

Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

DATE:	NOVEMBER 14, 2025	Mooney Library
DAY:	FRIDAY	875 Monroe Avenue
TIME:	11:00 AM	Memphis, TN

Present:

Board Members:	Staff:	Deans/Interim Deans:
Randall Davis (Chairman)	Peter Buckley	Jessica Snowden
Jillian McCarthy (Zoom)	Raaj Kurapati	Reggie Frye
Rick Spell (Zoom)		Ken Tilashalski
Natalie Tate (Zoom)		Ashley Harkrider
Samantha Townsend		Wendy Likes
Josh Wayman		
Michael Ugwueke		

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Secretary Raaj Kurapati conducted roll call of the board members in attendance (in-person and virtual) and once quorum was established, Chairman Randy Davis called the meeting to order at 11:01 am.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The motion for approval of August 15, 2025, meeting minutes was made by board member Dr. Josh Wayman and seconded by board member Dr. Michael Ugwueke.

3. Chancellor's Update

Chancellor Peter Buckley took the podium and offered updates on recent campus events including the recent Legacy Society Wall reception. Additionally, Chancellor Buckley recognized both past and present advisory board members and executive level leadership, and he expressed gratefulness for all efforts that have been made to fulfill the strategic direction of the university.

4. Recognition of Alliance Healthcare

Chancellor Buckley continued with appreciation and recognition of Alliance Healthcare for their partnership, care, and non-profit work on mental health within the state. Lead by CEO Laurie Powell, Alliance Healthcare will soon open a new building focusing on children with mental illness. In addition to CEO Powell, Chancellor Buckley acknowledged two Alliance board members in attendance, Quintin Robinson and Marty Reagan. CEO Powell took the podium to receive a plaque of recognition and offer remarks on behalf of Alliance Healthcare. She focused on Alliance Healthcare's partnership with community leaders, their new adult center, and the next phase which is the children's unit slated to open in spring 2026. She invited the audience to come and tour the spaces. She closed by mentioning a new psychiatric residency that began in October with the hopes of building and maintaining doctors who love working within the local community.

5. Financial-Capital Update

EVC and COO Kurapati began with a financial update and noted key points in the history of University of Tennessee Health Science Center finances and the challenges faced. Since the efforts to address the internal \$55M budget deficit identified were launched in late 2023, the overall deficit has been reduced by approximately \$21M, thanks to the good work many across the institution. He projects we will further reduce such by a significant amount the end of the next fiscal year, with growth in unrestricted cash and steady restricted cash. In addition, books have been balanced, and investments are being made to assist with campus structural issues.

Mr. Kurapati continued with a capital update which focused on the College of Medicine Interdisciplinary Building (COMIB) and Campus Master Plan. Presenting images on the current state of our College of Medicine (COM) spaces, he reiterated the need for new facilities, comparing them to competition. Plans for the new COMIB facility were also presented as well as a walk-throughs of our current facilities with stakeholders have taken place since February 2024 to make the case for the interdisciplinary building. The total building cost is estimated at \$350M, with the school funding \$39M of that estimate.

Mr. Kurapati then presented a schedule for the campus master planning efforts, led by Ayers Saint Gross (ASG). By fall 2026 a plan will be brought to the board which ensures needs for all campuses are addressed in the campus master planning strategy.

Additionally, Kurapati stated an economic impact study was done by Greater Memphis Chamber which focused on the impact a COMIB would have on both the local economy and the UT Health Science Center. Key findings included economic output, jobs, labor income, gross domestic product, and tax revenues. The current timeline - assuming funding is in place in the Governor's February 2026 budget - projects fall 2029 as the first COM class to occupy the space. Lastly, Kurapati officially announced the selected Designer for the COMIB as HOK and the local brg3s architects.

Remarks: Chair Davis asked about any commercial collaboration throughout the state; Mr. Kurapati answered they have made philanthropic and commercial connections through those who have visited campus, and he gave recognition to David Mills for his assistance in connecting with executive and legislative branches of the state government.

Dr. Wayman asked about the anticipated date to break ground; Mr. Kurapati answered if steps are met, and the funding is in the Governor's budget, he anticipates breaking ground in August 2026.

6. Future Meeting Dates

The following dates were presented to the board and adopted for 2026: February 6, May 8, August 14, and November 13.

7. Other Business and Feedback

Board members and UT Health Science Center leadership were encouraged to remain for lunch followed by the Strategic Planning Retreat.

8. Adjournment

Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.