

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
April 11, 2018

The Academic Council met at 3:35pm on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 in Derryberry Hall Deans' Conference Room with Dr. Linda Null, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Christy Killman
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Dr. Tammy Boles
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Dr. Ann Hellman
Dr. Liz Mullens	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Tom Payne	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Doug Bates	Mr. David Hajdik
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Chris Brown
Dr. Douglas Airhart	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Dr. Troy Brachey	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Lori Maxwell	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Stephens Idem	Dr. Jeremy Wendt
Dr. Holly Stretz	Ms. Rachel Baker

Others present were: Dr. Jeff Boles, Dr. Dennis Duncan, Dr. Ahmed ElSawy, Dr. Sharon Huo, Dr. Bedelia Russell, Dr. Mark Stephens, Dr. Melinda Swafford, Ms. Mary Benedict and Ms. Elizabeth Sofia. The following members were absent:

Dr. Leslie Crickenberger	Dr. Barbara Jared
Dr. Darrell Hoy	Ms. Alicen Long
Dr. Ismet Anitsal	Mr. Austin Thomas
Dr. Christine Miller	Ms. Hope Duke
Dr. Jeremy Hansen	

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the Agenda

Approved the minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting

Approved Reports for Committees Reporting to Academic Council

Approved Policy No. 258 Prior Learning Assessment

Approved Revisions to Policy No. 268 Honorary Degrees

Approved Policy No. 205 Faculty Tenure

Approved Policy No. 206 Faculty Promotion

Approved New Certificate Program in Agriculture

Approved New Agricultural Science and Management Concentration

Approved New Pre-Physician Assistant Concentration in EXPW

Approved to Terminate a Concentration in Political Science Major

Approved Changes to DNP Program Core Courses

Approved New Exercise Science Concentration in C&I EdS

Approved Moving PSM Manufacturing Sustainability Concentration to College of Engineering

Approved Admission Requirements for PSMMS Fast-Track

Elected Chairperson for 2018-19

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Killman MOVED approval and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting

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

Approval of Reports for Committees Reporting to Academic Council

Dr. Wendt MOVED approval of all the reports as a whole and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Policy No. 258 Prior Learning Assessment

Dr. Gotcher stated that this policy establishes a consistent TTU policy for the transfer, acceptance, and evaluation of Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) for undergraduate university credit. Dr. Gotcher MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. After much discussion, the following friendly amendments were made: III. A. change (SACS Standard 3.4.4 to SACSCOC 10.8); V.A. add “5. PLA credit must be reviewed and approved by faculty in the discipline of the proposed credit.”; V.E.3.a. should read “Student may appeal PLA credit decisions using the Request for Exception form.” APPROVED unanimously with noted amendments.

Approval of Revisions to Policy No. 268 Honorary Degrees

Dr. Huo presented this policy stating that it was previously under Enrollment Management and has now been placed under Academic Affairs. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for awarding honorary degrees. Editorial changes were made and removed reference to TBR. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Policy No. 205 Faculty Tenure

Dr. Boles presented the information, stating that it was approved at Administrative Council the previous week. He also stated that two previous Faculty Senate Presidents had reviewed this policy. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously. The procedures and forms document can be edited and do not require Board approval.

Approval of Policy No. 206 Faculty Promotion

Dr. Boles presented the information stating that this maintains Tennessee Tech’s policy of promotions being based primarily on considerations of merit, tempered by considerations of institutional mission and fiscal responsibility, they are made objectively, equitably, impartially, and as recognition of merit in accordance with the criteria contained in this policy. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Certificate Program in Agriculture

Dr. Duncan presented the information for a new uLEAD certificate in Leadership and Service. This certificate provides an interdisciplinary approach to leadership, offering undergraduate students an opportunity to identify and refine their leadership skills. There will be no financial impact. The program requires no additional resources. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Agricultural Science and Management Concentration

Dr. Duncan presented the information for a new concentration in Agricultural Science and Management. This concentration offers students an opportunity to complete a number of diverse

courses in addition to direct electives that focus on either science or social science as outlined in the Curriculum Comparison Table. The curriculum requirements align with multiple national studies that examined industry leaders' perceptions of new hires in the agricultural sector. There will be no financial impact. The concentration requires no additional resources. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Pre-Physician Assistant Concentration in EXPW

Dr. Killman presented the information stating that students who major in exercise science often wish to go to professional school to become physician assistants. Creating a formal concentration will assist in recruitment, retention and advising for these students. Dr. Killman MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval to Terminate a Concentration in Political Science Major

Dr. Maxwell presented the information to terminate Political Science (POLS/IRCG) Concentration in International Relations and Comparative Government. This change was suggested by the last academic audit due to low enrollment and staffing issues. Dr. Maxwell MOVED approval and Dr. Airhart SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Changes to DNP Program Core Courses

Dr. Russell presented the information on behalf of Dr. Jared. The original DNP program and curriculum was completed in 2013. Final approval did not occur until spring 2017 with the implementation of the program and admission of the first BSN to DNP cohort occurring August 2017. During the lapse between program and course development and program start date, health care and higher education have continued to change with dramatic growth in DNP programs across the country. Dr. Russell MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Exercise Science Concentration in Curriculum and Instruction EdS

Dr. Wendt presented the information. Due to an increased demand for advanced degrees and additional educational opportunities for teachers, the department of C&I proposes a joint effort with the Exercise Science department. The Exercise Science concentration in the C&I Specialist program will compliment MA degrees in both departments, while creating additional pathways for students seeking to complete a PhD. This new concentration will increase online offerings for both departments. Dr. Wendt MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval to Move PSM Manufacturing Sustainability Concentration to College of Engineering

Dr. ElSawy presented the information. The Department of Manufacturing and Engineering Technology developed this concentration and it was approved by TBR September 8, 2014. The move from Interdisciplinary Studies to the College of Engineering is motivated by marketing this concentration to graduates who are working in industry and do not recognize this degree outside the College of Engineering. Dr. Stretz MOVED approval and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Admission Requirements for PSM MS Fast-Track

Dr. ElSawy presented this change in admission requirements. This will allow selected undergraduates to enroll for up to six hours of graduate courses prior to formal admission to the PSM Manufacturing Sustainability program. Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Election of Chairperson for 2018-19

The nominating committee including Dr. Tammy Boles, Dr. Jeremy Wendt and Dr. Christine Miller recommended Dr. Linda Null for a second term as Chair. Dr. Null accepted. Dr. Tammy Boles MOVED approval and Dr. Airhart SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

All policies and documents presented at the meeting