

# Advisory Board Meeting

## Minutes

### UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

DATE:	November 08, 2024	Mooney Library
DAY:	Friday	875 Monroe Avenue
TIME:	11:00 AM	Memphis, TN

### UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Friday, August 09, 2024

#### MINUTES

##### **Present:**

##### Board Members:

Philip Wenk, *Chair*  
 Josh Wayman  
 Natalie Tate  
 Jillian McCarthy (*Faculty*)  
 Randall Davis  
 Margaret Bohm (*Student*)

##### Staff:

Peter Buckley  
 Raaj Kurapati  
 Cindy Russell  
 Wesley Byerly  
 Chandra Alston  
 Ammar Ammar  
 Sally Badoud

##### Deans:

Stephen Alway  
 Reggie Frye  
 Wendy Likes  
 Don Thomason  
 Nick Verne (*interim*)

*Guests:* Members of the HSC community and the public were invited to participate either in person or via webcast. Dr. Robert Craft presented virtually, and Dr. Jessi Gold presented in person.

#### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Phil Wenk called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.

#### **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The motion for approval of the previous meeting minutes was moved by board member Dr. Josh Wayman and seconded by board member Dr. Randy Davis.

#### **3. Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Peter Buckley started by recognizing Dr. Scott Morris for his contributions, advocacy, and leadership to the community and health profession. Both Dr. Morris and his wife Mary Morris were in attendance to receive a recognition plaque.

Chancellor Buckley continued with an introduction of the new faculty representative, Dr. Jillian McCarthy, and new student representative, Margaret Bohm, and noted Chairman Wenk is in his second term as Chair of the Advisory Board.

Additional highlights of the Chancellor's Report include recognition of the many UT doctors included in Memphis Magazine's Top Doctors list, updates on various leadership roles and ongoing searches,

encouragement of continued giving through funding campaigns, and mention of an upcoming fall retreat.

**Remarks:** Dr. Davis expressed public appreciation for Dr. Morris.

Chairman Wenk invited the new members to introduce themselves. Dr. McCarthy and Ms. Bohm shared their backgrounds and excitement to represent their respective groups.

#### 4. **College of Medicine Presentation**

Interim Executive Dean for College of Medicine (COM), Dr. Nick Verne, began the COM presentation with a summary of match results, 2024 graduate questionnaire results - which received high satisfaction - and concluded with updates on rankings and new initiatives, including a new 3rd-year clerkship initiative.

Chancellor Buckley then introduced the Dean for COM Knoxville, Dr. Robert Craft who joined virtually. Dr. Craft spoke on the name change of the Knoxville campus to UT Health Science Center College of Knoxville which better aligns with the new mission and growth of GME and UME. He also highlighted seed funding for research, governors chair, and the new Vice Chancellor of Research, Dr. Jessica Snowden.

**Remarks:** Board member Dr. Natalie Tate thanked Dr. Craft for his work and said the name change makes sense.

Chancellor Buckley recognized Dr. Verne's support and leadership through the process.

#### 5. **College of Dentistry Presentation**

Associate Dean of Extramural Clinical Education and Community Service, Dr. Orpheus Triplett presented on behalf of Dean Ken Tilashalski and College of Dentistry (COD). Dr. Triplett highlighted enrollment increases and new approvals in the dental hygiene program, expansion efforts statewide, including new external sites and clinics, and addressed gaps in dental care access in Nashville and Memphis.

**Remarks:** Chairman Wenk expressed the need to address dental care gaps in Nashville and Memphis and thanked Dr. Triplett for his efforts.

#### **College of Graduate Health Sciences Presentation**

Dean of College of Graduate Health Sciences (COGH), Dr. Don Thomason presented on the COGH's completion of the summer research scholars' program, aggressive recruitment campaigns, and philanthropy efforts.

**Remarks:** No remarks noted.

#### 6. **College of Health Professions Presentation**

Dean of College of Health Professions (COHP), Dr. Stephen Alway shared results of the COHP's initial strategic plan which is showing steady growth and impact. Dr. Alway also presented on the newest strategic plan, which aligns with the UT Health Science Center strategic plan, and the recent project Reimaging Education for Advancing Careers in Healthcare (REACH).

**Remarks:** Chairman Wenk commented on the benefits of a well created strategic plan.

## **7. College of Nursing Presentation**

Chancellor Buckley recognized Dean of College of Nursing (CON), Dr. Wendy Likes in her 10th year in the Dean role. Dr. Likes shared the CON closed out the fiscal year with 5.8 million. Additional highlights included stable planned enrollment for the fall, CON strategic plan pillars, and an aggressive growth strategy through 2030.

**Remarks:** Chairman Wenk thanked Dr. Likes for running a great program.

## **8. College of Pharmacy Presentation.**

Dean of College of Pharmacy (COP), Dr. Reggie Frye presented updates on faculty awards, research groups, grants and funding, and student program updates.

**Remarks:** No remarks noted.

## **9. Financial Update**

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer (EVC-COO), Raaj Kurapati discussed the balanced budget for FY25, finalizing a hybrid and widely accepted budget model, investing in the future, building reserves, and continued work with THEC and Finance Administration. He spoke on challenges which include a base budget deficit, funding carryforward balances, and repayment of a UT System loan. The fiscal year ended with a projected \$21 million surplus, and EVC-COO Kurapati said the goal is 180 days of cash reserves in the next three years.

**Remarks:** Board member Dr. Tate thanked EVC-COO Kurapati for the detailed walk-through and asked about future cash projections to which EVC-COO Kurapati expressed confidence in achieving net growth and reiterated the goal of 180 days of cash reserves.

Chairman Wenk thanked the Planning and Budget Council (PBC) and emphasized the importance of balancing growth and reserves.

Chancellor Buckley commented on the need to support faculty and students without nest-egging funds.

## **10. Presentation of Chief Wellness Officer**

Vice Chancellor of Strategic Partnership, Paul Wesolowski introduced Dr. Jessi Gold. She spoke on her background and discussed her role in promoting wellness and mental health both system-wide and on the UT Health Science Center campus. Dr. Gold's immediate focus is on students system-wide and her goal is to grow faculty and staff wellness programs. Previous and upcoming mental health events were presented, including an October 17, 2024, event in the Mooney Library.

**Remarks:** Board member Dr. Wayman asked about the most pressing concerns to which Dr. Gold highlighted the struggle with student crises and the need for better accessibility.

Chancellor Buckley acknowledged the support from President Boyd, VC Paul Wesolowski, VC Sally Badoud, and VP Bernie Savarese with UT System.

## **11. Other Business**

Chairman Wenk thanked campus leaders and reminded the board of UT Health Science Center's statewide presence.

**12. 2024 Meeting Schedule**

- a. November 8, 2024

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting concluded at 12:45 PM.