



Committee for 125 – Chapter II - April 28th Meeting Summary

Attendees: Brian Noland, Michael Hoff, Rob Anderson, Mildred Garcia, Louis Gump, Scott Jenkins, Linda Latimer, Lester Lattany, Alan Levine, Scott Niswonger, Melissa Steagall-Jones, James Votruba, Alisa White, Adam Green, Michael Webb, Jodi Polaha, Joe Bidwell, Bert Bach, David Linville, Mike Krause, David Atkins, Janna Scarborough, Sharon McGee

The initial meeting of the Committee for 125 - Chapter II was held on April 28th via Zoom. President Noland opened the meeting by setting the historical foundation with which this committee will be working. The foundation includes the 1986 75th anniversary of the founding of ETSU, the 100th anniversary in 2011, and the work of the original Committee for 125 in 2012. President Noland closed by reiterating that ETSU is the land grant institution for central Appalachia.

Each committee member introduced themselves and provided background on their work or relationship with ETSU.

Dr. Rob Anderson, president of the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, provided a broad background on the current national landscape of higher education. National policy conversations around free college, Pell funding, social justice, accountability, and polarization. ([Presentation](#))

Mike Krause, former executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, provided updates on the higher education landscape within the state of Tennessee. This conversation included the role of THEC, TBR, enrollment within the state, and policy discussions within the state. ([Presentation](#))

Dr. Mike Hoff, chief planning officer at ETSU, provided details on the local landscape. This included enrollment, demographics, employment, and college attainment. ([Presentation](#))

Robust conversation after the landscape presentations took place. The discussion included topics such as work-force development, relationship between ETSU and industry partners, P-20 education, health of the region, and community development. Out of the discussion President Noland identified three pillars of work around “Community Engagement – Stewardship of Place”, “Corporate Relations – Economic Development”, and “Regionalism.”

President Noland presented on the work conducted by the Committee for 125 from 2012. He provided background on the sub-committee work and the goals that were defined in the original work.

Question for future consideration:

- i. How will colleges balance affordability and cost?
- ii. What are factors that may be inhibiting growth in the humanities, arts, etc.?
- iii. The future of public/private partnerships?
- iv. How should institutions respond to declining perceptions of the value of a college education?
- v. What are your hopes for the future of higher education?