

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
November 10, 2004

The Academic Council met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10, 2004, in the Dean's Conference Room of Johnson Hall with Dr. Jeff Roberts, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Don Elkins	Prof. Darlene Franklin
Dr. Robert Niebuhr	Prof. Delane Stewart
Dr. Winston Walden	Dr. Gretta Stanger
Prof. Rebecca Tolbert	Dr. Chris Brown
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Tony Baker
Mr. Nathan Wilds	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. John Harris	Prof. Ray Jordan
Dr. Sharon Whitney	Dr. Jeff Roberts
Dr. Mark Stephens	Dr. Brian O=Connor
Dr. Christine Miller	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Dr. David Larimore	

Ms. Beth Mannle attended for Dr. Darrell Garber. Mr. Bobby Hodum attended as a resource person.

The following members of the Council were absent:

Dr. Jack Armistead	Dr. David Narrie
Dr. Darrell Garber	Dr. Cathy Cunningham
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. Jann Cupp
Mr. Matt Levi	Dr. Joseph Biernacki
Mr. Corbin Halverson	Dr. P. K. Rajan
Ms. Katie Skelton	

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Approved the agenda.
2. Approved the minutes of the October 6 meeting.
3. Received information about the International Baccalaureate Program.
4. Received an update on Summer School 2005.
5. Discussed a proposal to replace the current class schedule and approved the appointment of a committee to study the issue of allowing the option for alternate Monday/Wednesday schedules.

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Stanger MOVED approval of the agenda, Dr. Stewart SECONDED the motion, and the agenda was APPROVED as distributed on the web.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 6 Meeting

Dr. Loutzenheiser MOVED approval of the minutes of the October 6 meeting, and Dr. Stanger SECONDED the motion. The minutes were APPROVED as posted on the web.

International Baccalaureate Program

Professor Tolbert introduced Mr. Bobby Hodum, Assistant Director of Admissions, to present information on the International Baccalaureate Program.

Mr. Hodum distributed a handout about the AP/IB Program—an international advanced placement program involving over 200,000 students in 45 different states in the U.S. and in 117 different countries. Only five high schools in Middle Tennessee (four schools in the Nashville area plus Cookeville High School) are offering the AP/IB.

Mr. Hodum referred to the list of courses on the handout and noted that the courses were designated as either HL or SL—Higher Level or Standard Level. So far TBR has not standardized the credit for AP/IB courses, but TTU would like to be listed on the IBO website so that high school students in the program would know exactly what exam score would be required in a particular course and exactly what college credit they would receive for the course. The departments would not be asked to give credit based on what other schools do but on statistical data and samples of the exams. Mr. Hodum noted that high school students in their junior year are eligible to enroll in IB courses. Professor Tolbert said the Admissions Office hopes to have information about the IB program on the web and in the bulletin soon and have our requirements established sometime during this academic year.

Update on Summer School

Dr. Barker said the university is now spending more than the E&G budget (fees and appropriations) brings in. To keep the problem from becoming worse, the campus decided to reduce spending this year by \$1,043,000. Academic Affairs' portion of the reduction is about \$725,000--\$50,000 in one-time funds and \$675,000 in permanent reductions. To avoid decreasing the R&R budget any further or eliminating vacant faculty lines, it was determined that the summer school program is the only other source of funds large enough to cover this problem. In order to make summer school self-supporting, Dr. Barker said that we would need to generate \$780,000 in income in excess of expenditures from the summer school program. He said that based on SCH generated in previous summers, each college would be given an income level beyond expenditures to attain. The

specifics for reaching the assigned target would be decided at the college level. Dr. Barker noted that RODP and the Distance MBA are not part of this program.

Proposal to Change Current Class Schedule

Dr. Roberts reported that he had received dozens if not hundreds of comments regarding his proposal for changing the current class schedule, from students and faculty alike. All but two were professional. Many were supportive and enthusiastic. Yet others raised a variety of concerns. The reason and extent of the opposition convinced Dr. Roberts to forego a vote on the proposal.

Instead, Dr. Roberts commissioned a committee of the Academic Council to study the practicality of allowing for alternate Monday/Wednesday classes of 80-minute length. Mark Stephens, Christine Miller and Brian O'Connor have volunteered to serve on the committee.

Dr. Roberts thanked all of those who shared their thoughts regarding the initial proposal.

Such Other Matters

Dr. Roberts announced that the committee on disruptive behavior in the classroom that is being chaired by Sharon Whitney will report at the next meeting of the Council.

Adjournment

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 4:30 p.m.

Pat Gilbreath, Recorder