

**University Council**  
**Monday, November 14, 2022**  
**East Tennessee Room & via Zoom**

**1. Call to Order**

Executive Vice Provost Rob Pack called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Melissa Nipper led the roll call. Members present were Ms. Bridget Baird, Dr. Ginni Blackhart, Dr. Joe Bidwell, Dr. Cheri Clavier, Dr. Joel Faidley, Ms. Joy Fulkerson, Dr. Mark Fulks, Dr. Adam Green, Dr. Nick Hagemeyer, Mr. Steven Hendrix, Dr. Mike Hoff, Dr. Leann Horsley, Dr. Keith Johnson, Dr. B.J. King, Dr. Karen King, Ms. Candy Massey, Dr. Sam Mayhew, Dr. Arpita Nandi, Dr. Brian Noland, Dr. Rob Pack, Ms. Brooke Patterson (on behalf of Mr. Mason Mosier), Mr. Jeremy Ross, Ms. Pam Ritter, Dr. Richard Sander, Dr. Janna Scarborough, Dr. Joe Sherlin, and Ms. Jessica Vodden.

**3. Standing Items**

*3.1 Approve minutes from the October 10, 2022, meeting*

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2022, meeting. The motion was seconded; the minutes were approved.

*3.2 Review agenda*

Dr. Rob Pack announced that the two items on the consent agenda would be removed and considered at a later time.

*3.3 Consent agenda items*

A motion was made and seconded to remove the two policy items on the consent agenda. The motion passed.

*3.4 Call for Voluntary Reports*

*Faculty Senate:* Dr. Ginni Blackhart reported that the Faculty Senate is putting together work groups that were formed based on the results of an informal survey sent to faculty to collect feedback on their most important concerns and issues. Some issues that came up in the survey included removing barriers for faculty development, research, and evaluations prior to tenure and promotion. They are also in the process of updating the Faculty Handbook.

*Staff Senate:* Ms. Joy Fulkerson reported that the Staff Senate is working on an outreach and collection for employees who need support during the holidays.

*3.5 Sub-Council Reports*

*Budget and Strategic Planning Committee:* Dr. B.J. King presented the financial report for the first quarter. State appropriations are up on the main campus. The College of Pharmacy is down, due to enrollment. Tuition and fees are down with flat tuition and the out-of-state tuition reset, and grants are up. Changes to unrestricted E&G expenditures include an increase in salary and operation increases on the main campus and College of Medicine. College of Pharmacy is down due to a revision to its budget to align with expenditures. Scholarships are down due to the out-of-state tuition reset. FY-22 transfers were negative due to HEERF funds last year; there were no HEERF fund transfers to the E&G budgets during the first quarter of this year. Dr. King noted that ETSU is substantially finished with all activity for student emergency grants that were flowing from restricted into E&G budgets has ended. She also noted that our students benefited from the increase in HOPE funding last year. This fall, HOPE is up \$1.8 million. Auxiliaries are up, including housing, which is at capacity and food service, which has the largest-ever enrollment in meal plans. Restricted funds are down. All natural classifications of expenses, with the exception of scholarships, are up with the October budget revisions and activities happening on campus.

#### **4. Standing Items**

##### *4.1 Old Business*

There were no old business items to discuss.

##### *4.2 New Business*

There were no new business items to discuss.

#### **5. Information Items/Presentations**

##### *5.1 Strategic Plan Update*

Dr. Mike Hoff provided an update on the Strategic Plan, beginning with a timeline and discussion of the university's major goal: enrollment. He discussed the seven pillars of the plan: Access and Success, Teaching Excellence, Empowered Employees, Research and Innovation, Equity and Inclusion, Community Stewardship, and Fiscal Sustainability and Operational Excellence. He also went over the initiatives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that have been established for each pillar. Finally, he informed the Council about a goal sheet that all ETSU Vice Presidents were asked to fill out about their initiatives. This sheet links initiatives with the part of the strategic plan they address. For updates on the ETSU Strategic Plan, Dr. Hoff directed the Council to the new Strategic Plan website: [etsu.edu/strategy](https://etsu.edu/strategy).

##### *5.2 University Career Services: Priorities and Plans*

Ms. Jenny Lockmiller presented an update on University Career Services. An overarching goal of University Career Services is to be as accessible to students as possible. Based on that goal, they have set three priorities for the current academic year: increase participation in experiential learning opportunities, increase utilization of University Career Services by underrepresented students, and increase the number of high-quality interactions with students. To increase

participation in experiential learning opportunities, the office has partnered with Parker Dewey, which provides access to short-term, paid micro-internships. They are also in early discussions with local Chambers of Commerce to partner with employers to create local micro-internships. They are also working with local employers on other experiential learning activities, such as site visits and job shadowing. In order to increase utilization of University Career Services, the office set up a head shot photo studio that was well attended by hundreds of students. In addition, they are working on a freshman outreach program. To increase the number of quality interactions with students and alumni, the office has re-organized Bucky's Closet to better meet students' needs for interview attire. Finally, Ms. Lockmiller announced that the office is creating a Career Studio, located in a highly visible location near the Carrier Center in the D.P. Culp Student Center. This will provide a drop-in opportunity for students to speak with peer mentors about résumés, interviews, and other career-related inquiries.

## **6. President's Report**

President Dr. Brian Noland provided updates on several key items, beginning with an overview of items discussed at a meeting of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) last week. THEC staff presented their budget recommendations to the Board, which will frame Gov. Bill Lee's budget presented at the upcoming legislative session. THEC was presented with a \$150 million recommendation for new operating expenditures, which equates to approximately \$9.7 million for ETSU. He also noted that the THEC capital recommendation places Phase II of the renovation of Brown Hall at the top of the list; this is the second year in a row that the No. 1 priority has been at ETSU. He provided updates on timeframes of capital projects, noting that Lamb Hall will open in spring 2023 and the Campus Center Building will come down in summer 2023 so that construction can begin on the new academic building. The Brown Hall timeline will be adjusted because the project now has full funding. If funding is received in the Governor's budget, the smokestack on campus will be demolished. He provided brief updates on the Huron Town Hall and the transition to Oracle (Voyager), which replaces Banner. Dr. Noland also previewed the November 18 ETSU Board of Trustees meeting, at which a final recommendation of a 4 percent salary enhancement will be presented. The recommendation will have a floor of \$1,200 and a ceiling of \$7,000, the lowest ceiling and highest floor presented to the Board. Other items that will be presented to the Board include the announcement of a P-20 initiative, the announcement of a mechatronics program, and presentation of the university's top legislative priority, which is state funding for Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy.

## **7. Announcements**

Dr. Cheri Clavier announced that ETSU had an excellent first-round review with SACSCOC, being found out of compliance with only three items.

## **7. Adjournment**

Executive Vice Provost Robert Pack adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.