

**President's Commission on Student Centeredness**  
**Minutes 9/6/06**

Convener Alice Skeens welcomed the new members of the Commission and introductions were made.

**What is Student Centeredness?**

A copy of Tom Switzer's definition of student centeredness was shared with the group. The definition was discussed in depth. It was suggested that we need a "mantra" to summarize the definition. Some ideas included "You are the center of UT", "Scholars, leaders and citizens", "Committed to student's learning goals", "Responds to student needs, engages students in learning and discovery and respects student diversity and individuality."

Tom Switzer will meet with his group to discuss this further and members were asked to forward their comments to Tom.

**Student Centeredness Award**

Carol Bresnahan distributed copies of the award criterion to the group. The award would be presented to the winner by the president. Discussion was held regarding what the award should be. Ideas included a parking spot of the month, a monetary award and a perpetual plaque that could be on display. It was discussed if the award should be individual or unit based. It was decided that either could be awarded. It was asked if a student could win the awards. Kaye Patten Wallace's office has information on student awards. Dr. Jacobs suggested that each commission member nominate an individual or unity for the first award. Carol's committee will compose an award form.

**Revisiting Rocket Launch**

Kevin Kuchera reported that a new welcome video is being put together and will be completed in November. The video clips will be used for the Rocket Launch slide show as well as be used on the website for prospective students. Dr. Jacobs asked that Kaye Patten Wallace be the lead person on the Rocket Launch initiative and that a "clean slate approach" be applied. It was suggested that the Rocket Launch committee have college representation on the committee as well as partner representation.

**Course Syllabi on the Web**

Melissa Crabtree reported that EIT has been working on improving the usability of many of the web features. One issue they found is very few syllabi are on the web. Dr. Jacobs asked Tom Switzer to take the issue to the Council of Deans for their input.

Alice Skeens concluded the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2006.