

**Staff Advisory Committee to the President
November 6, 2014, 1:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Becky Asher, Kevin Edwards (presiding), Lauren Graves, Jerry Keeton, Tina Martin (sub.-S. Jones), Debbie Mayberry, Valerie Nash, Cheryl Sullivan and Randa Thompson

Others Present: John Brooks, Jack Butler, President Oldham and Terri Taylor

Opening Welcome

Chairman Edwards opened the meeting with a welcome and introduced the Associate Vice President for Facilities and Business Services Jack Butler.

Facilities and Business Services

Associate Vice President for Facilities and Business Services Jack Butler addressed many areas related to facilities including a suggestion previously submitted via the suggestion box concerning the use of mulch versus river rock on campus for flower beds, etc. Currently, mulch is being used in an attempt to provide the same landscaping as was used during the construction of the campus buildings. The mulch is treated to eliminate insects and the growth of grass within the mulched area.

Relative to parking, Mr. Butler stated that the West-Campus parking will see an addition of 1100 parking spaces in the near future. Project bids are set to be received in January with 400 spaces under design and an additional 700 to be added behind Tech Village. In order to lessen travel time around campus and assist commuters, a campus shuttle has been put in place. Most students and staff are not currently aware of the no-fee shuttle system, but a marketing campaign is being developed to inform the campus of the addition of the shuttle bus and campus route. A second shuttle is being planned as more take advantage of the service. Questions concerning a parking garage were raised and Mr. Butler remarked that parking garages are in the master plan, but at this time are not needed and are an unnecessary cost burden for students to bare. The cost to provide surface level parking is \$3,000 per space versus \$15,000 per space within a parking garage.

There was a brief discussion concerning future renovations due to structural issues to the University Center, North Patio and the Volpe Library. Also, plans are underway to convert to LED lighting from Seventh Street down Peachtree to University Drive. In addition to the planning for the science building, projects are being planned to rebuild Dixie into two lanes with landscaping added to divide lanes as well as many other campus reshaping projects within the next three years. Relative to planning for the new recreation center, a team is currently reviewing approximately 18 companies for ranking by category and specification to shorten the list for selection of a design firm. Mr. Butler closed his comments with a thank you to all the staff members for their continued hard work and diligence to make this university the best Tennessee has to offer.

President's Comments

President Oldham opened with remarks regarding the missing Eagle from atop Derryberry Hall to assure all that the Eagle has undergone needed repair and a mold has been cast for the production of replicas. Plans are to place a replica atop Derryberry with the original being displayed in the RUC for future generations.

In order to provide the best possible campus setting, many unit relocations are underway. Recent relocations include University Police (UP) moving to Foundation Hall with the ROTC Department scheduled to relocate to the vacated UP building. Also, Telecommunications vacated the UP building and is now housed in the University Services building. President Oldham also noted that the university is transitioning to a new campus look and it will take some time before the transition is complete, until then expect to see a gradual change in the look of the university's grounds.

Lastly, President Oldham announced a one-percent salary increase for employees in January and added that unfortunately this is all that can be allocated at this time. The President thanked the committee as well as all staff for their continued support of the university's endeavors.

There being no further discussions, Chairman Edwards adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Terri Taylor, Recorder