

New leader, new goals

Interim UT president discusses plans for this year

By Amanda Eggert
Editor-in-Chief

“How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time.”

This is how Nagi Naganathan described his experience preparing to take his new position as interim president – all of which happened this summer after former president Lloyd Jacobs stepped down June 30.

Naganathan took over as interim president July 1 and described his experience as “an opportunity to serve this institution.”

“I received a great deal of support from faculty, staff and students encouraging me to serve as well,” Naganathan said. “It is



“I loved meeting students when they came into the class and I truly look forward to the energy as our students come on campus.”

NAGI NAGANATHAN
Interim President

truly an honor to serve from this office.”

Naganathan said that although recruitment and retention are his primary focus for the upcoming year, he also wants to improve communication between the administration, faculty, staff and students. In addition, Naganathan wants to make a habit of “recognizing good things that are happening on campus and engaging all faculty, staff and students.”

In order to do this, Naganathan will implement planned engagement activities to interact with students and faculty.

One such activity is “Walk with the President.” During this event, he will be able to meet with students in a casual setting.

“It is not a business meeting; students can come up and share their experiences and other things we can do,” Naganathan said. “It is more of an engagement strategy with the students. It’s going to happen many times throughout the year.”

Meeting students and welcoming back the faculty members for the school year is something

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