ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

September 24, 2026

Roaden University Center, Room 282

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes for the June 25, 2026 Committee Meeting

III. Enrollment Report

IV. Provost's Report

V. Research & Economic Development Report

VI. Student Affairs Update

VII. University Advancement Report

VIII. Other Business

IX. Adjournment

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 25, 2026

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 June 25, 2026, in Roaden University Center, Room 282. Chair Camron Rudd called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

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

- Michael Allen
- Teresa Chasteen-Dunn
- Garry McNabb
- Camron Rudd
- Braxton Westbrook

Other board members also in attendance were Trudy Harper, Tom Jones, Fred Lowery, Rhedona Rose, 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 Rudd asked for approval of the minutes of the March 12, 2026 Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting. Trustee McNabb moved to approve the March 12, 2026 Academic & Student Affairs Committee minutes. Trustee Allen seconded the motion. Chair Rudd called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Enrollment Update

Karen Lykins, Vice President for Enrollment and Communication, provided a comprehensive update on Fall 2026 enrollment trends, comparing current data with enrollment figures from Fall 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

She began by presenting Fall 2026 total headcount enrollment progression and comparing those figures with the previous four fall semesters. She then reviewed undergraduate headcount enrollment by class classification, followed by graduate headcount enrollment by classification for the same period.

Mrs. Lykins next highlighted the record-high number of degrees awarded during the 2025–2026 academic year and compared those totals with recent years.

She then shared Fall 2026 freshman headcount enrollment progression to date, comparing current numbers with those from the previous four fall semesters. She also discussed freshman SOAR registration numbers and the positive impact of SOAR participation on new freshman enrollment.

Mrs. Lykins provided an academic profile of the incoming freshman class, including the average high school GPA, average ACT score, and the number of National Merit semifinalists.

She concluded her presentation by reviewing the colleges and majors selected by incoming freshmen and discussing the role Academic Affairs plays in supporting enrollment efforts. Mrs. Lykins then answered several questions from Board members.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Provost's Report

Interim Provost John Liu presented the Provost's Report, providing an update on Academic Affairs. He began by updating the Board on the University's recent SACSCOC accreditation reaffirmation process, noting that the on-site review committee issued no recommendations. He expressed his appreciation to the faculty, staff, and administrators whose hard work contributed to this successful outcome.

Provost Liu then highlighted several new academic programs introduced during the past academic year. He continued by discussing the University's growing academic excellence, noting increases in enrollment, first-year retention, four-year and six-year graduation rates, research funding, and scholarly output.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Bachelor of Architecture

Interim Provost John Liu presented the proposal to establish a Bachelor of Architecture program. He began by outlining the need for the program, citing workforce demand and the opportunity to complement and strengthen existing academic programs at Tennessee Tech.

Provost Liu then described the proposed program, including its purpose, curriculum, accreditation pathway, target student population, and delivery format.

He also reviewed enrollment and revenue projections, along with instructional cost and revenue estimates. As part of the financial overview, he discussed planned faculty hires, noting that the associated costs were incorporated into the program budget.

Dr. Liu concluded his presentation by discussing the areas that having this program would support and where potential growth into a School of Architecture could potentially occur.

Board members had several questions that Interim Provost and President Oldham answered before Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move the New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Bachelor of Architecture to the Board's regular agenda. Trustee Allen moved to send the NAPP for the Bachelor of Architecture to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's regular agenda. Trustee McNabb seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – TTU Policy 205 (Faculty Tenure)

Interim Provost John Liu explained to Board members that both 205 and 207 had to be updated due to changes by the Tennessee State legislature to an amended T.C.A. 49-8-301 et seq new law.

Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move TTU Policy 205 (Faculty Tenure) to the Board's consent agenda. Trustee McNabb moved to send TTU Policy 205 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Chasteen-Dunn seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – TTU Policy 207 (Tenured Faculty)

Interim Provost John Liu explained to Board members that both 205 and 207 had to be updated due to changes by the Tennessee State legislature to an amended T.C.A. 49-8-301 et seq new law.

Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move TTU Policy 207 (Tenured Faculty) to the Board's consent agenda. Trustee McNabb moved to send TTU Policy 207 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Chasteen-Dunn seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – TTU Policy 216 (Student Academic Integrity)

Interim Provost John Liu explained to Board members that Policy 216 went through minor revisions and asked the Board members if they had any questions after reviewing the marked and clean versions in the Board book. There were no questions.

Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move TTU Policy 216 (Student Academic Integrity) to the Board's consent agenda. Trustee McNabb moved to send TTU Policy 216 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Chasteen-Dunn seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – TTU Policy 282 (Graduate Faculty Appointment and Responsibilities Policy)

Interim Provost John Liu explained to Board members that Policy 282 went through minor revisions and asked the Board members if they had any questions after reviewing the marked and clean versions in the Board book. There were no questions.

Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move TTU Policy 282 (Graduate Faculty Appointment and Responsibilities Policy) to the Board's consent agenda. Trustee McNabb moved to send TTU Policy 282 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Chasteen-Dunn seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10 – TTU Policy 283 (General Graduate Transfer Credit Requirements)

Interim Provost John Liu explained to Board members that Policy 283 went through minor revisions and asked the Board members if they had any questions after reviewing the marked and clean versions in the Board book. There were no questions.

Chair Rudd asked for a motion and a second to move TTU Policy 283 (General Graduate Transfer Credit Requirements) to the Board's consent agenda. Trustee McNabb moved to send TTU Policy 283 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Chasteen-Dunn seconded the motion. Chair Rudd asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11 – Athletics Update

Athletics Director Casey Fox provided an update on Tennessee Tech Athletics. He began by presenting student-athlete academic performances, including Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 team GPAs. He also shared graduation data for the 2019–2020 freshman cohort, comparing student-athlete graduation rates with those of the overall Tennessee Tech student population, and highlighted the University's student-athlete Graduation Success Rate.

Mr. Fox then reviewed recent athletic accomplishments, including conference championships in football, women's cross country, women's soccer, and men's tennis. He also provided an update on the Commissioner's Cup standings and Tennessee Tech's placement.

Next, Mr. Fox discussed the newly established Champions Clubs, highlighting the program's early success and its impact on athletic fundraising. He also shared additional fundraising results for the 2025–2026 academic year.

Mr. Fox concluded his presentation by discussing Tennessee Tech's transition to the Southern Conference (SoCon) following many years of membership in the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC). He then answered several questions from Board members.

AGENDA ITEM 12 – Other Business

There was no other business.

AGENDA ITEM 13 – Adjournment

There being no further business, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Approved,

Lee Wray, Secretary

Agenda Item Summary

Date: September 24, 2026

Agenda Item: Enrollment Report

☐ **Review** ☐ **Action** ☒ **No action required**

PRESENTER(S): Vice President for Enrollment and Communication, Karen Lykins

PURPOSE & KEY POINTS: Vice President for Enrollment and Communication, Karen Lykins, will provide an update on enrollment numbers for the Fall 2026 semester.

LGI/UT Fall Enrollment Day 14

		2025		2026		
Institution	**Level**	**Headcount**	**FTE**	**Headcount**	**FTE**	**%DIFF**
MTSU	GR	2,465	1,421.42	2,530	1,480.17	3%
MTSU	UG	18,627	15,363.73	18,543	15,363.33	0%
MTSU	**Total**	**21,092**	**16,785.15**	**21,073**	**16,843.50**	**0%**
APSU	GR	1,571	766.38	1,475	727.36	-6%
APSU	UG	9,614	7,135.07	9,863	7,233.50	3%
APSU	**Total**	**11,185**	**7,901.45**	**11,338**	**7,960.86**	**1%**
UofM	GR	3,873	2,259.90	3,575	2,076.75	-8%
UofM	LW	241	237.10	272	270.93	12%
UofM	UG	15,538	12,152.40	15,133	11,989.73	-3%
UofM	**Total**	**19,652**	**14,649.40**	**18,980**	**14,337.41**	**-3%**
ETSU	GR	2,348	1,562.10	2,300	1,547.42	-2%
ETSU	UG	11,259	10,045.90	11,392	10,073.47	1%
ETSU	PHARM	202	202.00	225	225.00	11%
ETSU	MED	318	318.00	324	324.00	2%
ETSU	**Total**	**14,127**	**12,128.00**	**14,241**	**12,169.89**	**1%**
TTU	GR	1,395	763.33	1,367	753.10	-2%
TTU	UG	9,306	8,623.13	9,406	8,674.00	1%
TTU	**Total**	**10,701**	**9,386.47**	**10,773**	**9,427.10**	**1%**
TSU	GR	1,143	739.25	1,202	801.30	5%
TSU	UG	4,221	4,086.73	5,085	4,620.20	19%
TSU	**Total**	**5,364**	**4,825.98**	**6,287**	**5,421.50**	**16%**
UTC	GR	1,664	1,175.20	1,749	1,247.58	5%
UTC	UG	10,396	9,735.00	10,060	9,326.53	-3%
UTC	**Total**	**12,060**	**10,910.20**	**11,809**	**10,574.12**	**-2%**
UTM	GR	708	380.00	701	384.75	-1%
UTM	UG	7,388	5,605.00	7,552	5,621.60	2%
UTM	**Total**	**8,096**	**5,985.00**	**8,253**	**6,006.35**	**2%**
UTK	Law	419	6,168.00	417	6,207.00	0%
UTK	VetMed	426		456		7%
UTK	GR	7,535		7,413		-2%
UTK	UG	32,041	31,329.00	33,001	32,255.00	3%
UTK	**Total**	**40,421**	**37,497.00**	**41,287**	**38,462.00**	**2%**

Note: LGI Source Data on 09/03/2026

Agenda Item Summary

Date: September 24, 2026

Agenda Item: Provost's Report

☐ **Review** ☐ **Action** ☒ **No action required**

PRESENTER(S): Provost Mickey Latour

PURPOSE & KEY POINTS: Provost Mickey Latour will provide an update on Academic Affairs, including an overview of the college distinction initiative currently underway.

Agenda Item Summary

Date: September 24, 2026

Agenda Item: Research & Economic Development Report

☐ **Review** ☐ **Action** ☒ **No action required**

PRESENTER(S): Dr. Michael Aikens, Associate Vice President for Research & Economic Development

PURPOSE & KEY POINTS: Dr. Michael Aikens, Associate Vice President for Research & Economic Development, will provide an update from the Office of Research & Economic Development, including an end-of-year report for fiscal year 2026.

Agenda Item Summary

Date: September 24, 2026

Agenda Item: Student Affairs Report

☐ **Review** ☐ **Action** ☒ **No action required**

PRESENTER(S): Vice President for Student Affairs, Katie Aikens

PURPOSE & KEY POINTS: Dr. Katie Aikens, Vice President for Student Affairs, will provide an update on the Student Affairs unit.

Agenda Item Summary

Date: September 24, 2026

Agenda Item: University Advancement Report

☐ **Review** ☐ **Action** ☒ **No action required**

PRESENTER(S): Mr. John Smith

PURPOSE & KEY POINTS: Mr. John Smith, Interim Vice President for University Advancement, will provide an update from University Advancement, including an end-of-year report for fiscal year 2026.