

Transparency Advisory Group Minutes January 30, 2019

The Transparency Advisory Group held its first meeting on January 30, 2019 at 10 a.m. in the 8th floor conference room of Andy Holt Tower on the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus. Six members of the committee participated via Zoom conference call.

Committee Members Present:

- **Tiffany Carpenter**, UT System, associate vice president for communications and marketing (chair)
- **Sally Badoud**, UT Health Science Center, assistant vice chancellor for communications and marketing
- **Harry Brooks**, retired legislator from East Tennessee
- **Terry Denniston**, UT Chattanooga, chief of staff
- **Lannett Edwards**, UT Institute of Agriculture, professor of animal science
- **Edie Gibson**, UT Martin, executive assistant to the chancellor
- **Scott Gordy**, UT Institute for Public Service, information technology manager
- **David Manderscheid**, UT Knoxville, provost
- **John North**, WBIR, senior investigative journalist
- **Tyvi Small**, UT Knoxville, interim Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Engagement
- **Rachel Smith**, UT Chattanooga, student
- **Carey Whitworth**, UT System, assistant vice president for government relations

Other Attendees:

- Victor Ashe, *Shopper-News* correspondent
- Jon Fromke, representative for Rep. Martin Daniel
- Melissa Tindell, UT System, director of communications

Group Charge:

University of Tennessee Interim President Randy Boyd announced an initiative geared toward providing greater and easier access to information for UT's faculty, staff, students and the communities it serves. The Transparency Advisory Group will work with system administration to identify opportunities to increase transparency for the UT System.

Information Available:

UT has launched a dedicated website, tennessee.edu/transparency, to provide public access to information in a centralized location.

Information already available on the site includes:

- Board of Trustees
 - Webcasting and archiving all board of trustee committee meetings
 - Online access to materials for upcoming board of trustee meetings
 - Board bylaws and policies

- Campus Fact Books
- Financials
 - UT System Budget Documents
 - Treasurer’s Annual Report
 - Flight Operations Report
 - Endowment Investment Information
- Title IX annual report and campus climate survey results

Information coming to the site includes:

- Data dashboard with information on enrollment, student demographics, degrees awarded, retention and graduation rates, post-graduation outcomes and faculty metrics
- Executive staff and coaching contracts
- Financials – diversity spending, salary survey results, student organization spending
- Information regarding UT’s presence and impact in each county
- Information regarding economic development activity
- Information regarding research activity
- Searchable employee database
- Tuition dashboard with net cost of attendance for each campus and average tuition cost for students by income quartile for each campus

The group decided to also add:

- Athletic department budgets
- Campus crime stats and safety policies
- Campus and system capital plans
- Campus maps
- Campus magazines and news feeds
- Campus contact information
- International student numbers and tuition information
- Social media accounts
- UT Foundation information
- Video and photo resources that could be used by media

In addition, members of the group will explore the following options:

- Live streaming and archiving campus advisory board meetings
- Providing a public forum opportunity at campus advisory board meetings
- Student representative requested Including statistics on faculty and staff with concealed carry – requested by student re
- Changes to public records copy charges policies

The group discussed the need for flexibility in the Board of Trustees policy for addressing the board. Jon Fromke raised a concern on behalf Rep. Martin Daniel regarding the 30-minute time limit. Matthew Scoggins reported that the board chair has discretion to expand the time limit

under the current policy. Rep. Harry Brooks suggested Rep. Martin Daniel could provide guidance on a suitable time period for the requests to address the board.

Next Steps:

- T. Carpenter will upload the meeting recording and minutes to the website at Tennessee.edu/transparency.
- T. Carpenter and M. Tindell to create a survey to request ideas and feedback on items included on the website and develop communication plan to solicit feedback.
- J. Fromke to ask Rep. Daniel to provide the group with his opinion on a suitable time period for the public to address the Board.
- The group will meet again in late March.