

Approved Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting

Nov 14, 2007

Faculty members present: Johnson, Hofmeister, Sedrick, Parigger, Morton, Pujol, Smith, Crater, Whitehead, Bukley, Antar, Daniel, Bomar, and Majdalani

Faculty not present: Steinhoff, Flandro, Ranaudo, Chen, Dahotre, Kupershmidt, Moulden, Corda, Solies, Jackson, Vakili, Moeller, Davis, and Schulz

1) The meeting was called to order at 10:08 in H-111. No quorum was established.

2) Dr. Antar welcomed the new faculty: Dr. Jackie Johnson. He also reported on the success of the meeting organized by Dr. Daniel and held at the Gossick Leadership Center.

3) Report from the Chief Operating Officer - D. Daniel.

Dr. Daniel made several announcements covering a broad range of topics. These include but are not limited to:

–The relevance and success of the 29th Quick-Goethert Lecture in attracting 132 attendees at the banquet alone. He also thanked Dr. Thomas Scherer, Vice President of Environmental Control Systems Engineering with Airbus Deutschland, who presented a very interesting and useful talk entitled "Technological Tendencies and Challenges in Aircraft Design. The A350 XWB." The talk was both entertaining and educational.

–The meeting at the leadership center. Participation by administrators, faculty, staff and students led to very useful exchanges. Discussion topics included the UTSI Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Strategic Plan.

–A landscaping plan to enhance the beauty of our campus. The plan will be “mindful of the natural beauty of UTSI.”

–Lt. Gov. Ramsey’s visit to UTSI and AEDC on November 2. The visit was quite a success and Lt. Gov. Ramsey left with a very positive impression.

4) Report from the Dean for Academic Affairs - B. Bomar.

–Our student count has increased to 237. Enrollment from AEDC has also increased to 50. This is due in part to the Technical Excellence initiative that encourages AEDC employees to continue their education. In this vein, only two semesters spent by a student will satisfy the residency requirement.

–Our communication with UTK is improving with respect to student applications. From now on, UTK will email to us the dossier of a student as soon as the application is entered. Faculty will then be notified to help match the student with the Faculty person.

5) Report from the Assistant VP for Research - A. Bukley.

–Dr. Bukley has provided an update on Research.

–Our present funding is \$2.5M/year excluding the portion for CLA. Our target is \$5.2M.

–Six proposals have been submitted to UTK of which 2 are expected to go forward.

–A reminder to fill out the Conflict of Interest forms.

–Opportunity to interact with the International Space University, involving top quality students from 20 different countries.

6) Dr. Sedrick discussed an entitlement program by virtue of being an EPSCOR state. This project involves a state wide team and will most likely attract up to \$24M in the next 5 years. It will involve research on nano-materials and sensors. UTSI will manage this project and will help to disburse the funds.

7) Dr. Whitehead discussed a minor in Computational Science at the graduate level. This program will bear an interdisciplinary nature and will leverage the availability of courses that have a computational thrust offered in Computer Science, Mathematics, and AE/ME/Physics. Dr. Parigger suggested to offer some of our faculty a joint appointment in Mathematics to fill in the gap created by several recent retirements, namely, those by Drs. Kimble and Reddy, whose positions have not been replaced.

8) In the absence of a quorum, minutes from the 09/27/07 meeting could not be approved.

9) Dr. Daniel reported on the recruitment of Mr. Peter Aamodt, our new Assistant Vice President for Administration and Finance.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joe Majdalani