

March 27, 2023
Faculty Senate Business Meeting

Via TEAMS

In attendance: President Maxwell, Past-president Luna, President-elect Allen, Secretary Killman
Senators Meadows, Lee, Fennewald, Park, Comer, Crockett, Liu, Loftis, Rajabali, Allcott, Manginelli,
Adams, O'Connor, Hasan, Hajdik, Fornehed, Null, Mills, Upole, Spears, Turner, Hutson, Alley, Smith-
Andrews, Witcher, TSmith, Isbell, Rand, Duncan, Mullen, Pickering, Sisk, Brachey, Langford, Craven,
Weathers, Howard, Hermann-Turner, Shipley, Reames, Winkle, SSmith

Guests: Brandon Boyd, John Smith, Kevin Braswell, Kelly Chambers, Elizabeth Williams

Absent: Swartling, Canfield, Ojo, Frye, Ding, Burch

Call to Order: 3:35pm by President Maxwell

Vice President Kevin Braswell and advancement team here talking about capital campaign

Braswell:

Introduces four members of the advancement team.

Kelly Chambers- Assistant Director of the Crawford Alumni Center and in our campaign, she will serve as the campaign communications chief. Kelly is a double alumni of Tech. She earned a Bachelor's of Art in Journalism and a Master's in English.

John Smith- Veteran of Tech. Earned a Bachelor's from Tech in Computer Science and a Master's Business Admin from Tech.

Elizabeth Williams- Executive Director of University Advancement. The chief operations officer. She is a Tech Alumni with a Bachelor's Agriculture and a Master's from UTK in Agriculture. She earned a certificate in Edu leadership from UNC.

Brandon Boyd- Working at Tech since 2007. He has been in annual giving, planned giving, director of development.

Thank you to the Senate for your contributions to our campaign. We have acceded our goal of \$100,000 with more than 650 donations with some still to be counted.

Read's an excerpt Paul Blunt's 2022 book "Broken" he reflects on his undergraduate experiences on how important faculty are in students' lives.

Campaign Status:

July 2020 – June 2028. We are almost at the halfway mark.

Finalize the case for support in the next 4-6 weeks. A document that a donor can read and see that explains what the University wishes to do with the capitol campaign. That would be complimented with documents that would come from colleges that would reflect unit level planning such as deans to help us understand what is it that we need to be raising money for.

\$125 million - \$135 million goal. We do have a select few donors that could give large amounts but nothing to this level.

Benefits of a Campaign:

Remains the most viable instrument that we know of to raise significant support.

This is our chance to maintain relevance.

Opportunity to expand one's donor base.

Campaign Case:

Focus groups helped with collecting data.

Tech has an exciting story to tell.

Students can have a great experience and great education at a great price point.

We can create a more robust experience.

Priorities:

Student Experience

Faculty Support

Scholarships

Question that brought me here:

What percentage of the campaign is earmarked for academics versus capital projects and athletics?

Answer:

Fiscal years 18-22 total commitments 45 million dollars.

Next steps:

Increase of budget from the foundation.

Public Launch:

Happens when we have 60% committed toward our goal.

Question:

Donor Advised Funds?

Answer:

Instead of giving principally, donors want to spread their money out to different areas. In an average capital campaign a donor will give to 7 different areas.

Comment:

There could be something to this that advocates for the support of the faculty and how well we are doing and how well we are supporting our students. I hope that the role of the faculty can be extended more than what is in this document.

Question:

What would faculty need donor funding for to support those mentorship programs?

Answer:

That may require some digging on our part within each department to add more definition to this document.

Question:

Could it be as simple as an endowment that could support the faculty in one department?

Comment:

Generalizing money for what the faculty member's needs. Every unit needs something different.

Answer:

Advancement can lift up areas that often get overlooked. Knowing that particulars will help us properly resource each department.

Comment:

I want encourage the chairs to think strategically about what you can use these funds for. What is your program for delivering a great experience to your students.

Comment:

Faculty led study aboard, finances keep qualified students from taken advantage of this opportunity. I think communicating with donors about these possibilities would help guide them.

Comment:

There is a good chance of connecting with Alums if you place it in the context of honoring a faculty member in addition to the endow professorships.

Thank you to the Advancement Team.

Send additional comments to Dr. Braswell or Kelly Chambers.

Motion to approve the agenda.

Approved.

We will not be meeting with President.

That meeting is going to be moved to 4/10.

There has already been a committee that has been formed for President Elect.

Board of Trustees Breakfast discussion.

Question:

What are we going to about the issues considering merit raises?

Response:

We have asked President Oldham about these things without much response.

Comment:

Our counseling center is completely overwhelmed with students struggling with mental health and etc. and the response from Mr. Stites was very odd and disappointing.

The counseling center gave a presentation on how we do interventions for students. And students with test taking anxiety can go to the counseling center right before the test to help them cope and they were interrupted with a comment that this a waste of resources.

Question:

The Senate can vote a vote of no confidence in a trustee member. Is that off the table?

Response:

I sent an email to the president and provost about the offensive comments made during the presentation and received no response.

Comment:

I think we document a letter stating that these statements about raises are not correct. Copies of this will be sent to you all before the next business meeting.

Comment:

They are going to keep things the way they are until they see the salary study.

Comment:

If anyone is interested in being the next President elect, please contact Marylou, Mike Allen, or Sandy Smith-Andrews.

Motion to Adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned.