

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY

November 14, 2018

The Academic Council met at 3:35pm on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 in Derryberry Hall Deans' Conference Room with Dr. Linda Null, Chairperson, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne	Dr. Tammy Boles
Dr. Doug Bates	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Paul Semmes	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Dr. Barry Stein
Dr. Bruce Greene	Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Douglas Airhart	Dr. David Larimore
Dr. Christy Killman	Mr. David Hajdik
Dr. Holly Stretz	Dr. Chris Brown
Dr. Jeremy Hansen	Dr. Corinne Darvennes
Prof. Kim Winkle	Mr. Brad Sells

Others present were: Dr. Vahid Motevalli representing Dr. Darrell Hoy, Dr. Steve Robinson, Dr. Jeremy Wendt, Dr. Kim Hanna, Dr. Sharon Huo, Dr. Mark Stephens, and Dr. Brandon Johnson.

The following members of the council were absent:

Dr. Darrell Hoy	Dr. Zac Wilcox
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Dr. Ben Mohr
Dr. Lisa Zagumny	Dr. Barbara Jared
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Ann Hellman
Dr. Troy Brachey	Ms. Madison Cole
Dr. Lori Maxwell	Ms. Emily Bass
Dr. Ismet Anitsal	Ms. Katelynn Cammack
Dr. Christine Miller	

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approved the agenda

Approved the minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting

Approved catalog change for master's degree general requirements

Approved termination of master's concentration in case management and supervision

Approved new minor in astronomy

Approved new fast track B.A./M.A. for Curriculum and Instruction, family and consumer sciences concentration

Approved change to requirements for a second undergraduate degree

Received update from Admissions and Credits Committee and approved plan

Approved NULO to GHS as a concentration proposal

Discussed student advisement and registration times

PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Null requested that agenda item #6 be moved to #3 to allow Dr. Motevalli to attend another meeting. Date on agenda item #2 should be minutes of October 10, 2018. With the noted changes, Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Stein SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 10, 2018 Meeting

Dr. Airhart MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Catalog Change Request for Master's Degree General Requirements

Dr. Motevalli explained that the College of Engineering Graduate Executive Committee and the Graduate School Executive Committee approved changes in the wording in the current catalog for the Master's Degree General requirements. The changes are to allow flexibility for individual colleges and departments to set the number of credits required for research thesis anywhere from six to nine depending on the program and rigor in research. The changes do not adversely change other programs. Dr. Motevalli MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. After some clarification as to the total credit hours of 30, the changes were APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of Termination of Master's Concentration in Case Management and Supervision

Dr. Stein explained that changes in enrollment patterns and the retirement of the faculty member who coordinated this concentration make it inefficient use of departmental resources to maintain this concentration. There is currently only one student enrolled and will be phased out over two years. The focus will be in the counseling area where there is greater student demand. Dr. Stein MOVED approval and Dr. Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Minor in Astronomy

Dr. Robinson explained that the Departments of Physics and Earth Sciences wish to create a minor in astronomy. Two courses currently exist (ASTR 1010 & 1020) and two others will be added (GEOL 3310 and ASTR 3100). This minor will help students who are considering careers in astrophysics and/or planetary science. Students interested in other space-related careers or just a general interest in astronomy would be candidates for an astronomy minor. Dr. Semmes MOVED approval and Dr. Darvennes SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of New Fast Track B.A./M.A. for Curriculum and Instruction and Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. Wendt explained that the request is to add fast track option to the Family and Consumer Sciences concentration within the Curriculum and Instruction MA degree. The School of Human Ecology will designate two (already existing) 3-credit hour courses toward the MA fast track degree. The desire is to attract more students into the graduate degree by allowing these two courses to count toward both undergraduate and graduate credit. Dr. Stein MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval to Change Required Hours for a Second Undergraduate Degree

Dr. Johnson explained that Enrollment Management wishes to remove the 150-hour degree requirement for students earning a second degree at TTU. It is no longer common practices to require a set number of hours to earn a second degree. The standard is to now evaluate the requirements of each degree and award all degrees based on the completion of these requirements accordingly. With the removal of the extra 30 hours required to complete additional undergraduate degrees, students pursuing "double majors" may now receive two degrees. This change will not be retroactive; any double majors previously awarded cannot be changed to a second degree. Dr. Semmes MOVED approval and Dr. Stein SECONDED. After some discussion, the request was APPROVED unanimously.

Received Information from Admissions and Credits Committee and Approval of Plan

Dr. Johnson explained that during the October 10, 2018 Academic Council meeting, the subject of admission requirements for undergraduate students was discussed. In April 2014, the Academic Council approved a plan to increase the undergraduate admission requirements over a three-year period. This change was approved by TBR on June 30, 2014. However, at the February 22, 2017 Academic Council meeting, a proposal was presented by Dr. Christy Killman on behalf of the Faculty Senate to revoke the current admission requirements immediately and initiate a holistic admissions process that does not use cut-off scores for high school GPAs or standardized tests. The Council decided at that time that the Admissions and Credits Committee should review the request. Dr. Johnson stated that the A&C Committee has not met since then. He stated the committee met on November 9 and discussed following the policy that is currently posted on line. He presented a handout with the following summary: *2.50 high school GPA and 17 ACT composite and ≥ 15 ACT sub-scores and completion of a college preparatory high school curricula. If you do not meet these requirements, a more holistic review will be used to evaluate your application for admission.* This will be used for fall 2019 admissions. The proposed plan/changes for undergraduate admission requirements will go to the Curriculum Committee at their next meeting and then formally to the Academic Council in January. The A&C Committee will also present a plan for fall 2020 admissions by February 2019. The Council asked for more specific information on what “holistic review” is. Dr. Darvennes MOVED to approve the plan presented and to continue the review of the process and Dr. Stretz SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

NULO to GHS as a Concentration Proposal

Dr. Johnson explained the request is for the addition of Lower Level Nursing (NULO) to General Health Studies as a Concentration. This is to ensure TTU is compliant with Federal Student Aid for nursing students to be eligible for financial aid. Students with less than 60 earned hours who are intending to study nursing, who also meet the minimum freshmen academic requirements for nursing, will have their major recorded as General Health Studies with the concentration of Lower-Level Nursing (NULO). Students with 60 hours or more who do not meet the requirements for upper division nursing will need to select a qualified program of study to be eligible for financial aid. Dr. Stretz MOVED approval and Dr. Killman SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Such Other Matters

Dr. Airhart asked why students are not allowed to register when they are advised. Dr. Johnson stated that there is a prioritization for students that determines when they are allowed to register. During the conversation, it was established that the priorities were not clear and Dr. Johnson said he would send a list of what the priorities are. If you have students that did not make the priority list and feel they should have, please notify the Registrar.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm

Carol Holley, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

All documents presented at the meeting