

(Approve 23 January 2002)

Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting December 5, 2001

Present: Antar, Bomar, Caruthers, Coleman, Collins, Crater, Davis, Hailey, Jensen, Joseph, Keefer, W. Lewis, Merkle, Muehlhauser, Parigger, Petersen, Pujol, Shahrokhi, Sheth, Smith, Solies, Steinhoff, Stellar

Absent: Chen, Dahotre, Engels, Flandro, Garrison, Kimberlin, Kimble, Kupersmidt, J. Lewis, M. H. McCay, T. D. McCay, Moulden, Schulz, Vakili, Whitehead.

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

1) Minutes of October 24, 2001

Regarding Section 4 about the Budget Committee's report, it was brought up by Davis and Parigger that questions still needed to be answered concerning the expenditure of IT funds during the two years in question. It was agreed to add the sentence, "Questions concerning actual IT expenditures in certain categories still remain to be addressed.", as the third sentence in paragraph one of the section.

Davis made a motion that reference to the \$10M of Federal support be eliminated from the second sentence of Section 2. The motion was defeated.

With Section 4 amended as above the minutes were approved.

2) ExComm – Solies

The ExComm met the previous Wednesday to plan today's agenda and to discuss various items important to UTISI's status within UT. Solies mentioned: a faculty member's urgent request to have the UT administration make a decision about UTISI's status, the Barber report on UTISI requested by UT, William R. Carter's letter-to-the-editor and Larry Nee's articles in the *Tulahoma News*, and Steve Ennis' letter concerning the UTISI Support Council leadership.

3) Suspend Agenda

A motion was made by Collins and seconded by Antar that the agenda be suspended to devote the meeting to the discussion of Support Council actions and the Barber Report regarding UTISI. The motion passed unanimously.

4) Support Council

An off-the-record discussion of recent Support Council activities was led by Caruthers.

5) UTISI's Status and Barber Report

Pujol indicated that students are leaving and going to UTK and that student recruiting is being hurt because of rumors that UTISI may be closing.

Caruthers said that the final Barber report would be made public today and be considered by the Board of Trustees on December 11, 2001. He never got to see a final draft of the report for comments and received his copy through the Board of Trustees. Using slides, Caruthers gave a review of the Barber Report, which recommended the creation of two committees (academic/research and community) to study UTISI and recommend how it might be revitalized. The committee recommendations would be due by September 2002 and then UTISI would be evaluated over three years to determine if the recommendations had been carried out successfully. A full copy of the report was to be made available to each faculty member that day.

A discussion followed concerning the composition of the two committees specified in the Barber report. It was the general feeling that at least one committee should have representation from outside UTISI and UT, from both the academic and industrial communities. Ultimately the following motion was

introduced by Collins, seconded by Shahrokhi and amended by Merkle:

The Faculty Assembly requests that COO John Caruthers, in his dealings with the UTSI Support Council and the UT Administration, propose that one of the planning committees specified in consultant Allan Barber's report on UTSI be a "national advisory committee", made up of both industrial and academic leaders.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Davis and seconded by W. Lewis that the Assembly meet on December 13 at 10 am, after the Board of Trustees meets to consider the Barber Report. The motion passed unanimously.

6) The meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

R. D. Joseph
Assembly Secretary
15 January 2002