

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
September 9, 2009

The Academic Council met at 3:30pm on Wednesday, September 9, 2009, 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. Christine Miller
Dr. Bobby Hodum	Dr. Lebron Bell
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Pat Bagley	Dr. Steve Canfield
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Chris Wilson
Dr. Larry Peach	Dr. Susan Gore
Ms. Heather Christie	Dr. Linda Null
Mr. Matthew Bedford	Dr. Jon Jonakin
Prof. Susan Clark Reeves	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Susan Laningham	Dr. John Harris
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Dr. Holly Anthony
Dr. Steve Isbell	Dr. Corinne Darvennes

Others attending the meeting were Ms. Beth Rogers, Ms. Annette Littrell, Ms. Lauren Neal, and Prof. Andy Smith. The following members of the Council were absent:

Dr. James Jordan-Wagner	Mr. Lawrence Haas
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. Michael Best
Mr. Julian Lyons	Dr. Gretta Stanger

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved agenda

Approved the minutes of the April 15, 2009 meeting

Referred Posting of Syllabi proposal back to the committee(s)

Approved revision to Academic Freedom Policy

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Miller MOVED approval of the agenda and Dr. Larimore SECONDED. Agenda APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the April 15, 2009 Meeting

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

Posting of Syllabi Proposal

Dr. Armistead stated that two committees for pandemic planning had requested that he present this to the Academic Council. The request is to have all faculty post their syllabi on the web using a course management system so that if we do have a pandemic everyone has a way of keeping in touch. The proposal is to add a statement to the current syllabus policy that the syllabus be filed in the department and posted on the class website. Dr. Larimore MOVED approval of the proposal and Dr. Bagley SECONDED. There was discussion and questions about the proposed wording, how the syllabi would be accessed online (ILearn, WebCT, Email, etc), and who would be responsible for posting. If there is a pandemic plan in each of the units/departments, why is there a need for posting of the syllabi? Dr. Larimore withdrew his motion and Dr. O'Connor MOVED that the proposal be returned to the committee(s) for further review. Dr. Roberts SECONDED and the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Academic Freedom Policy Revision

Dr. Armistead provided background of the Academic Freedom Policy. This item has been presented to the Faculty Senate. Prof. Smith explained AAUP's concern with the policy because it does not specify temporary faculty and feel they should have the same access and privileges as full-time faculty. The revision to the policy is to include in the last paragraph the phrase "*as well as those in non-tenurable teaching positions.*" Dr. O'Connor MOVED to revise the TTU Policy to include the phrase and to present the change to TBR for revision to their policy. Dr. Null SECONDED the motion and it was APPROVED unanimously. Dr. Armistead with pass the request on to TBR.

Such Other Matters

1. A draft of the Distinguished Faculty Fellow Award was distributed to the Council for their review and will be discussed at the next meeting.
2. Dr. O'Connor stated that a colleague had concern about faculty with degrees from the University of Phoneix. He replied that it should be up to each search committee to review and accept transcripts.
3. Mr. Bedford asked about the report on the effectiveness of UNIV 1020 courses. Dr. Null stated that she would look into this and present a report at another meeting this semester.

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 4:15pm.

APPROVED 11/18/09

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

Posting of Syllabi Proposal

Academic Freedom Policy Revision