

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY  
October 8, 2008

The Academic Council met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8, 2008, in the Deans' Conference Room of Derryberry Hall with Corinne Darvennes, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Bobby Hodum	Dr. Steve Isbell
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Sharon Huo
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Don Visco
Dr. Larry Peach	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. John Harris
Dr. James Jordan-Wagner	Dr. Holly Anthony
Mr. Grayson Peek	Dr. Gretta Stanger
Mr. Walter Fitts	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Ms. Kristen Perrone	Dr. Kari Rajan
Dr. Susan Laningham	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Mr. Ray Jordan

Ms. Regina Lee represented Dr. Winston Walden. Others attending the meeting were Dr. Ken Currie, Ms. Jerri Winningham, Dr. Kurt Eisen, Dr. Glenn James, and Dr. Francis Otuonye. The following members of the Council were absent:

Dr. Pat Bagley	Dr. Michael Best
Dr. Winston Walden	Dr. Christine Miller
Mr. Alston Peek	Dr. Pat Jordan
Prof. Susan Clark	Dr. David Larimore

#### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved agenda.  
Approved the minutes of the September 10, 2008 meeting.  
Approved proposal for research-track appointments.  
Approved policy on freedom of expression.

#### PROCEEDINGS

##### Approval of Agenda

Dr. Stanger MOVED approval of the agenda and Dr. Harris SECONDED. Agenda APPROVED unanimously.

##### Approval of the Minutes of the September 10, 2008 Meeting

Professor Ray Jordan MOVED approval of the minutes and Dr. Stanger SECONDED. Minutes APPROVED unanimously.

### Proposal for Research-Track Appointments

Dr. Currie explained the reason for his proposal and the need for research-track appointments. (See attached proposal and justification.) This type appointment is included in the TBR policy, but is currently not a TTU faculty appointment. The proposal was presented to the Faculty Senate on Monday, October 6. Dr. Stanger MOVED approval of the proposal and Dr. Harris SECONDED. There was some discussion and questions answered regarding non-tenurable, fixed term, renewable, etc. This type appointment would receive the same benefits as other temporary faculty appointments, but would be renewable after three years and the position would be advertised every three years. An amendment was made by Dr. Stanger and seconded by Dr. Harris to remove (d) & (e) from the proposal to exclude permitting promotion in rank and to exclude reference to permit conversion of the appointment to tenure track (see attached revision). The revised proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

### Policy on Freedom of Expression

Dr. Eisen stated this policy was approved by the Administrative Council earlier (see attached policy). The policy originated from the activities with the Policy and Oversight Committee, General Education Fund (Center Stage Program), for programming cultural events using fees collected from students each semester for that purpose. The purpose of this policy is to give a frame work for performances and exhibitions that take place and defending the performance or exhibition in terms of purposes within the University's mission, and to define some of the responsibilities that go along with certain performances. Dr. Null MOVED approval of the policy and Dr. Isbell SECONDED. Dr. Armistead suggested that the phrase "or by University employees or students" be changed to "or sponsored by the University." Dr. Null and Dr. Isbell agreed to the amendment. The policy was APPROVED unanimously. The policy will be included in the Faculty Handbook and other pertinent areas (Student Handbook) after it is presented to the University Assembly next month.

### Such Other Matters

None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

*Carol Holley*

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

Proposal for Research-Track Appointments (original & revised)

Policy on Freedom of Expression (original & revised)

*approved Nov. 12, 2008*