. He then invited everyone to stay for refreshments and moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded. Meeting ADJOURNED at 10:29 a.m.

B. Logan McCormick, Recorder