

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
APRIL 11, 2012

The Academic Council met at 3:30pm on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 in the Deans' Conference Room of Derryberry Hall with Linda Null, Chairperson presiding.

The following members of the Council were present:

Dr. Bobby Hodum	Dr. Susan Laningham
Dr. Roy Loutzenheiser	Dr. Steve Isbell
Dr. Matt Smith	Dr. Mary Pashley
Dr. Susan Elkins	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. James Jordan-Wagner	Dr. John Harris
Dr. Doug Bates	Dr. Shannon Morgan
Mr. Clint Durham	Dr. Susan Gore
Ms. Linda McQuiston	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Lee Ann Jolley	Dr. Jon Jonakin

Other persons present were Dr. J.P. Barfield, Dr. Sherry Gaines, Dr. Barry Stein, Dr. Jeremy Wendt, Dr. Dennis George, and Ms. Beth Rogers. Dr. Kurt Eisen represented Dr. Paul Semmes; Mr. Josh Herwig represented Ms. Ashley Humphrey; and Mr. Roy West represented Mr. Paul Darkangelo. The following members were absent:

Dr. Pat Bagley	Dr. Lebron Bell
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. David Larimore
Ms. Ashley Humphrey	Dr. Steve Canfield
Mr. Paul Darkangelo	Dr. Chris Wilson
Ms. Kelsey Clark	Dr. Holly Anthony
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Dr. Corinne Darvennes

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda

Approved the minutes of the February 29, 2012 meeting

Approved annual reports from committees reporting to Academic Council

Approved proposals from Nursing, EXPW, Counseling and Psychology, Curriculum and Instruction, and Professional Science Masters Program

Approved change to academic calendar

Received information regarding reorganization of Interdisciplinary Studies

Received information on the Early Alert Committee

Elected chairperson for 2012-2013

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Harris MOVED approval of the agenda and Dr. Isbell SECONDED. The agenda was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 29, 2012 Meeting

Dr. Loutzenheiser noted a correction in the MIT Degree Title Change. The title change should be B.S. in Engineering Technology. He also noted correct spelling of his name. Dr. Harris SECONDED corrections to the minutes. Corrections APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Annual Reports from Committees Reporting to Academic Council

Dr. Elkins MOVED approval of the reports as a whole and Mr. Durham SECONDED. Reports APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal from Nursing

Dr. Gaines stated that the School of Nursing is proposing to offer the current four semester upper-division nursing program over five semesters. This change will increase retention, promote student success, and allow for more logical sequencing of course material. Forty-eight students will be added to the upper-division. There will be two new courses instead of one as stated in the proposal (see attachment). Ms. McQuiston MOVED approval and Dr. Hodum SECONDED. After some discussion, the proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal from EXPW

Dr. Barfield stated that the Exercise Science, Physical Education, and Wellness department would like to establish a new recreation and leisure concentration to the B.S. degree program in EXPW. The goal is to meet the demands of prospective students interested in outdoor and professional recreation fields. (See attached proposal.) Dr. Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Isbell SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposal from Counseling and Psychology

Dr. Stein stated that the Counseling and Psychology department would like to change their admission policy for their M.A. degree. The change will align their admissions criteria with standards in the profession and meet requirements for accreditation. (See attached proposal.) Dr. Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Gore SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Two Proposals from Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Wendt stated that the Curriculum and Instruction department would like to propose a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Educational Technology. (See attached proposal.) All our sister institutions have this concentration as it is needed with changes in licensure, the need for a technology concentration, and the need for more online courses for masters teachers. Dr. Gore MOVED approval and Dr. Smith SECONDED. After some discussion, the proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

The second proposal, presented by Dr. Gore, was to change the graduate admissions policy for the M.A. and Ed.S. degrees in the Curriculum and Instruction department. The change will only affect Foreign Languages due to the increased number of international students getting degrees in C&I. The FLS score would be increased to 9 or the TOEFL minimum would be required.

(See attached proposal.) Dr. Gore MOVED approval and Dr. Smith SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Proposed Academic Calendar Change

Dr. O'Connor presented a proposed academic calendar change (see attachment). The proposed changes would only be effective if TTU is mandated to begin Spring semester on Tuesday after the MLK holiday. Classes would meet on Good Friday, using the Friday of Spring Break as a holiday. Classes would be cancelled the day before Thanksgiving and the Wednesday after Fall Break would be designated as Wednesday classes. Both terms would have the same number of class days, with both terms one Monday class short. These changes would begin Fall 2013 only if TBR mandates the change for the start date for Spring classes. Dr. O'Connor MOVED approval and Dr. Laningham SECONDED. After some discussion, the proposal was APPROVED with a vote of 20 yes and 2 no.

Approval of Proposal for Professional Science Masters Program

Dr. George explained the proposal to establish a Professional Science Master's in Environmental Informatics. (See attached proposal.) TBR is establishing an umbrella of Professional Sciences Masters that all TBR institutions will participate in. TTU has developed a concentration in Environmental Informatics that will fit under this Professional Sciences Masters. PSMs have a very strong business core and TTU already has business courses on line. Graduate students will have an internship working with employers to implement courses and information they have learned. It is an intensive 33 hours of course work and is strong in GIS and statistics. They have set up an unlimited GIS license for the entire campus. The beta site will be run in Kittrell Hall. This degree will cover courses in Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Agriculture. The program is highly marketable. Dr. Elkins MOVED approval and Dr. Jordan-Wagner SECONDED. The proposal was APPROVED unanimously.

Rename and Reorganization of Interdisciplinary Studies

Dr. Stephens explained that the School of Interdisciplinary Studies has been renamed the College of Interdisciplinary Studies due to the number of students in the programs and majors. The College will house the School of Environmental Sciences, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, the School of Professional Studies, and RODP. This will bring all the environmental programs into one unit and provide more visibility. The Water Center has also been moved from reporting to the College of Engineering to reporting to the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. These changes have been approved by TBR. The change for the Interdisciplinary Studies area has been in the planning process for a number of years and was supported by the former provosts. Dr. Elkins will be the Dean of the College and there will be directors for each of the schools. The College will have curricular representatives from the other colleges, schools, and departments.

Status of Early Alert Committee

Dr. Stephens stated that he recently discovered there were two groups looking at early alert software. He has obtained a list of names to have one group of people to review the options for such software. The Athletics department has purchased software that they are using for a pilot

program for one year. The new group being formed will include someone from Athletics. Dr. Null thanked Beth Rogers for chairing the original group that was working on this issue.

Election of Chairperson for 2012-2013

Dr. Harris stated that the nominating committee endorsed the proposal of Dr. Null serving a second term as chair. There being no other nominations, Dr. Harris MOVED approval by acclamation, and the election of Dr. Linda Null as chair for 2012-2013 was APPROVED unanimously.

Such Other Matters

Dr. Loutzenheiser had corrections to the minutes which are noted above under Approval of Minutes. There is no longer a B.S. in Industrial Technology. It is now a B.S. in Engineering Technology with our first graduates in May.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm.

APPROVED 10/10/12

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

- Annual reports from committees reporting to Academic Council
- Proposals from Nursing, EXPW, Counseling & Psychology, Curriculum & Instruction, and Professional Science Masters Program
- Email on proposed academic calendar changes