

Faculty Senate Annual Committee Goals

Athletic Committee 2020-2021 Aims

Stated Goals:

Explore issues related to the following.

1. Student-athlete health and safety overall (e.g., physical, mental, and emotional well-being);
2. Safety of student-athletes specifically in relation to COVID-19;
3. Social unrest issues; discuss ways that student-athletes can effectively demonstrate their civil liberties to protest, vote, or voice their concerns without violating rules related to their athletic scholarship;
4. Celebrate faculty and student-athletes working relationships from an academic or learning perspective;
5. Examine transitioning initiatives for student-athletes re-entering the civilian sector as working professionals.

Sincerely,

James A. Williams, Ph.D, DM, CHE, CC and Bonnie Ownley, Ph.D.

Athletic Co-Chair and Co-Chair, Faculty Senate

Benefits and Professional Development Committee 2020-2021 Goals

- Address faculty concerns about what would happen if they become severely ill with COVID-19
 - Who will teach their classes?
 - Who will cover their medical bills?
 - Will they lose their job if they are out sick for a long period of time?
- Develop an online database or resource to connect faculty/staff in the need of childcare with students seeking part-time or occasional employment
- Provide professional development for faculty related to handling students with a mental illness or students experiencing a mental health crisis

Budget and Planning Committee

Meeting date: August 14, 2020

In attendance: Kim Baker, Tamah Fridman, Lou Gross, Phillip Daves, Michael Gelantalis, Cristina Barroso, Eric Lukosi, David Horton

Members not present: Lisa Driscoll; Alex Rodrigues, Kellie Fecteau

2020-2021 Goals

The committee met for an hour to make introductions and set some preliminary goals.

We decided that our goals for the upcoming year were:

- To work with Faculty Senate senior administration to create a process whereby we ensure that UTK faculty are included in any discussions and policies should the university experience a significant budget shortfall. We would like to have this in place before we find ourselves in an unfortunate situation
- To continue with our normal analysis and reports that are concerned with campus budget matters (such as the living wage analysis, faculty salary analysis, etc., including part time NTTFF)
- To continue meeting with various Vice Chancellors to discuss their budget issues, concerns and goals. Most likely, we will reach out to The Provost, Vice Chancellor of Research and Engagement, and Athletics to set up meetings, and possibly one or two others.
- Continually monitor the campus budget in light of COVID-19, and be prepared to perform analysis or reports or provide input on whatever specific area is deemed most important (impact on Athletics, possible furloughs, etc.)
- Networking and collaboration with other Senate Committees

One immediate goal was to set up times and dates for future meetings. However, given the importance of Chris Cimino's role in our committee, we felt the need to reach out to him first to give us days and times of his availability. Follow up: the meetings are set for Mondays following Faculty Senate Meetings, at 3:30pm.

2020-2021 Faculty Affairs Membership, Charge and Goals

Draft: August 14, 2020

Committee	Membership	Charge	2020-2021 Goals	Members
Faculty Affairs	9 faculty members, none of whom shall be an administrator above the level of department head.	The Faculty Affairs Committee shall concern itself with the adoption and amendment of faculty governance policies and rules, including the development and refinement of criteria and procedures for faculty appointment, promotion, retention, evaluation, the granting of tenure, retirement, and discharge for cause. The Faculty Affairs Committee is responsible for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the <i>Faculty Handbook</i> and its appendices in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the <i>Faculty Handbook</i> . The activities of the Faculty Affairs Committee shall be conducted at all times in a manner consistent with the Trustees' Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure, as the same may be amended from time to time, and shall be guided by faculty governance best practices in higher education, especially those identified and promoted by the American Association of University Professors.	Work with the Office of the Provost and the Office of General Counsel on a variety of goals; (1) implement changes to keep the Handbook in compliance with new Board of Trustee policies; (2) help to bring the bylaws of all colleges and departments into compliance with the Faculty Handbook since the October 18, 2018 audit ; (3) initiate a conversation with new Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Diane Kelly about considering inclusive criteria for rank; (4) review the list of " Other Policy Documents " from Section 1.11 of the <i>Faculty Handbook</i> ; (5) review the Appendix I section of the <i>Faculty Handbook</i> , some of which might be removed and listed elsewhere; (6) continue to review a draft policy on bullying for the <i>Faculty Handbook</i> and sample department bylaws language on conflict resolution; (7) with the Office of the Provost, review the of the outcomes of the new PPPR policy; (8) work with the NTTF Issues committee on issues related to handbook policies (5.6) regarding the termination of non-tenure-track faculty members; (9) Monitor compliance with new NTTF evaluation policies; (10) explore options for early retirement incentives to avoid furloughing faculty; (11) in coordination with the Appeals Committee, meet with the University Ombudsperson to assess potential policy revisions.	Beauvais Lyons, chair blyons@utk.edu Julie Andsager (alt), jandsage@utk.edu Thomas Berg tberg1@utk.edu Cheryl Greenacre cgreenac@utk.edu Justin Jia zjia3@utk.edu Brian Krumm, bkrumm@utk.edu Elizabeth MacTavish emactav@utk.edu Mary McAlpin mmcalpin@utk.edu Kai Sun kaisun@utk.edu Jessica Westerhold jwester3@utk.edu

Policy Documents - Office of the Provost

Handbooks and Manuals: <https://provost.utk.edu/manuals/>

Evaluation, Tenure and Promotion: <https://provost.utk.edu/tenure/>

Faculty Mentoring Program: <https://teaching.utk.edu/facultymentoring/>

Faculty Hiring and Appointment: <https://provost.utk.edu/faculty-hiring-appointment/>

Faculty Affairs Calendar for Fall 2020

Meetings will be held by Zoom on the following dates and times using Beauvais Lyons' Personal

Zoom Room: <https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/4604281435>

Friday August 14 (during the FS Retreat): 1:15-2:15pm

Monday August 31, 3:30-5:00pm

Monday September 28, 3:30-5:00pm

Monday October 26, 3:30-5:00pm

Monday November 23, 3:30-5:00pm

Library and information Technology Committee**2020-2021 Annual Goals**

1. Ensure that instructors on campus as well as Senate know that we are a conduit to the Libraries and OIT. If there are questions, comments, or concerns about services or future plans, we welcome those be brought to this committee.
2. Related to this, we want to be seen as open to emergent campus needs and want to better understand how we might work with different committees on overlapping issues; Research Council, Teaching and Learning Council, Undergraduate Council, and Diversity and Inclusion were mentioned specifically.
3. This year especially we will focus on improving integration of Libraries and OIT services and expertise with online classes. For example, OIT has received requests from faculty to set up optional Gmail accounts for faculty. That will be discussed at our next committee meeting. The Libraries received questions recently related to HathiTrust digital access; many of those questions were answered but sharing that information with your colleagues and departments is very important.
4. This committee will also further consider how to support the Libraries' goals and strategic planning related to open education, open data, and open access to scholarship.

Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee – Annual Goals

Anne Langendorfer, Co-Chair; Mark Stanley, Co-Chair

The NTTI Committee's goals for the year are:

1. Work with the Provost and Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs on the clause regarding NTTI dismissal without cause, so we can advance our committee's overarching goals to improve NTTI job security, compensation, academic freedom, and shared governance.
2. Potentially issue a report on NTTI based on the data we were provided in Spring 2020.

Research Council Goals, Academic Year 2020/21

Overarching aims:

- Increase participation and transparency
- Work closely with new VCR Deborah Crawford; understand ORE staff and budget structures
- Advance Team Science across UT

Goals for RC sessions and activities:

- Assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on research procedures and productivity
 - o Using short- and long-term data
 - o Specifically considering how diverse subgroups are affected (e.g., international students and scholars, faculty of color, female faculty) in light of intersectionality
- Initiate engaged conversation with the Graduate School and the Bredesen Center
 - o How to facilitate cross-disciplinary collaboration between faculty, postdocs, and grad students
 - o Learn about standards for students working in larger research groups
 - o Explore promising practices re. support for multidisciplinary graduate education in the Graduate School and the Bredesen Center
- Showcase research structures in the Social Sciences and Humanities; discuss indicators and standards of productivity beyond external funding
- Learn more about the UT One Health Initiative
- Continue participating in shared governance related to ORI (Oak Ridge Institute)
- Explore opportunities created by the university's recent designation as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University by the ALPU
- Facilitate research communication structures and procedures at UT

Teaching and Learning Council (2020 – 2021)

Goal One. *Promote great capacity for excellence in teaching and learning through collaboration with key UTK stakeholders and offices (e.g., TLI, IT, EHHS) to: a) determine faculty teaching and learning needs and b) to promote responsive professional learning opportunities for faculty and graduate students.*

Goal Two. *Create a TLC subcommittee to streamline and manage the 2020 – 2021 Chancellor's excellence in teaching/advising awards. The focus of the subcommittee will be complete the awards recommendations for 2020 – 20201 while also streamlining the review process, refining the criteria, and seeking strategies to reduce the substantial time commitment required of committee members.*

Bylaw Description. Teaching and Learning Council. Membership shall consist of 15 appointed faculty members, as well as three graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Senate in consultation with the chairperson of the Teaching and Learning Council and three undergraduate students selected by the Student Government Association, and/or the Director of the Honors Program, in consultation with the chairperson of the Teaching and Learning Council. The faculty members should have currently active teaching/advising responsibilities. All schools and colleges offering instruction at the graduate or undergraduate level will have at least one representative. Attempts will be made to distribute the other representatives among the colleges of the campuses. Ex-officio members shall include the Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, the Associate Dean of the Graduate School, the Director of the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center, the Coordinator of SAIS, and the Director of the Student Success Center. The Teaching and Learning Council is a committee of the Faculty Senate that works to advance excellence in teaching and academic advising at UTK. Areas of concern for the Teaching and Learning Council include incentives for recognizing quality instruction and advising, methods for improving instruction at a campus and departmental level, and guidelines for routine and disciplinary evaluation of teaching, academic advising, and curriculum. For example, the Teaching and Learning Council examines policy issues related to teaching on the campuses and works with the chief academic officer to recognize excellence in teaching and advising. The Teaching and Learning Council works with the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center to run a yearly campus-wide program that involves faculty and staff in addressing issues central to improving instruction and advising. The Teaching and Learning Council works with both the Graduate School and the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center to develop practical means of improving and rewarding instruction and advising on campus.

Membership

Gary Skolits, Chair

Audris Mockus, Vice-chair

Justin Arft

Tracy Brewer

Earnest Brothers (ex officio)

Michael Gilchrist

Theresa Hopkins

Bernard Issa

William Jennings

Karen Jones

Karen Lasater

Karen McCormick

Mark Moon

Elizabeth Pemberton (ex officio)

Isabella Pfeiffer

Doug Renalds (ex officio)

Mia Romano

Zhili Zhang