

Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

DATE:	May 10, 2024	Mooney Library
DAY:	Friday	875 Monroe Avenue
TIME:	11:00 AM	Memphis, TN

UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Friday March 22, 2024 (Special)

MINUTES

Present:

Board Members:

Dr. Philip Wenk, *Chair*
 Dr. Natalie Tate
 Ms. Corinne Gibson (Student)
 Dr. Richard Smith (Faculty)
 Dr. Randall Davis
 Dr. Josh Wayman

Staff:

Dr. Peter Buckley
 Mr. Raaj Kurapati
 Dr. Cynthia Russell
 Dr. Wesley Byler
 Ms. Brigitte Grant
 Ms. Vikki Massey
 Ms. Chandra Alston

Deans:

Dr. Stephen Alway
 Dr. Reggie Fryer
 Dr. Wendy Likes
 Dr. Donald Thomason

Guests: Members of the HSC community and the public were invited to participate either in person or via webcast.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Wenk called the meeting to order at 11:00 am, and Mr. Kurapati completed the roll call and noted that Dr. Ugwueke was absent.

2. Adoption of the Agenda for Special Meeting

The special meeting agenda was shared with the board members prior to the meeting, and it was adopted without issues.

3. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor took the time to highlight a few things. First, Chancellor Buckley spoke on the Investiture of the Chancellor at Baptist Health Sciences University. Secondly, he spoke on Ms. Corinne Gibson's recent match day experience who is the student elect on the Advisory Board. Ms. Corinne Gibson shared that she matched in anesthesia residency at the University of Kentucky, she is excited to be headed to Lexington, Kentucky. Chancellor Buckley spoke on the recent partnership with Kemmons Wilson Family Foundation and the Soulsville Foundation on the opening of the new Innovated Health Hub in Soulsville. Soulsville a community in the heart of Memphis, Tennessee and one of the most

disadvantage communities. Lastly, Chancellor Buckley shared the recent hire of Dr. Jessi Gold who has officially started as the chief Wellness Officer.

4. Special Presentation

Executive Director and Shainberg Professor, Dr. Keisling shared a special presentation on the Center on Developmental Disabilities, Six Decades of Service. Dr. shared the Mission of “Promote, Support, and enhance the independence, productivity, and inclusion of individuals with disabilities and their families in our community”—it’s bridging the gap between the university and the community. Dr. Keisling shared a brief overview of the history and what developmental disabilities are. The office is in the 920 Madison building through the UTHSC Department of Pediatrics, and they are largely funded through federal training grants and state service contracts. The CDD Clinic is licensed by the state of Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In total, they have about 15 federal grants and state contracts that total around \$4 million. Dr. Keisling shared the research that has been completed as well. The primary goals for 2023 – 2028 include four separate goals: 1) interdisciplinary pre-service preparation and continuing education, 2) community service (model programs), 3) research and evaluation, and 4) information dissemination. Due to time constraints, Dr. Keisling was unable to finish his presentation; please see the PowerPoint for the remainder of the presentation.

- **Remarks:** Dr. Wenk stated that he wants to see Dentistry Working with Dr. Keisling and the Center on Developmental Disabilities.

5. FY 2024-25 Tuition & Fee Rates Proposal

Mr. Kurapati started by giving a brief overview of the finances for the University as it relates to education in general. The largest portion which is about 60% is state support and 26% is from tuition and fees. Mr. Kurapati took time to explain why we must take budgetary actions to address an internal accumulated deficit and to bridge a base budget gap. Mr. Kurapati shared the actions that are being taken and those that are under consideration. A Planning and Budget Council has been established along with setting expectations around the need for fiscal discipline. The primary goal of the Planning and Budget Council is to develop broad appreciation for UT health Science Center finances and recommend actions to balance the E&G budget for FY25. Mr. Kurapati shared the already suggested recommended actions which include actions in the areas of expense management and revenue generation.

The implementation of a detailed budget process and the development of a hybrid RCM budget model is in the works as well. Collaboration with the UT System, THEC, and the State will begin to get a funding formula established for the annual operating cost increases. Mr. Kurapati shared “what will do” and “what we do not intend to do”, please see the PowerPoint for specific details. Regarding the tuition proposal, it was noted that within the last five years tuition has only increased twice, a .6% increase in 2020 and a 1.5% increase in 2024. UT Health Science Center is the 2nd lowest in tuition increases in the UT system over the past five years. Enrollment is down slightly in medicine and pharmacy but we’re seeing an uptick in enrollment for dentistry and nursing which we expect to see grow in the future. The bottom line is the recommendation of a 2.9% across the board tuition increase which is expected to yield between \$750,000 - \$1,200,00 all dependent upon fall enrollment by program. Some of the funds are intended to be used for unrestricted scholarships and leveraged to raise philanthropic dollars to support our access and engagement efforts while

remaining funds will be used to address the budget gap. Mr. Kurapati shared the Tuition Change Summary table, please see the PowerPoint for specific details.

ACTION: Approval of the proposed tuition fee increase of 2.9% was motioned by Dr. Davis and second by Dr. Wayman all in favor.

- **Remarks:** Dr. Wenk shared that our formula needs to be higher due to the type of university we are—a health sciences university that has higher salaried faculty and staff. Dr. Wenk applauded Mr. Kurapati for the work he has completed thus far in his position and the advocating that he is completing for UT Health Science Center. Dr. Davis expressed that it should be emphasized that everything is being completed in a responsible manner to keep costs at bay and minimize the effects on students. Ms. Gibson expressed that with the tuition increase she hopes that the financial aid office and the loan services will consider this increase as many students utilize financial aid and loan services for the education. Ms. Gibson also expressed the need for more detailed information and transparency around the fees that students are being charged in addition to their tuition. Mr. Kurapati shared that he would work to provide a table with detailed information of the fees that are being charged in each program. Dr. Tate asked what is the budget gap and Mr. Kurapati responded with between \$15M - \$16M. Dr. Tate asked that anything after \$1M will be used to close the budget gap, Mr. Kurapati stated yes it would. Dr. Smith asked why more or less the students are being charged for the unrestricted grants from the tuition increase. Dr. Wayman asked looking forward is there any projections on future tuition increases, Mr. Kurapati expressed that going forward we need to consider looking at individual program tuition increases.

6. Other Business

None.

7. Meeting Schedule

- May 10th
- August 9th
- November 8th

8. Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 12:02 PM.