

PROVOST'S COUNCIL
October 10, 2006
Minutes

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, October 10, 2006, from 8:30-9:35 a.m. Those present were Tom Isenhour (Chair), Nancy Bagranoff, Deborah Bauman, Oktay Baysal, David Branch, Chandra de Silva, Bill Drewry, Brenda Lewis, Ginny O'Herron, Joe Rule, and Charles Wilson

1. The September 26 minutes were approved.

2. Innovation Research Park @ ODU

Tom Osha, along with Bob Fenning, delivered a Powerpoint presentation on Innovation Research Park (IRP). Construction on the facility is fifteen days ahead of schedule at present. By winter break, the exterior of the building should be completed, and the entire building should open on schedule in April 2007. Mr. Osha indicated that the marketing plans are gaining momentum, with four areas of emphasis: 1) A booth presence in various venues; 2) An emerging web presence; 3) Media outreach; and 4) Prospecting (solicitation for tenants). He also asked the deans for their assistance in marketing efforts by championing the venture within their circle of influence and by promoting the IRP in their respective newsletters or at college-sponsored events. Both Tom Osha and Bob Fenning will initiate meetings with the colleges to solicit faculty input and support. Mr. Osha and Mr. Fenning emphasized the importance of attracting tenants who will serve University research needs and not just corporate (external) needs. Dr. Baysal expanded the discussion by insisting that faculty should be encouraged to house their individual businesses/companies in the IRP instead of working stealthily off-campus for fear of reprisal. He also indicated that prospective, high-powered faculty might be encouraged to come to ODU if such collaborative and "innovative" possibilities existed.

Mr. Fenning concluded by updating the Council on other projects. The University closed on the financing for the bookstore, which will open in October 2007. Construction on the hotel, with 117 rooms and five stories, should begin soon and will conclude in late summer or early fall 2007. Construction on the art gallery north of the parking deck should also begin soon. And the process for acquiring land south of 41st Street should conclude imminently.

3. Ph.D. Diplomas at December Commencement

Mary Swartz updated the Council on plans to present diplomas to doctoral candidates at Commencement. She emphasized the importance of colleges and departments' informing the students about the process for ensuring correct distribution. Each college must appoint a liaison who will work in concert with the Registrar's office to ensure accuracy and thoroughness. Ms. Swartz also

reminded Council members of the possible impediments to graduation (e.g., missing application deadline, incomplete paperwork, financial or other holds).