

Tennessee Tech University
--- Office of Research and Economic Development ---

Minutes of the Meeting of
University Research Advisory Committee

The University Research Advisory Committee met at 11:00 am Thursday, April 15, via TEAMS, with Dr. Jeff Boles presiding.

Members Present: Dr. Jeff Boles, Dr. Steven Anton, Dr. Jason Beach, Ms. Kelly Bell, Dr. Jeremy Blair, Ms. Julie Brewer, Dr. Tania Datta, Dr. Kristen Deiter, Ms. Deborah Gernt, Mr. Cody Godwin, Dr. Adam Holley, Dr. Shelia Hurley, Dr. Brian Leckie, Dr. Satish Mahajan, Dr. Ramchandran Natarajan, Dr. Terry Saltsman, and Dr. Jennifer Taylor, Executive Officer

Members Absent: Mr. Greg Holt, Dr. Hayden Mattingly, and Dr. Mark Stephens

Others Present: Ms. Amanda Powell, Dr. Francis Otuonye, and Ms. Sandra Storie

1. Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2021

The minutes from the February 4, 2021 meeting were reviewed with a motion to approve by Dr. Mahajan and a second by Dr. Holley. Motion carried.

2. Scholastic Research Award

The committee reviewed applications for the Scholastic Research Award. Two awards are available, with one reserved for tenured faculty and the other for tenure-track faculty.

Dr. Natarajan made a motion to formally determine the winner of the award for tenured faculty by holding a runoff between the top two applicants based on the rubric scores. Dr. Mahajan seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Anton made a motion to formally determine the winner of the award for tenure-track faculty by holding a runoff between the top two applicants based on the rubric scores. Dr. Datta seconded. Motion carried.

The committee discussed the applications under consideration. Dr. Boles requested that each committee member send an email with their selection for the tenured and tenure-track award recipients for this academic year to Dr. Jeff Boles, URAC Chair, and to Sandra Storie, committee support, no later than Friday, April 16, 2021. After the votes are received, an email will be sent to committee members with the names of the awardees.

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3. URAC Chair for 2021-2022

The committee discussed leadership for URAC into the future and discussed possibly changing URAC procedures to allow for a chair-elect to be identified early in the fall semester. Dr. Boles will continue as committee chair for academic year 2021-2022 and is willing to mentor a committee member interested in a leadership role.

4. Voluntary Summer Subcommittee

Dr. Boles asked for volunteers to meet as a subcommittee over the summer months to review the Faculty Research grant process. Dr. Boles, Dr. Holley, Dr. Hurley, and Dr. Taylor volunteered for the subcommittee.

5. Adjournment

Dr. Boles and Dr. Taylor thanked the committee members for their work this year on behalf of the University Research Advisory Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Storie, Committee Support Personnel

Date approved by committee: 10/14/2021