

My Dear President,

The Budget and Economic Status Committee has unanimously suggested that the university adjust its tuition policy to follow UTK more closely. The following suggested tuition policy is forwarded to you with the recommendation that the Faculty Senate consider endorsing the policy.

Equity for Tuition Increases in Academic Year 2009-2010

The UTC Faculty Senate recognizes that substantial increases in tuition are inevitable, as we have borne drastic cuts in state funding, and THEC has indicated that these cuts are permanent and that more will come over the next several years. We ask that UTC follow a consistent policy of raising tuition by the same absolute dollar amount (n.b. not percentage) as UTK for the following reasons:

1. We too need funds to continue our efforts to teach increasing numbers of students while funding our growing role as a research institution.
2. Tuition is already lower at UTC than UTK. Increasingly this gap will lead to the perception that the quality of education here is less than at UTK, rather than promoting our program and institutional differences. We should not become the cheaper alternative, but rather a different educational experience than that offered by a large research institution.
3. Our classrooms, faculty, and staff are all fully utilized; without equity in funding, we cannot continue to serve the needs of students in this region of state by providing a quality educational experience.

Yours,

JRG

John Reynolds Garrett

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