

**MINUTES**  
**TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**  
**Spring Quarterly Meeting**  
**April 21, 2016, 9:00 a.m. CST**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Evan Cope at 9:00 a.m.

Commission Members Present:

Mr. Evan Cope	Mr. Jon Kinsey
Ms. Pam Koban	Mr. Bill Lee
Mr. Alex Martin	Mr. Keith Wilson
Ms. Siri Kadire	

Commission Members Absent:

Secretary of State Tre Hargett	Dr. Sara Heyburn
Mr. David Kustoff	Treasurer David Lillard
Ms. Pam Martin	Ms. Mintha Roach
Mayor AC Wharton	Comptroller Justin Wilson

**Opening Remarks**

Chairman Evan Cope announced that in order to be efficient while waiting for quorum, the order of the meeting would be different. Mr. Cope thanked everyone for their patience and understanding. Mr. Cope welcomed several special guests: Mr. Dennis Jones (President Emeritus of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems), Dr. Alisa White (President, Austin Peay State University), Dr. Shirley Raines (Past President, University of Memphis), Dr. Robert Smith (Interim Chancellor, UT Martin), and Dr. Jerry Faulkner (President, Volunteer State Community College). Mr. Cope orchestrated a moment of silence to honor for former THEC Director and President Emeritus of Tennessee Tech Dr. Arliss Roaden. Mr. Cope recognized that this is the last meeting for Mr. Alex Martin, thanked him for his service to THEC and congratulated Mr. Martin on being elected student body president of Tennessee Tech. Mr. Cope also recognized that this is the last meeting for Mr. Jon Kinsey, and recognized his service to higher education and Tennessee.

**Executive Director's Report**

THEC Interim Executive Director Russ Deaton was recognized. Dr. Deaton recognized Mr. Martin and Mr. Kinsey and thanked them for their insights, contributions, and service to THEC. Dr. Deaton recognized Western Governors University Tennessee Chancellor Kimberly Estep, who was in attendance at the meeting. Dr. Deaton also recognized two new staff members, Ms. Katy Lucci and Ms. Lisa Davies. Dr. Deaton noted that in the prior day's meeting, Ms. Crystal Collins mentioned the institutional outcome improvement fund in her budget review. The fund will offer \$800,000 dollars to institutions with lagging outcomes. THEC is moving aggressively forward on the grant; the RFP was released the week prior and THEC will report back on updates from the grant.

The prior week, Dr. Deaton and Economic and Community Development (ECD) Commissioner Randy Boyd attended a conference on America's College Promise, a national effort to establish more programs for free college. Dr. Deaton asked THEC Senior Policy Officer David Wright, to go over a document from Lumina Foundation.

Mr. Wright provided an updated on the Lumina "Stronger Nation" report. The report tracks national and state progress toward Lumina's nationwide Goal 2025, which is 60% of US citizens of working age have a post-secondary certificate of high quality or high market value by 2025. Lumina's goal was endorsed by the White House and the Gates Foundation. The report takeaways are that, for the first time, Lumina included certificates in progress toward the national goal. For Tennessee, Lumina's estimate is 5% which similar to numbers from the Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research at UT. THEC was pleased that the data the agency is using to inform the Drive to 55 initiative is close to Lumina's. The one point of difference: Lumina only includes "certificates of high quality". For a certificate in a certain field to be counted as high quality, programs that lead to wages that are at or above the medium wage of that broad discipline by award level. For instance, a certificate in one level that might not reach that threshold would not be counted in the Lumina Report, but Tennessee is counting it. Mr. Wright explained that, reviewing at past growth trends, the nation was not on the path to reach the 60% goal. The nation and Tennessee are on a fairly flat growth line, until adding the 5% estimate for certificate, appearing to give the state a large bump for this year. In 2013, Tennessee's educational attainment rate was 33.8%. In 2014, when certificates were included, the rate rose to 39.3%. Mr. Wright noted that Tennessee is set apart from many other states because of the state's many programs focused on higher education and increasing attainment. The tone in the Lumina report is more alarming than the tone in Tennessee. Tennessee gets high marks for being one of the 25 states that has a challenging and long-term college attainment goal.

Mr. Keith Wilson asked for clarification on certificate data. Mr. Wright explained the notion that Lumina only includes high quality certificates in their data, rather than every certificate awarded. Mr. Wright noted a discussion would be warranted about whether or not Tennessee should amend its standards to operate in the same way. Mr. Wrights noted that educational attainment rates move very slowly, thus the addition of certificates caused the appearance of a large one-year growth.

Chairman Cope noted that the meeting had quorum and suggested moving immediately to address agenda items.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Cope called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Pam Koban made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

### **Approval of Minutes, January Meeting**

Chairman Cope then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2016 Commission meeting. Ms. Koban made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

## **I. Action Items**

### **A. Approval of New Academic Degree Program, East Tennessee State University, Human Services, MS.**

Dr. Deaton recognized Assistant Executive Director of Academic Affairs Victoria Harpool to speak about the East Tennessee State University Master of Science in Human Services. Ms. Harpool explained that this degree program is the only one of its kind in Tennessee and is meeting a high market demand. This degree program is meeting a demonstrated need and is building upon the recently accredited undergraduate program in human services at ETSU. The Division of Academic Affairs at THEC recommends the approval of this degree program. Mr. Cope entertained a motion to adopt.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the Human Services, MS at ETSU. Mr. Bill Lee seconded the motion; the motion was dually adopted.

### **B. Postsecondary Education Authorization**

#### *1. Institutional Reauthorization (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017)*

Mr. Cope called on Associate Executive Director for Postsecondary State Authorization Stephanie Bellard Chase to introduce this item. The Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions has recommended that the institutions listed in Section I.B.1. be granted reauthorization as follows: 196 institutions for regular authorization (these institutions have met all of the standards for initial authorization and have been authorized for at least two years), 41 institutions for temporary reauthorization (these institutions have also met the standards for authorization but have been authorized for less than two years), 98 institutions with conditional authorization (meaning that these institutions have not met some of the standards of authorization). Dr. Bellard Chase noted that 85 of the 98 institutional locations for conditional authorization are part of one school, HRB Tax School. That is a total of 335 institutional locations for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Mr. Cope entertained a motion to adopt Dr. Bellard Chase's recommendations. Mr. Wilson made a motion, Mr. Martin seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

#### *2. Authorization of New Institutions and Approval of New Programs*

Dr. Bellard Chase noted that the 14 institutions listed in section I.B.2. and the 25 new programs listed in section I.B.3. have been recommended for temporary authorization and approval respectively.

More Cope entertained a motion to adopt the recommendations. Mr. Lee made a motion, Mr. Martin seconded the motion; the motion was dually adopted.

### **C. University of Tennessee at Martin Master Plan Update**

Mr. Cope called on Dr. Russ Deaton to introduce Mr. Marion Fowlkes, principal architect at Centric Architecture to present the UT Martin Master Plan Update. Mr. Fowlkes has worked with UT Martin for the last 15 years. He thanked Chancellor Bob Smith and his staff, administration, and faculty for their participation in the Master Plan. This is a refinement of a previous master plan. There are a variety of guiding principles that influence the Master Plan. The first is creating a robust on-campus community of students. The second is improving the campus visual experience. The third is reinforcing “town and gown” relationships. The fourth is branding and communication of the UT Martin experience. UT Martin wants to create spaces that are conducive to meaningful interactions, increased use of on-campus spaces, housing, spirit, and organized activities and the development of authentic community. Mr. Fowlkes walked the Commission through proposed sites for new buildings including a fine arts building, a new academic building, new residence halls, and new quadrangles. Mr. Fowlkes introduced a site acquisition plan for the areas of land that needs to be acquired. The Master Plan includes propositions for student life spaces. The University is tying into an existing circulation system of signage and lights developed by the city of Martin. This plan also includes road improvements and adding entrances to the University. Mr. Fowlkes emphasized that the Master Plan addresses major problems on the campus including signage and the lack of social spaces for students on the historic quadrangle.

Mr. Wilson asked a question in regards to enrolment declines at UT Martin. He asked if the proposed changes would address that issue. Mr. Fowlkes explained that the changes to the current campus would create more activity community on the campus during the week and on the weekends. The creation of these spaces will draw and entice more students to attend UT Martin.

Mr. Cope entertained a motion to approve the UT Martin Master Plan. Mr. Lee made the motion; Ms. Siri Kadire seconded the motion, the motion was duly adopted.

### **D. University of Tennessee at Knoxville Master Plan Update**

Dr. Deaton introduced Mr. Curtis Catron, principal at Bullock Smith & Partners to present the UTK Master Plan. Mr. Catron presented on the 5<sup>th</sup> year intermediate update of the current Master Plan. The intent of the update was to focus on completed projects, review THEC standards, revise the priority list as the academic needs have changed, and provide other relevant updates. Since the 2011 Master Plan, they reviewed the governing principles, which Mr. Catron said have generally remained the same. Mr. Catron quickly went through the governing principles that have framed the Master Plan: align campus improvements to support UTK's strategic plan; determine student population needs; continue to develop a safe, accessible, and more pedestrian friendly campus; optimize limited space on campus; promote energy and environmental responsibility; expand and improve the east-west spine with better north-south linkages; accommodate vehicles at the periphery of campus and reinforce the pedestrian core; continue to develop the campus transit system; encourage preservation of historic and cultural resources; recommend refinements to

various campus design guideline documents; maximize connections to surrounding communities; and coordinate with the Cherokee Campus Master Plan.

He emphasized that UTK is working to become a more pedestrian oriented campus as the institution has acquired streets, moved parking from the center of campus to the periphery, and continued to optimize the use of the space that is available. UTK has developed various infrastructure plans to support the Master Plan, such as the Utility Master Plan and the Site and Landscaping Improvement Plan. The overall process includes updating basic information, such as square footage, and continuing to collect data as student needs change. Since the last master plan, 17 projects have been completed, the standards have been reviewed and updated, and the teaching portion shows a net deficit of 150,000 gross square feet. Mr. Catron noted that UTK struggles with having enough surge space to make accommodations during renovations to older buildings.

Mr. Catron highlighted one significant change in the Master Plan: the expansion of the Institutional Zone. This zone was expanded due to the incorporation of a large area to the northwest of campus, which included properties that the University has acquired over the years and is currently using, and properties owned by the state that the University could acquire. Current and completed projects include 20 projects (shown as completed in the plan), such as residence hall Stokely Hall. These are shown as completed in the Master Plan as of now. The University has chosen to have three phases in the Master Plan. These phases range between near term (hopefully within 5 to 10 years of completion), a mid-term (10-15 years), and long-term (15 to 20 years). All of this is predicated on available funding. The near term projects include academic buildings, a new engineering STEM building, and significant redevelopment of residential areas on campus. In the mid-term, there are significant projects that include additional renovation of engineering space, academic space, expansion on the agricultural campus, replacement of parking garages for structural reasons. In the long-term, UTK is looking at additional space, and continual improvement on campus. Mr. Catron then briefly showed renderings of some plans included in the Master Plan.

Mr. Wilson asked for confirmation that UTK is currently operating with a 10% deficit of current space needs. He asked what UTK was doing to address those spaces. University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro stated that over the last four to five years they have built close \$1billion worth of buildings at the Knoxville campus, through both State funds and gifted funds.

Mr. Cope stated that he would entertain a motion to approve this Master Plan. Mr. Wilson made the motion. Ms. Koban seconded the motion; the motion was dually adopted.

### **Executive Director's Report (continued from prior to action items)**

#### **Recognizing Institutional Excellence**

Volunteer State Community College President Jerry Faulkner, Associate Professor of Chemistry Parris Powers, and students Justin Pemerton and Corbette Jackson were recognized by Chairman Cope to speak about undergraduate research experiences at

Volunteer State. Dr. Faulkner noted that Volunteer State is gearing up for the second cohort of Tennessee Promise students and additional Tennessee Reconnect Students, and that the institution centered on student success. He mentioned that the campus is dedicated to the TBR goal of reaching 43,202 credentials by 2025 to achieve the Drive to 55. To do this, Dr. Faulkner highlighted Volunteer State's student support staff, as well as the opportunities offered for further engagement. One example he highlighted was that the following week, students completing Volunteer State's Entertainment Media Program would be presenting their capstone project to StarStruck Enterprises, Reba McEntire's recording company. He also mentioned that 124 classes had some required service learning component. Outside of the classroom, Volunteer State was recognized as one of the top 40 community colleges in the nation for international experiences.

Dr. Faulkner invited Professor Powers to speak about the undergraduate research opportunities at Volunteer State. Professor Powers introduced Justin Pemerton, a student in his last semester at Volunteer State who will transfer to Tennessee Tech, and Volunteer State alumnus and current Vanderbilt University medical student Corbette Jackson. Professor Powers reviewed Volunteer State's many accomplishments in undergraduate research over the past 20 years.

Mr. Pemerton explained that undergraduate research at Volunteer State gave him the opportunity to truly dive into these topics and develop a deeper understanding of what he was learning inside and outside of the classroom. He noted that the level of exposure to research he received at Volunteer State will help him to reach his career goals beyond his time at Volunteer State.

Mr. Jackson is now pursuing a career in medicine at Vanderbilt University. Mr. Jackson noted that, at Volunteer State, he acquired knowledge that transcended classroom curriculum, and being involved in research allowed him to dive into his interests on a micro level, while still applying those skills to other academic areas. Mr. Jackson emphasized that he developed his communication and leadership skills through his involvement in research with Professor Powers. Mr. Jackson thanked President Faulkner and Dr. Powers for creating such a salubrious learning environment.

Dr. DiPietro asked what opportunities there were to sustain research that had been funded by grants. Dr. Faulkner explained that the initial grants were to provide professional development. Volunteer State has developed a sustainable model to conduct research in a way that does not cost more than a normal laboratory costs. President Faulkner explained that as the NSF grant runs out, they will be seeking additional donors to send students such as these to present and have other professional development opportunities.

Dr. Deaton thanked President Faulkner, Professor Powers, Mr. Pemerton, and Mr. Jackson for presenting.

## **Systems' Reports**

### **Tennessee Board of Regents**

Tennessee Board of Regents Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Tristan Denley was recognized. Dr. Denley offered apologies from Chancellor Gregory, who was unable to attend the meeting because of his involvement in the presidential search at Walters State Community College. Dr. Denley wanted to share information about the work that is being done to address the questions that Vice Chairman Wilson had yesterday, to ensure that more students are being successful. Dr. Denley spoke of a national initiative championed by National Association of System Heads involving 20 systems and 125 institutions. This initiative revolves around themes, math pathways, high-impact practices, and predictive analytics. Dr. Denley tied this back to what the Commission just heard from Volunteer State in stating that high impact practices are an important feature of this initiative.

Mr. Denley noted that he was at the White House the prior week to speak about TBR's co-requisite remediation work. He described the completion of gateway Math by between 8,000 and 9,000 community college students and another 4,000 4-year institution students. In the fall, TBR had a four-fold increase in the success of their students. Dr. Denley pointed out that although sometimes numbers in higher education move slowly, these numbers increased very quickly. The initiative is also working for students with ACT scores across the board and across the preparation spectrum. Co-requisite assistance was also introduced across the university sector, resulting in a 10% increase in student success in reading and a 7-8% increase in success of introductory math courses. Similar successes were seen in writing courses. Dr. Denley also noted that the Community College Research Center recently released research looking at the "cost per success" of co-requisite remediation. The research found that the methods were more effective than and twice as cost-effective as other remediation techniques.

Dr. Denley reviewed data from TBR indicating that co-requisite has proven successful for low-income and minority students, as well. The TBR data showed that, for students that were not performing across the board, their academic mindset was a key indicator of success. Dr. Denley noted four primary drivers of productive persistence. The first is that students must believe they are capable of learning the material. The second is that students must feel connected to the institution and that they belong. The third is that students must believe their coursework has value. The fourth is that students must believe they have the skills, habits, and the knowhow to succeed. He noted that changing the way that students think about themselves is important; a student feeling they do not have support has a massive depressing factor on their likelihood to succeed. Dr. Denley remarked that TBR is looking for different ways to change the ways students think about themselves as learners. They have worked with faculty, support staff, and student affairs in these efforts.

Dr. Denley mentioned that TBR recently hosted a two-day event, cosponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Lumina Foundation, bringing together all TBR institutions to explore what an institution looks like if it is committed to serving low-income students. He explained that if institutions are better able to understand and anticipate the

challenges that low-income students will experience, they will be better able to support students through policies and procedures to help them overcome those challenges and be successful. Dr. Denley noted that every institution left the meeting with definitive action plans and next steps.

Dr. DiPietro asked if there was a significant success difference in co-requisite remediation for a student that has a 17 ACT score versus one that has a 10 ACT score. Dr. Denley noted that the ACT score did not carry as much information as originally thought. For example, in math courses, students that have an 18 and students that have a 19 do not perform very differently in their first year, but there are significant differences in those students in their second year. To answer Dr. DiPietro's question, from ACT scores between approximately 12 and 17, there is not much difference in student success until looking at affinity groups.

Mr. Wilson asked how many students are in the category of needing remedial education. Dr. Denley answered two thirds. With the SAILS initiative, those numbers have significantly decreased and noted that the SAILS English program will be introduced in the fall.

Mr. Wilson explained that soon they should have discussions about how prepared students are when they arrive on campus and whose responsibility it is to hold the primary and secondary educators accountable for the students entering postsecondary education. Mr. Wilson also commented that, as Dr. Denley demonstrated, the inherent capabilities exist within these students, but they are not getting the appropriate instruction at the appropriate time before beginning college. Dr. Denley noted that he would be happy if the current K-12 changes examining curriculum and high standards take the need for these initiatives off the table. To have any chance for the Drive to 55, Dr. Denley noted that is necessary to address all populations of students, including those unprepared for college coming out of high school, and adult learners that are returning to college or beginning college for the first time.

### **University of Tennessee**

Dr. Joe DiPietro, President of the University of Tennessee, was recognized. Dr. DiPietro gave an update on his first State of the University address he gave in February at St. Thomas Hospital in West Nashville. He noted the symbolism of the location as the UT Health Science Center and its residency training program that will expand to St. Thomas and go from 20 to 200 residents. In the address, Dr. DiPietro noted that UT has exceeded goals in two-thirds of the University's goal areas. The UT system goals cover the three core areas of the UT system mission: education, discovery, and outreach to citizens. He noted that the address was to room of over 150 people and over 1,000 people viewed the speech live online, with extensive media and social media coverage. Dr. DiPietro also noted the awarding of the inaugural set of Presidential Awards, recognizing service in the three core areas of the institution.

Dr. DiPietro noted that the UT Spring Board Meeting was held during the first week of April at UT Martin where the board was updated on several key items. The board meeting

included a reiteration of the University's commitment to addressing sexual assault and student safety as a whole. At the board meeting Dr. DiPietro also updated the Board on the state's outreach initiative and UT's commitment to diversity and inclusion efforts.

Dr. DiPietro provided an update on several personnel searches. The UT System has suspended the search for an executive vice president position until the fall. The search to replace Interim Chancellor Bob Smith at UT Martin is underway. Dr. DiPietro commended Chancellor Smith for his service and leadership. UTC Chancellor Steve Angle is chairing that search committee. Dr. DiPietro hoped to be able to recommend a candidate to the Board in October. The UT System is also planning a search for a CFO and treasurer. Dr. DiPietro mentioned that 103 senior leaders across the UT system will be eligible for retirement in the next 5 years. The UT system is engaging a new state-wide succession planning initiative, will pilot a model on one campus, and then implement that plan across the whole system.

Additional updates from Dr. DiPietro included mention of the successful 10<sup>th</sup> annual "UT Day on the Hill", held in Nashville in February. He also noted that UTK has been selected to participate in a \$317 Million public private partnership designed to innovate in high tech manufacturing run by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The Joint Institute for Neuron Science is now the Shull Wollan Center. It is named for two Nobel Prize winning physicists, Clifford Shull and Ernest Wollan. The UTK Center for Business and Economic Research is now the Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research, named for UTK alumnus and ECD Commissioner Randy Boyd. Forbes has ranked UTK a Top 20 place to work in higher education. UTC has developed a new Automotive Systems master's degree program. Volkswagen was instrumental in the development of the program. The Board approved a 33% decrease in out-of-state tuition at UT Martin. Out-of-state students that meet qualifications may be eligible for the Explorer's Scholarship, a value of \$5,000. With these changes, out-of-state of students could potentially save \$12,000, approximately 56% savings rate compared to previous years. At the UT Health Science Center, the UT College of Medicine introduced the world's most comprehensive mobile stroke unit. In the Memphis area, instances of strokes are 37% higher than the national average.

Ms. Koban asked Dr. DiPietro and Dr. Denley a question about in-state and out-of-state tuition. Dr. Denley explained that within 250 miles of the school, out-of-state students pay the combined money of the tuition that in-state students pay and the state's contribution. Dr. DiPietro asked Dr. Denley if students that are just across the border from the University of Memphis were able to pay in-state tuition. Dr. Denley said he believed that is correct, several TBR institutions have contiguous counties. Dr. DiPietro said that UT had done an analysis of what tuition needs to be in order to be competitive for surrounding states.

### **Scott Sloan: Legislative Update**

Mr. Scott Sloan was recognized. He noted that higher education has received significant attention this legislative session, most notably in H.B. 2578, the FOCUS Act. The legislation restructures the functions of the Tennessee Board of Regents and adds six independent governing boards currently overseen by TBR. FOCUS also enhances THEC duties in several areas, including: the approval of institutional mission statements, binding tuition setting

authority, strategic financial plans, and required orientation training with continuing education for all state university board members. As amended, the FOCUS Act also shifts appointing authority for three THEC members from the Governor to the legislature. The executive branch still appoints six members; the ex-officio appointments are unchanged.

House Bill 1696 involves the UT Board of Trustees. This bill addresses the scope of authority and the structure of the Board of Trustees and the President of the UT system by delineating specific powers and duties in much greater detail than what is currently in Tennessee code. This bill also codifies Board of Trustee bylaws as related to established committees and their roles. THEC will administer an orientation training program, as well as continuing education to advise members of the board of their powers and duties.

House Bill 2573 is an administration bill, the Higher Education Authorization Act of 2016. This bill updates the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act of 1974. This piece of legislation creates a new optional, expedited "fast-track" authorization process for nationally and regionally accredited institutions satisfying eligibility requirements. Through this bill, THEC is directed to develop new administrative rules with stakeholder collaboration, modify the regulatory fee structure, and publish comprehensive performance data of fast track schools on the agency's website.

Senate Bill 1625 involves fee waivers for state employees. This bill modifies the statute to create scheduling flexibility for state employees utilizing their fee waiver benefit. This bill also permits a state employee to take more than one course in a semester, which is an increase from the current limitations of "one course per term." The bill's fiscal impact is not significant because only scheduling flexibility is modified. Furthermore, the legislation clarifies that state employees may use the existing higher education fee waiver benefit for up to four courses per academic year, as long as the dates of instruction do not overlap. The bill also accommodates accelerated or other special class terms/schedules.

Senate Bill 514 involves tuition discounts and waivers. S.B. 514 authorizes the executive director of THEC to convene a taskforce to examine the statutory tuition discount and waiver programs offered at public institutions of higher education in Tennessee. The taskforce will be composed of one Senate and one House member, as well as one representative each from the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Finance Administration, the Board of Regents, the UT system, THEC, and the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis. This legislation requires developing policy recommendations for the General Assembly related to increasing efficiency, accountability, and cost-effectiveness. The final recommendations for this piece of legislation are due by December 15, 2016. THEC staff is pleased with the composition of this bill.

Senate Bill 2394 impacts students with a student visa that are enrolled in postsecondary institutions. Institutions must report if students on an M1 or F1 visa have dropped out or are no longer attending classes.

Senate Bill 1430 grants in-state tuition rates and fees for dependent children if a military parent perished as a result of a targeted attack in Tennessee.

HB 1636 is regarding the VETS Campus designation. There are 13 public institutions that have received that designation. This bill made TICUA institutions eligible to apply for that designation.

House Bill 458 requires institutions to accept credentials for a student's current or prior military service to satisfy the required immunization.

House Bill 1680 is bill regarding state authorization. The bill was in response to many institutions nationwide that have had issues with the U.S. Department of Education and authorized institutions. In Tennessee, this was primarily an issue for TICUA institutions. As a result, THEC will publish a list on its website of authorized institutions.

Senate Bill 2447 is the Crime Awareness and Protection Act. This bill requires that all public institutions require training for all entering freshman during orientation regarding sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual harassment, and date rape. Also, this bill encourages institutions to offer instruction aimed at increasing awareness and prevention of the crimes mentioned above in addition to hate crime offenses to all students.

### **Conclusion**

Mr. Cope called on Dr. Deaton for an amendment to the 2016 list of disclosed capital projects.

Dr. Deaton used an executive action to send this list to the legislature in order to be included in the 2016-17 budget. Dr. Deaton also asked the board to fill out the annual conflict of interest statement.

### **Summer Commission Meeting**

Dr. Deaton advised the Commission that the next scheduled meeting would be July 20, 2016, in the THEC board room. This meeting will be a single day format. The work session with the Association of Governing Boards will occur in the morning, and the meeting will occur in the afternoon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Approved:

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Evan Cope, Chair