Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting  
05-February-2014, 10:00 AM, H-111  
Approved

Members Present: Abedi, Costa, Davis, Hurlock (Student representative), C. Johnson, J. Johnson, Moore, Parigger, Solies, Simonton, Tolk, Vakili, Yu, Zhang.

Members Not Present: Anusonti-Inthra, Brooks, Chen, Crater, Hofmeister, Martos, Moeller, Yue.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM with a quorum present.

2. Report from UTSI Executive Director, Dr. Moore:  
   Dr. Moore presented Dr. Janice Tolk to the Faculty Assembly. Dr. Tolk recently joined UTSI as an Assistant Professor in the Engineering Management program (UTK Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering). Dr. Moore provided an update to the Faculty Assembly on the ongoing faculty searches, and announced that final preparations for The 22nd International Conference on Spectral Line Shapes, organized and held at UTSI during the first week of June, 2014, are underway. Dr. Moore also briefed the Faculty Assembly on ongoing talks regarding the establishment of a Flight Test Engineering program that replaces the Aviation Systems program. Dr. Moore noted that Cafeteria remodeling will be completed by early March and that preparation for the UTSI 50th anniversary commemoration continues. The 50th anniversary commemoration will start September 11th, with the UTSI Family Picnic, and continue into September 12th, with a technical session in the morning and a formal reception in the evening. Dr. Moore concluded his report with noting that various “Big Orange” Campaign related activities are currently in progress around the campus, including the placement of outdoor banners and campus guide signs.

3. Approval of Minutes:  
   Minutes of the September 25th 2013 Faculty Assembly meeting were approved unanimously by voice vote (Davis moved, J. Johnson seconded). Minutes of the November 6th 2013 Faculty Assembly meeting were approved unanimously by voice vote (Solies moved, J. Johnson seconded).

4. Committee reports:  
   • Report from Executive Committee, Dr. Vakili:  
     Vakili summarized the recent efforts to align the Faculty Assembly with the Faculty Senate. In particular, under the Realignment Committee proposal adopted December 11 2013, the FA now operates with a reduced number of committees, namely Executive, Education and Research, and J. Johnson, as current FA President Elect, becomes UTK Faculty Senator.

     Executive Committee recommended to increase the number of members on the Research Committee from three to five. This was discussed and implemented in two steps.  
     First, the bylaws were modified to indicate five FA members will be serving on the research committee.
Second, the current nominations (Yu and Martos) by the executive committee were announced. Vakili called for additional nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were announced. Costa announced that Anusonti-Inthra designated him as proxy for the two vote items included in the meeting agenda. The increase in number of members on the Research Committee from three to five was approved unanimously by hand vote. The two nominations, Yu and Martos, were approved unanimously by hand vote.

- Report from Education Committee, Dr. C. Johnson:
  C. Johnson reported the total spring enrollment numbers (117 - UTSI, 36 - UTK) and provided a breakdown of the GRA numbers. C. Johnson informed the FA that the Committee had discussed issues related to summer courses.

- Reports from UTSI representatives to UT Knoxville Faculty Senate, Dr. Vakili:
  Vakili informed the FA about several topics discussed at the FS meeting held on February 3, 2014. A resolution to modify universal sick and bereavement leave policies was approved. A bill addressing the distribution of student fees allocated for student organizations to pay speakers was announced (Senate Bill 1608). Concerns with online education, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS), and Massive Open Online Course Or Whatever (MOOCOW) were discussed. A copy of the unapproved minutes of the FS meeting can be obtained at http://senate-utk-edu.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/2/files/2013/08/February-2014.min_.pdf.

- Report from UTSI representatives to UT Knoxville Graduate Council, Dr. Vakili (for Dr. Anusonti-Inthra):
  Vakili cited the highlights from the GC meeting:
  - Chemistry Dept.: GC voted to approve publication requirement for PhD graduate. Every PhD needs at least 1 publication (accepted for publication) before graduation.
  - SGA: travel fund $90K approved for 150+ students to present at technical conferences.
  A copy of the minutes of the January 30 2014 meeting can be found at http://gradschool.utk.edu/GraduateCouncil/Minutes/Graduate%20Council%201-30-14%20Minutes.pdf.

5. New Business and Public Announcements:
- Space Allocation Committee, Dr. J. Johnson:
  J. Johnson informed the FA that this committee (appointed by Dr. Moore) was convened to develop a protocol to allocate office and lab space, with initial focus on CLA and Propulsion Buildings. The committee has held one meeting so far.
- Vakili announced that the AEDC Commander would be at UTSI today to give a seminar. Vakili invited the Faculty to come to H-111 today at 2:00 pm to the Commander’s talk.
- Dr. Parigger announced that the 22nd International Conference on Spectral Line Shapes (ICSLS22) will be held at UTSI, June 1-6, and will count with at least 36 invited talks. Papers presented at the conference will be peer-reviewed and published in the Journal of Physics. Parigger invited all UTSI PhD students to participate and informed that April
15 is a hard deadline for submitting abstracts. More information on the conference can be found at http://icsls22.utsi.edu.

6. Adjournment:
   The meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM (Vakili moved, Simonton seconded).

Respectfully Submitted,
Lino Costa
Secretary