



**TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	
Wednesday, May 13, 2026 2:00 p.m. CT	Virtual Live Stream Link: https://www.tnstate.edu/board/livestream.aspx

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Opening Remarks by the Committee Chair
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Proposed Academic Programs and Academic Units Actions (Action)
- VI. Adjournment

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 13, 2026

ITEM: Proposed Academic Programs and Academic Units Actions

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Erik Schmeller, Interim Provost and Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Background Information

The ongoing review and evaluation of Tennessee State University’s academic programs and academic units is a critical component for the institution to maintain regional and specialized accreditation. Academic programs that are mission-oriented, market-driven for student recruitment and workforce development, and cost-conscious are essential indicators in program evaluation and productivity. It is critical that the University communicates on an ongoing basis the performance of its academic program inventory.

Summary of Academic Actions: Academic Programs is presented in this agenda item. The Division of Academic Affairs is requesting approval of the following academic program modifications:

College	Academic Program or Academic Unit	Academic Action
Business	Business Administration, MBA	1. Establishment of New Concentration: 4+1 Accelerated BBA/MBA Pathway
Engineering	Computer Science, MS	2. Establishment of New Concentration – Artificial Intelligence Concentration within the MS in Computer Science

Committee Action

The Division of Academic Affairs is requesting approval of the academic unit modifications. The Committee Chair will call for a motion on the requested action.

MOTION: To recommend to the full Board the approval of the academic actions outlined in Table 1, as contained in the Board Materials. The proper officers of the University are authorized to take other actions as may be necessary and deemed appropriate to effectuate the successful implementation of the proposed academic actions, and work with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) to implement these academic actions for academic programs and academic units.



Meeting of the TSU Board of Trustees

Student and Academic Affairs Committee

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TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM

- I. Action Item—Program Modifications
 - A. 4+1 Accelerated BBA/MBA Pathway
 - B. Artificial Intelligence Concentration
- II. Informational Items
 - A. Academic Unit Achievements

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Program Modifications

College	Academic Program or Academic Unit	Academic Action
Business	Business Administration, MBA	1. Establishment of New Concentration: 4+1 Accelerated BBA/MBA Pathway
Engineering	Computer Science, MS	1. Establishment of New Concentration – Artificial Intelligence Concentration within the MS in Computer Science

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Academic Unit Achievements

- Student Achievements: Political Science major named TSU's first-ever finalist for Truman Fellowship; Accounting majors served over 200 individuals with the VITA tax program.
- Dr. Andrea Ringer awarded the OVC Outstanding Faculty Commitment to Student Success
- Grant Success: Agriculture secured \$17.1 M; Engineering received \$6.5 M including a \$1 M US Department of War award to launch a Robotics & AI Lab.
- Re-Accreditation: College of Education-CAEP

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Academic Advising, Dual Enrollment, and Trio Programs

- Pre Advising for Fall 2026 currently—84%
- Spring 2026 Freshmen retention—89%
- Dual Enrollment of 135 students for over \$82,000 in revenue
- Two MNPS MOUs with increased potential revenue
- TRIO Programs submitting Upward Bound and Ronald McNair renewals

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