

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY  
February 22, 2017

The Academic Council met at 3:35pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 in Derryberry Hall Deans' Conference Room with Prof. Barbara Jared, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Darrell Hoy	Dr. Stephen Idem
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Holly Stretz
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Dr. Tammy Boles
Dr. Alice Camuti	Dr. Ann Hellman
Dr. Doug Bates	Prof. Barbara Jared
Dr. Douglas Airhart	Dr. Chris Brown
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Dr. Jordana Navarro	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Elizabeth Propes	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Ismet Anitsal	Dr. Jeremy Wendt
Dr. Christine Miller	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Jeremy Hansen	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Christy Killman	Dr. Jim Raymondo

Dr. Dennis Duncan represented Dr. Liz Mullens, Dr. Melissa Irvin represented Dr. Bobby Hodum, Ms. Cassidy Winchester represented Ms. Rachel Baker, and Ms. Micayla Holton represented Ms. Hope Duke. The following members were absent:

Dr. Liz Mullens	Ms. Rachel Baker
Dr. Thomas Payne	Ms. Kristen Vargas
Dr. Bobby Hodum	Ms. Hope Duke
Ms. Miranda Stoltz	

#### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda

Approved the minutes of the November 9, 2016 meeting

Approved name change for Department of Accounting

Referred Graduate College proposal back to GSEC for further review

Approved revisions to Policy No. 217 Student Academic Misconduct

Approved revisions to the following policies:

Policy No. 224 Academic Actions Notification

Policy No. 226 Academic Program Modifications

Policy No. 227 New Academic Units

Referred the following policy revisions to the Task Force for review:

Policy No. 225 New Academic Programs

Policy No. 264 Grades, Grading and Examination

Policy No. 268 Honorary Degrees

Policy No. 312 Withdrawal Procedure

Tabled proposal for Bachelor of Science in Vehicle Engineering

Approved two concentrations name changes in the Department of English

Discussed re-evaluation of undergraduate admission requirements

## PROCEEDINGS

### Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Stretz MOVED approval and Ms. Holton SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of the Minutes of the November 9, 2016 Meeting

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

### Approval of Name Change for the Department of Accounting

Dr. Stephens stated that the current name on record is Department of Accounting and Business Law. The Business Law was dropped several years ago because TTU does not offer a program or major in Business Law. This request is to change the department name officially. Dr. Stretz MOVED approval and Dr. Hoy SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Proposal from Graduate College

Dr. Camuti stated the proposal from the College of Engineering Graduate Executive Committee to exempt tuition and fee payment for full-time PhD graduate assistants effective July 1, 2017 was approved by GSEC. Dr. Motevalli stated this proposal is a result of TTU's new Carnegie classification as a doctoral granting university. This could be used for other colleges as well, not just Engineering. After much discussion, Dr. Wendt MOVED to refer this back to GSEC and Dr. O'Connor SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Revisions to Policy No. 217 Student Academic Misconduct

Dr. Stephens stated the policy says the student will be notified of a decision from the chairperson of the university committee's Tennessee Tech email account to the students Tennessee Tech email account. The change is that the chairperson will use the Tennessee Tech email account [AcademicMisconduct@nttehc.edu](mailto:AcademicMisconduct@nttehc.edu) to notify the student. Dr. Larimore MOVED approval and Dr. Hoy SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

### Approval of Revisions to Policies

Dr. Huo stated the revisions to these four policies are a result of the Focus Act that move responsibilities to THEC that was approved January 26, 2017. The policies are as follows:

Policy No. 224 Academic Actions Notification – Tennessee Tech adopts THEC policy A1.5 and will notify THEC of academic program actions as required by THEC in order to maintain the accuracy of the API for TTU's academic programs. Dr. Null MOVED approval and Dr. Propes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Policy No. 225 New Academic Programs – Tennessee Tech adopts THEC policy A1.0 where THEC has the responsibility to review and approve new academic programs. After some discussion, Dr. Null MOVED for the policy to be sent to the Task Force for further review and Dr. Camuti SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously with the understanding that the Task Force will meet on February 24<sup>th</sup> and an email vote will be sent to the Council members so this policy can be on the agenda for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> TTU Board of Trustees meeting. The policy was approved via email vote on March 15.

Policy No. 226 Academic Program Modifications – Tennessee Tech adopts THEC policy A1.1. Academic Program Modifications submitted for THEC approval and must also comply with Tennessee Tech Policy No. 221 Substantive Change. Dr. Null MOVED approval and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Policy No. 227 New Academic Units – This policy establishes an approval process for new academic units at TTU consistent with THEC policy A1.3. Dr. Null MOVED approval and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Revisions to Policies

Dr. Irvin represented Dr. Hodum and presented the following policies:

Policy No. 264 Grades, Grading and Examination – The purpose of this policy is to provide an explanation of grades, grade point averages, and examination procedures. Dr. Propes MOVED approval and Dr. Camuti SECONDED. After questions and discussion, Dr. Null MOVED to table the policy for review by the Task Force and Dr. Hellman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Policy No. 268 Honorary Degrees – The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for awarding honorary degrees. Dr. O'Connor MOVED approval and Dr. Camuti SECONDED. After discussion, Dr. Camuti MOVED to table the policy for review by the Task Force and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Policy No. 312 Withdrawal Procedure – This policy explains the process for students to withdraw from TTU. Dr. Smith MOVED to table this policy for review by the Task Force and Dr. Camuti SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Approval of Proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Vehicle Engineering

Dr. Hoy stated this program for a Bachelor of Science in Vehicle Engineering is a collaboration with the chairpersons of Mechanical Engineering and Electrical and Computer Engineering departments. This will be the only BS Vehicle Engineering program in the country. Initial start-up costs have not been identified and the start date may be amended pending the availability of funds. Dr. Hoy MOVED approval and Dr. Camuti SECONDED. After much discussion, Dr. Killman MOVED to table the proposal for further review and input from each department's faculty, and Dr. Wendt SECONDED. All but one member approved the motion.

#### Approval of Name Changes in the Department of English

Dr. Pelton stated that the first name change is for the Dramatic Arts Concentration be changed to Theatre Concentration for the BA in English. Dr. Killman MOVED approval and Dr. Airhart SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

The second name change is for the Professional Communication Concentration be changed to Professional and Technical Communication Concentration. Dr. Killman MOVED approval and Dr. Propes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

#### Discussion of Re-evaluation of Undergraduate Admission Requirements

Dr. Killman stated the Faculty Senate had discussions regarding re-evaluating the undergraduate admissions standards. The request is to initiate a holistic admissions process that specifically does not use cut-off scores for high school GPAs or standardized tests. The intent was to begin conversations to address changes. The Admissions and Credits Committee needs to review the request. Prof. Jared will initiate this request with the Admissions and Credit Committee.

There being no Such Other Matters, the meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Carol Holley, Recorder

APPROVED April 12, 2017

Documents on file with the minutes: Name Change forms, memos, proposals, and policies