

Tenth Meeting
June 23, 2026





Approval of Minutes



Standing Committee Reports



Awards & Recognition Committee Report

Emily Rosenquist



2025-2026 Staff Awards



NEWBIE AWARD



NEWBIE AWARD NOMINEES

- JULIA BECKER
- DAVID "BO" BERNINGER
- BONNIE CALLAWAY
- KAT JAMES
- MOHMAD JUNAID UL HAQ
- SUZI MENCHU
- JOSHUA MORGAN
- SHANNON STONE
- BAILS TUNNELL
- BETHANY WEAVER



NEWBIE AWARD HONOREES



BAILS TUNNELL



BETHANY WEAVER



SCRAPPY'S UNSUNG HERO AWARD



SCRAPPY'S UNSUNG HERO AWARD NOMINEES

- LEAH BARRETT COLLINS
- TERRI BEARBOWER
- SHEALY BROWDER
- COREY BURSE SR.
- AMANDA CHAMERS
- EUNICE DAVIS
- ROBERT DORSETT
- CARROL GETER
- CRAIG HANEY
- JINA JOHNSON
- KAYLA JONES
- FRANCINE KING
- MATTIE MILLS
- NICHOLE ORR
- LOGAN RADER
- EMILY RABORN
- TED ROSS
- HANNAH TURCOTTE
- OSCAR VAZQUEZ



SCRAPPY'S UNSUNG HERO AWARD HONOREE

LEAH BARRETT COLLINS





BREAKING SILOS AWARD



BREAKING SILOS AWARD NOMINEES

- PAULA DZIK
- JAMI HARGROVE
- DR. JASON HARVILLE
- FARRON KILBURN
- STEPHANIE ORR



BREAKING SILOS AWARD HONOREE

JAMI HARGROVE





Congratulations!



Curiosity Committee Report

Victoria Bryan



Parliamentarian Report and minor bylaw amendment

Teresa Harrison

Article VI

Section VII Voting

Each Voting Senator in good standing shall have one vote at any meeting of the Staff Senate. Voting shall normally be by voice, show of hands, or electronically at the discretion of the president unless a roll call or vote by confidential ballot is requested by a voting member (roll-call votes shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting).



Administrative Report

*JAY Blackman, Vice Chancellor
for Comm & Marketing*

- Corporate Challenge update*
- 140th Anniversary Events*

Corporate Challenge Recap

Overall Finishes

1st Place – Unum

2nd Place – Steam Logistics

3rd Place - UTC



Corporate Challenge Recap

UTC Winners

Tug-of-War

Cornhole

40-yard dash

UTC Runners-Up

1-Mile Walk

Hula-Hoop

Home Run Derby

Social Media



140th Anniversary – 2026-27

- Founder's Week Celebration
Sept. 15
- 1886 Challenge
- 140 Events for 140 Years
- Gold Fridays





Administrative Report

*Jason Harville, Residence
Life Assistant Director*

Operation Move In (OMI)

C OPERATION MOVE IN

August
19 and 20



C THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
CHATTANOOGA
Housing and Residence Life



OPERATION MOVE IN

Volunteer



Scan
Here

Sports Complex



Fliers/Merch

- Please deliver your items to Pfeiffer Hall Room 112 by July 15.
- Plan for approximately 3,700 items (1 per resident).

Banners

- A great way to introduce your department to students as they arrive.
- Drop your banner off at Pfeiffer 112, by Monday, August 17, and we'll hang it for you.



Questions

**OPERATION
MOVE IN**



OMI@utc.edu

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
CHATTANOOGA**
Housing and Residence Life



HR Minute & Administrative Report

*Associate Vice
Chancellor
Laure Pou*



Administrative Report

Back to School Panel



Staff Benefits

Fee Waivers for UTC Employees



Fee Waivers

- Regular full-time UTC staff and faculty may enroll in undergraduate or graduate courses for up to 9 credit hours at any UT Campus institution [without paying maintenance fees or tuition.](#)
 - Other fees may still apply (e.g., application, online support, program, course/lab, differential, technology, facilities fees and others)
- Eligible credit hours/semester are based on employment effort level:
 - 100% effort earns 9 hours
 - 75–99% earns 6 hours
 - 50–74% earns 4 hours.
 - Employees below 50% effort are not eligible.
- Regular full-time staff, with 100% effort, may take 1 course at any TN Board of Regents School. If classes are overlapping (TBR/UT) the 9-hour limit applies.

Next Steps

- Apply to your program of interest –
 - utc.edu/apply
 - Get accepted 😊
- Complete the [Employee Fee Waiver form](#).
 - Get your supervisor's signature.
 - Advance form to HR to verify eligibility
 - Submit to institution's Bursar's Office by applicable tuition payment deadlines
- Contact UTC Grad School or Undergrad Admissions to complete enrollment and registration.

Grad School

GradInfo@utc.edu
423-425-4666
Race 103

Undergrad Admissions

UTCmocs@utc.edu
423-425-4662
101 University Center



Grad Programs to Help You Advance!

UTC offers [more than 30 grad programs](#) to help you grow professionally, expand your expertise, and make an even greater impact on UTC's success!

Notable graduate programs suited for most staff members:

- **MBA** (Master of Business Administration) – Build business acumen, financial literacy, and strategic thinking applicable to virtually any role at UTC.
- **MSM** (Master of Science in Management) – Sharpen your leadership and organizational skills with a focused management curriculum.
- **MPA** (Master of Public Administration) – Ideal for those working in operations, leadership, policy, or public-facing roles across campus.
- **MS in Data Analytics** – Learn to turn data into decisions – a skill set with growing demand across every department.
- **MS in Computer Science** – Advance your technical expertise in one of the most in-demand fields in higher education and beyond.
- **LEAD PhD** (Leadership and Learning) – UTC's doctoral program for experienced professionals ready to develop deep expertise in leadership, organizational change, and higher education.

Undergrad Programs

UTC offers [more than 150 undergrad programs and concentrations](#):

- **College of Business**
 - Business Analytics, Management, Data Analytics, Finance, Accounting
- **Engineering & Computer Science**
 - Data Science, Software Systems, Cybersecurity
 - Electrical, Civil, and Chemical Engineering
 - Engineering Management, Construction Management, Mechatronics
- **Health, Education and Professional Studies**
 - Applied Leadership and Learning, Education, Leadership, Social Work, HHP
- **Arts & Sciences**
 - Math, Physics, Psychology, Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Communications, Art, Music, English, Spanish, Integrated Studies, Sociology, History, Political Science, Public Service
- **Nursing**

Taxes for Graduate Fee Waivers

- Graduate fee waivers exceeding \$5,250 per calendar year are generally taxable – but if your coursework is required by your employer or directly related to your current role, you may qualify for an exemption.
- See the [Fee Waiver for Employees benefits page](#) to learn more and find needed forms for filing for an exemption.
 - To claim this exemption, please complete the [Job Related Tuition Waiver Form](#). This form requires both the signature of the employee and the department head. Once the form has been completed, return the form to the University Wide Payroll Office.
- Contact the [HR office](#) or a consult a tax advisor for more guidance on tax withholding, etc.

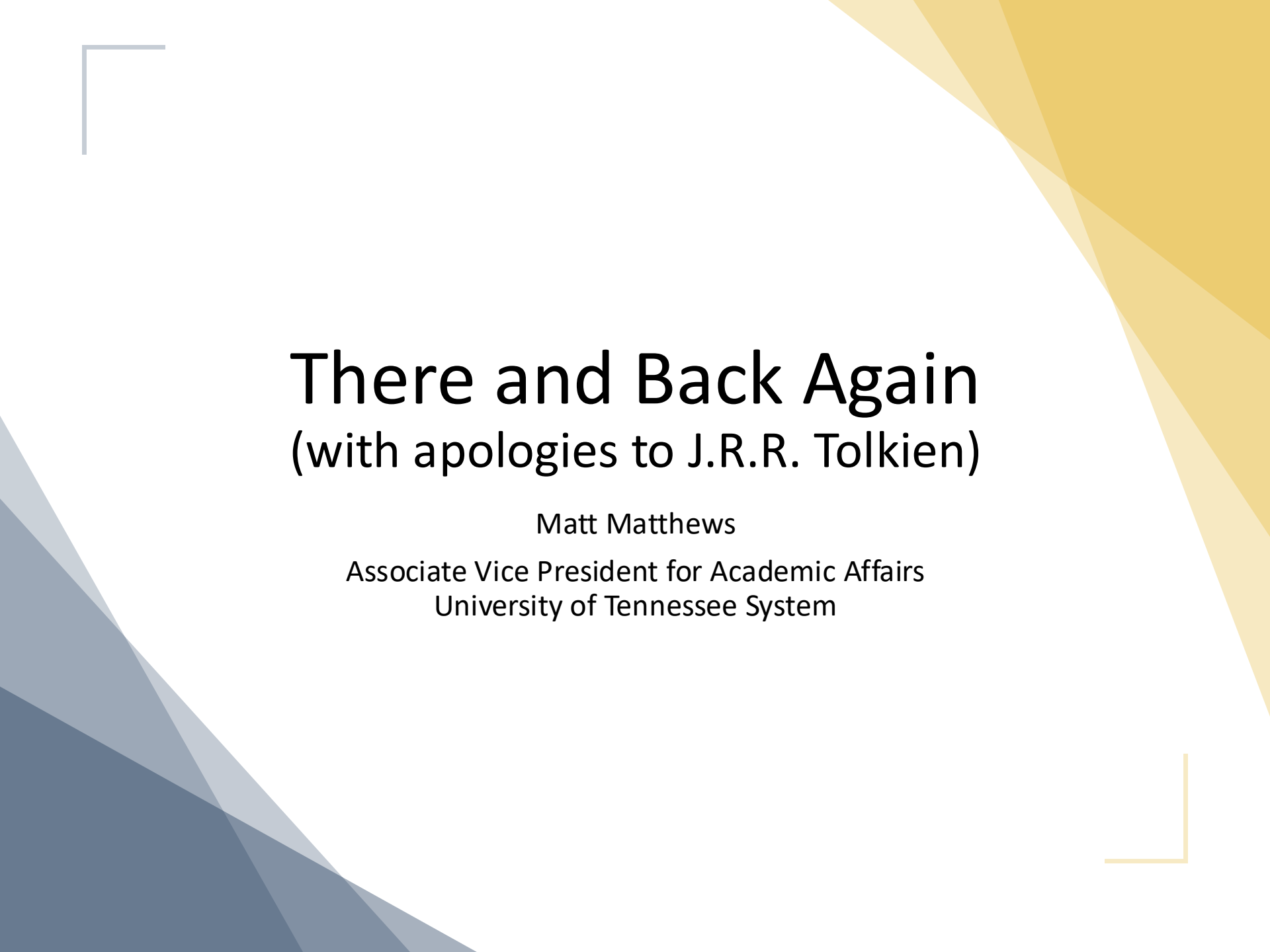
Extra steps if you Audit!

- Complete all the previous steps for admission through registration
- Contact registrar@utc.edu and request that your course(s) be changed to Audit
- Registrar staff confirms your registration is updated to Audit
- To earn an AU grade, you are expected to attend at least 75% of the class sessions.



Administrative Report & Campus Conversation

*Dr. Matt Matthews,
almost Interim Provost*



There and Back Again

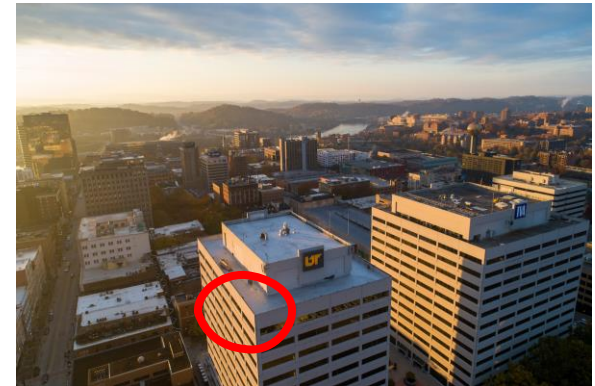
(with apologies to J.R.R. Tolkien)

Matt Matthews

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Tennessee System

Back in July 2024...

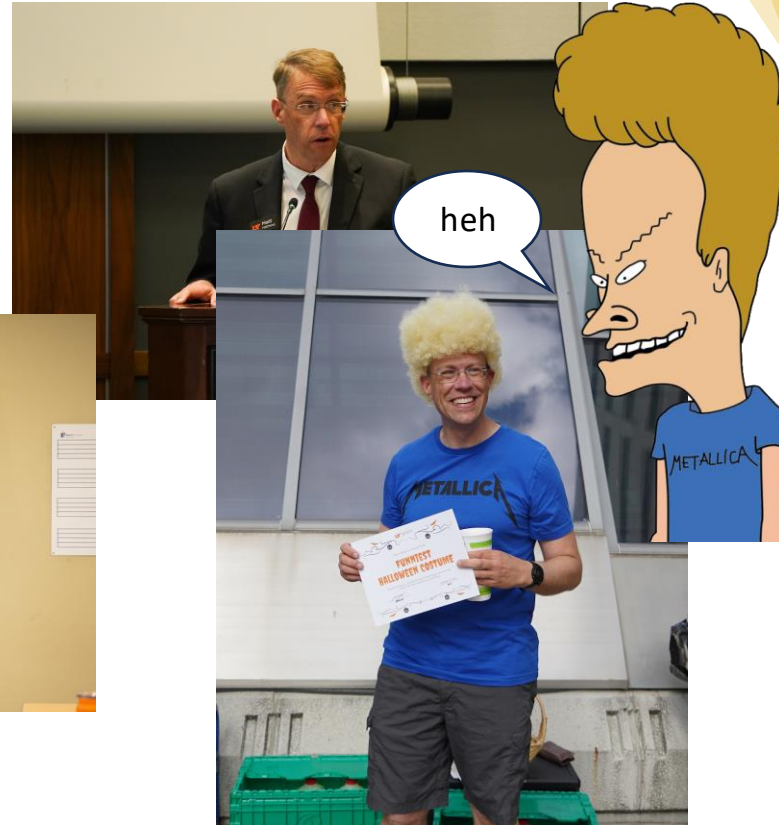
- Reached 20 years working for UTC
- Retained to work for the UT System in Knoxville
- Family remained in Ooltewah
 - Monday: Ooltewah → Knoxville
 - Friday: Knoxville → Ooltewah



What do you do now anyway?

- New academic programs, departments, colleges, etc.
- Academic leadership development
- System-wide coordination – CAOs, faculty affairs, immigration
- Tenure and promotion
- Faculty handbooks
- University Faculty Council (UFC)
- Policies – AI, academic freedom, tenure, misconduct, leave, etc.
- Serve the needs of all of UT and the UT Board of Trustees

Around Tennessee...



Starting in July...

- Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
- Working with these areas:
 - Five degree granting colleges, the Honors College, Graduate School and Library
 - Center for Global Education
 - Center for Professional Education
 - Office of Accreditation & Assessment
 - Office of Planning, Evaluation, & Institutional Research
 - Office of the University Registrar
 - Walker Center for Teaching and Learning
 - A Moc's First Year, Dual Enrollment, and more
- Plus partnering with every other division on our shared work

Many Goals, Many Roles

- Every level of higher education in TN has a new plan
- Tennessee Higher Education Commission – aligned, achievable, agile
- UT System – accelerate access, drive research, fuel the workforce, engage with community
- UT Chattanooga – academic success, investment in people, impactful research, operational excellence, community engagement
- We each bring talent and experience – I want to work with you

Interim ≠ Static

- Here until the search identifies a new Provost
- I will use my time on...
 - Academics – new credentials and new degrees
 - Enrollment – future students, students with a future
 - Employees – UTC matters to each of us, each of us matters to UTC
 - Stability – clarity of purpose, method, and timing
- I will strive to appreciate each of you as a complete human
- I ask only that you receive me in the same way



Question time!





President's Report



Announcements

Next meeting:
August 4th 2 - 4 PM
UC Auditorium



C STAFF SENATE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA

Adjournment