

University Council
Monday, January 10, 2022
Meeting conducted via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Provost Kimberly McCorkle called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Joe Smith led the roll call. Members present were Mr. David Atkins, Ms. Bridget Baird, Dr. Bill Block, Mr. Scott Carter, Dr. Cheri Clavier, Dr. Susan Epps, Ms. Joy Fulkerson, Dr. Mark Fulks, Dr. Adam Green, Dr. Lisa Haddad, Dr. Nick Hagemeyer, Ms. Meaghan Heimbach, Mr. Stephen Hendrix, Dr. Michael Hoff, Anthony Johnson, Dr. Keith Johnson, Dr. Karin Keith, Dr. Chris Keller, Dr. B.J. King, Dr. Karen King, Dr. Sam Mayhew, Dr. Kimberly McCorkle, Mr. Mason Mosier, Dr. Brian Noland, Ms. Pam Ritter, Dr. Don Samples, Dr. Janna Scarborough, Dr. Joe Sherlin, Dr. Jeff Snodgrass, Ms. Jessica Vodden

3. Standing Items

3.1. Approval of minutes of the December 13, 2021 meeting

A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the minutes. There were no edits or additions to the minutes. The minutes were approved.

3.2. Review agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

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

Council of Chairs: Chairperson Keith discussed a training program for new chairs that would be held later that afternoon.

Student Government Association: President Mosier reported that artist Miranda Lambert will be headlining the SGA Spring Concert in late April.

Athletics: Director Carter announced that Athletics has enjoyed welcoming new football coach George Quarles to the staff and that he has already begun recruiting. Signing day is less than a month away. In other news, men's golfer Remi Chartier won a tournament the previous weekend for the second time; men's and women's basketball seasons are in full swing; and track season will begin soon.

3.4. Sub-Council Reports – Quality and Effectiveness Sub-Council Update

Dr. Clavier reported that her group will be meeting in the upcoming weeks to continue planning the QEP, which was approved at the last University Council meeting and will focus on community-engaged learning.

4. Action Items

4.1. Old Business

There were no old business items to discuss.

4.2. New Business

4.2.1. Refund Policy

Ms. Kay Lennon-McGrew explained that the refund policy was identified through a SACSCOC review and that it is critical for a refund policy to be in place. Ms. Michel Beaver provided context for the policy which outlines the process for issuing refunds to students for tuition, fees, housing, and meal plans. It outlines when 100% refunds would be issued as well as a fee adjustment period when 75% and 25% refunds would be issued and how those refunds would be prorated. Other elements of the policy include the appeal process, the on-campus person who holds final authority for appeals, and information that would be available on the website. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy. The policy was approved.

5. Information Items/Presentations

5.1. General update on university policies vs. TBR policies.

Dr. Mark Fulks and Ms. Lennon-McGrew discussed how ETSU adopted then-existing TBR as its own in 2017 following the launch of the FOCUS Act. Since then TBR has revised many of its policies to remove the parts that were directed to the universities rather than the community colleges. Consequently, faculty, staff, and students should no longer go to the TBR policy website for ETSU policies. Anyone needing a current ETSU policy should check the ETSU policy website or contact the University Counsel office to get the most current version.

6. President's Report

Highlights of President Noland's report:

Dr. Noland encouraged everyone who has not been vaccinated or received the booster vaccine for COVID-19 to do so. A communication with updates regarding the institution's COVID-19 response is set to go to campus soon.

The Tennessee General Assembly resumes activities this week. THEC put forward its budget recommendations last November. Specifically to capital projects, ETSU anticipates receiving funding for the proposed academic/humanities building, renovations to Brown Hall, and deferred maintenance support. He is also hopeful for funding for a clinical and education building for ETSU Health that would be located behind the Innovation Lab.

The spring 2022 semester begins next Tuesday (Jan. 18). No actions to delay the start of the semester are anticipated. Enrollment is relatively positive.

A number of new activities related to marketing, communication, branding, and outreach are planned to begin soon.

Work of the the Committee for 125 Chapter 2 will begin to transition from a visioning stage to implementation. A report will be taken to the ETSU Board of Trustees in February.

7. Announcements

Dr. Clavier has met with all the team leads and resources are being made available to the teams so that SACSCOC reaffirmation work can begin.

Ms. Baird noted she will be in Nashville as the Tennessee General Assembly begins session. If anyone has questions or needs to pass along information to her, she will be available, and she will continue to send her weekly legislative reviews to campus leadership.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 a.m.