

Faculty Senate University System Relations Committee
March 21, 2018

Present: Martin Griffin and Sally McMillan

Absent: Misty Anderson, Chis Boyer, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Husheng Li, Andrea Ludwig, Beauvais Lyons, Bruce MacLennan, and Gary Skolits,

Guest: Linda Martin, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success

Because many committee members had to be away for other meetings, we kept this small gathering informal. Martin shared a bit about her background and then also talked about some of her key priorities in the VP role. Key points are captured as bullet items below. No formal actions were taken because the committee lacked a quorum.

- Her vision is that the system is a service office whose primary mission is convening and removing barriers.
- In previous roles she has done accrediting visits for regional accrediting organizations. Just started doing SACS reviews. She believes in the accreditation process and in data collection. She is very interested in any data that can be predictors of student success.
- She spoke briefly about items that are being considered by the legislature. Teacher preparation is under consideration – particularly reading. A new Gen Ed bill RE limiting humanities courses and requiring economics. Her office works closely with government relations on these and other issues.
- She also works with the trustees as liaison to academic affairs and student success. Will be streamlining process for routing through provosts to make sure that the best campus representatives are addressing issues raised by trustees.
- She coordinates department head training.
- She also focuses on transfer student success including reverse transfer. Last year, 517 “reverse transfer” associate degrees were students in UT system. She is also working on transfer pathways – reviewed 14 and will be making some revisions.
- She briefly discussed the EAB academic program report. Department heads will have access. Anticipated fall 2018. Doing data edits. The focus is on teaching efficiency
- Wants to be engaged on campus. Cell phone is on her signature line.
- She hopes to organize a listening session for faculty to talk with system administrators.