

Tennessee Tech University
--- Office of Research and Economic Development ---

Minutes of the Meeting of
University Research Advisory Committee

The University Research Advisory Committee met at 11:00 am Thursday, February 4, via TEAMS, with Dr. Jeff Boles presiding.

Members Present: Dr. Jeff Boles, Ms. Kelly Bell, Ms. Julie Brewer, Dr. Tania Datta, Dr. Kristen Deiter, Dr. Adam Holley, Dr. Shelia Hurley, Dr. Brian Leckie, Dr. Satish Mahajan, Dr. Hayden Mattingly, Dr. Ramchandran Natarajan, Dr. Terry Saltsman, and Dr. Jennifer Taylor, Executive Officer

Members Absent: Dr. Steven Anton, Dr. Jason Beach, Dr. Jeremy Blair, Ms. Deborah Gernt, Mr. Cody Godwin, Mr. Greg Holt, and Dr. Mark Stephens

Others Present: Ms. Amanda Powell and Ms. Sandra Storie

1. Approval of Minutes from November 11, 2020

The minutes from the November 11, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved by the committee.

2. Old Business

The committee continued their discussion of industry partnerships. In the previous meeting on November 11, the committee discussed whether creating space for industry on campus would be feasible and effective. Dr. Boles mentioned that occupants of Foster Hall are gradually moving out and that the building has approximately 50 chemical fume hoods in working order. The committee discussed ways to move forward, such as establishing guidelines for industry partnerships. Dr. Boles, Dr. Leckie, and Dr. Taylor will work with Dr. Stephens to gather more information about usage of space on campus and possible opportunities in support of research.

3. Scholastic Research Award

Scholastic Research Award applications are due February 28, 2021. Dr. Boles asked that committee members be ambassadors for the award. The committee reviewed the application and review process, and Dr. Datta and Dr. Boles offered to look into developing a rubric for use during the application review.

4. Legislative Update

Dr. Saltsman shared that three projects are progressing through the legislative process:

- Department of Energy project to support a university educational program in Nuclear Engineering.
- Appalachian Regional Commission project to assist farmers with high tunnel and greenhouse agricultural methods to allow an extended growing season.

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- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project to research harmful algal blooms in partnership with Marshall University and Mississippi State.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Storie, Committee Support Personnel

Date approved by committee: 04/15/2021