

**University of Tennessee Research Council**  
**February 22, 2010**  
**University Center, Executive Dining Room, Room 337**  
**3:30 p.m.**

**FINAL**

**Members, Ex-officios, & GSS Representatives Attending:**

Ken Stephenson, Chair	Jun Lin
Robert Daverman	Bob Muenchen
Barbara Dewey	Greg Reed
Brad Fenwick	Joan Rentsch
Yuri Kamychkov	Peiling Wang

**Guest Attending:**

Ray DeGennaro  
Joanne Hall  
Jillian Keally  
Carol Malkemus  
Bruce MacLennan (representative for Lynne Parker)  
Adam Taylor (representative for Tim Young)

**Welcoming**

Ken Stephenson welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

Ken Stephenson discussed the Governor's announcement of 200 joint faculty at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). He encouraged everyone to push the Provost for research on the strategic plan.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The January 25, 2010 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

**Update from Office of Research – Brad Fenwick**

Brad Fenwick expressed his concern with the announcement of 200 joint faculty at ORNL. An extra 10 – 20 joint faculty in the first year or so would help programs continue to grow. It could also provide them an opportunity to apply for NSF proposals. Basically, no dollars would come for UTK. It would be a strong push to grow graduate programs. Brad Fenwick encouraged the Research Council to advocate for research. Some people are concerned that we will lose our good graduate students to the joint faculty. Joint Faculty has to be approved by departments and this should help prevent losing our good graduate students. Interdisciplinary programs will be a positive side.

Brad Fenwick discussed the Governor wanting UT to be in the top 25. Bruce Bursten is chairing a committee to define the gap and what needs to be done. The committee's findings will be presented to the Board in the fall. UT cannot be in the top 25 without research.

Brad Fenwick discussed the effect a budget cut would have on research. He encouraged everyone to be involved as much as possible on the budget hearings. He is advocating for some other offices to get an increase in funding to accommodate for the additional research in those units to assist with administrative support needed for faculty success.

The distribution of F&A collected and how it is distributed was discussed. Some members of the Research Council think that as F&A increases, the Office of Research should be supported due to this. The Research Council can propose to the Faculty Senate a formula for F&A to come back to the Office of Research.

Brad Fenwick commented that UTK may be pushing up against full capacity. The Office of Research is providing a lot of faculty development support. One of the ways is with a Summer Boot Camp which will be directed by Bob Porter. Plans are to reallocate funds in the Office of Research to compliance and undergraduate research.

Brad Fenwick suggested having a discussion on campus to see if faculty are interested in classified research. The campus must have a secure facility in order to do classified research. ORNL is interested in providing this facility.

#### **Update from Office of Research – Greg Reed**

Greg Reed mentioned that the ORU Budget Hearings will be April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Judges are needed to help determine how and to whom to distribute one time funding. The Office of Research would like faculty from other disciplines as well as the Research Council to be judges. Last year's information and a list of last year's proposals can be on the web: <http://research.utk.edu/orus/>

Greg Reed discussed the Office of Research's plan to seek more foundation and corporate opportunities. Susan Ballentine has joined the staff to assist with this.

Greg Reed reminded everyone of Research Week which will be March 21 -26, 2010. EURēCA will be a part of Research Week and will be on March 24-25, 2010.

#### **Update from Joan Rentsch – Summary of Research Centers Review Committee**

Joan Rentsch, Chair of the Research Centers Review Committee, gave a report on the centers that were reviewed Fall 2009.

- Forensic Anthropology Center – Doing very well – approved for 5 years.
- Center for the Study of War and Society – Encouraged center to expand their research within the university and seek external funds – approved for 5 years.
- Children's mental health Services Research Center – Doing very well – approved for 5 years.
- Center for Physical Activity and Health – Encouraged them to get external funding – approved for 5 years.

These centers do not get internal funding. They have to earn the funding from outside the campus.

#### **Wayne Davis – Energy Sciences and Engineering Initiative with ORNL**

Ken Stephenson introduced Wayne Davis who discussed the Energy Sciences and Engineering Initiative with ORNL. Wayne Davis, Dean of the College of Engineering, is co-chair of a task force to develop the proposed degree program in Energy Sciences and Engineering Initiatives with ORNL. The task force is made up of 13 committee members

with a very broad spectrum represented. The 200 joint faculty mentioned by the governor is probably an overestimate of the number of Joint faculty--it is more likely to be in the 25-30 range in the next several years. The number of PhD students to be admitted will likely be in the 25-35 per year resulting in some 150-200 over the next five years. This announcement was made by the governor, will be initially funded by the non recurring \$6.2M provided by the governor. All indications are that it will be a sustainable program. It will involve multi-disciplinary PhD degree as well as concentrations or minors in energy science and engineering within a number of existing degree programs in at least four different colleges. There is no restriction for another national laboratory to participate in the program, although ORNL would be the largest participant due to proximity and the initial focus. A procedure will be developed for this program on how faculty will be approved for the program. There will be a faculty review board for review of faculty for the multidisciplinary degree. New PhD programs have to go through college, graduate council, faculty senate and THEC approval, including documentation demonstrating the need for the program and the anticipated number of students involved. A survey is being conducted with corporations and other employers to determine the market for this degree program. Subcommittees have been formed to establish the proposed core course requirement for students and for developing guidelines for approval of faculty within the program. The task force will complete their goal and report to the Chancellor by the end of this semester. Plans are to have this program in effect by Fall 2011. The task force has three tasks: (1) come up with a degree program; (2) submit proposal; and (3) write program and direct the search for a director.

Ken Stephenson thanked Wayne Davis for discussing the Energy Sciences and Engineering Initiative with ORNL with the Research Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Taylor