

UPRAC
Minutes
February 27, 2023

Attended: Steve Angle, Brent Goldberg, Jerold Hale, Robert Dooley, Yancy Freeman, Kim White, Theresa Liedtka, Vanasia Parks, Chris Sherbesman, Allison Evans, Beth Luehrs, Mark Wharton, Vicki Farnsworth, Valerie Rutledge, Andrew McCarthy, Melita Rector, Stacy Lightfoot, Cassie Mathes, Laura Perryman, Pamela Riggs-Gelasco, Abeer Mustafa, Daniel Pack, David Steele, Joshua Tyler, Tony Parsley, Angela Wharton

Absent: Delali Gadeqkpo, Linda Frost, Joanne Romagni, Laure Pou

Vice Chancellor Mr. Brent Goldberg and Provost Jerold Hale, UPRAC Co-Chairs, welcomed everyone to the University Planning and Resources Allocations Committee (UPRAC) financial report meeting.

Mr. Brent Goldberg recognized Chancellor Angle and asked him to please start the meeting with a welcome and opening remarks. Chancellor Angle thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and asked the committee to please introduce themselves. Chancellor Angle mentioned that the Governor's budget is a different scenario each year and the unknown part is whether enrollment will be up or down, and the signs are showing that it will go up.

Chancellor Angle turned the meeting over to Provost Hale.

Provost Hale thanked and welcomed everyone for attending today's meeting. Provost Hale handed out and went over the Academic Affairs Report Agenda and asked the committee to please feel free to ask any questions. **(Please review the Academic Affairs Report Agenda that is on the Budget and Finance website).** Provost Hale stated there are several issues that the University is paying close attention to. The legislative agenda relating to legislation bills that would have the effect of having firearms on campus. Provost Hale also mentioned that other legislation issues would threaten our diversity and inclusion efforts on campus, and they are looking at tenure for faculty members hired moving forward, etc. Provost Hale said that Ms. Carey Whitworth, Vice President, Government Relations, and Advocacy at the UT System does excellent work on behalf of UTC. Provost Hale stated that he will keep everyone updated with the legislation bills. Provost Hale mentioned that Faculty Senate President Jennifer Boyd is working with Vice Provost Lauren Ingraham on making modifications to the Course Learning Evaluations process. Provost Hale said that some of the Executive Leadership Team members attended a conference at the University of Nebraska with an interesting approach on course learning evaluations and UTC is hoping to have a pilot program on campus where faculty members can opt in. Dr. Boyd tried out the program and was very impressed with it. Provost Hale stated that the Course Program of Study (CPOS) has not been paid attention to closely and the Federal Regulation indicated that financial aid could only be used on courses that met a major or minor requirements. Provost Hale said this applies only to a student's first major and not minors. Provost Hale stated that UTC must pay close attention to this as it does have budgetary implications for us and our students. Provost Hale mentioned that we are in contact with Dr. Bernie Savarese and Ms. Whitworth from the UT System as they will find the solution for this issue for system-wide and not just individual campuses. Provost Hale stated that this may affect students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree and ROTC students with a Military Science minor. Provost Hale mentioned that the last issue is the Faculty Workload Policy that he and Dr. Boyd are having discussions on. Provost Hale has shared this policy with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Faculty Senate

Executive Committee will be discussing and distributing the UTK Faculty Workload Policy, which is a straight 12 credit hours per semester for faculty that are teaching with possible reductions for faculty being in a service, such as Faculty Senate President or in an active ongoing research program.

Provost Hale stated there are several priorities that the University is paying close attention to as well, such as an Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN). Provost Hale said that Chancellor Angle and Dr. Chris Smith, Director, School of Nursing, are working with our health system providers in Chattanooga to help with an accelerated nursing program, as there is an acute nursing shortage. Provost Hale stated that Dr. Smith has already had over 70 inquiries related to this program and to expand the program will come with budget implications. Provost Hale and Mr. Goldberg are working together to make sure this program is adequately resourced. Provost Hale mentioned that they are launching the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) which is part of our SACSCOC Reaffirmation. Provost Hale stated that the QEP is an immediate and long-term budget issue that will last for the next 10 years. Provost Hale mentioned that he is working with Ms. Allison Evans and Ms. Beth Luehrs on the Adjunct Budget process. They are working with the deans of each college to discuss their adjunct needs and each college will know what they are allocated for their budgets and salaries. Provost Hale mentioned that he and Mr. Goldberg are discussing the budget for Summer Funding Models and hopefully it will be finalized by the end of summer of 2024.

Provost Hale asked the committee if they had any further questions. Provost Hale turned the meeting over to Mr. Brent Goldberg. Mr. Goldberg thanked everyone for coming and thanked Mr. Sherbesman, Ms. Evans, and Ms. Luehrs for all the hard work they have done behind the scenes, and he is privileged to have a great team.

Mr. Sherbesman and Mr. Goldberg reported on the FY 2023 Update / FY 2024 Outlook. Dr. Robert Dooley asked where does the \$51 million balance sit? Mr. Sherbesman stated that it sits on the books between fund balance transfers and the state dollars cannot receive interest. Mr. Goldberg stated with the FY 2024 Outlook that he talked to Mr. David Miller, CFO for the UT System, and they are trying to get additional funds through the legislative process as an amendment to the budget. Mr. Goldberg mentioned that if the University is unable to get the additional funds from the legislature, they plan to present a budget that includes a 3% tuition increase. Mr. Goldberg stated the Laure Pou, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, is working on how the University can get to a \$15 minimum wage and address compression. **(Please review the FY 2023 Update / FY 2024 Outlook report that is on the Budget and Finance website).**

Mr. Goldberg discussed and reviewed the one-page UPRAC – FY 2024 Budget Planning Summary Annual Budget Allocations. Mr. David Steele, Chief of Staff, asked where UTC's current tuition stands relative to the system and LGIs and what proposals are at the other institutions. Mr. Goldberg said that UTC is the most affordable UT campus. If UT Martin does not get additional funds, they will seek an increase in tuition as well. Mr. Goldberg stated UT Knoxville is not requesting any funding, along with UT Southern since their tuition is higher than UTC. Mr. Goldberg mentioned that he is not sure if the FY 2025 budget will be better than it is now. Mr. Goldberg stated that the University will need to start demonstrating things in a different way to the Governor's office and the State Legislature, and we need to start controlling costs better. Dr. Yancy Freeman, Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, stated that UTC should be in a growth pattern for enrollment despite the pressure for enrollment. Dr. Freeman wanted to thank his team for all their hard work they have done, and he appreciates the institutional support as well along with everyone's help and willingness to step in with enrollment. **(Please review the UPRAC – FY 2024 Budget Planning Summary Annual Budget Allocations on the Budget and Finance website).**

Mr. Chris Sherbesman discussed and reviewed the FY 2024 Budget Documents. **(Please review the FY 2024 Budget Documents on the Budget and Finance website).**

Mr. Goldberg asked the committee if they had any other questions or concerns regarding all the information they have received today. Mr. Sherbesman stated that after reviewing the document, please let us hear back from each of you by either calling the Budget and Finance Office or via the "Budget Chatt" inquiry/dialogue - located on the Budget and Finance website, as it is anonymous, to give feedback, comments or to ask any questions regarding any aspect of the budget process. **Please remember all UPRAC materials are placed on the Budget and Finance website.**