

## Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting

September 7, 2005

Faculty members present: John Caruthers, Horace Crater, K. C. Reddy, Atul Sheth, Bruce Whitehead, Kenneth Kimble, Joel Muehlhauser, Basil Antar, Roy Schulz, Bruce Bomar, Monty Smith, Trevor Moulden, , Peter Solies, Lloyd Davis, Gary Flandro, Chris Parigger, Joseph Majdalani, Bill Hofmeister

Faculty not present: Max Hailey, George Garrison, Boris Kupershmidt, Al Pujol, John Steinhoff, J. W. L. Lewis, Rich Ranaudo, Narendra Dahotre, Y. L. Chen, Ahmad Vakili, Trevor Moeller.

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

Dr. Caruthers reported that over the summer a planning session for the Material Science program was held at ORNL and included representatives from UTK and ORNL as well as from UTSI. Two specialty areas were identified

- a) Carbon based materials
- b) High energy photonic processing of materials

The academic program will be multidisciplinary and will offer degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Physics, as well as Materials Science Engineering

Dr. Caruthers pointed out there is a reluctance at UTK to let us hire for tenure track positions (even for the four unfilled positions due to retirement). We are being encouraged instead to hire research professors. On the other hand this is difficult since the Faculty Handbook does not permit multiyear contracts (limited to one year at a time). Our Faculty Senate representative will bring up this issue at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Question posed to UTSI faculty by Dr. Caruthers: Would we be willing to sacrifice tenure track positions for the ability to hire research professors under multi-year contracts?

Dr. Muehlhauser noted that funding last year remained at the same level. Next year's level is expected to increase.

He also reported that an aerospace propulsion workshop will be organized and meet sometime in October at the Gossick Center. Numerous research participants will be invited from a cross sections of institutions, including from the Air Force. Dr. Dan Stewart will also attend. This is expected to have a significant impact on our program (e.g. by forging partnerships for research)

Dr. Reddy reported that Dr. Bill Hofmeister is now on board as a full time research professor in the Materials Science program

Also Dr. Solies has been appointed Acting Program Chair of the Aviation System program filling the position vacated by Dr. Kimberlin's retirement

He also reported that there are 19 new full time students for a total of 46 (compared with 40 last year). 155 students are registered in UTSI classes compared with 143 last year.

Old Business: The draft of the by-laws are to be emailed out for the special meeting on this subject to be held in H-111 at 9:00 on September 28. They are to be approved by the majority of faculty and then submitted to the administration for consultation and approval, and agreed upon changes.

Billing has been running far behind on a number of contracts. (Dr. Jensen is to be informed about this problem)

New Business: Many problems have been reported on new procedures for registration and recruitment. They will be collected and sent to Anne Mayhew with copies to Drs. Britt, Crabtree and Petersen.

New faculty member (Dr. Stephen Corda) in Aviations system will be on board in October.

Horace Crater

Faculty Assembly Secretary