

Leadership Council Meeting

November 25, 2025

10:05am-11:05am

Attendees:

Cindy Russell, Jessica Snowden, Peter Buckley, Mike Hocker, Paul Wesolowski, Wendy Likes, Raaj Kurapati, Ashley Harkrider, Karla Leeper, Ken Tilashalski, Brigitte Grant

Absent:

Reginald Frye (Chasity Shelton- attended)

Charlie Snyder

Dr. Buckley called the meeting to order 10:05am central.

Follow-up-: UT Health Sciences Strategic Planning and Sponsorships (Karla Leeper)

- Will send out a revised SWOT and proposed calendar by the end of the semester.
- Current sponsorship rules remain unchanged, but recent requests—require careful review. Departments should communicate thoughtfully with partners, as some sponsorships may need to be declined or adjusted.

Health Science Senior Leadership Academy HSSLA 2.0

Strategic Enrollment Plan and Review of Peer group comparison (Cindy Russell)

- The leadership program is expanding statewide to include Knoxville, Chattanooga alongside Memphis. The revised structure will consist of one joint session per month connecting Knoxville and Memphis simultaneously, supplemented by small group discussions at each site.
- A spreadsheet was shared showing 20 institutions, including ours. The team is asked to provide feedback on which elements to include and highlight positive aspects of the data, even if enrollment numbers appear modest.

Voluntary Early Retirement Plan status- UTHSC (Raaj Kurapati)

This program is strictly Voluntary and there is no requirement to participate in this incentive program even if you are eligible employee. Interest has exceeded expectations, and final agreements are being processed. Overall, the program is regarded as highly successful, providing a valuable opportunity for colleagues ready to retire or transition to other pursuits

Rural Health Transformation for Tennessee (Wendy Likes)

The application is extensive and publicly accessible online. It outlines several areas of interest, with two primary funding opportunities. The application also suggests the potential creation or coordination of innovation catalyst centers across the state, though the language is open to interpretation. Finally, workforce development is expected to be a significant component of this grant.

Chancellor Updates (Dr. Buckley)

- We have enabled ten years of collaboration with Ascension. During the recent meeting, long-term objective is to develop the campus further, building on the current arrangement primarily supports medical school and graduate medical education.
- In preparation for the upcoming mid-point SACS review due in March, all evaluations must be completed and submitted through the DASH system during January and February.
- Winter Gather 12/11/25 at 10am- Mooney Library

📅 Leadership Council Upcoming Meeting

📅 **1/20/2025-** potential presentation by Memphis leader Mr. Bill Dunavant

Meeting Adjourn at 11:05am central