

Roane State Community College
Faculty Senate Minutes from January 23, 2026
2pm EST, Roane County Campus, O-101

ATTENDANCE

Officers

Darren York, President

Jala Daniel, Vice President

Steven Carriger, Parliamentarian & Senator

Krystie Anderson, TBR Faculty Sub-Council Representative & Senator

Senators

Humanities

Social Science

Steven Carriger, Jessica Dalton-Carriger, Mike Farmer, Jenny Stowe

Math/Science

Isabel J. Benitez-Ramirez, Keenan Golder, Thomas Lewison, Pam Siergie

Health Sciences

Jessica Davidson, April Insco, Blake Morris, Ricky Terwilliger

Humanities

Robert Alfonso, Krysten Anderson, Matthew McDonald, Ralph Monday, DeAnna Stephens, Myndalynn Word (Adjunct)

Vistors

Mike Goggin

*The attendance may be incomplete

Meeting Minutes

- I. Quorum established
- II. Minutes from December meeting were approved with no changes
- III. TBR Faculty Sub-Council Update: Kyrstie Anderson

- a. Appendix A for Notes
 - i. Pregnancy Accommodations
 - ii. PILOT Program
 - iii. Emeritus Process
 - 1. Allow posthumous and no limit for presidents to submit
 - iv. Math Faculty
 - 1. Testing out of foundations math course- TCAT
 - v. LPN in high school (TCAT)
 - vi. June 15th is the deadline for dual students to enroll in TCATS (high school)
 - vii. Administrative workload for faculty, release time, payment for overloads
 - viii. Shifting for 3-year review of TTP's
 - ix. TnEcampus
 - x. TBR contract update
 - 1. Brightspace in contract till 2029/2030
 - xi. TBR Digital Wallets that students can share with employers in terms of classwork, learning outcomes, and certifications earned
 - xii. Accessibility
 - 1. DOJ has April 24th deadline
 - 2. Accessibility updates will go to the chair this afternoon
 - 3. Each course should have 90% accessibility
 - 4. Badges in D2L not accessible

IV. Old Business

- a. Form F Update
 - i. Form F courses opened 1/23 at 11:30am. VP Daniel sent information email to faculty on 1/23
- b. Employee Assistance Fund: No updates at this time, still being worked on.

V. New Business

- a. TBR Travel Policy Revision
 - i. There was a question if TBR or RSCC changed travel policy- revision has to do with traveling to conferences and seminars.
 - ii. Class travel is not impacted
 - iii. Questions about reimbursement arose, starting base campus and airport (Nashville vs. Knoxville)
 - 1. Conferences Friday-Sunday: how does this impact reimbursement if you live a significant distance away? Call Levi in the business office for clarification for choosing starting point
- b. RSCC Retirements

- i. Guidance for retirement- reach out to Joyce in HR if you have questions about the retirement process.
 - ii. Retirement Party Funds- Faculty can donate funds to supplement RSCC funds. The retirement planning committee consists of Siergiej, Herd, Magill, and Insko
 - c. Academic Misconduct Policies
 - i. Changes are coming, Tamra Oliver can answer specific questions concerning changes
 - 1. AI, Quizlet, Course Hero, and Turnitin have all drawn attention
 - 2. Goal is to treat students fairly and not falsely accuse them
 - ii. Specific Question What level of proof does a professor need to know that academic misconduct has occurred?
 - d. Benroth
 - i. Small adjustments to have a more beneficial outcome
 - ii. Some faculty would like the option to be excluded from being nominated
 - 1. FS VP will ask if faculty want to be nominated
- VI. Received Emails- FS Inbox
 - a. Syllabus Template Update
 - i. Hyperlinks need to be made accessible
 - ii. Momentum doesn't recognize badges as accessible
 - iii. Syllabus needs to be uploaded to Momentum as a PDF
 - b. Enrollment and Retention
 - i. FTE vs. Half-time enrollment
 - 1. Numbers have improved, but we are still not back to pre-pandemic numbers
 - c. Announcement of Academic Festival
 - i. Cody Miller will handle staff participation
 - ii. Jessica Dalton-Carriger will handle faculty participation
 - iii. Mary Ann Sexton and Jessica will be doing a scavenger hunt
 - iv. Faculty will have from Feb. 2-28th to respond to terms where they would like to be placed for the Academic Festival
 - v. In October, faculty will be able to review past activities to see if changes need to be made
- VII. Adjourn @ 3:12pm EST

Appendix A: TBR Faculty Sub-Council Meeting Notes from Krysten Anderson

Meeting Notes from the TBR Subcouncil Meeting

Submitted by Krystie Anderson, RSCS TBR Subcouncil Representative

Faculty Business Meeting Agenda

January 23, 2026 – MS Teams

9:00 AM- 12:00 PM Central Time

Chair: James N. Adair – Dyersburg State Community College

Call to Order

- Approval of minutes from spring meeting (Adair)
 - Approved.

Action Items

1. TBR Policy 6.04.10.00 Accommodations for Pregnant Students (Lapps)
 - a. Nothing should change because of this policy. TBR is simply putting in writing what Title IX requires and what policies we've been following all this time.
 - b. The student needs to have a note from her doctor that explains what length of time the student must miss class.
 - c. Mother-baby bonding isn't covered under this policy.
 - d. If there are complications with the baby, that's not covered under this policy.
 - e. Motion passed unanimously.

Informational Items

1. On Being Human (Denn)

- a. Pilot program with Cleveland State and Chattanooga State. Robert Denn is confident that the Teagle Foundation grant will be approved, so they can scale-up the program; all LGIs, the Locally Governed Institutes that used to be a part of TBR, have agreed to be a part of this.
- b. Chattanooga State is using a common text, *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt, for faculty to use as topics within their classes.
- c. Faculty can keep the same book for up to five years.
- d. Faculty on each college come up with a list of questions they'd like to have students pursue, but the way those questions are used depends on each subject and instructor.

2. Faculty Emeriti (Denn)

- a. There's no lapse or limit to presidents' time to nominate faculty.
- b. Posthumous nominations are now eligible for being reviewed.
- c. It's because of people writing to TBR that this policy was reversed. (Previously, TBR was enacting limitations on the nomination window and was also planning on doing away with posthumous nominations.)

3. TBR Policy 2.03.00.04 Exhibit Update (Hollins)

- a. High school students who earn a "C" or higher in an MRDM course, which is designed for students going to a TCAT, can now test-out of the Foundations math course. There's a heavy reading load in the MRDM course. The embedded learning support at the TCATs have evaluated this course.

4. Update TCAT 30-Day Review (Hollins)

- a. (Nothing noteworthy.)

5. LPN in High School (Hollins)

- a. Students will be able to start this program as early as the 10th grade. A high school in Elizabethton is actively participating.
- b. Other TCATs are encouraged to participate in the new program. Next month, there's an informational session. TCAT Harriman has already been invited.

6. TCAT Academic Due Dates (Hollins)

- a. They're preparing for a new academic year. June 15th is the deadline for dual-enrollment students.

7. Dual Enrollment Contracts (Sewell)

- a. Work groups are beginning to form regarding the following: Reviewing the workload policy: the Chancellor wants them to look at the credit-hour calculations that factor into a faculty member's teaching hours; Dual-enrollment contracts: they're looking at ways they can extend these, so there's not so much paperwork each year.

8. Workload Calculations (Sewell)

- a. TBR is seeking to standardize these across the state; they're considering policies from other colleges across the Southeast to see how they might adapt ours in Tennessee.
- b. Additionally, TBR's goal is to allow flexibility for colleges to use release time how they need, but TBR also wants to make sure all colleges are following the current policies.
- c. Someone wondered if "increased administrative" tasks would count towards a faculty member's workload.
- d. Someone else spoke about how AI prevention, detection, and reporting has become an unexpected addition to certain faculty members' workloads, such as in English and history courses. Some colleges have been discussing limiting the class sizes for these subjects, so faculty aren't overwhelmed by contending with the sheer volume of AI instances from their students.
- e. This topic will appear again for further discussion and feedback.

9. Tennessee Transfer Pathways (Lopez)

- a. They're shifting from a five-year to a three-year review cycle.

10. Spring 26 Semester Updates (Korstange)

- a. The eCampus courses started this past Tuesday.

11. D2L Creator Plus Training Schedule (Korstange)

- a. They'll have training for this in February. If you're teaching with eCampus, keep an eye on your email.

12. Course redevelopment opportunities (Korstange)

- a. They're working to streamline how faculty sign-off on accepting courses.

13. CEI Plus (Korstange)

a. eCampus has access to courses, so they can check for compliance; they don't manage the course content, though.

14. TCAT D2L Support (Korstange)

- a. They're taking a "community of care" approach, meaning that eCampus staff are using a shared email to help TCAT faculty.

15. Contract Updates (Korstange)

- a. We're in the 5th year of a five-year contract with Brightspace. TBR put out an RFP for a contract TBR is "excited about [the] opportunity" to extend our contract with D2L. There will be "substantial savings," thanks to Omnia, a company TBR used in the RFP process. We're essentially "buying" D2L off their contract with D2L. TBR will reevaluate this decision again in 2029 or 2030, as they near the end of the contract period.

16. Update on the Scope of Systemwide Work (Hazelton)

- a. Working on AI integration in General Education courses to help students prepare for the workforce.
- b. A state-wide program is working on a platform for incarcerated students to use tablets for their coursework. Currently, these students have older tablets, but they're testing how educational content designed in Tennessee can be used on the existing ones. They're expecting to reach 25,000 students.

17. Instructional and Workforce Deliverables (Hazelton)

- a. Working with businesses to create course materials.

18. AI Strategy, Pilots, and National Visibility (Hazelton)

- a. Looking for grant opportunities.
- b. Vol State is using a traffic light method (red, yellow, and green) to let students know how much, if any, is allowed in the course. Red is "none," yellow is "some," and green is "yes." TBR is collecting research from Vol State's pilot and will be publishing this, so others in the system can review the results, then consider if they'd like to adopt something like it.

19. Training Reach and System Impact; Since August 2023 (Hazelton)

- a. Over 1,600 faculty and staff have met with TBR for training.

20. 2026 Strategic Initiatives (Hazelton)

- a. Working with businesses to help ensure our graduates are prepared to use AI in their careers.

21. TBR Credential (Brown)

- a. TBR is the first higher education system in the nation to implement a Comprehensive Learner Record; it's a digital "wallet" students can then show employers.
- b. This spring, all students will be able to "claim their cred." Once they complete their degree, they'll receive a link to do so.
- c. Someone asked if colleges that are moving from Banner/Elucian will still be able to take part in the Cred program.

22. Accessibility Update (Nephew)

- a. The DOJ's date for ADA compliance is April 24th of this year.
- b. They're hosting upcoming training to help faculty and staff update content.
- c. Later this afternoon, each campus's Accessibility Chair will receive information about these sessions. The Monday Minute email will also contain session topics and dates. (Email Amie Nephew if you're not receiving The Monday Minute, and she'll add you to the list. It should be sent by our CTAT department, though.)
- d. Each individual course should reach a minimum of 90% as its accessibility score. Even if faculty "hide" inaccessible files from students, those are still counted towards the accessibility score.
- e. The issue was raised about how the new learning outcome "badges" are not accessible. TBR will be looking into this issue.

23. Office of Student Success Newsletter- attachement