

**Meeting of the Tennessee State University Board of Trustees  
Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee**

**November 16, 2017**

**Tennessee State University – Main Campus – McWherter Administration Building,  
President’s Conference Room  
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd., Nashville, Tennessee**

**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:** Ms. Pam Martin; Dr. Richard Lewis; Dr. Ali Sekmen; and Ms. Sydney Davis.

**Other Board Members Present:** Dr. Deborah Cole; Dr. Edith Peterson Mitchell; Mr. Obie McKenize (via phone); Mr. Stephen Corbeil; Mr. William Freeman; and Dr. Joseph W. Walker, III.

**University Staff Present:** President Glenda Glover; Mr. Laurence Pendleton, University Counsel and Board Secretary; Dr. Mark Hardy, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Alisa Mosley, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Curtis Johnson, Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President of Administration; Dr. Mark Hardy, Vice President of Academic Affairs; and Dr. Tracey Ford, Vice President of Student Affairs.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

**II. ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

Trustee Martin asked Board Secretary Pendleton to call the roll. Secretary Pendleton called the roll, which reflected that Committee members Martin, Lewis, Sekmen and Davis were present. Secretary Pendleton then announced the presence of a quorum.

**III. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 17, 2017, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Martin announced the next item on the agenda, which was the approval of the August 17, 2017, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes. Trustee Martin stated that the Committee meeting minutes were included in the November 16, 2017, Board materials for review. Trustee Lewis moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the August 17, 2017, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes. Trustee Sekmen seconded the motion. With no further discussion, Trustee Martin called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **IV. REPORT ON SACSCOC SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE IN GOVERNANCE CAMPUS VISIT ON SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2017**

Trustee Martin turned to the next item on the agenda – an update and report on the visit to campus by team members from TSU’s accrediting body – the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC or commonly known as SACS) - in connection with TSU’s substantive change in governance. The materials for the agenda item were included in the Board materials for the November 16, 2017, Board meeting. Trustee Martin recognized President Glover and her designee to provide pertinent information related to the agenda item.

Dr. Mosley provided a status update on the SACS visit that took place in September 19-21, 2017. The visit included a three person Peer Review Team from three different institutions, and the assigned SACSCOC Vice President. The team reviewed TSU’s governing standards and the alignment with the standards as it is related to the new governing board structure, fiscal stability, university leadership, and operations. They team met with numerous groups and individuals, including the President, the Senior Leadership team, Deans, Faculty Senate, and students. The team also met with some of the Board members.

Dr. Mosley stated she was happy to report the team determined TSU’s new governance structure is in full compliance with SACSCOC standards and there were no recommendations for change.

Trustee Martin thanked Dr. Glover, Dr. Mosley and her team for an excellent job.

#### **V. REPORT ON SACSCOC TEN YEAR REAFFIRMATION REVIEW**

Trustee Martin moved to the next item on the agenda – report on the SACSCOC ten year Reaffirmation Review. The relevant information regarding the agenda item was provided in the Board materials for November 16, 2017, Board meeting. Trustee Martin once again asked President Glover and her designee to provide pertinent information related to the agenda item.

President Glover yielded the floor to Dr. Mosley, who provided a status update. The University commenced its last reaffirmation process in 2010, and was approved for reaffirmation in 2012. The University is in the Reaffirmation Class of 2020. The next reaffirmation report for SACSCOC is due September 2019, with a site committee visit in 2020. The orientation for the Reaffirmation Class of 2020 will be held in Atlanta. Currently, TSU is in compliance; and TSU plans and expects to be in compliance in 2020.

Trustee Martin thanked Dr. Glover, Dr. Mosley and her team. She also expressed that she noticed how impress the SACS team were with the students and administration.

#### **VI. UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

Trustee Martin moved to the next item on the agenda – update on implementation of the Strategic Plan. She informed the Board that the information regarding the agenda item was in the Board materials for the November 16, 2017, Board meeting. Trustee Martin again asked for President Glover and her designee to provide pertinent information related to the agenda item.

President Glover asked Dr. Mark Hardy, Vice President of Academic Affairs to provide an update.

Dr. Hardy updated the Board on the Strategic Plan (SP). He distributed TSU Strategic Plan pamphlet to the Board members. He also reminded the Board that the SP was approved at the last Board meeting and the SP is dynamic. The plan outlined five (5) strategic priorities, which are:

1. Increase 4-year Graduation Rates
2. Ensure Campus Health and Safety
3. Improve Customer Service
4. Sustainability/diversify Revenue Streams

The Strategic Plan Implementation document/worksheet provides priorities, specific objectives, and the methods to be utilized in order to meet the objectives outlined. The chart also has milestones, which will be utilized to track TSU's progress. In addition, the chart identifies the individuals who will be responsible for each objective. The chart also outlines the action items by month, quarter, and year.

Trustee Sekmen expressed his concerns with calling the document a "Strategic Plan." He asked to review the data that supported the priorities identified and inquired why the data was not included in the document distributed. Dr. Hardy explained TSU engaged Mr. Kevin Williams, former CEO of GM Canada, to assist in the development of the Strategic Plan. Dr. Hardy stated that companies no longer have enormous Strategic Plans that sit on a shelf somewhere and collect dust, but they now use a more dynamic document that is easy to understand. Dr. Hardy confirmed that TSU has the data; although, it was not included in the document distributed.

Trustee Sekmen asked that the document be called "Strategic Objectives," not a "Strategic Plan." Trustee Davis stated she and other students appreciated the concise format. She stated, "as a student, it's very understandable as to what TSU is trying to do." She also noted that students would not read something that has all of the data included as suggested. The discussion continued and concluded with Dr. Hardy agreeing to meet with Trustee Sekmen to provide more details on the assessment and data analysis.

## **VII. REPORT ON NEW STUDENT HOUSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING**

Trustee Martin moved to the next item on the agenda – report on New Student Housing and Health Sciences Building. Trustee Martin once again asked President Glover and her designees to provide pertinent information related to the agenda item. President Glover asked Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Tracey Ford to provide an update.

Dr. Ford informed the Board that the Nashville housing market has proven to be challenging for some of the members of the TSU community. Currently, TSU has 2,960 beds for approximately 30% of the student population. The ratio meets the national best practices standards for University housing and residence life. On the first day of class for the fall 2017 semester, the University had a need for housing at 107% capacity; thus, space is a challenge. TSU is experiencing a significant demand for on-campus housing from both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as from faculty and staff.

TSU continues to explore other options to address its housing needs, including discussions with

management of local apartments to assist with the overflow. TSU is also seeking to ensure that all on-campus living spaces are repaired, updated, and available for student occupancy.

In addition, Dr. Ford advised the Board on the establishment of a Housing Improvement Committee to review current housing application, placement, and payment processes and make recommendations for improvements.

Dr. Curtis Johnson, Chief of Staff and Assoc. Vice President of Administration stated that the University is also exploring and pursuing the purchase of facilities in the surrounding areas of the campus for conversion to campus housing.

President Glover advised the Board of TSU's goal is to get four (4) residence halls, with two already set to be built.

President Glover asked Dr. Johnson to provide information about the next item, the soon to be constructed Health Sciences Building.

Dr. Johnson shared with the Board the Health Sciences – 50 year Plan and rendering of the new facility. The new facility will be flexible and adaptable to changing academic program needs, to accommodate advancements in health sciences practices and technology. The expected programs for the facility are occupational therapy, physical therapy, cardio respiratory, health management programs and nursing. The new facility will include all industry standard laboratories, model medical facilities, and IT infrastructures needed to prepare students for their respective professions.

Trustee Lewis inquired about the level of minority participation/involvement in the process.

President Glover agreed with Trustee Lewis' comments regarding the importance of minority participation/involvement. She also noted that Tennessee Board of Regents will actually make the final call and selection. Currently, TSU is not severed from TBR as it pertains to capital planning.

Secretary of the Board, Laurence Pendleton, advised the goal is to sever capital planning from the TBR next year.

Trustee Davis inquired if the Jane Elliott building will be torn down. President Glover stated that the building would remain.

Trustee Lewis also emphasized the need to connect with the Governor, TBR, and others to ensure minority businesses are involved in the building process.

## **VIII. STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

Trustee Martin moved to the next item on the agenda – the Student Affairs Report. Trustee Martin asked President Glover and her designees to provide pertinent information related to the agenda item. She also reminded the Board of the materials for the agenda item was in the November 16, 2017, Board materials.

President Glover asked Dr. Ford to provide the report on Student Affairs.

Dr. Ford advised the Committee of the various areas within the Division of Student Affairs affecting the development and success of students at TSU. The areas noted were, student activities, Student Government Association, housing, judicial affairs, and counseling and health services. The focus was on counseling and health services.

Dr. Ford also informed the Board that nationally, students from all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds are in need of access to quality mental and physical health services to address a myriad of issues that impact their academic success. The national trend shows that universities are developing cost effective strategies to meet the demand for mental and health services. TSU is moving in the same direction by improving both counseling and health services, including partnering with community health agencies, gaining accreditations, and expanding services and hours of availability.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Trustee Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Trustee Martin called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

The Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.