

MINUTES
TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Summer Quarterly Meeting
July 14, 2005, 1:00 p.m. CDT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Powell with the following Commission Members present:

Ms. Dawn Blackwell	Dr. Gary Nixon
Mr. Riley Darnell	Mr. Jim Powell
General Wendell Gilbert via telephone	Mr. Dale Sims
Mr. Ransom Jones	Ms. Katie Winchester
Ms. Debbie Koch	Dr. Brad Windley
Mr. John Morgan	Ms. Eleanor Yoakum

Introductions

Mr. Powell called on Dr. Richard Rhoda, Executive Director, to make introductions. Dr. Rhoda first recognized and welcomed Mr. Mark Musick, President of the Southern Regional Education Board, to the meeting and noted that the Commission would recognize him further later in the meeting in recognition of his imminent retirement. Dr. Rhoda also recognized former state Representative Steve Cobb, who is a member of the SREB Board of Directors, Dr. Roger Bowen, Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Chattanooga, and former state Representative Bob Patton.

Approval of Minutes, April 14 and June 8, 2005 Meetings

Mr. Powell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14 and June 8, 2005, Commission meetings. Dr. Brad Windley made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Debby Koch. The motion was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X		
Mr. Riley Darnell	X		
General Wendell Gilbert	X		
Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan	X		

Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		
Ms. Katie Winchester	X		
Dr. Brad Windley	X		
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	X		

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Powell recognized Dr. Paul Stanton, President of East Tennessee State University, and congratulated him on the successful fundraising project at ETSU to raise the \$5 million needed to initiate the approval process for the school of pharmacy. Mr. Powell yielded to Dr. Stanton for an update on their fundraising process and success. Dr. Stanton and Dr. Ron Franks, Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the Medical School, gave an overview of their campaign. Both noted the strong background work completed by several members of a task force comprised of business and university personnel. Dr. Franks noted that members of this group worked closely with the local business community, the press, and the medical community to build the support necessary to achieve their goal.

Executive Director’s Report

Dr. Rhoda thanked each Commission member for their attendance at the work session conducted earlier in the day. He noted that the thorough discussion of the issues led to a productive session. Dr. Rhoda also mentioned the presentation of the XAP system that will enhance the college application process in Tennessee and noted that he will keep members advised on the progress of this project.

Dr. Rhoda also introduced several new staff members. These included two new members of the Postsecondary Authorization Division, Ms. Shannon Davis, Graduate Assistant, and Mr. Warren Isenhour, Investigations Officer. He also introduced two new staff members who were unable to attend the meeting, Dr. Linda Doran, Senior Policy Advisor and Ms. Erin O’Hara, an intern from Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Rhoda then recognized Mr. Cobb to introduce Mr. Musick for the presentation of a resolution honoring Mr. Musick. Mr. Cobb noted the many successes achieved by the SREB under Mr. Musick’s leadership. Mr. Cobb noted two of his most notable initiatives were the implementation of the Minority Doctoral Scholars program and the High Schools That Work.

Mr. Musick expressed appreciation for the resolution and indicated his appreciation for the relationship working with Tennessee, which he considered his home state.

Dr. Rhoda presented a resolution for Mr. Tom Samuel, former Associate Executive Director for Health Services, who recently completed a one year appointment for the Commission. He noted that Mr. Samuel was hired for the purpose of establishing an accredited public health program for Tennessee and that appears headed for success. He also noted the leadership role Mr. Samuel played in the issues surrounding the ETSU School of Pharmacy.

Finally, Dr. Rhoda presented Mr. Kevin Teets with a resolution recognizing his contribution to the Commission as a student member during the past two years. Mr. Teets thanked Dr. Rhoda for the resolution and noted how he enjoyed his work on the Commission.

Systems' Reports

Tennessee Board of Regents

Dr. Charles Manning, Chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents, was recognized. Chancellor Manning expressed a desire to work with the Commission on the tuition study required by the appropriations bill, especially in light of the fact that 9,000 new students have entered the TBR system over the last five years without additional state operating funds for those students. He looked forward to a quick, yet thorough review of the issue. Additionally, Chancellor Manning gave the Commission an update on the presidential search at Roane State Community College. He noted that there were four final candidates for the position that became vacant when Dr. Wade McCamey became president of Walters State Community College.

University of Tennessee

Dr. Jack Britt, Executive Vice President of the University of Tennessee, gave this report on behalf of President John Petersen. Upon being recognized Dr. Britt first congratulated Dr. Stanton and Dr. Franks on their success in raising funds for the pharmacy school for ETSU. Dr. Britt also noted that Dr. Petersen's one year anniversary was approaching and that they are excited and pleased with the progress that has been made in that time. He noted that the UT collaborative relationship with TBR continues to grow and that Dr. Petersen looks forward to even greater collaboration.

Dr. Britt noted several accomplishments that have occurred over the past year, including the recent appointment of Dr. Roger Brown as Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Chattanooga and Dr. David Millhorn as Vice President for Research.

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation

Dr. Rhoda introduced Dr. Robert Ruble who was recently appointed as executive director of TSAC. Dr. Rhoda welcomed Dr. Ruble who will begin his duties on August 1, 2005.

Academic Affairs

New Academic Programs

Dr. Linda Bradley, Associate Executive Director for Academic Affairs, presented information concerning 11 new academic programs:

- East Tennessee State University, Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) and College of Pharmacy;
- University of Tennessee Memphis Health Science Center, Master of Dental Hygiene (M.D.H.);
- University of Memphis, Master of Science (M.S.) in Bioinformatics;
- University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Communications, major in Public Relations;
- University of Tennessee at Martin, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Business Administration, major in Finance;
- University of Memphis, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering (B.S.B.E.);
- Middle Tennessee State University, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Construction Management Technology;
- East Tennessee State University, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Geology;
- Pellissippi State Technical Community College, Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Security Engineering;
- Pellissippi State Technical Community College, Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Media Technologies; and
- Nashville State Technical Community College, Technical Certificate in Web Development.

Dr. Bradley reviewed the documentation in support of these new programs and highlighted the more relevant points. Dr. Windley made a motion to approve the programs as presented. Ms. Eleanor Yoakum seconded the motion, which was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X	_____	_____
Mr. Riley Darnell	X	_____	_____
General Wendell Gilbert	X	_____	_____

Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan			X
Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		
Ms. Katie Winchester	X		
Dr. Brad Windley	X		
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	X		

Post Approval Monitoring

Dr. Bradley presented as an informational item the status of academic programs approved between July 2004 and April 2005, pursuant to Commission policy. She advised the Commission that the low producing programs will continue to be monitored by staff and a report will be made at the Commission’s January 2006 meeting.

Dr. Rhoda thanked Dr. Bradley for the work she and Ms. Betty Dandridge-Johnson invested in creating this report, which is included as Attachment A of the official minutes.

Public Health Initiatives

Dr. Rhoda again recognized the invaluable contribution Mr. Samuel made in bringing these issues together over the past year and noted that Dr. Doran would take the lead in bringing these to fruition. He noted that TSU, ETSU and UTK are all making progress in the implementation of academic programs related to public health; that UoM in conjunction with UTHSC are making progress toward implementation of a public health institute; and that the Commission continues to work closely with the Tennessee Department of Health for the establishment of a public health institute by bringing together the strengths of both institutions.

Postsecondary Education Authorization

Temporary Authorization of New Institutions, Approval of New Programs Under the Postsecondary Authorization Act and Recommendations for Appointment to the Postsecondary Education Authorization Committee

Dr. Stephanie Bellard, Assistant Executive Director of Postsecondary School Authorization, presented the recommendation of the staff and the Postsecondary Authorization Advisory Committee to grant temporary authorization to new institutions and approval of new programs. These are included as Attachment B of the official minutes.

Additionally, Dr. Bellard presented the staff recommendation for appointments to the Postsecondary Education Authorization Committee.

First she recommended that Mr. Joe Brown and Ms. Joyce Searcy be reappointed to three year terms that will extend through June 30, 2008 and that Ms. Brenda Webb be appointed to a three year term also to extend through June 30, 2008. She also recommended the following be appointed to fill unexpired terms: Mr. Michael Jaeger and Mr. Prentis McClain to fill a terms that will expire June 30, 2007; and Commissioner John A. Keys to fill a term that will expire on June 30, 2006.

Mr. Dale Sims moved to approve the respective recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Riley Darnell. The motion was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X	_____	_____
Mr. Riley Darnell	X	_____	_____
General Wendell Gilbert	X	_____	_____
Mr. Ransom Jones	X	_____	_____
Ms. Debby Koch	X	_____	_____
Mr. John Morgan	X	_____	_____
Mr. Jim Powell	X	_____	_____
Mr. Dale Sims	X	_____	_____
Ms. Katie Winchester	X	_____	_____
Dr. Brad Windley	X	_____	_____
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	X	_____	_____

Fiscal Affairs

Consideration of FY 2005-2006 Operating Budgets

Mr. Jim Vaden, Associate Executive Director for Fiscal Affairs, presented the FY 2005-2006 operating budgets as submitted by each institution through the respective governing boards. He noted the excellent job each had done in preparing the budgets to conform with state and Commission policy and directives. The essence of the information contained in the operating budget is included as Attachment C of the official minutes

Mr. Ransom Jones made a motion to approve the FY 2005-2006 operating budgets and submit them to the Commissioner of Finance and Administration. Ms. Winchester seconded the motion and it was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X		
Mr. Riley Darnell	X		
General Wendell Gilbert	X		
Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan	X		
Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		
Ms. Katie Winchester	X		
Dr. Brad Windley	X		
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum			X

Policy on Self-Supporting Academic Entities

Mr. Vaden reviewed the proposed policy, which is included as Attachment D of the official minutes. He noted that the policy was developed pursuant to direction from the Commission at its April 14, 2005, meeting in anticipation of the ETSU proposal to establish a self-supporting College of Pharmacy and doctoral program in pharmacy that will be operated with “100 percent private funds.” Mr. Vaden noted that this policy will clearly define necessary special provisions to ensure the integrity of the proposed self-supporting funding model. Mr. Vaden also noted that in the development of this policy, Commission staff noted that it may be necessary to seek to amend recurring language in the appropriations bill that requires comparable fees to be charged for comparable institutions.

Dr. Windley moved that the policy be adopted and it was seconded by Mr. Sims. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X		
Mr. Riley Darnell	X		
General Wendell Gilbert	X		
Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan	X		
Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		

Ms. Katie Winchester	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Dr. Brad Windley	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>

Presentation of the Motlow State Community College, Cleveland State Community College, and Pellissippi State Technical Community College Campus Master Plans

Mr. Vaden introduced Mr. Karl Manka, Senior Director, Facilities Management, Research, and Planning for the Tennessee Board of Regents, Division of Facilities Development, who made a presentation to the Commission on the revised campus master plans for Motlow State Community College, Cleveland State Community College, and Pellissippi State Technical Community College, which dealt primarily with the Blount County site.

Mr. Vaden recommended approval of the respective master plans and Mr. Sims moved to adopt the recommendation. Ms. Yoakum seconded the motion and it was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Riley Darnell	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
General Wendell Gilbert	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Ransom Jones	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Ms. Debby Koch	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. John Morgan	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Jim Powell	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Dale Sims	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Ms. Katie Winchester	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Dr. Brad Windley	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Rule Revisions

Public Necessity and Permanent Rule Revision - Chapter 1540-1-5, Public Higher Education Fee Discounts for the Children of Licensed Public School Teachers and State Employees

Mr. Will Burns, Associate Executive Director for Legal and Regulatory Affairs, reviewed with the Commission the public necessity and permanent rule revision to implement a change made by Public Chapter 447, Acts of 2005. The law extends the 25 percent tuition discount for children of state employees and public school teachers to the children of

technology coordinators employed by a public high school. This rule change would add the following sentence to the definition of “Certified teacher in any public school in Tennessee or Teacher”:

“This term shall also include technology coordinators employed by any local board of education, for service in public secondary schools in Tennessee supported in whole or in part by state funds.”

Mr. Sims moved to adopt the rules as presented and the motion was seconded by Mr. Darnell. The rules were approved by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X		
Mr. Riley Darnell	X		
General Wendell Gilbert	X		
Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan	X		
Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		
Ms. Katie Winchester	X		
Dr. Brad Windley	X		
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	X		

Geier Status Report

Mr. Burns was then called upon to make a report on the status of the *Geier* lawsuit. He reported that since the last meeting, Dr. Bradley has received from TBR a letter of intent on behalf of Tennessee State University for the establishment of a Ph.D. and Masters programs in public health pursuant to a provision in the *Geier* consent decree relative to creating high need professional programs at TSU.

Additionally, he advised the Commission that Mr. Vaden and his staff are working UT and TBR in reconciliation of FY 2004-2005 expenditures under the *Geier* consent decree and finalize distribution of funding for FY 2005-2006.

Finally, Mr. Burns noted that UT and TBR are developing plans for desegregation after the current lawsuit is dismissed. He indicated that the two systems are seeking ways to expand diversity and will include their specific plans in the respective FY 2006-2007 appropriations requests.

Title VI Implementation Plan Update and Compliance Report

Mr. Burns gave the Commission an overview of the Title VI Implementation Plan Update and Compliance Report, which was provided to them for review and reference, and previously filed with the Comptroller of the Treasury. He indicated that again this year the report was thoroughly reviewed, resulting in a number of significant revisions and new items. Mr. Burns noted to the Commission that long range goals and major objectives were among the changes made to this year's plan.

Administrative Items

Election of 2005-2006 Officers

Mr. Powell called on Ms. Winchester to make a report from the ad hoc committee relative to nominations for Commission officers. Ms. Winchester noted that in light of the excellent job the current officers have done over the past year that it is recommended that the following slate of officers be reelected:

Mr. Jim Powell – Chairman

Mayor A C Wharton – Vice Chairman

Dr. Brad Windley – Vice Chairman

Ms. Debbie Koch – Secretary

The nomination was seconded by Mr. Jones and duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Ms. Dawn Blackwell	X		
Mr. Riley Darnell	X		
General Wendell Gilbert	X		
Mr. Ransom Jones	X		
Ms. Debby Koch	X		
Mr. John Morgan	X		
Mr. Jim Powell	X		
Mr. Dale Sims	X		
Ms. Katie Winchester	X		
Dr. Brad Windley	X		
Ms. Eleanor Yoakum	X		

Fall Commission Meeting

Dr. Rhoda announced that the Commission was next scheduled to meet on Thursday, November 17, 2005, at the Commission conference room at a time to be determined.

There being no further business, Mr. Powell declared the meeting adjourned.