

## LEADERSHIP TEAM MINUTES

Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### July 2025 Attendance

Member List	Attending
Dr. Wendi Tostenson – <i>Chair</i> /President	X
Karen Waller – Executive Administrative Assistant to the President	X
Nancy Batson – Internal Auditor	X
Dr. Richard Rhoda – Interim VP for Academic Affairs	A
Brett Stoller – VP for Business and Finance	X
Dr. Emily C. Short – VP for Student Services	X
Greg McCalley – VP for Research, Assessment, and Special Initiatives	X
Karen Mitchell – VP for Advancement	X
Lori Cutrell – VP for Human Resources	A
Nick Bishop – VP for Economic Development and Regional Centers	X
Duane Berry – AVP for Academic Affairs	X
Dr. AnneMarie McKee – AVP for Student Services	X
Dr. Walter Tarver – AVP for Student Success	X
Charlotte Soporowski – AVP for Business and Finance	X
Tim Amyx – Registrar/AVP for Strategic Enrollment Systems	X
Jason King – Chief Information Officer	X
Joe Pennington – Chief of Campus Police	X
Shane Talbott – Dean, Math and Science	X
Dr. Erin Mann – Dean, Humanities and Fine Arts	X
Kim Christmon – Dean, Health Sciences	X
Cassie Koester – Dean, Nursing	X
Dr. Rhonda Gregory – Dean, Social Science and Education	X
Dr. Kevin Blankenship – Dean, Business and Technology	X
James Roberson – Sr. Director of Workforce Development	X
Will Newman – Sr. Director of Plant Operations	X

Leah Balli – Sr. Director of Admissions/Strategic Enrollment Systems	X
Dan Whicker – Director of Marketing	X
Delois Reagan – Director of Learning Commons	X
Sheila Jessup – Director of Payroll and Benefits	A
Tiffany Summers – Director of Financial Aid	X
Jennifer Johnson – Director of Admissions	X
Michelle Boyd – Director of Plant Operations	X
Bobby Hudson – Director of Athletics	X
Deb Moore* – Faculty Council Speaker	A
Allison Marberry – Admin of Training and Development	A
Alison Webster – Development Officer	X
Billy Dye – Assistant Dean/Biology Faculty	X
Len Assante – Assistant Dean/Communication Studies Faculty	A
Greg Lyons – Bursar	X
April Corkin – Coordinator of Purchasing and Contracts	X
Pedro Martinez – Student Success Advisor	A
Stella Pierce* – History Faculty	A
Patrick Green* – Art Faculty	A
Girija Shinde* – Biology Faculty	A
Ines Petrovic Garcia* – Communication Faculty	A
Jamie Fuston* – English Faculty	A
Stephanie Webb* – English Faculty	X
Jon Hale – Librarian	A
Amy Hoffman – Grants Administrator	X
Joshua King – <i>Recorder</i> /RASI Data Technician	X

\*Faculty Senate

Others In Attendance: Mohua Hazra (Business Intelligence Analyst) and Paige Reecer (Assistant Director of Admissions)

July 2025 Minutes

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENT/CONCLUSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
<b>CALL TO ORDER (9:34 AM)</b>	Leadership Team called to order at <b>9:34 AM</b> on <b>July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b> .	
<b>REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (9:34 AM)</b>	<p>The minutes from the last Leadership Team meeting were reviewed.</p> <p><b>Outcome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion: Kevin Blankenship</li> <li>• Second: Tim Amyx</li> <li>• Motion carried to approve prior meeting minutes.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion carried to approve prior Leadership Team minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion: Kevin Blankenship</li> <li>• Second: Tim Amyx</li> </ul>
<b>QUICK UPDATES (9:35 AM)</b>	<p>Dr. Tostenson shared quick general updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vol State is working on the Gallatin Health Science building.</li> <li>• Edits need to be made to the executive summary for the Wilson County project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ DB70 has been submitted, and final plans are being made.</li> <li>○ An additional 11.82 acres are being purchased, which will go into effect in August.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• TBR is in the final phases of designing their Strategic Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An overview of the THEC Plan, TBR Plan, and the 1-, 3-, and 5-year plans will be presented during convocation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>FUNDING FORMULA (9:40 AM)</b>	<p>Tim Amyx shared some updates from THEC regarding the Funding Formula.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEC has approved a pause on the General Education exit exam as a graduation requirement, starting Summer 2025.</li> <li>• Program-specific exit exams will continue to be administered (CIT exit exam, Criminal Justice exit exam, etc.)</li> <li>• TBR has permitted Vol State to retroactively award credentials to ~20 students in the <u>last academic year</u> who completed all requirements except for the General Education exit exam.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion carried to approve the retroactive awarding of credentials to students in the last academic year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion: AnneMarie McKee</li> <li>• Second: Erin Mann</li> </ul>

	<b>Vote to Approve the Awarding of Credentials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion: AnneMarie McKee</li> <li>• Second: Erin Mann</li> <li>• Motion carried to approve the retroactive awarding of credentials to students in the last academic year.</li> </ul>	
<b>PELL LOAN RESEARCH GROUP – FEDERAL UPDATE (9:49 AM)</b>	<p>Vol State’s Pell Loan Research Group provided an in-depth update on the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and its expected impact on Vol State.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bill was modified by the Senate after being approved by the House of Representatives.</li> <li>• Many concerning items in the House version, such as student loan default repayment and increased Pell limits have been removed or modified within the revised version.</li> <li>• The federal grad PLUS loan program is being terminated, but this does not directly impact Vol State students.</li> <li>• Pell opportunities for Workforce students have been introduced.</li> <li>• Most of the higher ed portion of the bill goes into action on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.</li> </ul> <p><b>Campus CE/Banner Integration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure effective Workforce Pell disbursement, work is being done to integrate Campus CE (our workforce student system) with Banner (our regular student system.)</li> <li>• Moving workforce students into Banner gives admissions better data access and enables support for credential career-aligned pathways.</li> </ul>	
<b>BUSINESS AND FINANCE UPDATE (10:40 AM)</b>	<b>Budget Report for Monthly College Distribution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business and Finance is providing monthly budget update reports on the first of every month to make the budget more transparent.</li> <li>• The document is split by Department and Index Code.</li> <li>• If the summary doesn’t look right, members can check Self-Service Banner 9 to see more details.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Limited Faxing from Multi-Function Devices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vol State’s contract for KONICA is ending, we are switching to Canon.</li> <li>• Faxing is no longer relevant for most offices, so it is being removed from most offices, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars.</li> <li>• There will be one printer with faxing in IT, HR, and each regional center.</li> </ul> <p><b>Purchasing Guideline Modifications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification: No purchasing of Vol State attire using Vol State funds. T-shirts will be given to all employees on convocation each year.</li> <li>• The Foundation may continue to purchase t-shirts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ramer Renovation Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning for Ramer Renovations is ongoing.</li> <li>• Expect a lot more glass walls in Ramer as the remodel happens.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wilson County Funding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If everything goes perfectly with the Governor and the Wilson County project, expect it to be at least Spring 2029 at the earliest before we’d go into the Wilson County Campus.</li> </ul>	
<b>MIDDLE COLLEGE UPDATE (10:48 AM)</b>	<p>Duane Berry provided an update on the middle college programs in Putnam County and Robertson County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fourteen new students in Putnam County’s second middle college cohort.</li> <li>• New middle college with Robertson County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 26 students on middle college list for first cohort in Robertson County.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<b>MARKETING UPDATE (10:50 AM)</b>	<p><b>New Work Order Form:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can now submit a “Marketing Request” form through TeamDynamix.</li> <li>• This ticket system will allow marketing to manage requests more effectively.</li> <li>• For website changes specifically, continue to use the “Webmaster” link at the bottom of the website.</li> </ul> <p><b>New Organization Annual Event Planning Calculator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A working group called “The Collaborative” has been established internally.</li> <li>• The Collaborative’s first mission was to create an organizational annual event planning calendar.</li> <li>• Dan Whicker showed the annual planning calendar draft, stating it will be placed online for the campus to consume in real-time at a later date.</li> </ul>	
<b>PLANT OPS ACTIVE PROJECTS UPDATE (11:00 AM)</b>	<p>Will Newman shared the ongoing Plant Ops projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will Newman will continue to send out project lists via email, which has been very helpful across campus.</li> </ul>	
<b>LAST-MINUTE UPDATES (11:02 AM)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postings for Regional Center Directors, both Upper Cumberland and Springfield, with Duane Berry and AnneMarie McKee as co-chairs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ With both positions being vacant, we can train and prepare the final candidates at the same time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The VPs have reviewed the VPAA job description. The description will be sent to the Deans and Faculty for review shortly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. Day’s last day is July 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>ADJOURNMENT (11:04 AM)</b>	<p>Chair Dr. Tostenson ended the meeting at <b>11:04 AM</b>.</p>	