

**Advisors' Council**  
October 19, 2016  
UC Signal Mountain Room

**Members Attending:** April Anderson, Laura Bass, Bradley Bond, Sue Culpepper, Eunice Davis, Rebecca Drago, Lindsey Felix, Diana Fryer, Stacie Grisham, Squoia Holmes, Elizabeth Johnson, Emily Martin, Kayla McAuliffe, Joseph McCauley, Deardra McGee, Amber Noblit, Nikki Ownby, Sumer Patterson, Jessica Pierce, Mary Beth Rayner, Marjorie Whiteside, and Sarah Wright

**Others in Attendance:** Skylar Deulin, Joe Wiram, and Gregg Crawford

**Call to Order:** Elizabeth Johnson at 8:47am

-Due to the time needed for the Empowerment Training, the council did not vote on the last meeting's minutes

**Professional Development**

1. Empowerment Training: Gregg Crawford, Veteran Education Coordinator for East Tennessee, presented "Empowerment Training" with a PowerPoint presentation (will be sent in an email to council). The purpose of the training is to help individuals understand the resources available to veterans, as well as the transitions veterans have to make when coming to college; the training will also help advisors reduce the barriers veterans may face.
  - a. Joe Wiram announced that there is a Sergeant Stevens Memorial Scholarship available through UTC's Veteran Student Services
  - b. Joe Wiram made an announcement for the upcoming Green Zone Training on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Raccoon Mountain Room
  - c. Sue Culpepper shared with the group that there is a Veterans Entrepreneurship Program offered through the College of Business.
  - d. Eunice Davis asked what the interaction was like between veterans and international students. Gregg responded stating that some veterans want to assimilate with international students, but some don't. He doesn't think veterans see international students as an enemy; rather, veterans are more apt to embrace this relationship because of the cultural experiences they have had in the service.
  - e. Gregg mentioned that it is very important to either have a dedicated advisor for veterans, or having assigned advisors.
  - f. Joe Wiram asked Gregg to elaborate on veterans that have orders to deploy/train in the middle of the semester. Gregg stated that some students will receive incompletes; he also stated that a lot of veterans don't know the system. Squoia stated that if veterans stop attending classes, they will need to repay the debt.
  - g. Amber Noblit asked if UTC has a way to identify dependents. Joe replied that at this time, they are only identified if they are using benefits. Squoia stated that she is in the process of capturing students not receiving benefits from the admission application questions.

- h. Gregg stated that a lot of veterans don't know that they have to apply for benefits. Squoia replied that she is setting up a self-service in her office so that students can apply for benefits online in her office.

**Questions/Concerns/Updates:**

- Elizabeth Johnson reminded the members that December 7<sup>th</sup> is our next meeting; we will not have a November meeting due to Thanksgiving Break.
- Squoia shared that she will be having Priority Registration assistance in her office on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> for veterans.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned by Elizabeth Johnson at 9:52am.