

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' POLICY
PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION AT THE MEETING OF THE
FACULTY SENATE TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 4, 2013

WHEREAS, during June 2009, the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a three-year pilot program allowing the University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) to explore the use of a five-point scale for faculty performance evaluations rather than the four-point scale defined in the Board's Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure; and

WHEREAS this five-point scale has been well received by both administrators and faculty at UTK because it allows faculty performance that is moderately above expectations to be distinguished from performance that is significantly above expectations; and

WHEREAS, during June 2012, the Board approved an extension to the pilot program to allow UTK to continue using the five-point scale through the 2012-13 academic year while revision to the Board's policy was considered; and,

WHEREAS the Board's Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has proposed a revision to the Board's policy to permit a campus either to use the current four-point scale or the seek Board approval for a different scale;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate offers its support this proposed changed to the Board's policy and authorizes the Provost to inform the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of this support and of the desire for UTK to continue using the five-point scale developed for the pilot program.