Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting  
09-November-2011, 10:00 AM, H-111  
Approved 15-February-2012

Members Present: Solies, Smith, Sedrick, Hofmeister, Yue, Antar, J. Johnson, Murray, Majdalani, Moeller, Steinhoff, Vakili, Crater, Davis, Parigger, Moore, C. Johnson, King (Student Rep).

Members Not Present: Corda, Muratore, Pujol, Costa, Chen.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM with a quorum present.
2. Minutes of the 28-Sep-11 Faculty Assembly meeting were approved unanimously by voice vote. (Solies moved, Steinhoff seconded.)
3. Committee Reports
   a. Executive Committee. Dr. Crater reported that the Executive Committee had met on 02-Nov-11 to form the Agenda for this meeting.
   b. Research Committee. Dr. Steinhoff reported that the Research Committee had met on 12-Oct-11 and expressed the desire of the committee to be included in new faculty hires in an advisory capacity.
   c. Library Committee. Dr. Davis reported that the Library Committee had met on 27-Oct-11 and formulated several issues to be considered during this AY. These include: the need for a new librarian, the UTSI library budget, storage of AEDC journals, recycling of journals available electronically, and scanning of student theses and dissertations to free up shelf space.
   d. Student Affairs Committee. Dr. Murray reported that the Student Affairs Committee met on 02-Nov-11 and had elected him chair along with Jason King as the student representative to the Faculty Assembly. Issues discussed at that meeting include: engineering fees for GRAs, health resources and insurance for UTSI students, and the quality of teaching in some UTSI classes.
   e. UTK Graduate Council. Dr. Parigger reported that he had attended the 27-Oct-11 meeting of the UTK Graduate Council, and that issues considered there included graduate courses to be dropped, 60 new fellowships for UTK graduate students, and an embargo or delay on placing theses and dissertations in the library.
   f. UTK Faculty Senate. Dr. Davis reported that he had attended the Senate meeting on 03-October-2011. Items considered at that meeting included: a new faculty pub, and a presentation on emergency response. In a system-to-campus subcommittee meeting, Dr. David Millhorn talked about the new TERA grant and proposal tracking software, the status of Cherokee Farm, international student tuition, and journal costs by the campus libraries. Dr. Hofmeister reported that the UTK Faculty Affairs Committee is considering freedom of speech this AY.
   g. Dr. Crater noted the committees from which he had not heard, and urged them to meet and elect chairs for the AY.
4. Administrative Reports
   a. Chief Operating Officer and Director of Office of Research. Dr. Moore reported on the TERA software, its implementation and training for it. He also re-capped
the recent changes at AEDC, including the chain of command, the new name (“Complex,” not “Center”), and the budget cuts. Updates on UTSI capital maintenance were that the water tower is now operational and UTSI has given easement rights to Estill Springs, and that the rest of the money originally budgeted for capital maintenance will go toward bringing UTSI in compliance with fire codes. On the topic of C-ASSET, he reported that interest from AEDC is high, and that it is intended to be self-operational in two years. Currently, he is working with UTRF to draw up a charter and bylaws. Coming up next is the formation of the Board of Directors.

b. Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. C. Johnson reported on the issues discussed at the 13-Oct-11 meeting of the Academic Committee. These include the MABE PhD qualifying exams, course descriptions, and math courses.

5. Old Business
   a. Status of Faculty Searches. Dr. Moore reported that Dr. Bill Hamel has examined the faculty searches put on hold. Plans are to have openings for three MABE faculty positions with one in Flight Test Engineering all under one search committee directed by Dr. Muench from UTK. Other searches in Materials Science and Engineering Management will be re-activated. He is hoping for announcements for these positions to come out in December.

6. New Business
   a. Mathematics 511 and 512. Dr. Crater reported that he was working to put together a two-semester course sequence in applied mathematics, distributed a tentative course description, and asked members for their input on topics to be covered.

7. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Montgomery Smith
Secretary