

**University System Relations Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday September 21, 2011, University Center Room 218, 3:30-5:00PM**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Beauvais Lyons, Chair, Toby Boulet (UT Board of Trustees), Doug Blaze, Guoxun Chen, Hillary Fouts, Greg Petty, Svetlana Zivanovic

**Members Absent:** Tricia Hepner, David Patterson (UTFC Representative until new election), Gregory Sedrick, Susan Speraw, Sam Swan

**Guest:** Katie High, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Student Success

**Link:** [http://www.tn.gov/thec/complete\\_college\\_tn/ccta\\_summary.html](http://www.tn.gov/thec/complete_college_tn/ccta_summary.html)

1. **Approval of the minutes from April 6, 2010** approved by consensus
2. **Discussions with Katie High**, including the Complete College Tennessee Act, The University Faculty Council, and other matters related to academic affairs and students success. Katie High said that she is working to cultivate stronger lines of communication with the faculty senates on each campus and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to attend this meeting. This week India Lane from her office met with the UT Martin Faculty Senate and could not attend due to a meeting today with THEC. Katie High then presented slides that provided an overview of the responsibilities and activities of her office (<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/42672295/Office%20of%20Academic%20Affairs%20and%20Student%20Success.pdf>).

Primary issues discussed included:

- a) Working to help UT Trustees develop an appreciation of the value of protecting the tenure system to ensure the integrity and quality of the university.
  - b) The future of UT Press and its role in ensuring the university's reputation.
  - c) The role of her office in helping the campus faculty and administrators in working with the Office of the General Counsel to implement changes to the Faculty Handbook.
  - d) Reforming THEC's system of assigning "low" producing programs to include metrics other than the number of majors.
  - e) The process by which the Complete College Tennessee Act will be translated into a funding formula.
  - f) Lottery Scholarships and the value of using both a 21 ACT and a 3.0 GPA as award criteria.
  - g) The expectation that degree recipients pursue a job in their field of study.
  - h) The redundancy of national accreditation and the THEC mandated program reviews for many disciplines.
3. **Adjournment** at 4:50pm

