

## **“Leadership Conversations 2”**

### **“The importance of teaching and its evaluation”**

**David Prior, Bill Powers, Diana Natalicio, Rod Mabry**

**and the Academic Institution Presidents**

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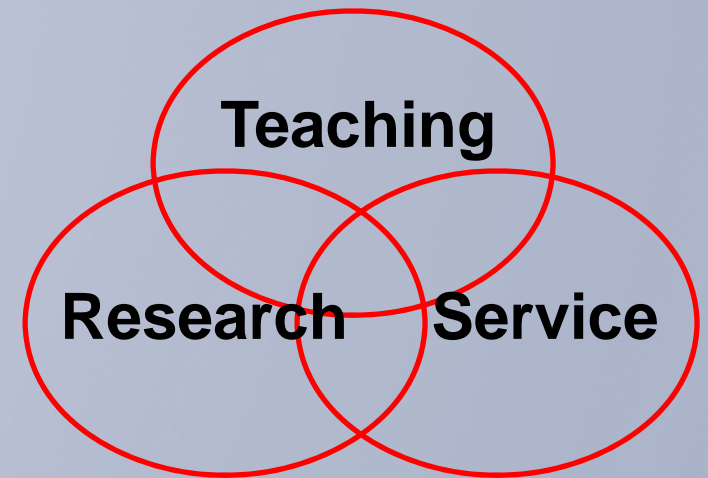
**Board of Regents’  
Meeting  
Academic Affairs  
Committee**



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# U. T. System Academic Institutions: Contributions to the State

- **A broad public benefit**
  - An educated and engaged populace
  - Enhanced human capital
  - New ideas for economic development
  - New ideas for social advancement and quality of life
  - New solutions for public problems
  - Technology transfer and commercialization
  - Worldwide and national reputations
- **Specific benefits to students**
  - Opportunities for educational advancement
  - Creative reasoning and analytical thinking skills
  - Specific discipline expertise
  - State-of-the-art discipline content informed by scholarship
  - Professional training
  - Enhanced career expectations
  - Enhanced lifetime earnings
  - Lifetime learning





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## U. T. System Academic Institutions: Shared commitments and principles

- The very best educational experience for our undergraduate students – balancing access and affordability – without compromising excellence
- The very best undergraduate and graduate degree programs with teaching based on faculty scholarship and enriched by state-of-the-art knowledge
- A deliberate focus on student success, including intellectual and personal development, in timely progress to graduation



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## Some axioms.....?

The teaching responsibility of a university should be based upon the fact that “everyone should be a discoverer and a learner.” (Reinventing undergraduate education: the Boyer Commission, 1996)

- “What is discovered in the laboratory in the morning is shared in the classroom in the afternoon”
- Inquiry-based learning involves inquisitive faculty helping students to become inquisitive
- Creativity, critical thinking, reasoning, analysis, evaluation, synthesis, explanation and communication are some of the fundamental hallmarks of a good education – irrespective of discipline or major



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## Reinventing undergraduate education: A blueprint for America's research universities - The Boyer Commission 1996

By admitting a student, any college or university commits itself to provide maximal opportunities for intellectual and creative development, including:

- Opportunities to learn through inquiry
- Careful and comprehensive preparation for whatever may lie beyond graduation – first professional position, professional school or graduate school
- Training in skills necessary for oral and written communication that will serve the student in postgraduate and personal life
- Appreciation of arts and sciences, humanities and social sciences



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## Some topics - and questions

- Teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century university
  - The scholarship of teaching and measuring learning outcomes
  - Hiring, training, evaluating and rewarding university teachers
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- How do we know we are succeeding in our teaching mission?
  - How do we publicly recognize excellent teachers – can we do more ?
  - How do we measure faculty teaching performance?
  - The role of student exit evaluations?
  - The role of teaching performance in tenure and promotion?
  - What are the links between teaching and faculty scholarship?