

**University Council**  
**Monday, April 10, 2023**  
**East Tennessee Room**

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

Melissa Nipper led the roll call. Members present were Dr. Ginni Blackhart, Dr. Joe Bidwell, Dr. Bill Block, Dr. Joel Faidley, Ms. Joy Fulkerson, Ms. Christy Graham, Dr. Adam Green, Dr. Lisa Haddad, Dr. Nick Hagemeyer, Mr. Stephen Hendrix, Dr. Mike Hoff, Dr. Leann Horsley, Dr. Karen King, Ms. Candy Massey, Dr. Sam Mayhew, Dr. Kimberly McCorkle, Mr. Mason Mosier, Dr. Arpita Nandi, Dr. Brian Noland, Dr. Rob Pack, Dr. Tony Pittarese, Ms. Pam Ritter, Dr. Janna Scarborough, Dr. Joe Sherlin, and Ms. Jessica Vodden.

**3. Standing Items**

*3.1 Approve minutes from the March 13, 2023, meeting*

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 13, 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 to approve the three items on the consent agenda (listed below). The motion was seconded and approved.

3.3.1 ETSU Information Security Policy

3.3.2 Workplace Accommodations for Disabilities (Employees and Applicants)

3.3.3 Hot Work Permit Policy

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

*Faculty Senate:* Dr. Ginni Blackhart reported that more than 250 faculty members voted in the Faculty Trustee Election, which resulted in the election of Dr. Steph Frye-Clark as the new Faculty Trustee for 2023-25. Most colleges have completed elections for Faculty Senate positions for College Representatives. An election for officers will take place at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Dr. Blackhart also provided an update on a work group she is chairing that will be gathering feedback from faculty chairs and faculty regarding the current faculty evaluation process.

*Council of Chairs:* Dr. Lisa Haddad reported that the Council is continuing its work on the website revisions and has set up a Chair of Chairs email address: [chairofchairs@etsu.edu](mailto:chairofchairs@etsu.edu). Dr. Haddad will remain in the Chair of Chairs position for the next year.

*Staff Senate:* Ms. Joy Fulkerson reported that the deadline for nominations for staff awards and recognitions (including the Career Award) is next week for the annual Staff Social on May 16. Ms. Fulkerson also reported that she is serving on the Academic Structure Task Force.

*Student Government Association:* Dr. Joe Sherlin provided an update on the 2023-24 SGA elections. More than 1,000 students voted in the election. Results were as follows: Trent White, president; Brooke Patterson, executive vice president; and Skylar Brackett, vice president of finance and administration.

### *3.5 Sub-Council Reports*

*Quality and Effectiveness Sub-council:* Dr. Mike Hoff thanked everyone for the work put into the SACSCOC on-site peer visit and reported that ETSU was found compliant on all standards. No further reporting is required for 10-year reaffirmation.

## **4. Action Items**

### *4.1 Old Business*

There were no old business items to discuss.

### *4.2 New Business*

There were no new business items to discuss.

## **5. Information Items/Presentations**

### *5.1 ETSU Strategic Planning Update—ETSU State of the University Survey*

Dr. Mike Hoff reported on the ETSU State of the University Survey, a survey of faculty, staff, and students that ran from Nov. 2-Dec. 19, 2022. There were 2,935 responses. A few of the key findings he highlighted include 95.5 percent of the respondents believe ETSU improves the lives of the people in the region, 80 percent of students who responded believe that their professors care about them, and 84 percent of respondents would choose to enroll at ETSU again. Departments and units with specific survey questions were given their data. The final report will be available after the ETSU Board of Trustees meeting on April 21. This survey will be done every two years.

### *5.2 Update on procedures for the Sub-council for University Governance*

One of the charges for this committee is to assist university-level organizations and committees in the process of filling vacancies. Mr. Stephen Hendrix updated the council on a procedural change in the way vacancies are filled. The Student Government Association (SGA) brought forth a concern to the Sub-council concerning the way in which students are appointed to various committees at the university level. The current process requires a student who wishes to serve on a committee to reach out to a committee chair once they learn of a vacancy, and the committee

chair is responsible for selecting members to serve on those various committees within a month. The SGA requested a change in procedure, as follows: for appointments of students to committees that are not representing SGA, SGA requested that any student interested in serving submit their name to the chair of the Sub-council. The chair of the Sub-council will submit a list of names to the Executive Committee of the SGA, and the SGA Executive Committee will have 15 days to appoint the various students to serve on those committees. This went through several discussions with the Sub-council, which ultimately approved this procedural change. This change applies to standing committees of the institution, not to ad hoc committees.

### *5.3 Change of college name – Clemmer College*

Dr. Janna Scarborough, Dean of Clemmer College, presented an update on an upcoming name change for Clemmer College. The college is home to 10 undergraduate majors and concentrations, 16 minors, 23 graduate programs, 16 graduate certificates, and four research and practice centers. She explained that a new name would better highlight the breadth and depth of what is offered in the college, providing better representation and clarity of what the college offers. The college engaged in a process, examining peer institutions and reviewing the most popular names put forth in the past, and sent surveys to alumni, current students, faculty, and staff. The name that emerged and that was put forward to the leadership team was Clemmer College of Education and Human Development. The name has been shared with faculty, university deans, and Academic Council, and will be presented to the ETSU Board of Trustees for approval at their April 21 meeting.

## **6. President's Report**

President Dr. Brian Noland updated the board on the new Trustees recently elected to the ETSU Board of Trustees: Dr. Steph Frye-Clark will serve as the Faculty Trustee, and Aamir Shaikh, a second-year Quillen College of Medicine student, was elected to serve as the Student Trustee. At the April 21 Board meeting, the Board will take action on tuition and fees, tenure and promotion, and budgets.

He provided an update on legislative items. ETSU continues to track possible funding for the Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy and funding for inflationary costs for the Quillen College of Medicine. Additionally, ETSU continues to work with elected representatives on the need for funding for the second phase of Brown Hall.

He provided several updates on campus initiatives. Voyager continues to be on time and on budget, and he noted that the implementation for HR and Finance have been synched for congruency across the work. He also thanked Dr. Nick Hagemeyer and Dr. Virginia Foley for their work on the Academic Structure Task Force.

The university is moving through the next phase of campus budget discussions. Colleges have already had budget hearings, and many units have also had their budget hearings. Themes of the hearings include utilizing resources that are presently in the budget, reviewing vacant positions to look at opportunities to repurpose available funds, and continuing to be wise stewards of current resources. The budget is balanced and provides a 5 percent salary pool.

On April 13, the Academic Building will go before the state Building Commission for approval, allowing the university to move forward with schematic design and demolish the current building in November 2023. Faculty and staff are moving back into Lamb Hall, and a team of past and current campus leaders will tour the renovated facility on April 19.

He mentioned the importance of the university's responsibility to uphold the law and allow speakers of varying viewpoints on campus.

Finally, he celebrated several exciting things that occurred over the past week, including the announcement that the Marching Bucs will march in the 2024 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the successful outcome of the SACSCOC on-site visit. He thanked Dr. Cheri Clavier, Dr. Mike Hoff, and Dr. Susan McCorkle for their work on the SACSCOC reaccreditation and QEP. He also applauded Provost Dr. Kimberly McCorkle for guiding the university through the SACSCOC reaccreditation process.

## **7. Announcements**

Dr. Kimberly McCorkle announced that there will be a town hall meeting on April 19 at 10 a.m. in the Culp Auditorium to discuss the updates on Academic Reorganization. There will be a Zoom option.

Dr. Karen King announced the Voyager team is at the end of the second testing cycle, and the go-live for Voyager for Finance and HR will be January 2024.

Dr. Sam Mayhew mentioned that there will be an Admissions Open House on Saturday, April 15. Saturday, April 22, is the first freshman orientation.

Mr. Mason Mosier announced the SGA concert featuring Jason Derulo and Rainbow Kitten Surprise would be held on Saturday, April 22.

## **8. Adjournment**

Provost McCorkle adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.