

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
March 18, 2009

The Academic Council met at 3:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, in the Deans' Conference Room of Derryberry Hall with Corinne Darvennes, Chairperson presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Sharon Huo
Dr. Pat Bagley	Dr. Don Visco
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Larry Peach	Dr. Holly Anthony
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. Gretta Stanger
Dr. James Jordan-Wagner	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Ms. Deanna Nipp-Kientz	Dr. Kari Rajan
Mr. Grayson Peek	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Mr. Ray Jordan
Dr. Christine Miller	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. John Harris	

Ms. Jerri Winningham represented Dr. Bobby Hodum. Others attending the meeting were Mr. Rick Cashion and Mr. Danny Reese. The following members of the Council were absent:

Dr. Bobby Hodum	Dr. Michael Best
Mr. Alston Peek	Dr. Susan Laningham
Mr. Walter Fitts	Dr. Steve Isbell
Ms. Kristen Perrone	Dr. Pat Jordan
Prof. Susan Clark	

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved agenda

Approved the minutes of the November 12, 2008 meeting

Approved revisions to the Outstanding Faculty Awards Committee Policy

Approved changes to midterm progress reports

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

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

Approval of the Minutes of the November 12, 2008 Meeting

Dr. Bagley MOVED approval of the minutes and Mr. Peek SECONDED. Minutes APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Revisions to the Outstanding Faculty Awards Committee Policy

Dr. Stephens stated that the revisions to the policy are due to the reorganization of the College of Agricultural and Human Sciences. The election of members was also changed from fall to spring semester. Dr. Harris MOVED approval of the changes and Mr. Peek SECONDED. Dr. Rajan suggested a friendly amendment in section 5 to change “alternate” to “rotate” and to add “and” after business. The motion with the amendment was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Changes to the Midterm Progress Reports

Dr. Armistead stated that midterm progress reports have been discussed previously in Academic Council and in Deans’ Council. Rick Cashion from ITS has done some research on the reporting in SIS and how it can be done in Banner. See email dated February 2, 2009. This progress reporting was initiated in Fall 1995 to give the student information on their progress in the course to determine if they need to improve their grade or so they could drop the course with a “W” grade and not get an “F”. After further discussion of his email, Rick proposed that: *We get better participation from the faculty; require midterm grades on freshman level courses not freshmen, but also allow it for all courses at the faculty member’s option; and to delay the requirement for midterm grades until Fall 2009.* Dr. O’Connor MOVED approval and Mr. Peek SECONDED. After more discussion and questions as to the importance of the reporting for students and faculty and the changes from SIS to Banner, it was suggested the phrase “require midterm grades” not be used and that it should say “faculty should complete midterm progress reports....” The proposal with the noted changes was APPROVED unanimously.

Such Other Matters

There was discussion in the Faculty Senate regarding the timeliness of returning the IDEA evaluations, which led to a general discussion about if we could save money by not using the evaluation The Senate had previously asked Dr. Bell for cost data, the benefits of these evaluations, and as a possible cost reduction. Dr. Miller sated that IDEA evaluations is on the Faculty Senate agenda for Monday, March 23. Information from the Senate meeting will be presented at the next Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

APPROVED 4/15/09

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

Outstanding Faculty Awards Committee Policy

Email from Rick Cashion regarding Midterm Progress Reports