

Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting

16-February-2011, 10:00 AM, H-111

Approved 28-September-2011

Members Present: Solies, Pujol, Smith, Sedrick, J. Johnson, Murray, Yue, Antar, Majdalani, Steinhoff, Vakili, Crater, Parigger, Moore, C. Johnson.

Members Not Present: Corda, Muratore, Costa, Hofmeister, Moeller, Chen, Davis.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. A quorum was established shortly thereafter.
2. Minutes from the 10-Nov-10 Faculty Assembly Meeting were approved by voice vote.
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee. Dr. Solies stated that the Executive Committee had met and formed the agenda for this meeting.
 - b. Research Committee. Dr. Parigger reported that the committee had met and discussed three issues: (i) Faculty searches, (ii) equipment maintenance and acquisition, and (iii) coordination of the student seminars.
 - c. Graduate Council. Dr. Parigger reported on issues before the UTK Graduate Council: (i) Regarding courses that expire, the UT policy is that no course may be repeated. (ii) Regarding the ability of retired faculty to serve on or chair a student committee, a retired faculty member may do so, as long as he/she is on the payroll. (iii) Regarding the requirement for continual enrollment, the Grad Council is considering a proposal to exclude the summer. Dr. Sedrick made a motion that UTSI is against the continuous enrollment requirement for MS students and is in favor of excluding the summer semester for PhD students. Dr. Steinhoff seconded. The motion was withdrawn after discussion. Dr. Sedrick then moved that UTSI express its opinion to the Graduate Council that we want the continuous enrollment requirement for 600 to exclude the summer. Dr. Steinhoff seconded, and the motion passed with 11 for, 3 against, and 1 abstention.
 - d. Faculty Senate. Dr. Sedrick reported on numerous issues being considered by the UTK Faculty Senate and pointed out they can be accessed at <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/reports/index.html>. He emphasized the importance of UTSI involvement in the UTK Senate and its committees and subcommittees.
 - e. Student Affairs. Dr. Pujol reported that the Student Affairs Committee had met and discussed several items including course offerings, student representation on faculty search committees, dormitory repairs, selection of the committee chairman, and student elections and representation on the Faculty Assembly.
4. Administrative Reports
 - a. Chief Operating Officer and Director of Office of Research. Dr. Moore reported that Ms. Joan Snoderly is UTSI's new Director of Finance and Administration. He announced that the UT Research Foundation has approved the establishment of UT ASSET as a non-profit institution at UTSI, and that the UTSI Support Council is being re-activated. Budget cuts are coming and will hit July 1. He

expressed his displeasure at receiving minutes from the Research Committee and the contents therein. He explained that since UTSI was placed under UTK, UTSI has no specific bylaws. He concluded by saying that UTSI now has no market for graduate education and a non-profit institute is a way to be useful to AEDC and UT.

- b. Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Charles Johnson reported that he had met with MABE faculty and formed a list of necessary courses. Summer course offerings will fall under UTK rules. Dr. Solies brought up the topic of the Education Committee and recommended it be re-established.
5. Old Business
- a. Faculty Emeritus Status. Dr. Moore apologized for not taking action on this and recommended that Dr. Kupershmidt's emeritus status be at the UT level through the Math Department. Dr. Solies asked that Dr. Crater look into this.
6. New Business
- a. Dr. Crater reported on Kupershmidt's Last Theorem, formulated by the late Dr. Kupershmidt and recently re-proven by Carl Kneely. Dr. Steinhoff moved that a portrait of Dr. Kupershmidt by Dr. Remi Engels be acquired for UTSI. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - b. Dr. Parigger reported that the Push to the Top 25 includes increasing the number of PhD's graduated.
7. Other
- a. Dr. Vakili announced that a seminar by Dr. Sedrick was taking place that afternoon and urged member to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Montgomery Smith
Secretary