

University Council
Monday, October 9, 2023
East Tennessee Room

1. Call to Order

Provost Kimberly D. McCorkle called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Melissa Nipper led the roll call. Members present were: Bridget Baird, Dr. Ginni Blackhart, Dr. Joe Bidwell, Dr. Bill Block, Dr. Joel Faidley, Ms. Joy Fulkerson, Ms. Christy Graham, Dr. Adam Green, Dr. Nick Hagemeyer, Mr. Steven Hendrix, Dr. Mike Hoff, Dr. Keith Johnson, Dr. Karen King, Dr. Dharendra Kumar, Dr. Kimberly D. McCorkle, Dr. Brian Noland, Dr. Rob Pack, Mr. Jeremy Ross, Ms. Pam Ritter, Dr. Joe Sherlin, Mr. Mehmet Topyurek, and Mr. Trent White.

3. Standing Items

3.1 Approve Minutes of the September 11, 2023, Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded; the minutes were approved.

3.2 Review Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.3 Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made and seconded to approve the two items on the consent agenda (listed below). The motion was approved.

3.3.1 Parental Leave Policy

3.3.2 Campus Closing Due to Inclement Weather Policy

3.4 Call for Voluntary Reports of UC-Essential Action Items from Governance Organizations

Faculty Senate: Dr. Ginni Blackhart reported that the Faculty Senate would host Dr. Karen King, Ms. Christy Graham, and Ms. Lori Erickson for a presentation about the Voyager implementation at the October 9 meeting. On October 30, the Faculty Senate will host Dr. Nick Hagemeyer and Dr. Virginia Foley to speak about the work of the Academic Structure Task Force. At a previous Faculty Senate meeting, the Senate heard from Dr. Sharon McGee and Dr. David Harker on the work of the General Education Redesign Task Force. She also noted that in April, ETSU will host the Tennessee University Faculty Senate meeting.

SGA: SGA President Trent White provided an update on the Homecoming festivities, noting the success of the Pep Rally and other activities.

3.5 Sub-Council Reports

Quality and Effectiveness Sub-Council (QESC): Dr. Mike Hoff provided an update on the work of the QESC on behalf of Dr. Cheri Clavier. He explained that the sub-council has been separated into four sub-groups: Pre-Accreditation and Program Preview; Post-Accreditation and Program Review; Institutional Satisfaction and Student Access and Success; and Student Equity. The groups will allow more people to become actively engaged with the process and will also allow for better use of institutional data.

4. Action Items

4.1 Old Business

There was no old business to come before the council.

4.2 New Business

There was no new business to come before the council.

5. Information Items/Presentations

5.1 New Organizational Structure for Office of Administration and Work Processes

Mr. Jeremy Ross reported on organizational changes to the Office of Administration, including the introduction of a new office: Capital Assets and Real Estate. He also discussed the functions of the Business Office.

Mr. Jeff Blanton reviewed a new process that will be more widely implemented across the ETSU campus: zone maintenance. This process will divide the campus into three zones (east, middle, and west) to increase efficiency and maximize resources for maintenance, custodial, and grounds work in these areas. Mr. Blanton pointed out that zone maintenance is already being used at Quillen College of Medicine and Housing. Using current personnel, they will pilot the zone approach on the east side of campus and hope to expand to the middle and west campus when staffing is in place to do so.

Mr. Ross provided an update on themes from the master plan, including considerations of campus walkability, parking, housing, and facilities.

Finally, Ms. Laura Bailey updated the council on the process for renovation of space, going over the Renovation/Space Utilization Request Form, located on the Facilities Management website.

She also emphasized the importance of using the Work Order Request Form so that work orders can be addressed in a timely, streamlined manner.

Mr. Ross was asked about parking on campus, and informed the council that a consultant is currently performing a needs assessment of different user groups to examine ratios, enrollment projections, possibilities for new parking, costs, and a host of other issues related to parking. The result will be an operational plan to prepare for the identified needs.

6. President's Report

President Noland thanked Dr. Joe Sherlin, SGA President Trent White, and all of the individuals who helped plan the Homecoming celebration.

He noted that at least a 4 percent across-the-board salary increase recommendation will come before the ETSU Board of Trustees for approval.

He encouraged the council to attend the events taking place during the ETSU Founders Week, which will conclude with the State of the University address on Friday, October 13. At that time, he will update the campus community on enrollment, first-year student comparisons, student success and retention, graduation rate, salaries, and other items of note.

7. Announcements

Provost Kimberly D. McCorkle previewed the ETSU Elevates event on Monday, October 9, at 5:30 p.m. at the ETSU Martin Center and encouraged the council to attend.

8. Adjournment

Provost McCorkle adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, at 8:30 a.m.