

March 12, 2021

UT-AAUP Newsletter

Grievances Filed on Lack of Faculty Participation in Hiring of President

Grievances have been filed by UT-AAUP with the Administration on behalf of the T/TT and Lecturer units. The body of the Grievances read:

Pursuant to Article 7 of the CBA, the UT Administration and Board of Trustees (BOT) committed itself to faculty participation in the selection of academic officers. Notwithstanding this commitment, the BOT hired Gregory Postel as an Interim President without any input or attempt to obtain input from faculty. While hiring of an interim could arguable be permissible under certain circumstances where there is an immediate need for a leader of the institution, the BOT proceeded to convert Dr. Postel's Interim position to a permanent position at a time when there was no pressing time requirement to act without consulting the faculty. The conversion of Dr. Postel's position was undertaken without advanced notice to anyone outside the BOT and a select few administrators of the intent to do so. The conversion from an Interim to a permanent position was done without any input from faculty in clear violation of Article 7.

This wording was drafted by a Law School faculty and edited by the UT-AAUP.

We are demanding that the UT Administration and the Board of Trustees respect and follow Shared Governance including the hiring of academic personnel as set forth in the CBA of each unit. The Grievances will be aggressively pushed.

It is understood the Faculty Senate is considering a resolution protesting the BOT failure to follow Shared Governance in the hiring of Dr. Postel. The UT-AAUP supports the Faculty Senate in this resolution and encourages the faculty to do the same. Meanwhile, the UT-AAUP will be pursuing the Grievances, including arbitration if necessary, to stop the Administration and Board of Trustees from hiring other academic administrators in violation of the CBAs.

Don Wedding

UT-AAUP Grievance Officer

UT-AAUP Executive Board