

Press Release

On August 15-17 the recently revived group of Faculty Senates from state universities met for the second time this year. The group, now called Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS), met for the first time last April. The goals of the group are to increase communication among faculty senates at the state's universities, and to provide the faculty an opportunity to speak with a united voice on issues of importance at the state level.

Much of the work at the first two meetings of TUFS has been organizational, but one or two issues have been addressed. Last spring, the faculty senates of participating universities passed resolutions supporting the awarding of honorary degrees to the Freedom Riders from Tennessee State University. TUFS is currently working on another resolution to bring ultimately before the legislature. That resolution would offer veterans, regardless of their state of residence, in-state tuition at Tennessee universities. Ohio also offers in-state tuition to all veterans. In addition to these issues, TUFS will be requesting clarification of policy statements and legal issues that affect faculty at the state's universities.

Participating universities include East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UT-K), University of Memphis, and Austin Peay State University (APSU). The current officers of the group are President Tim Winters, Professor of Greek and Latin at APSU; President-Elect John Nolt, Professor of Philosophy at UT-K; and Secretary Lori Buchanan, Professor of Library Administration at APSU. The group looks forward to working on behalf of faculty across the state and communicating faculty concerns to the state legislature and other appropriate bodies.