

MINUTES
TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
April 25, 2013, 1:00 p.m. CDT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert White at 1:00 p.m.

Commission Members present:

Mr. Charles Bone	Mr. Adam Jarvis
Mr. Evan Cope	Mr. Cato Johnson
Mr. Greg Frye	Mr. Jon Kinsey
Secretary of State Tre Hargett	State Treasurer David Lillard
Ms. Sharon Hayes	Mr. Robert White
Mr. Greg Isaacs	State Comptroller Justin Wilson

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. White welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Evan Cope made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Charles Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Approval of Minutes, January 31, 2013, Meeting

Mr. White called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2013, Commission meeting. Mr. Cato Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Jon Kinsey seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Chairman's Report

Mr. White commented on the productive work session earlier in the day and noted the excellent presentations and good discussion on the items presented. Mr. White then announced this would be his last meeting as a member of THEC; he has accepted a position in Kentucky and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve. He then called on Dr. Rhoda for his report.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Rhoda began his report by thanking everyone for their attendance. He also thanked Robert White for his leadership during his tenure with the Commission, and commended Mr. White for his guidance during his time as Chair.

Dr. Rhoda commented on the progress made in the third year of the Complete College Tennessee Act (CCTA) and noted that Mr. Randy Boyd's appointment as Governor Haslam's special advisor on higher education has helped move things forward. He then called on Dr. Russ Deaton to provide an update on THEC's grant from the Ford Foundation.

Dr. Deaton briefed the Commission on the two-year \$500,000 grant to study how the CCTA has changed the campus culture, based on the outcomes-based funding formula and the areas of concentration.

Dr. Rhoda announced that THEC and TSAC are currently undergoing a Sunset Audit. He then called on Ms. Jane Pennington to brief the Commission on student loan activity. Ms. Pennington noted that in 2010, all student loans were transferred to the direct lending program. She stated that TSAC then redefined their mission to focus on student loan rehabilitations, increase collections, and increase student assistance.

Dr. Rhoda introduced new staff member, Melissa Stugart, Core to College Director, in the Academic Affairs division. In closing, Dr. Rhoda acknowledged Mr. Tom Morrison, Director of Veteran's Affairs, for being recognized by the National Association of State Authorizing Agencies for his quick turnaround on a report on apprenticeship program disbursements.

Systems' Reports

Tennessee Board of Regents

Mr. John Morgan, Chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents, was recognized to present his report. Chancellor Morgan began his report by providing information on the University of Memphis, Lambuth/Jackson campus. He stated the campus was in the second year of operation and has a headcount of 528-doubling last year's enrollment. The campus is expected a target of 1000 students by 2017. Chancellor Morgan noted all classrooms have been updated and labs are ready for students. He also noted more academic degree programs have been added and renovations are being done to accommodate students as a full service campus.

Chancellor Morgan announced the retirement of University of Memphis president, Dr. Shirley Raines, effective June 30, 2013, after twelve years as president. He stated the interim president will be Mr. Brad Martin of Memphis, who will succeed her until a permanent president is selected, which should be by June 30, 2014.

University of Tennessee

Dr. Katie High, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success, the University of Tennessee, was recognized to present on behalf of Dr. Joe DiPietro. Dr. High began by commenting on the UT dashboard component, Enhancing Educational Excellence, and briefly discussed elements within the component, such as budget detail, including renovation budgets and new faculty. She then discussed the receipt of \$24 M for the Knoxville campus to convert the steam plant from coal to gas making it more efficient and decreasing air pollution. Dr. High also discussed the new super computer, referred to as "Firefly", which will be housed at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. She then briefed the Commission about the on-line courses, specifically the recently added courses, new smart classrooms, and video conference courses.

Action Items

Approval of Academic Degree Programs

Austin Peay State University, Professional Science Masters with concentrations in Data Management & Analysis and Predictive Analytics

Ms. Betty Dandridge Johnson, Associate Executive Director for Academic Affairs, presented the recommendation for the new academic program. Ms. Dandridge Johnson stated the proposed program focuses on data management and the development of statistics and mathematical models that use data to make predictions. The Professional Science Master's is a unique professional degree grounded in natural science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computational sciences and is designed to prepare students for direct entry into a variety of career options in industry, business or government. It is a distinctive advanced degree for those intending to pursue a career in the practice of science. Ms. Dandridge Johnson also stated the program supports Austin Peay State University's mission of "raising the education attainment of the citizenry, developing programs and services that address regional needs, and providing collaborative opportunities that connect university expertise with private and public resources," and is in alignment with the goals outlined in the THEC 2010-15 *Public Agenda for Higher Education*. Mr. White called for a motion to approve the proposed. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve. Mr. Cope seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Tennessee Technological University, Professional Science Masters with a concentration in Environmental Informatics

Ms. Betty Dandridge Johnson presented the recommendation for the new academic program. Ms. Dandridge Johnson stated the proposed Professional Science Masters (CPSM) program focuses on analytical and computer-based methods in the study and management of natural resources and the environment. She noted the program aligns with the vision and mission of Tennessee Technological University as the State's comprehensive university known for offering high-quality programs in the STEM disciplines that produce graduates in an area of state and national need and the degree program will fulfill the educational goal of TTU's Center of Excellence for the Management, Utilization and Protection of Water Resources. She also noted the PSM program with a concentration in Environmental Informatics is in alignment with the goals outlined in the THEC 2010-15 *Public Agenda for Higher Education*. Mr. White called for a motion to approve the proposed. Secretary Tre Hargett made a motion to approve. Mr. Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Middle Tennessee State University, Master of Science - Management

Ms. Betty Dandridge Johnson presented the recommendation for the new academic program. She stated the proposed Master of Science program in Management will enhance students' planning skills, communication skills, ethical decision making skills, and expose them to real world experiences in their courses that will help them to mature as managers. Ms. Dandridge Johnson noted the program will fill the nationally recognized niche of focusing more on management and less on functional areas offered through a traditional Master of Business Administration program. She also noted the program

supports Middle Tennessee State University's mission of "preparing students to thrive in their chosen professions and a changing global society" and is in full compliance with the MTSU 2007-2017 Academic Master Plan and aligned with the goals outlined in the THEC 2010-15 *Public Agenda for Higher Education*. Mr. White called for a motion to approve the proposed. Mr. Cope made a motion to approve. Treasurer David Lillard seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Postsecondary Education Authorization-Institutional Reauthorization

Dr. Stephanie Bellard-Chase, Assistant Executive Director for Postsecondary School Authorization, presented the recommendations of staff and the Postsecondary Education Authorization Advisory Committee to grant institutional reauthorization to the 291 institutions currently authorized to operate in the state. A listing of the institutions is included as Attachment A to the official copy of the minutes. Mr. Greg Isaacs made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Temporary Authorization of New Institutions, and Approval of New Programs Under the Postsecondary Authorization Act

Dr. Bellard-Chase then presented the recommendations of staff and the Postsecondary Education Authorization Advisory Committee to grant temporary authorization to proposed new institutions and new programs. A listing of the institutions and programs is included as Attachment B to the official copy of the minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to adopt the recommendations, as presented. Mr. Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Recommendations for Appointments to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions

Dr. Bellard-Chase presented the staff recommendations that five committee members be reappointed to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions: Ms. Denise Bentley, Ms. Vicki Burch, Mr. Gaylon Hall, Mr. Steve South, and Dr. Earlie Steele. Ms. Sharon Hayes made a motion to adopt the recommendations as presented. Mr. Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

Information Items

Amendment to the FY2013-14 Disclosed Capitol Projects List

Dr. Deaton reviewed the disclosed capital projects funded through non-state sources and noted the systems have developed additional disclosed capital projects since the 2013-14 budget recommendations were made, which were submitted to THEC for approval as an amendment. This list is included as Attachment C to the official copy of the minutes.

First to the Top Update

Ms. Katrina Miller, First to the Top Director, was recognized to provide the update. Ms. Miller stated THEC has been responsible for implementing several projects of the state's First to the Top initiatives, managing \$23 million in

funding and has been working closely with institutions of higher education and the Tennessee Department of Education to ensure the work aligns with the overall goals of education reform. Ms. Miller also provided information on current First to the Top initiatives with an emphasis on the recent trainings on Common Core State Standards for higher education faculty and THEC's partnership with the Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning and Innovation who are working to create curricular resources for teacher training programs around the new standards.

Overview of Statutory Reports

Dr. Thomas Sanford, Assistant Executive Director of Policy, Planning, & Research (PPR), was recognized. Dr. Sanford provided an overview of THEC's yearly research and reporting activities. He then presented the 2013 Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS) annual report. This statutorily required report includes information on recipient demographics, scholarship renewal rates, college retention for students who fail to renew their scholarship, and TELS recipient graduation rates.

GEAR UP Status Report

Ms. Kate Derrick, Communications Director, GEAR UP and P16 Initiatives, was recognized to provide a status report on the GEAR UP program. Ms. Derrick briefly reviewed the GEAR UP annual report and highlighted year 1 implementation goals and progress, noting the kickoff meeting for the collaborative project directors and site coordinators, held in December. Ms. Derrick briefed the Commission on statistics from year one, such as students served, family and student activities, and services to educators. In closing, she noted the upcoming due date for year two work plans was May 10, and commented on the 2013 Youth Summit being held June 10 and 11 at Trevecca University and college application week, September 30 to October 4.

Legislative Report

Mr. Scott Sloan, Associate Executive Director for Legal and Regulatory Affairs, was recognized to provide the legislative report. Mr. Sloan provided an overview of all bills filed to date that will have an impact on the Commission. He provided a brief summary of specific bills making a direct impact, including SB59, relating to teacher education programs; SB643, renaming of the Technology Centers; SB687 relating to the higher education Fact Book; SB36 relating to the Step Up scholarship program; and HB1276 creating the LEAP program.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members

Dr. Rhoda briefed the Commission on the conflict of interest policy. He stated the conflict of interest policy is requested from each member and asked they return the form to him or Ms. Carter within 30 days following the spring meeting, as required by policy. He noted that although a Commission member's term may be nearing completion, we are still required to obtain a form from each member.

Summer Commission Meeting

Dr. Rhoda advised the Commission the next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 25, 2013, in the THEC board room. He reminded the Commission that the reception for the 2013 Harold Love Community Service Awards will follow today's meeting and encouraged Commission members to participate.

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

Approved:

Robert White
Chair