Graduate Studies Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2026
Time: 3:00pm
Location: Provost's Conference Room, Derryberry Hall, Tennessee Tech University

Attendance

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHER ATTENDEES
Dr. Julie C. Baker—Executive Officer	Dr. Joseph Slater	Lucinda Morabito
Dr. Alice Camuti—Ex-Officio	Dr. John Zhu	Stephanie Flores
Dr. Allan Mills—Chair	Dr. Alfred Kalyanapu	Irene Sullivan
Dr. Tammy Boles	Dr. Karen Wright (resource)	Jacqueline Rush
For Dr. Samantha Allen	Jemima Owusu-Tweneboah	Dr. John Tester
Dr. Sean Alley		
Dr. Edwin Baidoo		
Dr. William Eberle		
Dr. Rachel Hall		
Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner		
Dr. Samantha Hutson		
Dr. Barbara Jared		
Dr. Justin Lee		
Dr. Hayden Mattingly		
Dr. Patrice Elder		
For Michael Phillips		
Dr. Bedelia Russell (resource)		
Dr. Darron Smith		
Dr. Jeremy Wendt		
Dr. Kit Wheeler		
Dr. Lisa Zagumny		
Amaya Rosacia		
Jack Baker for McKenna Stevens		
Aiden Gillis		

Agenda

1. Approval of the agenda.
   The motion to approve the agenda was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith. No comments or amendments were made in the meeting.

   The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.

2. Approval of the minutes from the July 7, 2026, meeting.

   The motion to approve the minutes was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith. No comments or amendments were made in the meeting.

   The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.

3. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science to inactivate the courses listed below. Effective Fall 2027

Course No.	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Last Taught
CSC 5020	Compiler Construction	3	Fall 2008
CSC 6250	Knowledge-based/Expert Systems	3	Fall 2008
CSC 6320	Advanced Computer Architecture	3	Fall 2008
CSC 6460	Computational Methods/Graphics & Modeling	3	Fall 2008
CSC 5450	Introduction to Automata Theory & Computability	3	Fall 2014
CSC 7730	Autonomic Computing	3	Fall 2015
CSC 5580	Software Reverse Engineering	3	Fall 2019
CSC 5400	Analysis of Algorithms	3	Fall 2021
CSC 7240	Intelligent Information Systems	3	Fall 2021
CSC 6300	Advanced Database Systems	3	Spring 2017
CSC 5010	Programming Languages	3	Spring 2019

The motion to review the student item was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith.

Dr. Eberle spoke to the proposed inactivation stating that the courses are not taught and the department is cleaning up the course offerings.
There were no comments or questions.

The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.

4. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of Manufacturing and Industrial Systems Engineering to add a Fast Track option to the MS in Engineering Management and the MS in Industrial & Systems Engineering. Effective Fall 2027

The motion to approve the proposal was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith.

Dr. John Tester proposed a Fast Track program for the MISE department. Both Engineering Management and Industrial and Systems Engineering will offer Fast Track to their undergraduate students. The recent merger of two departments now offers a corresponding undergraduate program to the existing graduate program and related courses that undergraduate students could take to benefit their future graduate studies.
Dr. Camuti noted that Fast Track will be listed in the catalog under both graduate programs. A friendly amendment was approved that changes the wording in the proposed catalog language from “guaranteed” to “will be”, regarding the application of graduate credit.

The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.

5. Proposal by the College of Education and Human Sciences, Department of Counseling and Psychology to add a 12-credit hour graduate certificate, Addiction Counseling Specialty Certificate, to the Clinical Mental Health Master’s program. Effective Fall 2027 ***AC**

The motion to approve the proposal was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith.

Dr. Hermann-Turner presented the proposal for a new graduate level certificate, "Addiction Counseling Specialty Certificate", for the Clinical Mental Health master's program. The certificate uses existing courses and will enhance the licensure option for this program. A discussion took place that included the following two questions and comments: Dr. Russell asked if the certificate was embedded or stand-alone and Dr. Jared stated that nursing students would be interested in the subject. In response, Dr. Hermann-Turner stated that the certificate is not embedded within the degree program and that Counseling students will request to add the certificate. Currently the proposal is limited to Clinical Mental Health graduate students only.
Dr. Russell inquired about the status of the completion of the Institutional Effectiveness Report which is required when submitting a new graduate certificate. The status of the IE report was not known by Dr. Hermann-Turner.
Dr. Eberle asked a general question about certificates, the question was: can a non-degree seeking student earn a certificate to which Dr. Camuti responded yes.

The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.

6. Informational Items
    a. Amendment to the July 6, 2026, proposed inactivation of Business course DS 6420 to DS 6430. Dr. Camuti clarified that the proposal had been approved previously and an incorrect course number had been listed so a correction was needed.
    b. Effective August 1, 2026, the Department of Chemical Engineering changed their name. The department is now called Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. A discussion then took place regarding campus communication of department name changes.
7. Other Matters:
    - Dr. Wheeler expressed concern about GA's not getting paid. Dr. Baker is in constant communication with Human Resources and IT regarding workflow issues impacting offer letters and payroll.
    - Dr. Mattingly stated that Athletics recently submitted a bulk report of student workers to HR. He wanted to know if the departments could do something similar for the submission of GA's? Dr. Baker commented that it would not be feasible because of the diversity of our GA's positions.
8. Adjourn

    The motion to approve the adjournment was moved by Dr. Zagumny and seconded by Dr. Smith. No comments or discussion.

    The Committee voted and the motion was approved by all and opposed by none.
    Minutes prepared by S. Flores, Reviewed by Dr. Camuti, Approved by GSEC on October 6, 2026.