

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 2:00 pm Thursday, November 7, 2019, in the Deans' Conference Room, Derryberry Hall, Room 200, with Dr. Jeff Boles presiding.

Members Present: Dr. Jeff Boles, Dr. Michael Adduci, Dr. Steve Anton, Dr. Debbie Barnard, Dr. Jason Beach, Mr. Craig Harrison, Dr. Adam Holley, Dr. Shelia Hurley, Dr. Brian Leckie, Dr. Satish Mahajan, Dr. Ramchandran Natarajan, Dr. Mark Stephens and Dr. Francis Otuonye, Executive Officer

Members Absent: Dr. Tammy Boles, Ms. Deborah Gernt, Dr. Sheikh Ghafoor, Mr. Greg Holt, Dr. Terry Saltsman and Ms. Kayla Sims

Others Present: Dr. Vahid Motevalli and Ms. Sandra Storie

1. Cornerstone Government Affairs Group

Dr. Marty Fuller, Mr. Will Smith, and Mr. Will Todd of Cornerstone Government Affairs Group met with URAC committee members by video conference. Cornerstone representatives offered an overview of their company as well as a summary of the current funding environment.

Cornerstone will help identify opportunities best suited to Tennessee Tech. In addition, they are working to build relationships with the Tennessee congressional delegation and will ensure elected officials are aware of Tennessee Tech's efforts to secure research funding and specific proposals that may be of interest. Cornerstone will also work to inform Tennessee Tech when federal agencies are building programs, so that the university can prepare targeted research proposals.

URAC committee members discussed efforts to ensure that Cornerstone is kept informed about Tennessee Tech's research program and analyzed the type of information that would best help the company represent the university.

2. Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2019

The minutes from the October 3, 2019 meeting were reviewed, with a motion to approve by Dr. Hurley and a second by Dr. Holley. Motion carried.

3. Such Other Matters

Dr. Otuonye announced that a trip to the National Science Foundation is planned for December 10 and 11. Please contact Dr. Otuonye if you are interested in being a part of the group visiting NSF.

Committee members decided to hold the final meeting of the fall semester on December 12, at 2 pm. In addition, members will be contact by Doodle Poll to verify the best meeting schedule for Spring 2020.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. Dr. Anton requested a motion for approval to adjourn. It was seconded by Dr. Beach. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Storie, Committee Support Personnel

Date approved by committee: 12/12/2019

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