

UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

DATE:	May 11, 2022	Mooney Library
DAY:	Wednesday	875 Monroe Avenue
TIME:	1:00 PM	Memphis, TN

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Item #4a: November 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 Type: Action
 Presenter: Dr. Wenk

UTHSC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 17, 2021
 Webinar

MINUTES

Present:

Board Members:

Dr. Philip Wenk, *Chair*
 Dr. Terry Cooper (Faculty)
 Ms. Leah Burns (Student)
 Dr. Natalie Tate
 Dr. Michael Ugwueke

Staff:

Dr. Steve Schwab
 Mr. Anthony Ferrara, *Secretary*
 Dr. Kennard Brown
 Dr. Cynthia Russell
 Mr. Love Collins
 Dr. Steven Goodman

Deans:

Dr. Wendy Likes
 Dr. Marie Chisholm-Burns
 Dr. Scott Strome
 Dr. Steve Alway
 Dr. Don Thomason

Guests: Members of the HSC community and public were invited to participate in the Zoom broadcast

Absent:

Board Members:

Honorable Mark Norris

Deans:

Dr. James Ragain

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Wenk called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM and Mr. Ferrara confirmed all board members were in attendance with the exclusion of Honorable Mark Norris who was detained in jury trial.

2. Action

The May 12, 2021 meeting minutes were presented for approval noting the August 11, 2021 meeting was not held. Dr. Ugwueke moved and Dr. Cooper seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Chancellor's Report

- State of the University
 - Campus Operations During COVID – we are in full operation. The overall campus vaccination rate is mid 80% with an anticipated increase based on guidelines to be rolled out. Current residents and fellows are vaccinated at a rate in the high 90's. COVID-19 attack rate is well managed with only one new case in the last week and no new cases for several weeks prior. The Presidential order for federal subcontractors clearly applies to HSC; however, this order conflicted with a state-issued law preventing the university from creating mandates around masking or vaccination. As of last night, an exemption to the state law was received from the Comptroller for UTHSC with large federal contracts and CMS issues. All faculty and staff, students in CMS or Partner CMS participating clinics as well as students who receive stipends or participate in part-time work study area are now required to follow CDC masking guidelines and to be vaccinated (with medical or religious exemptions). Unless there are changes, affected employees need to be fully vaccinated by January 18, 2022.

Follow-up discussion:

- Dr. Wenk requested feedback from the group on how the changing guidelines are affecting their areas:
 - Dr. Ugwueke reported that Methodist started mandatory vaccination in August with October deadline. Hospital is at 98.3% and physicians are at 97%. Currently seeing a decline in COVID cases.
 - Dr. Tate reported that a mandate for Blue Cross/Blue Shield was issued for customer-facing employees in September (900 employees). As a federal contractor, also rolled out mandate a couple of weeks ago with December 8 deadline for proof of 1st dose of vaccination. Before mandate was at 73% and does not have information yet regarding the latest number (1400 employees impacted).
- Campus Distinctions
 - Record revenue, record graduates, record research, stable clinical activity
 - Le Bonheur Children's Hospital: Nationally Ranked (6th year in a row)
 - College of Pharmacy – moved up to #14 NIH and Top 20 in U.S. News & World Report
 - College of Nursing – named #1 BSN in TN and Top 26 DNP in U. S. News & World Report
- Finances
 - Annual revenue when combined with 501c3 practices shows a solid diversified financial base with roughly one-third each from clinical revenue, sponsored programs and philanthropy/special services/state appropriate/tuition. Tuition held flat for 4th year in a row with an expected recommendation for a flat rate for tuition this year as well.
- Campus Master Plan
 - Delta Dental College of Dentistry Building – expected completion by 4th quarter 2022.
 - Quadrangle Re-Build – additional monies were received to build out top floor of the Nash and Nash Annex Building to give us an additional 100,000 sq. feet of state-of-the-art research facilities. Crowe and Mooney buildings are currently occupied and Nash will be occupied when additional renovations are completed.
 - Audiology and Speech Pathology has officially relocated in Knoxville and occupies 2 ½ floors in renovated building.
 - Orleans Station – addresses a lack of premium living space in the Medical District. The Turley company has a contract to build out 10 acres of mixed use development – retail and housing. This would provide an opportunity for students, residents and fellows to have on-campus housing.

- Education
 - Nursing enrollment for both graduate and baccalaureate programs is growing. We have transitioned from traditional to accelerated baccalaureate programs. We expect a 2 – 4% growth going forward.
 - Residents, Fellows and Post Docs have been a steeper growth curve and it is anticipated that the growth curve will slow with the decrease in federal support dollars.
 - Degrees Awarded – There was a big jump in the number of degrees awarded this year with an anticipated bigger jump in degrees awarded next year. With the development of accelerated degrees, we will grant baccalaureate degrees. Nursing spearheaded this effort and their initial class entered and graduated in the same year with a 96% completion rate and 100% board pass rate. Methodist and other healthcare partners have stepped up to offer scholarships to these students if they commit to enter their hospitals when they graduate.
 - Medicine and Pharmacy also have accelerated programs.
 - Graduation rates – target rates were set at 95% for graduates and 85% for undergraduate. Graduate rate was met with undergraduate rate exceeded at 93%.
 - First-Attempt Board Pass Rate – graduate and baccalaureate rates are consistent at 95%.
 - Education Issues – we own and are addressing these issues:
 - COVID
 - ACGME – item was discussed with each board member individually
 - Student satisfaction concerns
- Clinical Care.
 - Core Affiliated Practice Plan Activity and W-RVUs Affiliated Practice Plans were reviewed
 - Rural Outreach Dental Clinics – Tennessee has 16 counties classified as dental deserts and 3 without dentists in the state. HSC is trying to provide dentists who will practice in those areas and to provide care right now. We have created D4 Rural Outreach Dental Clinics and looking to create D3 and D4 master clinics in the eastern part of the state. A component of the dental outreach is a loan forgiveness program if the students stay in the underserved rural counties.
- Research Awards grew significantly in spite of the pandemic. Research expenditures are tracking with the awards.
- Diversity – While we are the most diverse of the University of Tennessee’s institutions, we are not meeting our diversity targets. Our diversity target is a diverse workforce that acts, walks and talks like Tennessee and goes to all the counties where we need people to go. Efforts underway to increase diversity include a series of innovative programs developed within each of the colleges, working with partner undergraduate programs and providing Master degree programs. Numbers are improving each year toward our diversity goal.
- Follow-up discussion:
 - Dr. Wenk requested additional detail regarding the diversity issue. Dr. Rosenthal’s Determined to be a Doctor program was noted as an innovative program which may be developed through Delta Dental into a nationwide program. The question was asked on how to address the pipeline and the ideal time period for it to be addressed (late middle school, early high school). Dr. Wenk recommended that the process be unified campus-wide vs. individual efforts by each college. Dr. Likes’ and Dr. Strome agreed this process is needed and listed their current efforts. Dr. Ugweuke emphasized that strategy and goals are needed to meet the target. Dr. Wenk would like to set up a workshop where the deans and staff could brainstorm possible collaborative efforts. Dr. Schwab followed up with describing the two-prong approach to this issue – addressing increasing the numbers of underrepresented minorities and underrepresented counties and understanding that the pathway to professional school starts at least before college or at undergraduate colleges and working to create pipelines.

4. FY 2023 Tuition Background Information

The tuition rate comparisons are being presented as background info and will not require a vote or approval. HSC is on its 4th year of 0% tuition increases with the exception being small, targeted

increases in 2019 and 2020. A tuition review was presented of approved HSC and Aspirational Peers (which should be noted includes schools which do not have the same portfolio of programs as HSC) as well as competition peers that each college identifies as their competition.

THEC recommendations to the governor are expected in the coming days and it looks good for the university with a good operating funds increase. The anticipated timeline for tuition rates:

- HSC Advisory Board Approval – January 12, 2022
- UT Board of Trustees Approval – February 25, 2022
- Effective – July 1, 2022

5. Other Business

Dr. Ugwueke asked if there is an update on the Chancellor's Search. The committee has advanced two finalists which have both visited the campus and the President has indicated he will work quickly to bring a new Chancellor aboard. Dr. Wenk, Dr. Chisholm-Burns, Dr. Likes and Dr. Russell provided additional input as members of the search committee. Dr. Wenk anticipated that a candidate would be recommended and presented to the Board of Trustees before Christmas.

Leah Burns, the new student representative, introduced herself to the Board. She is the current Student Government Association President, a 4th year pharmacy student and is currently a Pharmacy Intern at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. She is from rural Alabama and was drawn to the HSC Pharmacy School by the discounted out-of-state tuition.

The next meeting date is January 12 and the agenda will include the tuition rate approval.

6. Adjournment

Dr. Wenk adjourned meeting at 2:10 PM.