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# THE TISL TIMES

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The Official Newsletter of the 45th General Assembly

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## Today's Schedule

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**11:45:** Lunch

*Legislative Plaza*

**12:30:** Joint Session

**1:30:** 6th Legislative Session

**2:45:** Polls Open

**3:15:** Polls Close



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## Confusion Follows Fewer Seats

*Chief of Staff Jed Dugger explains apportionment*

The delegation from University of Tennessee at Martin arrived Thursday morning with six representatives. “We were surprised to find out that only two seats had been allotted for us in the House—less than last year,” said Senator John Domanski.

Chief of Staff Jed Dugger took the time to explain how apportionment functions and what changed this year.

Apportionment occurs before TISL—once the delegations have registered. The House is filled to its 99-seat capacity, with seats assigned according to school size. Chief of Staff Dugger explained, “Enrollment per representative fluctuates depending on school and year. We don’t keep a set ratio in order to make sure the seats are as fairly distributed as possible.”



Reapportionment occurs Friday, after the Speaker of the House and the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House are able to determine which delegations have fewer representatives than seats allotted. Afterwards, the Secretary of State’s office reassigns seats to delegations, again starting with the largest schools.

However, the reason schools like UT Martin had fewer seats allotted than last year was because of the increase in college size. As there is a set number of seats in the House, college size and number of seats per delegation are inversely related. With 43 colleges at TISL this year, several delegations saw a decrease in seat number. Fortunately, many of those schools, including UT Martin, were able to receive more seats during reapportionment Friday. The House will now be entirely full until the close of sessions Sunday.

*-Page Forrest*

## Suit Up

### TISL Times Reporter Covers General Assembly Fashion

I rubbed my eyes to clear them, but it didn't work. A sea of grey still clouded my view of the floor of the House of Representatives. I squinted from my seat in the balcony, assuring myself that there surely couldn't be that many people dressed so similarly again. Let it be known that I have nothing against the dark grey palate that many chose today or against the blue that the majority chose yesterday, but sometimes I just need more. Luckily, I'm not alone in this. As my eyes adjusted, I began to see specks across this sea of people: vibrant reds, yellows that put the sun to shame, and all manner of patterns and pleasantries sprinkled about. Then I looked beside me, and I found the following:

*Elle Woods* is a lobbyist from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. You may very well have seen her today with her gorgeous pink blazer, black pencil skirt, a white tank top, and nude flats. When asked if this was a case of fashion over function, her answer revealed that it definitely was. "I'm freezing," she began, "I'm freezing cold... But it's worth it because I get to wear a pink blazer like *Legally Blonde*." Then it hit me. This wasn't actually Elle Woods from *Legally Blonde*, and I apparently had been very confused. After my brief, but very sincere, apology to her was done, I learned that her name was actually Haley Wilson. My sincerest apologies again, Haley.



*Mady Hazen* is also a lobbyist, and also from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Coincidence? Who knows? Today, she wore a black and white dress with a tan jacket with ruffles at the bottom, and black flats. I, of course, also had to ask Mady if her outfit was a case of fashion over function. "I am more of a functional girl; I started off the weekend in heels before realizing that the flats in my bag were a much better choice." Though I've only had the displeasure of wearing heels a time or two, I'll have to agree. Flats are much more comfortable.

*Now it's the time you've all been waiting for, it's the Fashion Tip of the Day!*

Since good things come in threes, I went and found another fierce and fashionable lady, *Doretha Benn* from East Tennessee State University, and asked the group something I've wanted to know for years. You see, I've had a sneaking suspicion about accessorizing, but didn't have the data to back it up...until now. Good news everyone!! The three agree that the easiest way to accessorize is to add a pop of color! So keep that in mind next time you dress yourself, and keep looking pretty out there, TISL.

*-Chuck Fleming*