

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
April 2, 2014

The Academic Council met at 3:35pm on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 in the Provost's Conference Room of Derryberry Hall with Dr. Steve Isbell, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Matt Smith	Dr. Martha Howard
Dr. Melissa Geist	Dr. Michael Phillips
Dr. Liz Mullens	Dr. Doug Talbert
Dr. Doug Bates	Dr. Tammy Boles
Dr. Bobby Hodum	Prof. Sue Piras
Dr. Susan Laningham	Dr. Janet Isbell
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Ismet Anitsal	Dr. Wali Kharif
Dr. Steve Isbell	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Ms. Emily McDonald	Ms. Sara Lockett

Others present were Dr. Michael Allen, Dr. Melinda Anderson, Dr. Dan Combs, Dr. Steve Frye, Dr. Sharon Huo, Dr. Allan Mills, Dr. Francis Otuonye, Dr. Jeff Plant, Ms. Beth Rogers, Dr. Mark Stephens, Dr. Melinda Swafford, Dr. Stacy Tomas, Dr. Jeremy Wendt, Mr. Charlie Wilkerson, and Dr. Lisa Zagumny. Dr. Kurt Eisen represented Dr. Paul Semmes. The following members were absent:

Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Dr. Ken Wiant	Dr. Daniel Badoe
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Queen Ogbomo
Dr. Bruce Greene	Dr. Holly Anthony
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Mr. Robbie Lindstrom
Dr. Charles Carnal	Mr. Michael Wise
Prof. Barbara Jared	

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda
Approved the minutes of the February 19, 2014 meeting
Approved reports from committees reporting to Academic Council
Approved changes to the Agritourism curriculum
Approved a new concentration in Computer Science
Approved new concentrations for Special Education in C&I
Approved name change for Patents and Copyrights Committee
Approved policy on credit hours
Approved standardized course syllabus
Approved change to admission requirements
Approved updating admissions requirements for MS in Mathematics

Approved waiver of TOEFL/IELTS requirements for ELS language center students
Approved new concentration in Library Science in C&I EdS program
Approved new concentration in STEM Education in C&I MA and EdS program
Approved new concentration in Health Care Administration for MPS program
Elected chairperson or 2014-15

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Talbert MOVED approval of the agenda and Dr. Matt Smith SECONDED. The agenda was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 19, 2014 Meeting

Dr. Janet Isbell MOVED approval of the minutes and Dr. Talbert SECONDED. The minutes were APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Reports for Committees Reporting to Academic Council

Dr. Hodum MOVED approval of the reports as a whole and Dr. Kharif SECONDED. The reports were APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal for Changes to the Agritourism Curriculum

Dr. Tomas stated that the changes to update and improve upon the Agritourism curriculum is to make it more relevant to industry needs and to enhance the student learning experience. Dr. Mullens MOVED approval and Dr. Anitsal SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal for a New Concentration in Computer Science

Dr. Talbert explained the new concentration is Information Assurance and CyberSecurity for the Bachelor's studies in Computer Science. The new concentration is to provide a career path for TTU students to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science with Information Assurance and CyberSecurity (IAC) concentration. The IAC concentration will directly contribute to regional and national cybersecurity workforce development. Dr. Talbert MOVED approval and Dr. Roberts SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal for a New Concentration for Special Education in C&I

Dr. Wendt explained that the current Special Education program has two concentrations. Due to state licensure changes, including the deletion of the current SPED, they have created five new concentrations to replace the SPED – modified program to match the new state licensure changes. Dr. Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Name Change for the Patents and Copyrights Committee

Dr. Otuonye (in the absence of Dr. Wiant) explained at the November 2013 meeting the committee on Patents and Copyrights voted to change the committee name to Intellectual Property Advisory Committee. The name change is more descriptive of the scope of the

committee, which is broader than only patents and copyrights issues. The name change is also more consistent with TBR language outlining the functions of this committee. Dr. Anitsal MOVED approval of the name change and Dr. Talbert SECONDED. The change was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Policy on Credit Hours

Dr. Huo explained that the purpose of this policy is to support Tennessee Tech's compliance with the federal regulations and SACS-COS expectations regarding credits. This regulation applies to all courses at all levels that award academic credit (i.e. any course that appears on an official transcript issued by the university). Dr. Mullens MOVED approval and Dr. Kharif SECONDED. The policy was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Standardized Course Syllabus

Dr. Huo stated that the University needs a standardized course syllabus so is it clearly stated for each course. This was presented at Deans' Council and there is a template departments can use. Dr. Anitsal MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. After much discussion and explanation on how a standardized course syllabus would help students and faculty as well as our accreditation information, it was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Change to the Freshman Admission Requirements

Dr. Hodum explained that the purpose of this change is to better align the admission requirements for new freshmen at TTU to the requirements and expectations of academic preparation at TTU. The change would raise minimum high school GPA requirements three times from 2014 to 2018. Dr. Hodum MOVED approval and Dr. Talbert SECONDED. After some discussion, the change was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal to Update Admission Requirements for MS in Mathematics

Dr. Mills explained the departmental admission requirements for students to be admitted into the graduate Mathematics program and requested an update to the current requirements. Dr. Talbert MOVED approval and Dr. Kharif SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal to Waive TOEFL/IELTS Requirements for ELS Language Center Students

Mr. Charlie Wilkerson stated that ELS Language is a global company with Intensive ESL Language programs in almost all 50 states and over 20 other countries. At present, over 650 universities waive the TOEFL/IELTS requirement for students who complete the appropriate level ELS Language Centers. Dr. Null MOVED approval and Dr. Anitsal SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal for a New Concentration in Library Science in the C&I EdS Program

Dr. Wendt explained that in order to be a school librarian in a K-12 school setting, the State of Tennessee requires licensed educators to have at least a master's degree and the library science endorsement. In adding this concentration at the EdS level, those already holding a master's degree in another subject area may more smoothly attain the library endorsement needed while

earning an additional graduate degree. Dr. Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Janet Isbell SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal for a New Concentration in STEM Education in C&I MA and EdS Programs

Dr. Wendt stated that the Master's/Specialist in Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in STEM Education will give educators the opportunity to develop highly sought after STEM integration skills, strategies, implications, and foundations for classrooms of today and tomorrow. Dr. Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mullens SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal for a New Concentration in Health Care Administration for the MPS Program

Dr. Geist explained that the Master of Professional Study with a concentration in Health Care Administration is an interdisciplinary program of study designed to provide a health care professional with leadership and strategic management tools to lead and serve in one of the nation's largest service industries. Dr. Null MOVED approval and Dr. Hodum SECONDED. After a brief discussion, the proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Election of Chairperson for 2014-15

Dr. Roberts stated that the nominating committee of Dr. Anitsal, Dr. Janet Isbell, and himself, recommend Dr. Steve Isbell for a second term as Chairperson of the Academic Council. Dr. Isbell was APPROVED by acclamation as chair for the 2014-15 academic year.

There being no such other matters, the meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

APPROVED October 15, 2014

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

- Annual reports for committees reporting to Academic Council
- Changes to Agritourism Curriculum proposal
- Information Assurance and CyberSecurity Concentration proposal
- Special Education Concentrations in C&I proposal
- Name Change for Patents and Copyrights Committee memo
- Policy on Credit Hours
- Standardized Course Syllabus
- Change in Admission Requirements proposal
- Admission Requirements update for MS in Mathematics proposal
- Waive TOEFL/IELTS Requirements proposal
- New concentration in Library Science proposal
- New concentration in STEM Education proposal
- New concentration in Health Care Administration proposal