

UTC Chancellor's Multicultural Advisory Council  
September 19, 2017

**MINUTES**

PRESIDING: MS. STACY LIGHTFOOT, CHAIR

I. Welcome

- Chairwoman Lightfoot welcomed all who were present.
- Chairwoman Lightfoot introduced Donna Lawrence, Alumni Board President, and Doug Brown, Chair of the Chancellor's Roundtable.
- Chairwoman Lightfoot also recognized new CMAC members:
  - Jonathan Butler, Manager of Neighborhood Services and Development for the City of Chattanooga in the Department of Economic and Community Development
  - Veronica Peebles, Manager of Communications for CARTA
  - Chris Earl, Principal at Howard High School
  - Troy Kemp, Executive Director for the National Center for the Development of Boys

II. Remarks & Introductions

- Chancellor Angle introduced Mark Wharton, who joined UTC as the new Vice Chancellor and Director of Athletics.
- The Chancellor also spoke about the September 15, 2017, State of the University address. Year 2 Update brochures on the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan were handed out to those who attended. Information about the strategic plan, including the Year 2 Update, can be found [here](#).

III. 2016-2017 Year in Review

A. Academic Affairs

- Dr. Ainsworth, Provost & Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented information on faculty hires with the ethnicity breakdown. This information can be found [here](#).

- Yancy Freeman, Associate Provost for Enrollment Services, prepared an Enrollment Trend Report, which covered data from 2007 through 2016. This information can be found [here](#).

#### B. Multicultural Center

- Tara Mathis, Associate Dean of Students and Director of the Multicultural Center, gave a report on participation, retention and graduation rates of students who are active in her cohort within the Multicultural Center (MCC). This information can be found [here](#).

Q: What changes has the MCC seen in students?

A: The MCC is seeing a more diverse group of students participating in programs. There are more freshmen and more males. A component for sophomores has also been added to the MCC's programming.

Q: How many students are in a Mentor Cohort group?

A: There are 30 students in each group. However, the group size can increase throughout the year. Community service is part of the programming for the cohorts. Tara asked for CMAC members to please contact her if they have any opportunities for these students.

Q: What is the MCC budget?

A: The budget is currently \$100,000 which is used for student programming and supporting student organizations.

#### C. Community Collaboration

- Ann Yoachim, Director of Civic Engagement, spoke about the "Mocs in the City" aimed at connecting UTC students to the city of Chattanooga, its history, activities, culture, events and people. "#Within15" is an aspect of the "Mocs in the City" initiative designed to encourage students to walk to places within 15 minutes of campus. This information can be found [here](#).
- If CMAC members are interested in participating by offering tours or being tour leaders, please contact Ann or email [mocsinthecity@utc.edu](mailto:mocsinthecity@utc.edu).

Q: What is UTC doing to move students beyond MLK?

A: "#Within15" also has a tour element which offers broader opportunities to venture out beyond the 15-minute walk from campus.

#### IV. Diversity Project: BlueCross BlueShield and College of Business Partnership

- Ron Harris, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, spoke on how the role of corporate America is changing and the disconnect between corporations and education. BCBS is

committed to and has been recognized for their efforts and achievements in diversity and inclusion. They have a robust mentor program and strong desire to provide students a direct idea of how corporate America works. Mr. Harris spoke about offering students an opportunity to discover how majors/degrees directly connect with jobs.

- BCBS has teamed up with Sue Culpepper, Director of the College of Business Student Success Center, and Mo Baptiste, Executive Director for Student Development, to offer an “externship” leadership program on the BlueCross campus for first generation students from UTC. This program, scheduled for November 8, 2017, will acquaint students with professions and job fields with BCBS. The objective is to foster mentoring relationships, alumni connections and professional networking opportunities. More information about this program can be found [here](#).

Q: Can this model be replicated with other UTC departments?

A: Yes. This program is not just for College of Business students. It is inclusive for all of UTC’s students.

Q: What is an externship?

A: Short-term experiential learning opportunities. In this case, the students will spend a half of a work day at BCBS.

Q: How can students get involved?

A: There will be a website to sign up and UTC will provide transportation to and from BCBS.

## V. Announcements

- Reggie Ruff spoke about the collaboration between TechTown, Howard School and UTC. The goal of the two-year partnership is to enhance programs at Howard that focus on STEM. Students from UTC’s College of Engineering and Computer Science and College of Health, Education and Professional Studies will conduct some of the programs. Howard School is to develop a robotic curriculum, monitor its progress and provide teachers for various STEM classes.
- Patrick Miles – Compañía initiative to connect local Latino community to business community. For more information, visit [www.lapazchattanooga.org/compania](http://www.lapazchattanooga.org/compania).
- September 21, 4:00pm – Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce Open House. For additional information, visit [www.chattanoogachamber.com/events](http://www.chattanoogachamber.com/events).
- October 17 – UTC’s Office of Equity and Diversity is hosting “Moving Our Campus Forward”. All CMAC members are invited to attend. For more information and to register, visit [www.utc.edu/moc-forward](http://www.utc.edu/moc-forward).

- October 18, 7:30am – Urban League Annual Equal Opportunity Day Breakfast on Wednesday at the Chattanooga Convention Center. More information at [www.ulchatt.net/Equal-Opportunity-Day-Breakfast](http://www.ulchatt.net/Equal-Opportunity-Day-Breakfast).
- October 26 – Chattanooga’s NAACP Chapter’s Ruby Hurley Celebration at the Chattanooga Convention Center. More information at [www.naacpchattanooga.org/ruby-hurley-celebration](http://www.naacpchattanooga.org/ruby-hurley-celebration).
- November 4 – College Goal Tennessee is a program designed to help high school and college students, their families and counselors expand college opportunities. This event will take place at UTC. For more information click [here](#) or visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/CGTNPresenters](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CGTNPresenters).

## VI. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

- If any of your contact information has changed or if you are a new member, please complete this form ([found here](#)) and return it by October 2, 2017, to [Jill-Woodruff@utc.edu](mailto:Jill-Woodruff@utc.edu).
- The next CMAC meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 12:00pm in the Mapp Building 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Dining Room.

In attendance:

**CMAC Members**

- Jonathan Butler
- Joyce Hardaway
- Ron Harris
- Stacy Lightfoot
- Warren Logan, Jr.
- James Meyers
- Patrick Miles
- Maria Noel
- Veronica Peebles
- Manny Rico
- Reggie Ruff

**UTC Students**

- Caleb Hearn – SGA Representative

**UTC Staff**

- Jerald Ainsworth
- Neslihan Alp
- Steve Angle
- Dee Dee Anderson
- Mo Baptiste
- Laura Cagle
- Sue Culpepper
- Terry Denniston
- Yancy Freeman
- Tara Mathis
- Joanne Romagni
- Valerie Rutledge
- Bryan Samuel
- Mark Wharton
- Jill Woodruff
- Ann Yoachim

**Special Guests**

- Samantha Adams
- Doug Brown
- George Calhoun
- Donna Lawrence
- April Lomax
- Pat White