

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY  
April 14, 2010

The Academic Council met at 3:30pm on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, in the Deans' Conference Room of Derryberry Hall with Corinne Darvennes, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Ms. Deanna Nipp-Kientz	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Bobby Hodum	Dr. Chris Wilson
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Susan Gore
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Larry Peach	Dr. Jon Jonakin
Mr. Matthew Bedford	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Prof. Susan Reeves	Dr. John Harris
Dr. Susan Laningham	Dr. Gretta Stanger
Dr. Christine Miller	Dr. Corinne Darvennes

Others attending the meeting were Mr. Chester Goad, Dr. Billye Foster, Dr. J.P. Barfield, Dr. Sally Pardue, Dr. David Huddleston, and Ms. Beth Rogers. The following members of the Council were absent:

Dr. James Jordan-Wagner	Dr. Michael Best
Dr. Pat Bagley	Dr. Jeff Roberts
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. Steve Isbell
Ms. Heather Christie	Dr. Lebron Bell
Mr. Julian Lyons	Dr. Steve Canfield
Mr. Lawrence Haas	Dr. Holly Anthony

#### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda

Approved the minutes of the March 3, 2010 meeting

Approved annual reports from committees reporting to the Academic Council

Elected chairperson for 2010-2011

Approved new concentration in AGBE

Approved the deletion of BS degree in Industrial Engineering

Approved changes to the ADA Policies and Procedures

Approved research incentive policy

Approved use of Turnitin software

#### PROCEEDINGS

##### Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Darvennes stated that Agenda Item #5 should read "Approval of a New Concentration in AGBE." Dr. Loutzenheiser MOVED approval of the agenda with the correction and Dr. Miller SECONDED. Agenda APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of the Minutes of the March 3, 2010 Meeting

Dr. Stanger MOVED approval of the minutes and Dr. Loutzenheiser SECONDED. Minutes APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Annual Reports from Committees Reporting to the Academic Council

Dr. Miller MOVED approval of the reports as a group and Dr. Larimore SECONDED. Reports APPROVED unanimously.

#### Election of Chairperson for 2010-2011

Dr. Jonakin nominated Dr. Susan Laningham as chair of the Academic Council for next year. Dr. Harris MOVED that nominations cease and Dr. Laningham be elected by acclamation and Dr. Hodum SECONDED. Dr. Laningham was APPROVED as Chair for 2010-2011.

#### Approval of a New Concentration in AGBE

Dr. Foster stated that there is a correction in the History courses presented in the proposal (see attachment). She stated that any upper division American History class may be substituted for HIST 4020. Dr. Loutzenheiser MOVED approval of the new concentration and Dr. Hodum SECONDED. Motion APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of the Deletion of BS Degree in Industrial Engineering

Dr. Loutzenheiser explained that the deletion of the BS degree in Industrial Engineering and ultimately eliminating the department was due to the reduction in funds (see attachment). Eliminating this degree program will enable the College to maintain minimally adequate funding levels for the remaining programs. This action came from a report by an ad-hoc college advisory board to review strategies for addressing the current university fiscal crisis as well as discussions with various other people. The ISE department is no longer admitting students. The proposed implementation date is June 30, 2010, with the phase out date of Spring 2012. Faculty will be retained in the College of Engineering with the University funding their salaries. Dr. Loutzenheiser MOVED approval of deleting the program and Dr. Foster SECONDED. After some discussion with questions and answers, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Changes to the ADA Policies and Procedures

Mr. Chester Goad, Director of Disability Services, highlighted the changes in the ADA Policies and Procedures (see attachment). Most of the changes were due to legal changes that were effective January 2009. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) internal audit went well but the policies and procedures had not been updated since 2000. The changes were approved by the ADA Committee and the Administrative Council. He stated that accessibility for the blind has improved with technology and that faculty should choose materials in their assignments that will assist these students. There are trained proctors available through the ODS to assist students in departments who do testing in the evenings. Dr. Stanger MOVED approval of the changes and Prof. Reeves SECONDED. The question was asked if the number of students with disabilities is going up or down. Mr. Goad stated that the learning and psychological disabilities are going up, but the physical disabilities are going down. The students are very aware of their rights and want the services due them. Motion APPROVED unanimously.

Such Other Matters

- a. Dr. Otuonye explained the Research and Scholarly Activity Incentive Award policy (see attachment). A portion of the indirect cost from a research grant can be used as incentive pay for the principal investigator (PI). Currently the PI receives 10% of the indirect cost and it can be used for travel, supplies, or other expenses except for salary. This policy will allow the PI to use the entire 10%, or a portion of it, for bonus salary. Dr. Gore MOVED approval and Dr. Loutzenheiser SECONDED. After discussion, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.
- b. Dr. Laningham reported for the subcommittee assigned to review the Turnitin software used to detect plagiarism. Dr. Laningham stated that Dr. Baker still stands by his reasons for opposing software be used to detect plagiarism. He believes it is unethical and sends the wrong message to students that we are presuming guilt on the part of the students immediately. She stated that the other side is that the message we send should be to let students know that if they plagiarize they will be caught and to let students who are not plagiarizing know that the plagiarists are not going to get the same credit. There were comments as to the company making a profit, who owns the paper, good teaching vs. bad teaching, and why the need for a plagiarism detection service to determine if a student is plagiarizing. Dr. Laningham checked some other services such as Google, which is free but very slow. The University of Maryland has a program called Plagiarism Checker that was developed as a student project and it is free and gives an immediate reply. They also offer advanced services at a fee. Turnitin has a bank of papers and gives you a detailed report and provides tutorials on how to avoid plagiarism. The Graduate School has a current contract with Turnitin for three years. It can be cancelled with notice. However, the Graduate School is required to use some type of plagiarism detection service. After much discussion, Dr. Harris MOVED that Turnitin software be made available to all faculty who want to use it and Dr. Wilson SECONDED. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Dr. Armistead MOVED that the Council commend the chairperson, Dr. Darvennes, for her judicious and efficient leadership to the Academic Council this year. APPROVED unanimously with applause.

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 4:30pm.

APPROVED 8/8/10

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

- Annual Reports from Committees Reporting to Academic Council
- Proposal for New Concentration in AGBE
- Proposal to Delete BS Degree in Industrial Engineering
- Changes to ADA Policies and Procedures
- Research and Scholarly Activity Incentive Award Policy