

2010-2011 Faculty Senate University System Relations Committee Final Report

This was the second year of the existence of this committee, which has the following membership and charges:

University/System Relations Committee. Membership shall consist of at least eight faculty members including the elected campus representative to the University Faculty Council ~~and the Faculty NCAA Representative.~~ During years when the campus has a faculty representative on the UT Board of Trustees, that person will also serve on the University/System Relations Committee. The Chairperson shall be a faculty member.

The University/System Relations Committee will provide for faculty input (a) into activities of The University of Tennessee system, ~~including Athletics,~~ Research, ORNL, Information Technology, the Cherokee Campus and (b) with the Board of Trustees and the Tennessee legislature. The University/System Relations Committee shall work with the Budget and Planning Committee to monitor The University of Tennessee system budget and Athletics Department budget.

The committee met regularly throughout the year with the following activities:

1. In August we reviewed our charge and set goals for the year. With the change of reporting lines for Athletics, we drafted a proposed change to our charge for the Faculty Athletics representative is not to be a member of our committee (as reflected above). Guests to this meeting included Vice President Hank Dye and Lofton Stewart from Alumni Affairs. As a result of discussions at this meeting we also worked with Lofton Stewart in developing a set of questions from the UT Alumni Association for the gubernatorial candidates that was later posted on the alumni association web site. Minutes: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2010-11/System_Relations_8-25-10.pdf
2. Our September meeting was devoted to the UT Presidential Search. Guests included Interim President Jan Simek and presidential search committee members Joan Heminway and Matt Murray. We were especially concerned about the transparency of the search process, as well as the dynamic of internal and external candidates. Minutes: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2010-11/System_Relations_9-27-10.pdf
3. Our December meeting included Vice-President David Millhorn. Discussion stressed the Cherokee Campus plan and fostering academic and research connections between Cherokee Farm and UTK, the Institute of Agriculture, ORNL and especially UT Health Sciences. System and campus relations regarding research activities is an area that needs continued attention by our committee and in concert with the Research Council as well as the Vice-Chancellor for Research. Minutes: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2010-11/System%20Relations_12-1-10.pdf
4. February we met with Vice-President Hank Dye to discuss approaches to the 2011 legislative session and the role faculty can play in advocating for the university. A member of our committee (Faculty Trustee) Toby Boulet co-authored the resolution on handguns on campus that was passed by the Faculty Senate in March. Having

met with Hank Dye each of the past two years, we have built a strong collaborative relationship and hope to provide support when there are legislative issues that impact the academic mission of the university. Minutes:

http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2010-11/System_Relations_2-2-2011.pdf

1. In April Copies of Warren Neel's book *The Accidental Dean* were donated by the author and distributed at the meeting. The committee also talked about the newly appointed Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Student Success India Lane and the need for the appointment of a replacement campus representative to the UTFc until elections can be held in the fall. We also reviewed a draft of our year-end report. Minutes: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2010-11/System_Relations_4-6-2011.pdf