

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
February 5, 2025

The Academic Council met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 via Teams videoconferencing technology, with Professor Kimberly Winkle, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne
Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi
Dr. Daren Snider
Dr. Jennifer Shank
Dr. Mike Gotcher
Dr. Darron Smith
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley
Dr. Ciana Bowhay
Dr. Brian O'Connor
Dr. Hyewon Park
Dr. Melissa Comer
Dr. Christy Killman
Dr. Alfred Kalyanapu
Dr. Syed Rafay Hasan
Dr. Scott Christen
Dr. Ann Manginelli

Dr. Jennifer Mabry
Dr. Matt Langford
Ms. Megan Atkinson
Dr. Amy Hill
Dr. Linda Null
Ms. Ka Grimes
Dr. Brenda Wilson
Dr. Mustafa Rajabali
Dr. Krystal Kennedy
Dr. Amber Spears
Ms. Kashaina Nucum
Mr. Harrison Simpson proxy Mr. Arron Apple

Others present were:

Dr. Lori Bruce
Dr. Julie Baker
Dr. Sharon Huo
Dr. Bedelia Russell
Dr. Jiahong Zhu
Mr. Chris Kohl

The following members of the council were absent:

Dr. Lisa Zagumny
Dr. Mark Creter
Dr. Yi Peng
Dr. Kexin Xu
Professor Joshua Field
Dr. Lenly Weathers
Ms. Cheyenne Bare
Ms. Kathryn Dye

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2024 meeting

College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering- Reduce the number of credit hours for the MSME degree

College of Business- Increase the number of credit hours for the Master of Business Administration (MBA)

College of Business- Reduce the credit hours for the Banking & Financial Services, Healthcare Informatics, and Cyber Management Certificates

Such Other Matters

Adjournment

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from the November 13, 2024 Meeting

Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering- Reduce the number of credit hours for the MSME degree

Dr. Jiahong Zhu stated by replacing the 3-credit independent project course with a 1-credit research methods course, students will gain foundational knowledge of research practices while still meeting the requirement for independent thinking. This shift is particularly advantageous for working professionals and students in the new online MS program, where balancing coursework with practical learning is critical. After little discussion Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Business- Increase the number of credit hours for the Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Mr. Chris Kohl stated the College of Business requests approval to increase the MBA program's total credit hours from 30 to 33. The additional 3 hours will be elective credits, allowing students with an undergraduate business degree to complete a 12-hour "stackable" certificate within the MBA. After little discussion Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Business- Reduce the credit hours for the Banking & Financial Services, Healthcare Informatics, and Cyber Management Certificates

Mr. Chris Kohl stated the College of Business requests approval to reduce the required number of hours in its graduate certificates from 15 hours to 12 hours. 12-hour certificates will better meet the needs of working professionals, enabling them to more quickly earn credentials that will enhance their knowledge and skills in the workplace. The reduction from 15 to 12 hours will also help TTU recruit and be more competitive. After little discussion Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Such other Matters

Professor Winkle stated that revisions are being made to Policies 205 Faculty Tenure and 206 Faculty Promotion. A committee has been working on these revisions and these have been presented to

Administrative Council. Both policies will require a vote and will be submitted to Academic Council as a first reading at the March meeting.

Dr. Brian O'Connor inquired about the College of Education and Human Sciences name change and the way that college name changes are communicated to campus.

Adjournment

Dr. Linda Null MOVED approval and Ms. Megan Atkinson 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