

**University of Tennessee Research Council**

**December 11, 2006**

**Eighth Floor Board Room, Andy Holt Tower**

**3:30-5:00 PM**

**Attending:**

Thomas Handler, Chair	Lillian Mashburn
JoAnne M. Hall, Vice-Chair	Larry McKay
Pauline Bayne	C. Roland Mote
Wayne T. Davis	Faye O. Muly
Bill Dunne	Stefanie Ohnesorg
Glenn Graber	Stefan Richter
W. Frank Harris	Lee Riedinger
Vena Long	Ken Stephenson
Carol Malkemus	Jason P. Wight

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from October 16, 2006 were approved as presented.

**Comments from the Research Office and Associate Deans:**

Dr. Riedinger presented the proposed Cherokee Campus concept for moving the College of Engineering, Departments of Chemistry and Physics to facilities to be built on the south side of the river. The purpose of such a move would be to focus on materials science, foster interdisciplinary research and create opportunities for technology industries to co-locate. Such a move also creates the space in current (but renovated) facilities to accommodate growth to 36,000 students.

Mrs. Mashburn reported on the changes that are beginning to appear in Washington following the election results of November. Perhaps the most significant for UT is the emergence of Congressman Bart Gordon as Chair of the Science Committee in the House.

Dr. Wayne Davis (Engineering) reported on the moving of Computer Science from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering and the formation of a new department, Electrical and Computer Science Engineering. A national search for a head of this new unit will begin shortly.

**Old Business:**

Center/institute reviews will be completed shortly.

There was no update progress from the Research Data and Tangible Research Property Policy Review subcommittee.

**New Business:**

Dr. Handler introduced the topic of 'bridge funding' whereby an established faculty member might find support to move into another area of research and scholarship. Such moves are limited by the difficulty of finding financial support to do so. Is this an area where UT might create such a program? A great deal of discussion ensued, mostly centered on the several ways by which this is now being accomplished (or not). Following lengthy discussion, no further action was taken.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.