

**Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting
October 13, 2004**

Faculty members present: John Caruthers, Horace Crater, Lloyd Davis, Gary Flandro, Ralph Kimberlin, Joseph Majdalani, Basil Antar, Chris Parigger, Al Pujol, K. C. Reddy, Atul Sheth, Monty Smith, Peter Solies, Bruce Whitehead, Max Hailey, Kenneth Kimble, John Steinhoff, Y. L. Chen, George Garrison, Trevor Moeller

Faculty not present: Trevor Moulden, Bruce Bomar, Narendra Dahotre, Joel Muehlhauser, Boris Kupershmidt, Rich Ranaudo, Roy Schulz, J. W. L. Lewis, Ahmad Vakili.

The faculty meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M.

The minutes from the 9/8/04 meeting were approved (motion made by Dr. Steinhoff. and seconded by Dr. Sheth)

Committee and other reports, old and new business:

- 1) **Bylaws:** Dr. Antar reported that the faculty affairs committee of the Faculty Senate, of which he is a member, is working on preparing typical Bylaws for all UTK units. He will pass on these typical bylaws once they are completed to the bylaws committee of the faculty assembly for applying them to UTSI faculty. These will not be ready till next semester at the earliest. He also reported that UTSI is now, for the first time in its history, officially mentioned in the draft of the new faculty handbook which is anticipated to be approved by the Board of Trustees in their November meeting. The draft of Chap. 1 of the new faculty handbook was distributed at the meeting.
- 2) **Dr. Caruthers:** a) UTSI will be reporting through Dr. Jack Britt, Executive Vice President (former Agricultural Unit head). b) Dr. J. Daniel Stewart has been appointed as an assistant to Dr. Peterson. One of his duties is to help make UTSI successful. c) Dr. Bob Levy will play an important role in working with the consultant (Dr. Fletcher). d) **Ear Marks:** no success yet on plasma propulsion project. However, UTSI will be sharing HVEPS grant of \$3.1 million with California base General Atomic.
- 3) **Comments and ideas to communicate to Stuart, Levy, Fletcher:** Steinhoff stated it is necessary to add links with other campuses. This should be emphasized to consultant. Davis suggested that UTSI be used as a sabbatical location for interested faculty at Memphis and Knoxville. Flandro expressed the opinion that our lack of students is and will be a chronic problem as long as we have no undergraduate base. One way would be to institute an elite advanced undergraduate program here. Some suggested that we team with certain undergraduate schools to offer double degree programs (e.g. 3 – 2 split with elite student receiving B.S. from parent undergraduate institute and M.S. from UTSI). Distant teaching maybe crucial aspect of this as suggested by Kimberlin. Parigger suggested that in keeping with International standards that in the future by passing BS and getting MS directly may be considered. Organizational meetings were

- scheduled by Dr. Kimble for the Faculty affairs, Library and Research committees next week.
- 4) Student Recruitment. It was suggested that some students and Callie Taylor be members of that ad-hoc committee
 - 5) Budget committee: The annual revenue and expenses report was presented, that revenues exceeded expenses. (See attached)
 - 6) Education: Student information system changed, Summer offerings due in 5 days (10/18). Incompletes. Must be changed in 1 year (> 1 year results in automatic F, no exceptions). The no grade option for I is discouraged. 600 dissertation course is only to be used when the student is actually working on the dissertation (after comprehensive). It is not to be abused (over loading hours onto it). Promotional video for UTSI has been proposed and will be worked on at beginning of next year. Student enrollment is 67 full time equivalents. New faculty recruitments is ongoing with firm prospects. No final offers will be made until review is done.
 - 7) Graduate Council: Smith at the October 7th meeting, the Graduate Council voted to limit assistantships to 3 years for Master's candidates and 5 years beyond the Master's for Ph.D, candidates.
 - 8) Reddy: SACS review: Information on international collaborative activities should be reported (i.e. initially to Dr. Reddy)
 - 9) Jensen: Bookstore will be moved from old location to Business Office
 - 10) Garrison: EPSCOR. The co-funding program has been of benefit to the state, bringing in an additional \$5,000,000.

Horace Crater
Faculty Assembly Secretary