



ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

December 5, 2024

Roaden University Center, Room 282

MINUTES

Meeting was streamed live via link found on this web page:

<https://www.tntech.edu/board/board-and-board-committee-meetings.php>

AGENDA ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

The Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees Academic & Student Affairs Committee met on December 5, 2024 in Roaden University Center, Room 282. Chair Rhedona Rose called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Chair Rose asked Mr. Lee Wray, Secretary, to call the roll. The following members were present:

- Rhedona Rose
- Jeannette Luna
- Claire Myers
- Camron Rudd

Other board members also in attendance were Trudy Harper, Thomas Lynn, Fred Lowery (virtual), Tom Jones, and Johnny Stites. A quorum was met. Tennessee Tech faculty and staff and members of the public were also in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Rose asked for approval of the minutes of the September 26, 2024 Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting. Trustee Rudd moved to approve the September 26, 2024 Academic & Student Affairs Committee minutes. Trustee Luna seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Lee 04/29/25

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Provost’s Report

Provost Bruce began her provost’s report by providing an update on key performance indicators for Academic Affairs, including the metrics related to degrees awarded, quality assurance score, research and service, and fiscal gain. She concluded this section of her report by providing additional details on this year’s quality assurance score compared to last year’s score; providing insight into how the Quality Assurance Funding (QAF) score is achieved each year.

Provost Bruce then introduced Dean Jennifer Shank from the College of Fine Arts to give a focused update on the college, as a fourth in a series of college updates presented by college deans. This series was initiated as a result of the most recent Board self-evaluation. Dean Shank began by sharing an overview of some of the college’s current achievements. She then shared the departments/units that fall under the college, as well as the college’s academic programs offered for both Music and Art. Next, Dean Shank shared several examples of the partnerships that the college has with other colleges on campus, before moving on to discuss the college’s enrollment trends and goals. Dean Shank concluded her presentation by showcasing highlights of students, alumni, and faculty from the College of Fine Arts.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Academic Program Update: Post Approval Monitoring

Provost Bruce gave an annual update on new academic programs previously approved by the Board of Trustees over the last five years. She explained how new programs are monitored and potential strategies that are implemented to self-correct when necessary.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – TTU Policy 216 (Student Academic Integrity)

Provost Bruce presented a proposal to delete Policy 217 (Student Academic Misconduct) and create Policy 216 (Student Academic Integrity) as its replacement. She further explained that Policy 217, Student Academic Misconduct, is scheduled for review every four years or whenever circumstances require review, whichever is earlier, and that based on her recommendation, the policy recently underwent a major review by a committee of faculty and students resulting in the recommendation of a new policy.

She explained that the purpose of the recommendations was to approach the topic in terms of academic integrity rather than academic misconduct, provide increased education and support to students and faculty, improve and clarify the process of student misconduct reviews, ensure consistency of reviews across colleges, improve documentation and record keeping of reviews, and increase confidentiality for students under review.

She also explained that the new proposed policy received all other necessary university approvals, including Graduate Studies Executive Committee, Academic Council, and University Assembly.

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There were several questions from Trustee members about the proposed new policy. Trustee Rudd noted specific concerns regarding the softening of the language used in the new policy.

Chair Rose asked for a motion and a second to move the policy to the Board's regular agenda. Trustee Luna moved to send Policy 216 to the Board for approval and to place it on the Board's regular agenda. Chair Rose seconded the motion. Trustee Rudd asked for a roll call vote. Trustee Luna and Trustee Rose voted aye, and Trustee Rudd voted nay. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Counseling Center Update on Mental Health Services

Dr. Polk-Johnson, vice president for student affairs, provided an update on mental health services on campus. She provided detailed data about the numbers and types of counseling services provided by the university's counseling center to the university's students, including data related to the number of unique counseling sessions provided to students, historical trends of the number of counseling sessions per academic year, the monthly distribution of appointments for the most recent academic year, and the distribution of visit types for the most recent academic year and the current academic year.

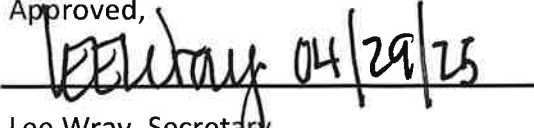
Dr. Polk-Johnson concluded her presentation by providing information regarding program partnerships between the counseling center staff and other offices on campus to provide outreach opportunities for different focus areas. She also shared information regarding staffing for the center.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Approved,

Lee Wray, Secretary