General Faculty Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2013

125 Butler-Carlton Hall, 4:00 P.M.

I. Call-to-Order, Chancellor Cheryl B. Schrader called the meeting of the General Faculty to order at 4:00 P.M.

II. Announcements – None

III. Chancellor Schrader recognized Professor John Carstens for the presentation of a memorial resolution in honor of Daniel White. It was moved that the memorial resolution be incorporated in the minutes of the faculty meeting with copies forwarded to family members. (See Attachment A).

The memorial resolution for Raymond Waggoner was postponed until the next meeting.

IV. Chancellor Schrader called for approval of the minutes of the April 30, 2013 meeting. The minutes were approved as circulated.

V. Unfinished Business – None

VI. Reports of Standing and Special Committees – None

VII. Chancellor Schrader introduced the Officers of the General Faculty

Chancellor Schrader – President
Mark Fitch – Vice President
Steven Grant - Parliamentarian
Deanne Jackson – Secretary

VIII. Introduction of New Faculty

Chancellor Schrader called on department chairs to introduce new faculty:

Dr. Todd Brewer, Assistant Professor of Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering
Dr. Alan Chapman, Assistant Professor of Geological Sciences & Engineering
Dr. Sajal Das, Department Chair and Daniel St. Clair Endowed Professor of Computer Science
Dr. Kyle DeMars, Assistant Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Lian Duan, Assistant Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Dimitri Feys, Assistant Professor of Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering
Dr. William Gillis III, Lecturer of Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering
Dr. Gary Grubbs, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Dr. Steven Hilgedick, Assistant Research Professor of Geological Sciences & Engineering
Dr. Zeshan Hyder, Assistant Teaching Professor of Mining & Nuclear Engineering
Dr. Manoj Khandelwal, Assistant Teaching Professor of Mining & Nuclear Engineering
Dr. Heng Pan, Assistant Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Pourya Shamsi, Assistant Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Ahmed Sobhy Sayed Ahmed, Assistant Teaching Professor of Mining & Nuclear Engineering
Dr. B. Suha Aksoy, Assistant Teaching Professor of Mining & Nuclear Engineering
Dr. Syed Tariq, Teaching Professor & Associate Chair of Mining & Nuclear Engineering
Dr. Cheng Wang, Assistant Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Tansel Yucelen, Assistant Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Caizhi Zhou, Assistant Professor of Materials Science & Engineering
Provost Wray introduced Sajal Das as the new Department Chair of Computer Science and Steven Clark as the new Department Chair of Mathematics

IX.  New Business

    A.  Chancellor’s Report

        Chancellor Schrader gave a report regarding the UM System funding of our Strategic Plan and stated that further information would be forthcoming at the State of the University address. Missouri S&T was the only campus to receive all three of their strategic funding requests. Chancellor Schrader encourages the faculty and staff to remain engaged in the Strategic Planning efforts.

        Other news included our record enrollment of 8009 or 5.9% increase for this fall 2013 semester. The geothermal project is slated for commission in spring and the Power Plant will be decommissioned in May.

        Walt Branson has joined Missouri S&T as our new Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration.

    B.  Faculty Senate Report – Mark Fitch mentioned the new last day to add a course policy change. This change reduces the time students have to add a class during the semester from six weeks down to two weeks. Dr. Fitch also mentioned that the Course Renumbering project is well underway with the direction of Dr. Erickson as the Chairman of that committee.

X.  Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm.

____________________________________

        Deanne Jackson, Secretary
Memorial Resolution
Daniel R. White
(1940 – 2013)

Daniel R. White, Associate Professor Emeritus of Basic Engineering, passed away on Monday, July 1, 2013 at the age of 73. Daniel was born on April 21, 1940 in Kansas City, to the late Ralph C. White and Thelma (Johnson) White. On December 26, 1959 he married Bernice Shirley (Uthe) White who survives. Their marriage was blessed with two daughters and one son.

Daniel took all of his college degrees from the University of Missouri campus in Rolla (now known as Missouri University of Science and Technology): A BS in Physics in 1962 when the campus was known as the Missouri School of Mines, and a MS in Physics in 1964 and a PhD in Physics in 1970 when the campus was known as the University of Missouri – Rolla. During the time between his MS and PhD degrees, Daniel served for two years in the US Army from 1967-1969 where he attained the rank of Captain. Following the award of his PhD, Dan joined the faculty conducting research in cloud physics and teaching Engineering Mechanics. Although Dan by profession was a physicist, his passion was for engineering. As a result throughout his career he married these two disciplines, becoming just the kind of professor Rolla needed.

Many UMR students take advantage of the opportunity to join research programs led by faculty working in areas that capture their interest and can make use of the practical knowledge they have acquired in the classroom. Dan exploited this opportunity as an undergraduate and began work with Jim Kassner doing experimental cloud physics research. Jim said “Dan was a good physics student and it was fairly easy to convince him to stay on as a graduate student...” He went on to say “in talking with Dan, I learned his father was a machinist and that he had learned machining skills from him. Dan had a breadth of engineering skills that ranged far beyond those most mechanical engineers achieve upon graduation. Along with this came a healthy portion of just plain common sense, and the truly unusual ability to think things through, and not simply run off half-cocked. It is rare indeed to see such a breadth of skills embodied in a single person. Dan also had the ability to convert ideas to mechanical drawings.” Together, Jim and Dan designed Rolla’s first Cloud Chamber, a research tool that permitted the simulation of atmospheric events in the laboratory. The time frame for much of this work occurred after advent of the Russian Sputnik satellite, which gave tremendous impetus to all kinds of technological developments-pressure transducers, precision linear potentiometers, exceedingly fine wires for thermocouples, accelerometers, and mercury wetted relays. Many of these developments were incorporated by Dan into the cloud chamber support subsystems.

The chamber brought global recognition to Dan and the other members of Jim’s research group. For over 20 years the chamber was the keystone of the Rolla Cloud Physics Research Center and provided the foundation upon which the Missouri S&T COE for Aerospace Emissions Research, a multi-million dollar research center, was built. Dan’s legacy spans fundamentals of nucleation, weather modification in the battlefield, Airport Air Quality and Aircraft Impact on
Climate Change. In Jim’s own words “Dan was the one who came up with the overall design for the cloud chamber, while he was an undergraduate student. Many of us owe Dan a lot of credit .” John Carstens described Dan as a veritable “Mozart” in design especially in the case of the chamber plan. Mozart was renowned for producing the manuscripts (designs if you will) of his musical masterpieces in one sitting and without error or revisions, and John told me this was what you came to expect from Dan – he only did it once and it was always right the first time.

Dan could easily be described as a “good teacher”, someone whose grasp of the material was perfect, someone who could find multiple ways to explain difficult concepts, someone who was always willing to treat any question or comment with sincerity. Student response gave evidence for this, because there was often a line of students standing outside his door waiting to have some “one-on-one” time with the “good teacher”. Dan was a “good teacher”. When Dan had office hours or before and after he gave an important exam, the lines would form in the basement of Norwood Hall. Dan’s forte was the Mechanics of Materials, a required course for most engineers who graduate from Rolla. The students called it Mikey Mat! One might estimate that Dan taught in excess of 10,000 future engineers throughout his career. And remember Rolla graduates are a highly sought after commodity in the global workforce. What a legacy!

It is requested that this Memorial Resolution be incorporated into the official minutes of the Missouri University of Science and Technology General Faculty Meeting on September 3, 2013 and that copies be sent to Dan’s widow, Bernice, and to his two daughters, Linda Rosburgh and Patricia Stringer, and his son, David White, and their families.

_________________________  _______________________
Donald E. Hagen  Philip Whitefield

_________________________  _______________________
John Carstens  Ron Fannin