

(Approved 5 December 2001)

## **Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting October 24, 2001**

Present: Bomar, Caruthers, Coleman, Davis, Garrison, Hailey, Jensen, Joseph, Keefer, Kupersmidt, W. Lewis, Merkle, Moulden, Muehlhauser, Parigger, Petersen, Schulz, Sheth, Smith, Solies, Steinhoff, Stellar, Whitehead. Guests: Amy Henderson and Allan Barber.

Absent: Antar, Chen, Collins, Crater, Dahotre, Engels, Flandro, Kimberlin, Kimble, J. Lewis, M. H. McCay, T. D. McCay, Pujol, Shahrokhi, Vakili

Meeting began at 10:05 am in Lower A-wing Short Course Room with Solies presiding. A quorum was present.

### 0) Student AIAA Presentation

Amy Henderson requested faculty support for the students' activity to raise funds for upcoming trip to see Space Shuttle Launch. Polo shirts were being sold to raise funds.

### 1) Minutes of September 12, 2001

It was moved by Coleman and seconded by Sheth that the minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

### 2) Evaluation of UTSI by UT Consultant

Caruthers introduced Allan Barber, former Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration at The University of Georgia. Barber indicated that he would be making his evaluation on the basis of whether the support of UTSI is the best use of State funding. In the past UTSI attracted \$10 M in Federal support while the State provided only \$4.5M; today the State provides \$9M and only about \$2.8M comes from Federal contracts. The question is how UTSI can be revitalized to attract more Federal dollars and to attract additional students into the academic programs. It is important to have a UT presence in Middle Tennessee but a specific plan is needed to justify the State expenditures needed to provide that presence. Barber said he would be receiving input through Caruthers but would also be willing to look at 1-2 page write-ups directly from faculty. It was indicated that the consultant's purpose was to assess the situation at UTSI but not to provide a plan. The consultant's evaluation of UTSI is to be completed by the end of November.

### 3) ExComm – Solies

The ExComm met the previous week to arrange the agenda and to discuss the Assembly's response to the consultant hired by UT to study UTSI.

### 4) Budget Committee – Smith, Jensen

Smith presented the Budget Committee's report (attached) concerning budgeting and expenditures for computer facilities during the past two years, as requested by the Assembly. The overall conclusion was that total expenditures followed budgeted amounts fairly closely but items in individual categories seemed to deviate from budgeted amounts significantly. Questions concerning actual IT expenditures in certain categories remain to be addressed in the future. It was also recommended that the remaining \$217K be used as soon as possible for the much needed upgrade and replacement of computers at UTSI.

At the request of the Budget Committee Jensen handed out copies of the FY01 total revenue and expenditure figures in the form of pie charts categorized by function. These were found to be a more understandable form than the previous versions using data only in a spread sheet. Next time it is expected to have the charts contain categories for salary and travel.

5) Education Committee, COO Report -- Caruthers

The consultant has not seen the plan Caruthers previously submitted to Eli Fly for the revitalization of UTSI. The net amount of research funding now being received is about the same as before if the large projects like MHD and CSTAR are removed. Even if each faculty member brought in \$150K/year in outside funding it would not be sufficient to satisfy UT's expectations. It was felt that the consultant wants to help but is constrained by certain monetary goals. Over the next 3-5 years it may be enough for UTSI to provide a 1-1 match of Federal to State funding and to increase student enrollment by 50%.

Even with the addition of three CS faculty and the use of distance learning it will not be able to satisfy the requirements to offer the UT CS degree at UTSI. It is expected to get the approval for offering the MSCS from Tennessee Tech at UTSI. CS faculty and some adjuncts at UTSI will be offering CS courses for the CS program at TN Tech. In Spring of 2002 UTSI will start offering a core course for the TN Tech CS program.

UTSI is continuing efforts to offer a Space Flight Engineering Program for the AF Space Command in Los Angeles. This would involve all web delivery; a streaming video demonstration has been carried out.

5) Research Committee – Muhlhauser

The consultant has requested data about research funding by principal investigator for the last 5 years.

The AEDC Task Order for next FY involves 7 awards for \$400K. An additional \$100K may be available.

6) Reports

a) Streamlining Task Force – Jensen

All areas within UTSI were considered for cutting costs. Input was requested from all employees. Recommendations were sent to Caruthers October 10 and forwarded to Eli Fly on October 12.

b) Energy Task Force – Garrison

Research and educational opportunities are being pursued in advanced coal gasification. Memos of Understanding and budgets are being prepared to hopefully involve DOE and various industrial partners.

7) Announcements

a) Solies asked for a faculty volunteer to serve on the UTSI Safety Committee.

b) Steinhoff announced a seminar to be given the next Monday by former student Jamie Kucab from Bell Helicopter.

c) Solies announced that the Annual UTSI Christmas Party will be held at the American Legion in Tullahoma on Wednesday December 12, 2001.

d) Hailey announce that an industrial organization with funds to support faculty would be holding a seminar on October 25 at 10 am in C-102.

8) The meeting adjourned at 11:38 am

Respectfully submitted,

R. D. Joseph  
Assembly Secretary  
26 October 2001