

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY  
April 12, 2023

The Academic Council met at 3:35 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 via Teams videoconferencing technology, with Professor Kimberly Winkle, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne	Dr. Ann Manginelli
Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi	Dr. Matt Langford
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Lisa Zagumny	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Darron Smith	Ms. April Crockett
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Troy Brachey	Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner
Dr. Lori Maxwell	Dr. Jennifer Meadows
Dr. Hyewon Park	Dr. Lenly Weathers
Dr. Melissa Comer	Dr. Amber Spears
Dr. Christy Killman	Mr. Jacob Cherry
Dr. Syed Rafay Hasan	Mr. James Rankin
Prof. Drew Sisk	Ms. Mariam Abbas
Dr. Russell Witcher	Ms. Lindsay Taylor

Others present were:

Dr. Lori Bruce	Dr. Colin Hill
Dr. Sharon Huo	Dr. Carl Pinkert
Dr. Mark Stephens	Dr. Michael Allen
Dr. Bedelia Russell	Dr. Ben Mohr
Ms. Karen Lykins	Dr. Frank Tittle
Dr. Tom Timmerman	Dr. Chris Wilson
Dr. Allen MacKenzie	
Dr. Jeremy Wendt	
Dr. James Baier	
Dr. Edward Beason	

The following members of the council were absent:

Dr. Jennifer Shank  
Dr. Mike Gotcher  
Dr. Dennis Fennewald  
Dr. Sean Alley  
Dr. Stephen Canfield  
Dr. Christopher Reames  
Dr. Emily Lee  
Ms. Stephanie Adams  
Ms. Lindsay Taylor

## SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes from the March 8, 2023 Meeting

Approval of Annual Reports of Committees Reporting to the Academic Council for 2022-2023

School of Agriculture Addition of New Concentration – Poultry Science

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Undergraduate Program Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Addition of New Concentration – Sport Performance

Department of Decision Sciences & Management Addition of New Minor – Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Department of Decision Sciences & Management Concentration Name Change – Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Department of English Addition of New Certificate – Editing & Publishing

Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering Addition of New Concentration – Hardware and System Security

School of Music Addition of New Minor – Live Audio Arts and Sciences

School of Art, Craft & Design Post- Bacc Program – **Informational Item**

Department of Mathematics Graduate Admission Requirement Changes

Department of Curriculum & Instruction Catalog Admission Requirement Changes

Department of Curriculum & Instruction Admission Requirement Changes to Flight Path

Department of Mechanical Engineering Prerequisite Changes

Department of General & Basic Engineering Revision to Admission Requirements for MSEM Program Policy 206 (Clean and Edited Version)

Department of General and Basic Engineering Change of Admissions Requirements for Basic Engineering

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Graduate Program Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Departmental Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science – **Informational Item**

Holistic Review Process engaged by the Admissions and Credits Committee – **Informational Item**

Department of Counseling & Psychology M.A. in Counseling and Psychology Program Catalog Revisions

Department of Counseling & Psychology E.Ds. in Counseling and Psychology Program Admissions Revisions

Department of Counseling & Psychology Ph.D. in Counseling and Supervision Course/Catalog changes

Department of Counseling & Psychology C&P Graduate Counseling Programs Clinical Courses Catalog Revisions

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Revised Admission Requirements for the Online MA Program in Exercise Science

Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Catalog Changes: Comprehensive Exam and Thesis Option

Nominations and Vote for Academic Council Chair for Academic Year 2023-2024

Such other Matters

Adjournment

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Approval of the Minutes from the March 8, 2023 Meeting**

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Approval of Annual Reports of Committees Reporting to the Academic Council for 2022-2023**

Friendly amendment to the University Library Committee report, there were zero new English faculty added to the Learning Support Program. All reports were approved and seconded. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **School of Agriculture Addition of New Concentration – Poultry Science**

Dr. Baier stated currently, the state of Tennessee does not have a university-based poultry science research program for undergraduates. Therefore, a total of seven to ten students are expected to enter the new concentration, once it becomes available. As the program gains notoriety, Tennessee Tech University's School of Agriculture expects this number to increase, as the demand for poultry scientists increases. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Undergraduate Program Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science**

Dr. Killman stated because the concentrations within the department and program fall under Exercise Science, we request to change the name of the program (and department) from Exercise Science, Physical Education and Wellness to Exercise Science. This change will provide a much clearer understanding for students and families and will help in promoting/marketing the program. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Addition of New Concentration – Sport Performance**

Dr. Killman stated it is the belief of the departmental faculty that creation of this concentration will draw students that want to be in that profession as well as provide a more stable and robust pathway to internships, certifications and future employment than we currently provide. The Sport Performance concentration contributes to the overall program by providing a more direct preparation in a much sought-after career path within Exercise Science. Students who complete this concentration will also have a minor in Sport Administration. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Decision Sciences & Management Addition of New Minor – Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management**

Dr. Tom Timmerman stated the College of Business currently offers minors in Business, Business Management, Human Resource Management, Business Information Technology & Analytics, and International Business. This minor will allow students from across the university the opportunity to develop specialized expertise in a high-growth field.

After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Decision Sciences & Management Concentration Name Change – Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management**

Dr. Tom Timmerman stated historically, this concentration was limited in its scope and focused on areas such as manufacturing environments. In the current business environment, however, an education in production and operations should be expanded to include logistics and supply chain management. This new title reflects changes in the curriculum designed to modernize the program. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of English Addition of New Certificate – Editing & Publishing**

Dr. Linda Null stated the English Department developed the Certificate in Editing and Publishing as a “stackable credential” for students to structure their acquisition of applied writing skills. By teaching a set of flexible editorial tools, the Certificate encourages students to adapt within the fast-moving, entrepreneurial field of publishing. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Linda Null SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering Addition of New Concentration – Hardware and System Security**

Dr. Allen MacKenzie stated this concentration addresses the need for graduates with knowledge and skills in the area of hardware and system security. With its focus on hardware security it complements the existing software security offerings by computer science. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **School of Music Addition of New Minor – Live Audio Arts and Sciences**

Dr. Colin Hill stated this minor will give students an introduction to the live audio industry and provide them with basic musical skills. In addition to operating live audio equipment, audio specialists have to understand the basic elements of music. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **School of Art, Craft & Design Post- Bacc Program – Informational Item**

Professor Drew Sisk stated the implementation of a post- baccalaureate program will allow a mature, focused student to enter Tennessee Tech as a non-degree seeking undergraduate student, gaining access to the specified craft studio to prepare themselves for entry into a graduate program, an artist residency, or other such employment or creative opportunities.

### **Department of Mathematics Graduate Admission Requirement Changes**

Dr. Michael Allen stated last week the Graduate Committee of the Department of Mathematics voted via email on changing the following admission requirement in our Master’s program to Successful completion (at least a "C" or better) of at least one semester-long undergraduate

course in real analysis (Math 4110 or equivalent After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### **Department of Curriculum & Instruction Catalog Admission Requirement Changes**

Dr. Jeremy Wendt stated or full admission, overall undergraduate GP A of 2.75 or above upon completion of a baccalaureate degree program. Provide contact information for three references (name and email). Successfully complete additional College of Graduate Studies application requirements (transcripts, application, etc.) Provisional standing maybe requested by departmental evaluation when the undergraduate GPA is lower than 2.75. Teacher licensure standards may require a separate minimum GPA for licensure to advance from provisional to full admission, a student must earn a minimum 3.0 GPA on the first nine (9) hours of graduate study. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### **Department of Curriculum & Instruction Admission Requirement Changes to Flight Path**

Dr. Jeremy Wendt stated we will no longer have this option due to changes in exam requirements for admission. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### **Department of Mechanical Engineering Prerequisite Changes**

Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi stated currently ECE department is offering ECE 2050 (4 credit hours) and the previous version of ECE 2010 (3 credit hours) and ECE 2011 (1 credit hour) are no longer offered. ECE 3810 and ECE 3860 are no longer offered. ECE department informed ME department that the current ECE 2850 of 3 credit hours will soon become a new version of ECE 2850 of 4 credit hours. The change of prerequisites will allow students with either ECE 2050 or ECE 2850 to take the ME courses without any special permit. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### **Department of General & Basic Engineering Revision to Admission Requirements for MSEM Program**

Dr. Chris Wilson stated the proposed change simplifies the discussion of the MSEM admissions parameters. The College of Engineering has a list of parameters already so that there is no need for the MSEM to restate the college list. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Thomas Payne SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### **Policy 206 (Clean and Edited Version)**

Dr. Mark Stephens pointed out that many of the changes were editorial and brought the policy in alignment with the structure that was used in the Tenure Policy 205, which was revised two years ago. Stephens stated another goal in the revision of the policy was to clarify the process for promotion of tenured instructors and lecturers. Tenured instructors now have a new career ladder that mirrors the lecturers career ladder. Stephens noted there was clarification on peers, because it could be different from the Tenure Policy if someone was going up for tenure versus promotion so now there is a clear statement on who the peers are. Stephens pointed out that the Directors at the Center for Excellence in the College of Engineering had changed. Their status previously was administrative and they were not considered as peers and now they had been moved to faculty and were eligible to be considered as peers. Stephens noted that Section IX, the

Appeal of Promotion Decisions, was the most substantial change to the current policy, the appeal process is now mirrored to the Tenure Policy appeal process. Stephens noted there were fairly strict time limits for the appeal process and suggested that under section IX.6, the time for the decision letter from the President be extended from 60 business days to 90 business days from the appellant's filing the letter of intent to appeal, absent good cause. Stephens also stated there was some modification on degrees considered terminal for Tennessee Tech. Note an edit for spelling on page ten will be made. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of General and Basic Engineering Change of Admissions Requirements for Basic Engineering**

Dr. Chris Wilson stated this change will allow some students previously admitted to the College of Interdisciplinary Students with interest in various engineering majors to be admitted directly to the College of Engineering's BE Program. The BE Program includes several courses to help students better prepare for degree-granting engineering programs. BE students must have a 2.0 Tennessee Tech GPA and be eligible to take Math 1910 Calculus I before changing their major to one of the degree-granting engineering programs in the College of Engineering. While the BE Program is intended to be a one-year program, some students may become calculus ready beforehand, and some students may require longer than one academic year. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Graduate Program Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science**

Dr. Christy Killman stated because the concentrations within the department and program fall under Exercise Science, we request to change the name of the program (and department) from Exercise Science, Physical Education and Wellness to Exercise Science. This change will provide a much clearer understanding for students and families and will help in promoting/marketing the program. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Departmental Name Change- EXPW to Exercise Science – Informational Item**

Dr. Christy Killman stated changing the name of the department will provide greater understanding, clearer identity and make the department more current and marketable in today's educational market.

### **Holistic Review Process engaged by the Admissions and Credits Committee – Informational Item**

Dr. Edward Beason stated we are *not* proposing to change Policy No. 1200 (Undergraduate Admission Requirements). The Admissions and Credits Committee is working 100% within that policy. The policy says, "Students who do not meet the above [admissions] criteria will be reviewed individually through a holistic view." Ideas were presented the last time the Admissions and Credits Committee met about how the already-approved holistic review procedures might be streamlined.

### **Department of Counseling & Psychology M.A. in Counseling and Psychology Program Catalog Revisions**

Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner stated the Department of Counseling and Psychology requests approval to alter the admission requirements for the Master of Arts in Counseling and Psychology programs. These changes align with national trends in graduate school programs and may help in recruiting and developing a more diverse student population. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Thomas Payne SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Counseling & Psychology E.Ds. in Counseling and Psychology Program Admissions Revisions**

Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner stated the Department of Counseling and Psychology requests approval to alter the admission requirements into the Ed.S. program beginning fall 2023. This change aligns with national trends in counseling graduate school programs and may help in recruiting and developing a more diverse student population. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Counseling & Psychology Ph.D. in Counseling and Supervision Course/Catalog changes**

Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner stated the Department of Counseling and Psychology requests approval to alter the admission requirements into the Ph.D. in Counseling Supervision program, namely discontinuing the GRE requirement. This change aligns with national trends in counseling graduate school programs and may help in recruiting and developing a more diverse student population. In addition, the faculty requests the required dissertation hours be revised into a range as it recognizes individuality in a student's research and program of study. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Counseling & Psychology C&P Graduate Counseling Programs Clinical Courses Catalog Revisions**

Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner stated this grading alteration is consistent with other CACREP-accredited counseling programs for practicum and internship requirements. As graduate counseling students complete 100 clinical hours in practicum and 600 clinical hours in internship, the PASS/FAIL system allows students to focus on the development of their clinical knowledge and skills, while also potentially reducing performance stress and anxiety. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### **Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Revised Admission Requirements for the Online MA Program in Exercise Science**

Dr. Christy Killman stated changing to these proposed admission requirements will provide flexibility in seeking and admitting well qualified MA candidates into the online Master of Arts in Exercise Science program. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

**Department of Exercise Science, Physical Education & Wellness Catalog Changes:  
Comprehensive Exam and Thesis Option**

Dr. Christy Killman stated MA candidates will benefit from constructing a capstone project, taking key points, assignments and assessments from concentration classes to develop and present to peers and professors relevant work in the field of study/interest within Exercise Science. After minimal discussion, Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Thomas Payne SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

**Nominations and Vote for Academic Council Chair for Academic Year 2023-2024**

Prof. Kim Winkle was nominated and elected as chairperson. After minimal discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

**Such other Matters**

There were no such other matters.

**Adjournment**

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Amy McCoy, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:  
All documents presented at the meeting