

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 30, 2025

Derryberry Hall, Room 210

### MINUTES

Meeting streamed live via link found on this web page:

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

#### AGENDA ITEM I – CALL TO ORDER

The Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, in Roaden University Center Room 282. Chair Trudy Harper called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

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

- Jeannette Luna
- Thomas Lynn
- Claire Myers
- Rhedona Rose
- Camron Rudd
- Johnny Stites
- Trudy Harper
  
- Tom Jones joined electronically and departed the meeting at 10:44 a.m.
- Fred Lowery joined electronically.
  
- Barry Wilmore - absent

A quorum was physically present. Tennessee Tech faculty and staff were also in attendance. Mr. Jones and Mr. Lowery each confirmed that they could simultaneously hear and speak to the Board members, that they were by themselves, and that they received the Board materials in advance of the meeting.

LEE 07/16/25

## **AGENDA ITEM II – NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM PROPOSAL (NAPP) FOR B.S. IN INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPUTING**

Dr. Sharon Huo, Associate Provost, reported that the proposed B.S. in interdisciplinary computing would prepare students to apply the knowledge of computing, artificial intelligence and data sciences to their chosen discipline.

Mr. Rudd moved to approve the new academic program proposal for a B.S. (Bachelor of Science) in Interdisciplinary Computing. Vice Chair Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEM III – MAINTENANCE AND MANDATORY FEES**

Dr. Claire Stinson, Vice President for Planning and Finance, presented information regarding the proposed maintenance and mandatory fees increase. The 4.8 percent undergraduate tuition increase – below the maximum tuition increase rate of 6.5 percent set by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission – would cover operating costs and faculty and staff support that directly impacts Tennessee Tech students.

Additional information regarding the proposed maintenance and mandatory fees and related matters follows:

- Cost-of-operating expenses for the university are increasing, just as cost-of-living expenses are increasing for students and others.
- Even with the proposed tuition adjustment, Tennessee Tech's 2025-26 flat rate undergraduate tuition costs will remain below the 2024-2025 average tuition cost for Tennessee's public universities.
- No tuition dollars are used for Tennessee Tech's football stadium. Money for the stadium comes from fundraising and projected revenues generated by the stadium.
- Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees also voted to support phased-in adjustments to on-campus housing costs over the next five years to better invest in the spaces our students call home.
- More than 80 percent of our students receive some form of institutional, state or federal aid – part of the reason that half of our students graduate from Tech debt free.

Mr. Stites moved to approve the recommended FY2025-26 4.8% undergraduate maintenance, 5.0% graduate maintenance and 5.05% mandatory fees increase. Mr. Rudd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEM IV – OTHER BUSINESS**

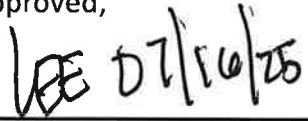
There was no other business.

*Lee M. Heltz*

**AGENDA ITEM V – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Approved,

 07/16/25

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Lee Wray, Secretary