



ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

December 4, 2025

Roaden University Center, Room 282

MINUTES

Meeting was streamed live via link found on this web page:

<https://www.tntech.edu/board/board-and-board-committee-meetings.php>

AGENDA ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

The Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees Academic & Student Affairs Committee met on December 4, 2025, in Roaden University Center, Room 282. Chair Camron Rudd was absent; therefore, Board Chair Rhedona Rose was a voting member and acted as Chair of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee for this meeting as allowed per Policy 005. Chair Rhedona Rose called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m.

Chair Rose asked Mr. Lee Wray, Secretary, to call the roll. The following members were present:

- Michael Allen
- Teresa Chasteen-Dunn
- Allen Foster
- Garry McNabb
- Rhedona Rose
- Braxton Westbrook

Other board members also in attendance were Trudy Harper, Tom Jones, Thomas Lynn, Fred Lowery (virtual), and Barry Wilmore. A quorum was met. Tennessee Tech faculty and staff and members of the public were also in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Rose asked for approval of the minutes of the September 25, 2025 Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting. Trustee McNabb moved to approve the September 25, 2025

LMC
03/18/26

Academic & Student Affairs Committee minutes. Trustee Allen seconded the motion. Chair Rose called a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Provost’s Report

Interim Provost Liu began his presentation by sharing quality assurance funding information with Board members. He gave an update on Tennessee Tech’s score in 2025 and then compared that score with other universities’ scores in the state. He also explained where the loss of points occurred.

Next, Provost Liu provided a Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission (SACSCOC) accreditation update. He explained that the accreditation is on a ten-year cycle and that this upcoming year there will be an on-site visit. He further explained that the review is split into two parts, an off-site review which has been completed and the upcoming on-site review. Provost Liu also updated Board members that recently SACSCOC made the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) optional.

President Oldham added to the presentation by giving new Board members a more in-depth explanation of the accreditation cycle and process. He shared the importance of the process, provided details of the previous results, and mentioned the Board’s role during the upcoming on-site visit.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Academic Program Modification (APM) for the BS in Artificial Intelligence

Interim Provost Liu began this presentation by updating Board members that Artificial Intelligence was recently elevated from a concentration to a major at Tennessee Tech. He provided an explanation of why this concentration was chosen for elevation. He explained that this program was approved by THEC and was being presented to the Board for informational purposes. He then shared examples of recent media coverage surrounding the new major at Tennessee Tech before answering questions from Board members.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Academic Program Update: Post Approval Monitoring

Interim Provost Liu gave an annual update on new academic programs previously approved by the Board of Trustees over the last several years. He explained that relevance of programs is important and that we are continuously monitoring our current programs and potential programs to stay relevant.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Social Work

Interim Provost Liu began by informing Board members that the New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Social Work requires Board approval. He explained that a grant was awarded to help start the program and shared some key features of the proposed program including potential candidates, the modality of the program, licensure information, as

LEE D 3/18/26

well as accreditation plans for the program. Provost Liu then discussed the need for the program, as well as the targeted student population, before finishing with the enrollment projections, along with instructional cost and revenue projections.

Chair Rose asked for a motion and a second to move the New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Social Work to the Board's regular agenda. Trustee Allen moved to send the NAPP for the Master of Social Work to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's regular agenda. Trustee McNabb seconded the motion. Chair Rose asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – TTU Policy 207 (Tenured Faculty)

Interim Provost Liu began his presentation by informing the Board members that Policy 207 (Tenured Faculty) is reviewed every four years or earlier as necessary and is an action item requiring Board approval. He also explained that this policy received all other necessary university approvals before being brought before the Board. Provost Liu explained who the policy covers and gave an overview of the proposed changes that were made, noting no major changes were made.

Provost Liu answered several questions from Board members regarding Policy 207 and Chair Rose asked for a motion and a second to move the policy to the Board's regular agenda. Trustee Allen moved to send Policy 207 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's regular agenda. Trustee McNabb seconded the motion. Chair Rose asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Student Affairs Update-Mental Health Services

Dr. Christina Mick, Director, Center for Counseling and Mental Health Wellness, provided an update on mental health services for the Center for Counseling and Mental Health Wellness. She began her presentation by sharing new initiatives in the center. She then shared information on student utilization of counseling and mental health services from 2021 through 2025. She then provided details on the number of counseling sessions per academic year for academic years 2021/2022 through 2024/2025. She also provided detailed information on the monthly distribution of appointments for year 2024-2025; as well as reasons for clinical sessions at appointment check-in.

Dr. Mick concluded her presentation by sharing information on campus innovative mental health solutions that are currently in place.

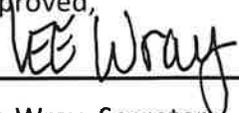
AGENDA ITEM 9 – OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

lpe 03/18/26

AGENDA ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Approved,
 03/18/20

Lee Wray, Secretary