



ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 6, 2025

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 March 6, 2025 in Roaden University Center, Room 282. Chair Rhedona Rose called the meeting to order at 8:14 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. Fred Lowery exited the meeting at 9:00 AM and did not return. 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 December 5, 2024 Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting. Trustee Luna moved to approve the December 5, 2024 Academic & Student Affairs Committee minutes. Trustee Rudd seconded the motion. Chair Rose called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

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AGENDA ITEM 3 – Enrollment Update

Karen Lykins, vice president for enrollment and communication, began her presentation by sharing early freshmen enrollment indicators for Fall 2025. The three indicators highlighted were spring showcase attendance, housing applications, and SOAR registration (upcoming event).

Mrs. Lykins then shared information on new domestic freshmen applications for fall 2025, an update on the Presidential Scholars Program, and information on domestic freshmen admits for fall 2025. She gave a demographic breakdown of the applicants and admitted students, which included information about gender, race, and state of residency for the upcoming year compared to last year. Next, Mrs. Lykins shared an academic profile for the new freshmen admitted students, which included student college and major choices. Mrs. Lykins then asked Provost Bruce to share a short update on fall 2025 graduate enrollment.

Mrs. Lykins concluded her presentation by sharing information on Spring 2025 enrollment. This information included the number of new first-time freshmen, new transfer students, dual enrollment students, continuing undergraduate students, and freshmen fall-to-spring retention. She also included information on recent retention efforts.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Provost’s Report

Provost Bruce began the Provost’s Report by updating Board members on a few things happening in Academic Affairs. This included information on dual enrollment, as well as information on a new Ph.D. program in Computer Science. Provost Bruce then introduced Dean Joe Slater from the College of Engineering to give a focused update on the college, as a fifth in a series of college updates presented by college deans.

Dean Slater began his presentation by sharing a broad overview of the college before sharing more detailed information about the areas within the college. Dean Slater focused on the college’s departments and programs, faculty and staff within the college, the number of students and degrees awarded, and information on new external grants/contracts. He then shared information regarding accreditation and rankings, before moving on to enrollment trends for first-time freshmen and a detailed snapshot of total enrollment within the college. Dean Slater concluded his presentation by highlighting the college’s enrollment trends and shared examples of current events, milestones that the college has achieved recently, and several student highlights.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for Master of Science (MS) in Agriscience Technology

Provost Bruce began her presentation by sharing an overview and features for the proposed New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Science (MS) in Agriscience Technology. This included information on the uniqueness and need for the program, excerpts

from letters of support, as well as degree requirements for the proposed program. Provost Bruce ended her presentation by sharing enrollment projections, as well as instructional cost and revenue projections for the first five years.

Trustee Luna moved to send the New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Science (MS) in Agriscience Technology to the Board for approval and to be placed on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Rudd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for Master of Science (MS) in Child Life

Provost Bruce began her presentation by sharing an overview and features for the proposed New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Science (MS) in Child Life. This included information on the uniqueness and need for the program, excerpts from letters of support, as well as degree requirements for the proposed program. Provost Bruce ended her presentation by sharing enrollment projections, as well as instructional cost and revenue projections for the first five years.

Trustee Luna moved to send the New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for the Master of Science (MS) in Child Life to the Board for approval and to be placed on the Board's consent agenda. Trustee Rudd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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 9:30 a.m.

Approved, LEE Wray 07/16/25
Lee Wray, Secretary