

## Petersen Named New UT President

On April 21, UT named John Petersen, PhD as its 23rd president. He will take over the position on July 1.

Currently, Dr. Petersen serves as provost and executive vice president at the University of Connecticut.

"Under Dr. Petersen's leadership, UT can renew its mission and set its sights on a successful future," said Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen.

Dr. Petersen takes over for interim president Joseph Johnson, EdD.

"You can't imagine how excited Carol and I are to have this opportunity, and from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you," said Dr. Petersen.

Dr. Petersen holds a PhD in inorganic chemistry from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a BS in chemistry from California State University.

Prior to his position at Connecticut, Dr. Petersen served as dean of the College of Sciences at Wayne State University.



*New UT president John Petersen, PhD, addressed the UTHSC community on April 22.*

## Rice Delivers State of the Campus Address

In the annual State of the Campus Address, Interim Chancellor Bill Rice, JD cited exciting developments in the UT system and on this campus. He also pointed out issues that must be resolved over the next year.

Mr. Rice expressed his pleasure with the selection of John Petersen, PhD as the new president of UT and said he expects Dr. Petersen to return to campus for an extended visit sometime in the next six weeks, at which time they will discuss the need for a permanent chancellor of UTHSC.

Noting Governor Phil Bredesen's proposed budget for fiscal year 2005, Mr. Rice said that UTHSC will experience a .8 percent reduction in state appropriations. However, the budget does call for a two percent raise for faculty and staff that will come from existing funds, a one percent one-time bonus for faculty and staff, state funding for a new College of Pharmacy

building, and funding for capital maintenance such as roof and air conditioner repair.

The exact details of how the raise and bonus will be handled have not been determined. The funding for the \$45 million College of Pharmacy building will be \$30 million from the state, plus a \$15 million match that UTHSC will have to raise privately.

The budget also includes funds for the Memphis Biotech Foundation, which will be used to demolish the old Baptist Hospital, possibly this year.

The next step in the creation of a regional biocontainment lab will be a risk assessment of security, which should begin in the near future.

Notably missing from the governor's budget is funding for the research centers of excellence, though Mr. Rice noted that there are funds available to keep them in operation during the coming year.

The greatest challenge for UTHSC will

be to stabilize and rebalance spending.

Currently in the colleges, personnel costs account for approximately 95 percent of spending, with five percent going to operating costs. This is contrary to the desired 85 percent going to personnel and 15 percent to operating costs. Because of this, and the need to balance the fiscal year 2005 budget, it may be necessary to eliminate filling vacant positions or to cut existing positions.

Mr. Rice and the deans of all the colleges will meet soon to establish priorities for various projects that need funding and give direction to faculty on how they can better assist the development office in bringing in private funding.

Ongoing issues Mr. Rice will be addressing in the near future are developing a campus-wide policy on the use of research bonuses, examining the cost of research animals, and determining the appropriateness of salary increases for various positions.

# Campus Safety Reminder

For your safety, the Campus Police Department encourages anyone leaving a building on campus during the evening and early morning hours to call for an escort. The number is 448-4444.

## The Record

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#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is to improve human health through education, research and public service, with an emphasis on improving the health of Tennesseans.

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# Faculty/Staff Communications to Media and Legislators

## **Regarding Media Relations:**

At the Health Science Center, the Chancellor or his designee is the official media spokesperson. The Communications and Marketing Department is assigned responsibility for coordinating all Health Science Center media contact and for assisting in the promotion of and dissemination of noteworthy items to the public.

Faculty or staff who are contacted directly by the media should consult with the Communications and Marketing Department prior to providing a response. A suggested reaction to their initial request should be something like, "I'd really like to assist you, but first I need you to contact Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett in the Communications and Marketing Department. Her phone number is 448-4957."

If contacted after hours, the Director of Communications and Marketing is always "on-call" and may be contacted via pager at 392-1574. This number is available on the News Center's web page of the [utmem.edu](http://www.utmem.edu) website.

Faculty or staff who have information such as achievements, grants, or UT related events they would like to share with the general public, should also coordinate with the Communications and Marketing Department.

Please remember that individuals who wish to express their personal opinions in public such as in the form of a letter to the editor, should do so as a private citizen and avoid adding any information about their UT affiliation.

For a detailed review of the media policy, go to: <http://www.utmem.edu/policies/Admin/Polocies/Media.htm>

## **Regarding Legislative Relations:**

At the Health Science Center, the Vice Chancellor for University Relations serves as the official liaison for all contacts with elected or appointed officials and/or lobbyists.

Faculty or staff who are contacted by elected or appointed officials or lobbyists or their staffs should consult with the Vice Chancellor for University Relations as promptly as possible and prior to providing a response.

Administrators, faculty or staff who have proposals or arguments they desire to have presented to the Legislature or to lobbyists must coordinate such approaches with the Vice Chancellor for University Relations prior to making contact with any legislative or lobbyist offices. Additionally, faculty or staff desiring to invite any legislator or elected or appointed official to campus or to a Health Science Center event must coordinate this effort with the Vice Chancellor for University Relations prior to extending an invitation.

Faculty and Staff who desire to express a personal opinion on legislation, political, societal, etc., issues may do so as an individual citizen without coordination through Health Science Center officials. Such employees, however, should not use their university title, affiliations, or letterhead to express a personal opinion since this could be misconstrued to represent the university's position.

When testifying or advising on behalf of a professional organization, faculty are sometimes linked to UT by those with whom they are speaking. In such a case, if asked, they may identify themselves as faculty members, but must state that they are presenting their information as a representative of the professional organization and not as a position of the university.

For a detailed policy, go to <http://www.utmem.edu/policies/Admin/Polocies/Legislative.html>

## *In Memoriam*

The UTHSC community extends condolences to:

The family of **John Gary, DDS**, associate professor and director of graduate prosthodontics in the College of Dentistry.

**Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett**, APR, director of communications and marketing, was recently named Professional of the Year by the Memphis chapter of the Public Relations Society of America at the 12th Annual Vox Awards Gala. She is the immediate past president of the organization and was recognized for her hard work in improving the chapter's finances and promoting or expanding activities.

**Chuck Fitch** has been named Deputy Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the UTHSC Computer Center. He will be responsible for managing day-to-day information technology operations and for coordinating with the statewide Office of Information Technology.

**Leonard Lothstein, PhD**, associate professor in the department of pharmacology, recently received grant funding from the National Cancer Institute for the research project titled, "In Vitro and In Vivo Analyses of 14-O-Acylanthracyclines." This 3-year award began April 1.

**Lucy Allen**, senior administrative services assistant in the department of pediatrics, is being inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the oldest honor society serving two-year colleges internationally. She is a student at Southwest Tennessee Community College and will begin nursing school in January.

## Runyan Honored by UTHSC, City of Memphis

On April 14, John W. Runyan Jr., MD, MACP, University Distinguished Professor and Professor Emeritus, was honored at a reception for 35 years of service to UT and for his dedication in meeting the healthcare needs of Memphis.

Dr. Runyan was honored in conjunction with the Spring 2004 Phineas J. Sparer Distinguished Visiting Professorship and Community Health Day.

The City of Memphis also recognized Dr. Runyan's years of service by naming a conference room at the Shelby County Health Department in his honor.

Dr. Runyan joined the UT faculty in 1969 and founded the Division of Endocrinology, which he led for a decade. He subsequently served as professor and chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine from 1972-1994. With his leadership, the department added programs in geriatric medicine and health promotion/disease prevention. Additionally, Dr. Runyan was instrumental in designing and establishing one of the nation's premier community-based, nurse-run, chronic-disease treatment programs, which won national recognition for the university.



*Hank Herrod, MD, dean of the College of Medicine, left, presents a plaque to John Runyan Jr., MD, MACP, University Distinguished Professor and Professor Emeritus, at a reception in his honor.*

## *Congratulations*

**Chloe Lashley**, senior research technician in the department of preventive medicine, will be married in Dallas on June 12.

# News Bites

General Stores is conducting a customer survey and would like your input. Please go to [www.utm.edu/gen\\_store/](http://www.utm.edu/gen_store/) and select Customer Survey from the menu on the left hand side of the page.

If you are willing to include your name and phone number at the end of the survey, you will be entered for a prize drawing.

Seventeen staff members at UT Family Medicine at St. Francis Hospital recently participated in Walk America for The March of Dimes. They raised \$450.

In order to eliminate using Social Security numbers in the IP registration process and to enhance the security of devices connected to the UTHSC network, computing and telecommunications is implementing a new IP registration system.

Employees will receive an e-mail requesting that they validate the networked devices for which they are responsible. This will include desktop computers, printers, PDA's, laptops and any other device connected to the UTHSC network.

This new process includes an automated security update tool that will install McAfee Anti-Virus software and the required patches to the operating system. This portion of the process only affects Windows 2000 and Windows XP systems.

If you have a unique computing environment and feel you cannot perform the security update process to your Windows 2000 or Windows XP system, please e-mail Lisa Aitken at [laitken@utm.edu](mailto:laitken@utm.edu), or Taylor Strickland at [tstrickland@utm.edu](mailto:tstrickland@utm.edu), or call 448-5848.

## Illness Can Hit Anytime: Join Sick Leave Bank

A serious illness or medical emergency can strike anyone of us at any time. Membership in the UTHSC Sick Leave Bank allows the opportunity to apply for additional paid time off should you exhaust all of your sick and annual leave.

Each employee who is classified as regular full-time or regular part-time (and earns sick leave) with at least 48 hours of accumulated sick time is eligible to join. The cost is a donation of 24 hours of sick leave, which will be deducted from your sick leave balance.

The Sick Leave Bank allows open enrollment during the months of April, May and June. If you are interested, this will be the only opportunity you will

have to join during 2004. Please note that if you are already a member, you will not have to re-apply.

There are two ways to apply for membership. There is an online application that is available at [www.utm.edu/humanresources/SLBEnrollmentForm.pdf](http://www.utm.edu/humanresources/SLBEnrollmentForm.pdf). You must print the application out, complete the form and either fax it to human resources at 448-5170 or send it campus mail to H.R./1st Floor Beale Building. Otherwise, you may contact Human Resources at 448-5600 to request an application to be sent to you. If you have any questions, please call human resources and ask for Rikki Anderson, Sue Scates or Brenda Scott.

## Campus List Server Upgraded

Our campus mailing list server underwent a scheduled upgrade Tuesday, April 20. During this update, both software and hardware were improved to provide better service, increased security, and additional features.

As part of this update, we changed the name of the list server from 'alien' to 'listserv', in order to match the naming convention used by our Knoxville campus. New messages should be addressed to [lastname@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:lastname@listserv.utm.edu) where 'lastname' is the name of the list.

We also took this opportunity to improve the campus-wide lists. These lists are now titled: [campus@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:campus@listserv.utm.edu) for campus-wide postings, [students@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:students@listserv.utm.edu) for postings to all students, [staff@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:staff@listserv.utm.edu) for all university employees except faculty, and [faculty@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:faculty@listserv.utm.edu) for postings to faculty members.

For example, to send information

to the entire campus, the address will be [campus@listserv.utm.edu](mailto:campus@listserv.utm.edu). Other list names can be viewed at <http://listserv.utm.edu>

As published in the April *Record*, and as part of our campus-wide efforts to streamline communication, effective immediately, those mailing lists that service the entire campus, i.e. Campus, Students, Staff, and Faculty lists, will be moderated by University Relations or their designates.

Only messages relevant to the entire campus, or the designated group will be deemed appropriate for posting.

A communications leadership team is working as quickly as possible to identify additional mechanisms for campus-wide communications including campus calendar and bulletin board systems.

If you have questions or concerns in regard to posting policies, please contact Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett, Director of Communications and Marketing, 448-4957, [emaynard@utm.edu](mailto:emaynard@utm.edu).

# Novick Addresses United Nations

University of Tennessee Health Science Center Nemir Associate Professor of International Child Health, William M. Novick, MD, recently spoke at the United Nations General Assembly Hall in commemoration of the 18th anniversary of the world's single worst nuclear accident, the tragedy of the Chernobyl power plant.

As founder and medical director of the International Children's Heart Foundation, Dr. Novick and the work of the Foundation in Belarus were featured in the documentary, "Chernobyl Heart." This film received an Academy Award in the Documentary Short Subject category and focused on the continuing after-effects of the Chernobyl disaster. With a mission to help children with congenital or acquired heart disease in

developing countries throughout the world, the Foundation and Dr. Novick have been on several mission trips to the Belarus area, where they have saved many children's lives with cardiac surgery.

Dr. Novick commented, "The impact on communities in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine remains severe today in spite of the fact that this event happened almost twenty years ago. The commemorative ceremony at the United Nations was held to draw attention to the continuing needs of people in the affected areas, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as the governments of the three affected countries."



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## Kang Day at the VA

During National Healthcare and Hospital Week, May 10-14, the VA will take a day to honor Andrew H. Kang, MD, Goodman Professor and Director of the Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue.

## SGA Excellence in Teaching Awards

### Medicine

Dr. Roberto LaChica  
Dr. Laura Sprabery

### Dentistry

Dr. Robert Selders  
Dr. Russell Wicks

### Pharmacy

Dr. James Richard Brown  
Dr. Atul Shukla

### Nursing

Dr. Linda Hill  
Dr. James Pruett

### Graduate Health

Dr. Rob Edwards  
Dr. Richard Faris

### Allied Health

Dr. Nancy Williams  
Dr. Audrey Zucker-Levin

### Social Work

Dr. Muammer Cetingok

## Imhotep Award

Odell Horton, Jr.

## Phil Webb Award

Nacole Howerton  
Amanda White

## UTNAA Awards

### Outstanding Teacher: Medicine

Dr. Samuel Dagogo-Jack

### Outstanding Teacher: Nursing

Dr. Patricia Cunningham

### Alumni Public Service Award

Dr. Cheryl Stegbauer

# Presidential Address to the Faculty Senate

*Given Monday, April 26 by Charles Mansbach, 2003-04 Faculty Senate President*

During the past year it has been my great honor and privilege to serve as your president. The year has seen major events unfold. The primary of which revolved around our system president and our chancellor. On my taking office, we had a forward-looking president in Knoxville who believed that the Medical Center was a jewel in his crown and acted accordingly. We had an outstanding chancellor who had just stepped down and an acting chancellor who was very experienced in the UT system. The potential serenity of this scenario was given two huge body blows. The first was the dismal financial state of the state which called for budget cuts on this campus that hurt programs badly. The second was the extra curricular actions of our president who had apparently taken a course in reverse PR. His resignation stopped dead in the tracks a very promising search for a permanent chancellor here. The end result was the return of our original chancellor who spoke so eloquently today and the hoped for re-institution of a search for a new, permanent chancellor upon the accession of our new president, just named last Wednesday. We are hoping for good things to come from Dr. Petersen's appointment.

Any successful presidency depends on the people who are doing the actual work. In this, I was most fortunate to have an outstanding group of committee chairs. My greatest desire as your president was to see that as many of the goals set by each committee came to fruition as either policy or as an actionable program. Like any baseball player knows, batting 1,000 is not possible but I think we did pretty well overall.

The Budgets and Benefits Committee, headed by Lorraine Albritton, tackled two major issues during the year. The first was a draft of a resolution in support of maintaining the Research Services Account in a fully funded status so that research bonus awards, established by Interim Chancellor Rice, could

be maintained. While this has not been completely decided, the principle upon which it is based has been confirmed, and its implementation awaits agreement between the deans as to a percentage salary base after which bonuses will be allotted. The second issue that the committee dealt with was the contents of appointment letters of clinicians who obtained research grants containing salary support. Wording that would have been a disincentive for any clinician to vie for such grants has been removed. This is an example of the role that the Faculty Senate can play as an effective advocate of faculty concerns vis a vis the administration.

The Computing and Telecommunications Committee, chaired as usual by Cindy Russell, most importantly was able to get a least 50 percent time of a Deputy CIO who is supposed to coordinate IT issues on campus which will relieve the C & T committee of its unasked-for duties in this area. The committee has prioritized IT needs in education, professional services and research for the next five years. A resolution passed by the Faculty Senate was developed which detailed problems in IT on campus and how it affected faculty. This resulted in some improvements and ultimately in the hiring of the new Deputy CIO. Due to the efforts of the committee, General Stores now can sell Microsoft products at the same price as UTK, an agreement that so far has eluded Adobe products. Spam filtration was implemented, renewal licenses for statistical software streamlined, webmail and imap mail was made more secure, and McAfee antivirus software installed vs. Norton's program.

The Education Policy Committee, chaired by Parker Suttle, accomplished a number of goals during the year. The one closest to my heart was the development of criteria and procedures by which the UT policy on Honorary Degrees can be implemented on this campus. I believe that over the years this will

add luster to our graduation ceremonies and enhance the stature of our university in the academic world. In conjunction with Nancy Hardt, the committee established the Chancellor's Hours for all students from the various colleges on campus to engage in an interdisciplinary learning process. An e-mail survey was conducted of the interdisciplinary educational activities on campus, the results of which will be used to guide these efforts next year. The TEACH Act has had consequences for all of us, especially in distant education and use of the Blackboard system. The committee generated information regarding compliance with this act which they placed on a website.

The Faculty Affairs Committee, lead by Syamal Bhattacharya, worked on a number of important issues during the year. To my mind, the most important of these was fleshing out the already existent but dormant policies regarding off-campus assignments and leaves of absences. This proposal has been recommended by Dean Palazzolo and approved by Interim Chancellor Rice. I hope that many faculty are able to take advantage of this important aspect of academic life. A web-based evaluation of administrators has been approved by the interim chancellor and will be implemented. Finally, a program for new faculty orientation has been set up, a procedure dear to the heart of our past president.

The Faculty Communications Committee, chaired by David Nutting was able to cut down on campus-wide dissemination of only locally important e-mails by having moderators, Odell Horton and Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett, who will determine which messages are of enough campus-wide importance to send out to the general campus listserve.

The faculty/staff listserve will be separated with the staff listserve having a gatekeeper for messages prior to posting and the faculty listserve having a person performing a similar function who will be the chair of the Faculty Communications Committee. This per-

*Continued on next page*

son will take responsibility for the uses and abuses of the faculty listserve. A person in Computing and Telecommunications has been identified to institute a daily update of the faculty listserve using data from the IRIS personnel lists. A campus calendar will also be created so that UTHSC-related events can be posted. Information regarding the Media Contact Policy will be published in the May Record. A clarification of the Government Contact Policy recommended by the committee has not yet cleared the UTHSC campus. The committee also considered interest in a Faculty Club and voicemail for all faculty, but these issues remain unresolved.

The Faculty Research Committee, headed by George Cook, has clarified the utilization of the UT Research Foundation, which currently is operating as the old UTK UTRC did. Issues that remain unresolved is the return of a portion of F & A monies from research

grants to grantees, bridge funding, research animal costs, the expedition of clinical trials, increased funding for the Molecular Resources Center, and the Tennessee Centers of Excellence fund.

The Legislative Resource Committee, lead by Nancy Hardt, decided to forgo the annual legislative night at The Brooks and opt for a more productive lunch in Nashville attended by all the legislators from our district. Although some took advantage of the time to catch up on the news, most listened attentively to the presentation which included a report on our centers of excellence and our community outreach program. This was well received by our representatives and opened their eyes to some of what is going on at UTHSC.

As you can see, your committees have accomplished a lot during the past year and it has been my pleasure to serve with them. Many things that were hanging fire from the past are now part of

our system and I hope that they will be put to use. It's always one thing to say that there is an off-campus assignment capability, but it's another to have people taking advantage of it. Similarly, we have a well thought out mechanism in place to identify candidates for honorary degrees. Lets hope that by next year's spring graduation there will be in attendance our first group of outstanding people who will receive honorary degrees.

I couldn't end without saying a word about Dianne Asher. Every organization needs a Dianne to make it run. Her dedication to duty should be copied by all who work here. Her follow-through and her attention to detail would make any of us humble in considering how we would match up.

Again let me say what a pleasure it has been to serve as your president. It has been an honor and something that I will treasure the rest of my life.

# Minutes/Policies

April

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center

## Faculty Senate Roundup

**Announcements:** President Mansbach provided an update on the status of Senate staff secretary Dianne Asher who had a TIA-type event yesterday. She was taken to the Regional Medical Center emergency room and was home by last night. The Senate sent her flowers.

**New Business:** President Mansbach introduced Dr. Richard Pepler to the Senate members and presented him with a plaque as Administrator of the Year. Dr. Pepler will be unable to attend the awards banquet next week.

Dr. Pepler is the Associate Dean of the College of Medicine and Dean of the College of Graduate Health Sci-

ences. He has shepherded us through the process of COM accreditation several times. He has had a big impact on the curriculum – 4 changes over the last 11 years, the last of which was an extensive one. He is responsible for promotions and tenure. He was also responsible in part for generating an increase in number of applications to the medical school (increasing applications two-fold) and has made a major effort in getting minority applicants. He has chaired the five-year plan and has worked on our 7-year review in the department. He has won the UTNAA teacher award and several Golden Apple awards for his teaching.

Dr. Pepler thanked the Senate members and stated that he felt it was an honor to have received this award.

### Committee Reports:

#### **Budget and Benefits:**

Senator Albritton reported that the committee completed goals related to making available the policy related to 50 percent cash ability and long-term care insurance (which is now available). Next year the committee will make this information available on the website, as well as information regarding retirement.

#### **Computing and Telecommunications:**

Chairman Russell reported that the campus finally has an onsite Deputy Chief Information Officer, Mr. Chuck Fitch. An e-mail was sent out a week or so ago and it noted that he will be 50 percent with our campus and 50 percent with the employer he has been with in the past several years, UTMG.

The campus listservs are being modified. These listservs, including the campus, faculty, student, and staff listservs, will now have regular updating of membership lists. In addition, all listservs across campus will be migrated to another server in the near future.

A small communications group that includes Vice Chancellor Odell Horton, Director of Communications & Marketing Elizabeth Maynard-Garrett, Chair of the Faculty Communications Committee David Nutting, and Chair of the Computing & Telecommunications Committee Cindy Russell are meeting and identifying options to help streamline our campus communications. Some of the ideas that we are trying to launch as quickly as possible include campus calendar systems and a bulletin board.

The C&T Committee holds its April meeting tomorrow at the FedEx Institute of Technology. Anyone who is interested in attending and having a tour of the facility at the conclusion of the meeting can see Cindy Russell for further information.

President Mansbach asked Cindy Russell and Peg Hartig to report on the moderation of interviews with the presidential candidates. Russell noted that the search advisory committee asks the same 16 questions of each candidate and those questions were given to the candidates ahead of time. Each campus has the opportunity to ask questions, and our campus has asked questions about distance/local management of the HSC and research issues.

President Mansbach noted that there is a question of F&A monies going to Knoxville and not coming to Memphis, as they ought to be doing. The Senate is investigating this and should have information shortly.

**Educational Policy Committee:** Senators Suttle and Richard Faris presented the procedures for discussion and approval by the Senate (see attached procedure). Questions were raised regarding the availability, under the state's Sunshine Law, of the minutes produced by the committee selecting honorary

doctorate recipients. Individuals can request the minutes but the meetings are not considered to be subject to the Sunshine Law.

Dr. Pepler asked if the members of the Nominating Committee should be faculty from the degree granting bodies, as proposed in the procedure, or faculty from the professional colleges. The Graduate School is a very large degree-awarding body.

Senator Suttle stated that degree-awarding colleges included in the procedure are those units recognized by the Faculty Senate bylaws. Faculty members will be considered for eligibility based on the college of their primary appointment.

Dr. Pepler also asked about the timeline for award of degrees. The process has a campus phase and includes actions by the Board of Trustees. The process suggests there is a period between 6 and 9 months from the point of nomination to award of the degree.

Senators Suttle and Faris indicated that there is no way that we can control the timelines. The committee initially tried to include timelines, but didn't feel that they could force adherence to the timelines.

Senator George Cook asked if deceased persons are eligible for nomination.

Although this situation is not included in the policy, it could certainly be considered.

Senator Bhattacharya asked if selection committee members could vote in absentia and was told yes that this was included in the procedure.

Senator Nutting asked Dr. Suttle to provide the rationale for increasing the number of yea votes from the first phase to the second phase of the process. Senator Suttle indicated that the committee wanted to leave flexibility in the policy and not say the precise numbers of people to vote yea, but the proportion of persons.

President Mansbach thanked Senators Suttle, Faris Richard, and the Educational Policy Committee for a well-thought-out and excellent policy. The two-tiered system for selection of honorary degree recipients replicates the

two-tiered approach in place for the current president search at the university.

Given that there was no further discussion a motion was made and seconded to approve the policy, which was approved unanimously.

**Faculty Affairs:** Senator Bhattacharya stated there was nothing new to report. The Board of Trustees has recently approved a sabbatical policy for the Knoxville campus. The committee plans to determine if UTHSC can have the same or a similar sabbatical policy rather than an off-campus assignment and faculty development policy.

**Faculty Communications:** Senator Nutting reported that the committee has completed suggested changes to the UT policy on faculty/staff contacts with legislators. This policy was rushed to the administration in November, however administration has yet to moved forward with the policy.

**Faculty Research:** Senator Cook reported that the Molecular Resources Center was discussed at the most recent committee meeting. The MRC is an established center of excellence with units in various places on campus. The MRC does DNA sequencing, cell sorting, and imaging. Faculty who volunteer their time staff the various units. Instruments that are used are not typically purchased through grant funding. The center was established with set amount of money, and this amount has not changed over the past few years. There has been a decrease in funding for the center because of inflation as well as because of state-wide cutbacks. The services that MRC provides have improved over the years. A yearly report must be prepared for the center, but it seems that no one reads it. The research committee next year will work on getting more funding for the MRC. Research on campus is increasing, but we are not getting any additional funding to support it, which affects bridge funding and animal resources. One of the research committee goals was to also discuss development possibilities.