

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY  
November 15, 2017

The Academic Council met at 3:35pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 in Derryberry Hall Deans' Conference Room with Dr. Linda Null, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Darrell Hoy	Dr. Ann Hellman
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Liz Mullens	Mr. David Hajdik
Dr. Doug Bates	Dr. Chris Brown
Dr. Douglas Airhart	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Dr. Jeremy Hansen	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Christy Killman	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Stephen Idem	Dr. Jeremy Wendt
Dr. Tammy Boles	Mr. Austin Thomas
Dr. Barbara Jared	Ms. Rachel Baker

Dr. Arias Chavez represented Dr. Holly Stretz and Dr. Natarajan represented Dr. Tom Payne.

Others present were:

Dr. Sharon Huo	Dr. Hayden Mattingly
Dr. Mark Stephens	Dr. Bharat Soni
Dr. Barry Stein	Dr. Francis Otuonye
Dr. Ahmed ElSawy	Ms. Amy Hill
Dr. Joe Roberts	Dr. Dale Wilson
Dr. Alice Camuti	Dr. Mohan Rao
Ms. Elizabeth Sofia	

The following members were absent:

Dr. Leslie Crickenberger	Dr. Ismet Anitsal
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Dr. Christine Miller
Dr. Tom Payne	Dr. Holly Stretz
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Ms. Alicen Long
Dr. Troy Brachey	Ms. Hope Duke
Dr. Lori Maxwell	

#### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda

Approved the minutes of the October 11, 2017 meeting

Approved termination of Ed.S. concentration in Agency Counseling

Approved new Ed.S. concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Approved degree name change in Counseling and Psychology

Approved termination of two concentrations in Curriculum and Instruction

Approved new concentration in Vehicle Engineering in Mechanical Engineering

Approved new concentration in Vehicle Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Approved two title changes from emphasis to concentrations in Manufacturing and Engineering Technology

Approved four graduate certificates in Masters of Professional Studies concentration

Approved online delivery of Professional Science Masters in Environmental Informatics

Approved three new concentrations in Environmental Science Ph.D.

Approved revisions to Policy No. 225 New Academic Programs

Approved revisions to Policy No. 274 Graduate Assistantships

Approved Policy No. 780 Misconduct in Research

Received information on revisions to University Research Advisory Committee Procedures

## PROCEEDINGS

### Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Null stated that agenda items #7 and #8 need to be reversed as the new concentration in vehicle engineering in Mechanical Engineering requires approval before moving forward with the same concentration in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval with the change and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2017 Meeting

Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Termination of Ed.S. Concentration in Agency Counseling

Dr. Stein stated the termination of the concentration is due to changes in accreditation and licensure laws in Tennessee which have lessened the benefit for students to pursue this area. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of New Ed.S. Concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Dr. Stein stated this concentration would replace the one on Agency Counseling that was just approved for termination. This concentration will allow students to pursue additional licensure or specialization in the counseling fields and obtain an Ed.S. degree. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Degree Name Change in Counseling and Psychology

Dr. Stein stated the name change is for the degree not a concentration. The department name was changed several years ago, but the degree program name was not changed. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Termination of Two Concentrations in Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Wendt stated that due to changes in Tennessee state licensure requirements for special education endorsement areas, the current licensure area – Special Education Modified Program K-12, as well as Multidisciplinary Studies Middle School, was superseded on August 31, 2017. The department has updated these concentrations with two new ones. Students have already been phased out of these concentrations and no students remain in the concentrations. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of New Concentration in Vehicle Engineering in Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Dale Wilson spoke on this new concentration explaining the need for the program in this region due to demand from the automotive industry. There were five new courses created within the ME program. This concentration will provide BSME students an option to enhance their

knowledge related to this industry segment and secure jobs in the automotive industry. No one in the U.S. offers this in their undergraduate program. This concentration is in conjunction with ECE and has interest from other departments such as Computer Science and Business. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Larimore SECONDED. After some discussion and questions, the concentration was APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of New Concentration in Vehicle Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dr. Hoy presented this as a companion to the concentration in vehicle engineering in Mechanical Engineering. There is growing opportunities for EE majors in the automotive industry and this concentration provides them an option to enhance their knowledge in this area. No new courses are needed and lab space is already available. Dr. Hoy MOVED approval and Dr. Airhart SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Two Title Changes from Emphasis to Concentrations in Manufacturing and Engineering Technology

Dr. ElSawy stated the request is to change the Emphasis I: Mechatronics Engineering Technology to Concentration I: Mechatronics Engineering Technology and Emphasis II: Engineering Technology Management to Concentration II: Engineering Technology Management. These two areas are in great demand by industry. Changing from emphasis to concentrations will appear on the students' transcripts and will make them more marketable and competitive in the manufacturing industry job market. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Hoy SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Four Graduate Certificates in Masters of Professional Studies Concentrations

Dr. Roberts explained that each certificate is being offered from within a concentration in the MPS program. This would be in line with the two certificates currently offered in Healthcare Administration and TESOL. The department has received requests from industry and other areas to provide these certificates. The four certificates are: Human Resources Leadership, Strategic Leadership, Training and Development, and Public Safety. The certificate requires 15 hours and students may continue course requirements for the MPS degree. Dr. Mullens MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. After some discussion, the certificates were APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval to Add Online Delivery of Professional Sciences Masters in Environmental Informatics

Dr. Mattingly stated that the PSM-EI degree program started four years ago with a hybrid delivery with some courses offered on-ground and others online. There has been an increasing demand from working professionals and others to add a fully online delivery format in addition to the hybrid delivery. The quality of the program will remain the same. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Semmes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Three New Concentrations in Environmental Sciences Ph.D. Program

Dr. Mattingly stated that the three new concentrations to be added to the EVS Ph.D. program are in Agriculture, Geosciences, and Integrated Research. Each of the departments are in support of these concentrations in their respective areas and have faculty to support them; with no new faculty needed at this time. Each area would receive two graduate assistants provided by EVS. The addition of these new concentrations will boost enrollment and graduation rates and help

sustain the university's Carnegie classification. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. After much discussion, the new concentrations were APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Revisions to Policy No. 225 New Academic Programs

Dr. Huo stated that the changes to the policy stemmed from THEC requirements regarding the approval of new programs. The change is in section III.D.2. "The Provost's Office will send the approved LON to the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees (Board) for review and approval." This removes the Academic and Student Affairs Subcommittee as the approving authority as currently stated in the policy. Dr. Darvennes MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Revisions to Policy No. 274 Graduate Assistantships

Dr. Camuti explained that in 2015 Policy Tech had four separate policies for each of the types of assistantships. In 2016 they decided to combine all the policies and have only one policy. GSEC worked with the graduate staff in each of the colleges to develop the one policy. HR had a policy no. 645 regarding appointments of graduate assistants, but decided to withdraw their policy as this policy no. 274 is sufficient. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. With a friendly amendment for some typos and other minor corrections, the policy was APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Policy No. 780 Misconduct in Research

Dr. Soni stated this policy was withdrawn from the last Academic Council meeting due to concerns from the council regarding the complainant and the respondent in section VI. These areas are now clear as to when the inquiry committee may speak to these persons. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Revisions to University Research Advisory Committee Procedures

Dr. Soni stated that this committee worked with all the colleges across campus to make these changes. The new College of Fine Arts' membership was added, with the adjustment of the College of Education's membership. Terms of office for administrative and Center members was reduced to one year as the staff were not able to attend the meetings due to their busy schedules. The committee list for 2017-18 was also updated. A recommendation was made to change the administrators' term to two years to allow more time to acclimate to the committee, and to remove legislative members' term of service of three years as this person will be continuous. Dr. Soni stated they could make these changes.

#### Such Other Matters

Dr. O'Connor made a comment regarding the Council receiving proposals stating no additional funds are needed. They pass the request and then the unit comes back later to say they need funds. Not sure this has been done, but just an observation for future requests.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48pm.

APPROVED February 21, 2018

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

All proposals and policies presented at the meeting