

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
May 10, 2023

The Academic Council met at 3:35 p.m. on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 via Teams videoconferencing technology, with Dr. Lisa Zagumny, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne	Professor Drew Sisk
Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi	Dr. Ann Manginelli
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Dr. Emily Lee
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Ms. Stephanie Adams
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Ms. April Crockett
Dr. Darron Smith	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Dennis Fennewald	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Troy Brachey	Dr. Jennifer Meadows
Dr. Sean Alley	Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner
Dr. Hyewon Park	
Dr. Melissa Comer	
Dr. Christy Killman	
Dr. Christopher Reames	

Others present were

Dr. Lori Bruce	Dr. Daniel Badoe
Dr. Bedelia Russell	Dr. Barbara Jared
Dr. Mark Stephens	Dr. Jie Cui
Ms. Karen Lykins	

The following members of the council were absent:

Professor Kimberly Winkle	Dr. Matt Langford
Dr. Lori Maxwell	Dr. Lenly Weathers
Dr. Stephen Canfield	Mr. James Rankin
Dr. Syed Rafay Hasan	Dr. Amber Spears
Dr. Christy Killman	Ms. Lindsey Taylor
Dr. Russell Witcher	Mr. Jacob Cherry
	Mr. James Rankin
	Ms. Mariam Abbas

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes from the April 12, 2023 Meeting

School of Nursing Post-Graduate Certificate: Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse

School of Nursing MSN: Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration

School of Nursing Post- Graduate Certificate: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

School of Nursing Post-Graduate Certificate: Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering MS Fully Online Delivery Mode

Department of Mechanical Engineering MS Mechanical Engineering: Fully Online Delivery Mode

School of Art, Craft & Design New Post Baccalaureate in Craft Program

Such other Matters

Adjournment

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Christy Killman MOVED approval and Dr. Darron Smith SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from the April 12, 2023 Meeting

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Nursing Post-Graduate Certificate: Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse

Dr Barbara Jared stated the current nursing shortage and the prediction for an ongoing shortage through 2030 is well documented. The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the problem in nursing and many other health related disciplines. Advance Practice RNs are a vital piece of the puzzle in meeting the growing needs in the acute care setting. However, only 6% of the APRN ' s in the U.S. are specifically educated and trained for that role as Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioners. Offering this post-graduate certificate in AGACNP will allow APRN's certified in other concentrations such as FNP to expand their role and increase their ability to market themselves in the acute care environment. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Nursing MSN: Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration

Dr. Barbara Jared stated adult-gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners are certified and licensed advanced practice nurses whose specialty intersects acute care and geriatric care, with a focus on adult clients with critical and/or palliative conditions. The U.S. Census Bureau expects all " baby boomers " will be over the age of 65 by 2030 and 1 in every 5 persons will be retirement age. This population will for the first time will exceed the number of children in the U.S. As the geriatric population increases the need for providers increases in the acute care setting. AGACNP ' s are critical providers in Emergency Departments, Trauma Centers, and Intensive Care Units of most hospitals working in collaboration with hospitalists and other acute care providers. Only 6% of the NP ' s licensed in the U.S. are AGACNPs leaving a gap in acute care facilities to address the aging population numbers who need acute care services. Dr.

Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Nursing Post- Graduate Certificate: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Dr. Barbara Jared stated the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics (2022) projects the need for Nurse Practitioners to increase by 26% until 2028 and they are estimating 16,900 vacancies over the next 10 years. Of the approximately 290,000 NP's currently practicing in the U.S., only 3.7% are certified in pediatrics (MNP, 2021). The last census identified 23% of the U.S. population as under the age of 18 (pediatric population) leaving a disparity between the number of pediatric individuals and the availability of pediatric primary care providers. Rural areas, like the Upper Cumberland Region of TN are more likely to lack adequate pediatric providers. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Nursing Post-Graduate Certificate: Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Dr. Barbara Jared stated rural women experience poorer health outcomes and have less access to health care than urban women. Prenatal care is a crucial aspect of women's health and is critical for safe and healthy pregnancies and healthy newborns. The Upper Cumberland Region is severely underserved with only 5 of the 14 UC counties providing prenatal care necessitating travel for prenatal care for women of the other 9 counties. Pregnant women living in rural areas without prenatal services have almost 2 times the risk of mortality in pregnancy and it also contributes to a higher rate of infant mortality (GAO, 2021). The APRN certified in Women ' s Health could provide needed support in this gap in health care for not only prenatal care, but family planning and other health concerns specific to women's health. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering MS Fully Online Delivery Mode

Dr. Daniel Badoe stated the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Tennessee Tech plans to add a "Fully Online" delivery mode to the existing non-thesis/coursework only MSCE degree. Offering the degree on line is anticipated to attract a significant number of working professionals into the program, thereby increasing graduate enrollment. Since many working professionals are located in major metropolitan areas and throughout the state, the online option will be ideal. The "Traditional" non-thesis/coursework only delivery mode will be retained for any students who prefer to attend courses on campus. All degree requirements will remain the same regardless of delivery mode. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Department of Mechanical Engineering MS Mechanical Engineering: Fully Online Delivery Mode

Dr. Jie Cui stated the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Tennessee Tech plans to add a "Fully Online" delivery mode to the existing non-thesis/coursework only MSME degree. Offering the degree on line is anticipated to attract a significant number of working professionals into the program, thereby increasing graduate enrollment. Since many working professionals are located in major metropolitan areas and throughout the state, the online option will be ideal. All degree requirements will remain the same regardless of delivery mode. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Art, Craft & Design New Post Baccalaureate in Craft Program

Professor Drew Sisk stated the implementation of a post- baccalaureate program will allow a mature, focused student to enter Tennessee Tech as a non-degree seeking undergraduate student, gaining access to the specified craft studio to prepare themselves for entry into a graduate program, an artist residency, or other such employment or creative opportunities. Post-baccalaureate students are encouraged to assist in studio tasks, gaining working knowledge of the operational needs of a studio. Post-baccalaureate students would act as a mentor to undergraduate students within the discipline. Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Christy Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Such other Matters

There were no such other matters.

Adjournment

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Amy McCoy, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:
All documents presented at the meeting