

**University System Relations Committee Meeting  
Wednesday August 27, 2010, University Center (217), 3:30-5:00PM**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Beauvais Lyons (Chair), Svetlana Zivanovic, Gregory Sedrick, Cathy Cochran.

**Guests:** Joan Heminway, Matt Murray, Jan Simek

**Members Absent:** Doug Blaze, John Lounsbury, India Lane (UTFC), Toby Boulet (BOT), Hillary Fouts.

1. **Approval of the minutes from August 25, 2010** posted at:  
[http://web.utk.edu/~senate/minutes/2010-11/System\\_Relations\\_8-25-10.pdf](http://web.utk.edu/~senate/minutes/2010-11/System_Relations_8-25-10.pdf)

Approved.

2. **UT Presidential Search:** Discussion of the search process and qualifications for the position with Joan Heminway, Matt Murray and Jan Simek. See the following links:  
[http://www.tennessee.edu/media/releases/022610\\_boardmeeting.html](http://www.tennessee.edu/media/releases/022610_boardmeeting.html)  
<http://president.tennessee.edu/search/>

There was discussion about the importance of having a process with integrity, as this will help ensure the success of anyone elected by the Board of Trustees.

There was discussion of internal candidates and an article by Dennis M. Barden of Witt/Keiffer on "The Internal Candidate Syndrome." <http://chronicle.com/article/The-Internal-Candidate/45809/>

There was also discussion of the key role of UTHSC in advancing UT. It was agreed that being able to foster more research collaborations and degree programs in with common with UTK is going to be a factor in advancing UT.

Svetlana Zivanovic raised the issue of the location of the office for the president. Jan Simek said they are exploring the possibility of a building in Knoxville. Matt Murray asked why not in Nashville? Jan Simek said that not being in Nashville means that the UT President can focus on the mission of the university and not let individual legislators distract us from this mission. Several options for the location of the UT system office were discussed.

The organizational structure of the current system was talked about, and the extent to which the Board of Trustees is committed to keeping the current structure in place which gives more control to chancellors for their campuses. Jan Simek said that faculty members will play a key role in asking candidates regarding their administrative philosophy regarding the empowering of campuses. Gregory Sedrick said that progress has been made, and that it is important that UTSI reports both academically and administratively through UTK's College of Engineering.

The personal characteristics, and potential liabilities of prospective candidates was discussed, and how to assess these qualities and factors. How the new president works with and relates to alumni and university donors was recognized as critical, as well as the extent to which they seek to learn deeply about the faculty and its programs. Jan Simek asserted that the level of due diligence must be very high to give the search committee and the Board of Trustees more information than they have had previously.

The process involving the active role of faculty in collecting data about top candidates was recognized as critical, especially the value of checking with institutions where candidates worked prior to their current position. Joan Heminway talked about how she will work to

generate this faculty engagement in her communications with the faculty after October 6th. Jan Simek said it is also very critical for many members of the faculty to attend the open forums with the candidates.

The role of Jan Simek as a non-voting member of the search committee was discussed, stressing his experience in relaying the nature of the position to other members of the search committee.

Beauvais Lyons thanked Joan Heminway, Matt Murray and Jan Simek for meeting with the committee and for their work to assist the university in the search process.

3. **Future Meetings this Semester:**  
Wednesday November 3, 3:30-5pm, University Center 218  
Wednesday December 1, 3:30-5pm, University Center 218
4. **Adjournment** at 4:50pm