

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tennessee State University
Thursday, September 16, 2021
10 a.m. CST

Board Committee Meetings Via Zoom Live Stream: www.tnstate.edu/board/livestream.aspx

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call/Declaration of a Quorum
- III. Approval of the June 17, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
- IV. Approval of Academic Program Modification Admissions Standards Ph.D. in Biology
- V. Approval of Academic Program Modification Admissions Standards MS Professional School Counseling
- VI. Approval of Academic Program Modification Method of Instructional Delivery via Online Master in Business Administration
- VII. Approval of Academic Program Modification Method of Instructional Delivery via Online Master of Science in Agricultural Science
- VIII. Approval of New Program Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Administration Leadership
- IX. Approval of New Program Graduate Certificate in Public Health
- X. Approval of Additional AY 2020-2021 Tenure Recommendations
- XI. Report on SACSCOC Ten Year Accreditation Review
- XII. Academic Affairs Report
- XIII. Report on Research Funding and Programs
- XIV. Report on Student Housing

XV. Student Affairs Report

XVI. Adjournment

Approval of the June 17, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of the June 17, 2021, Academic Affairs and

Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The document reflecting the minutes from the June 17, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting is included in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees' June 17, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.

Meeting of the Tennessee State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Meeting June 17, 2021 Tennessee State University – Electronic MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Trustees Pam Martin, Andre Johnson, Ali Sekmen, and Non-voting Member: Tiara Thomas.

Other Board Members Present: Trustees Richard Lewis, Van Pinnock and Joseph Walker III

University Staff Present: President Glenda Glover; Laurence Pendleton, General Counsel and Board Secretary; Dr. Michael Harris, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Curtis Johnson, Chief of Staff; Dean Frank Stevenson, Assoc. Vice President of Student Affairs; Douglas Allen, Vice President of Business and Finance; Dr. Frances Williams, Assoc. Vice President of Research & Sponsored Programs; Terrence Izzard, Assoc. Vice President of Enrollment Management; Dr. Robbie Melton, Graduate School Dean and Assoc. Vice President; and Dr. Arlene Nicholas-Phillips, Liaison to the Board of Trustees.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Martin called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. on June 17, 2021. Trustee Martin then moved to make certain findings on the record regarding the necessity for conducting the meeting electronically without a physical quorum present due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Committee is set to take up important matters. Participation by electronic means is necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying guidance from the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") and the State of Tennessee to limit face-to-face contact whenever possible. Electronic participation for the Committee meeting is necessary for the safety of Board members, staff, and guests.

Trustee Martin asked the committee members to state now if any of the committee members cannot hear or speak with each other. No committee members answered in the affirmative. Trustee Martin also asked the committee members to indicate if someone is present with them from the location in which they are calling. No committee members indicated there was anyone present.

II. ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Board Secretary Pendleton called the roll at the committee chair's request. Trustees Pam Martin, Andre Johnson, Ali Sekmen, and Tiara Thomas were present. Secretary Pendleton announced the presence of a quorum.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 11, 2021, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Martin proceeded to the approval of the March 11, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes.

Trustee Martin moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the March 11, 2021, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. Trustee Sekmen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call.

IV. APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 TENURE AND PROMOTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Trustee Martin announced the next agenda item as the approval of 2020-2021 tenure and promotion recommendation. She asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. The material for this agenda item is contained in the Board Meeting materials for June 17, 2021.

President Glover called on Provost Harris to present this item. Provost Harris reminded the committee of the rigorous process that was undertaken in order to achieve these tenure and promotion recommendations. He stressed even during a COVID year, the Academic Affairs department was still able to maintain their commitment to quality in achieving these results.

The list of recommended candidates for tenure and promotion could be found on pages #132 through #134 in the Board Meeting materials.

Trustee Martin moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2020-2021 tenure and promotion recommendations, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. Trustee Sekmen seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

V. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM MODIFICATION – A CHANGE TO THE M.S. PSYCHOLOGY, COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION ADMISSION STANDARDS

Trustee Martin announced the next item on the agenda is the approval of an academic program modification – a change to the MS Psychology, Counseling Psychology concentration admission standards. She asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. The material is included in the June 17, 2021, Board meeting materials.

President Glover asked Provost Harris to respond to this agenda item. Provost Harris explained that the two modifications being proposed were, (1) the removal of the GRE and MAT as requirements for admission, and (2) to add both a statistics and a research methods course as pre-requisites. He stated that this was part of a continuing effort to attract students and ensure their success. He also stated that more similar changes will be proposed in the future.

Trustee Martin moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of an academic program modification – a change to the MS Psychology, Counseling Psychology concentration admission standards, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. Trustee Johnson seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM MODIFICATION – A CHANGE TO THE M.S. BIOLOGY ADMISSION STANDARDS

Trustee Martin introduced the next item on the agenda as the approval of the academic program modification – a change to the MS Biology admission standards. She asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. The material is included in the June 17, 2021, Board meeting materials.

President Glover asked Provost Harris to present on this item. Provost Harris explained that similarly to the previous agenda item, the modification proposed was the removal of the GRE requirement for admission. This was an effort to remain competitive to other MS in Biology programs and attract qualified students.

Trustee Martin moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of an academic program modification – a change to the MS Biology admission standards, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. Trustee Sekmen seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Trustee Sekmen commented that some other institutions were considering relaxing the requirements for ACT as well as the GRE and asked if we had intentions of doing the same. President Glover responded that we were in continuing discussions about this topic.

VII. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM MODIFICATION – A MOVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE FROM THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS TO THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Trustee Martin introduced the next item on the agenda as the approval of the academic program modification – a move of the Department of Criminal Justice from the College of Liberal Arts to the College of Public Service. She shared that at this time, this item has been tabled for further internal discussion and consideration.

VIII. APPROVAL OF TSU INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

Trustee Martin announced the next agenda item as the approval of TSU intellectual property policy. She asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. The material is included in the June 17, 2021, Board meeting packet.

President Glover asked Dr. Frances Williams to comment on this agenda item. Dr. Williams shared that following the implementation of the FOCUS Act, the policies held under the Tennessee Board of Regents automatically became TSU policies unless the Board of Trustees adopted a new policy in any specific area. The Division of Research and Sponsored Programs embarked on a review and revamping of the TBR policy to develop a new Intellectual Property policy. This was with the intention of tailoring a specific policy for TSU.

Dr. Williams added that the new Intellectual Property policy was developed by reviewing IP policies at other well-regarded research universities, inviting and receiving input from several campus constituents, and obtaining legal sufficiency review by staff in the Office of the General Counsel. The policy is outlined on pages #145 through #154 of the Board Meeting materials for the June 17, 2021, meeting.

Trustee Martin then moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the TSU Intellectual Property policy, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. Trustee Sekmen seconded and the motion carried unanimously by the roll call vote.

IX. REPORT ON SACSCOC ACCREDITATION REVIEW MATTERS

Trustee Martin introduced the next item on the agenda as the report on SACSCOC accreditation review matters. Trustee Martin asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item, as contained in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021, Board meeting. This is an informational discussion item only so no vote will be required.

President Glover called on the Executive Director for SACSCOC Accreditation, Dr. Charlise Anderson give information relating to this agenda item. Dr. Anderson stated that she was happy for the opportunity to share the SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation process with the committee. She stated that in July 2020 and under the leadership of Provost Harris, her team began a self-study to address the university's reaffirmation of accreditation. She stated that 83 programs were under review: 1 Associates, 39 Bachelors, 24 Masters, 7 Doctorates, 1 Ed. Specialist and 11 Graduate Certificates. Dr. Anderson stated that she and her term were able to successfully complete the task of preparing for the SACSCOC Visiting Committee due to the fact that everyone on campus came together and worked together. She shared that a total of 19 interviews were held over a two-day period. In the end the final reaffirmation of accreditation report showed that we were compliant in 72 of the 74 standards and that this was huge! The two remaining standards to be addressed referred to Institutional Audit.

President Glover then called on Provost Harris to discuss the next steps in the process. He outlined all the accomplishments and thanked President Glover for her leadership in helping us all achieve so much in a short time. Provost Harris stated that he and others were working with the auditors on a daily basis and making considerable progress He reminded the committee that the SACSCOC Board of Trustees Reaffirmation decision will be voted on December 4th -7th and that he believed that TSU will be reaffirmed for another 10 years.

President Glover assured the committee that the audit report will be completed and submitted timely and that we will meet all the requirements. Trustee Cole clarified that 2019 and 2020 are the reports that will be completed and submitted. She also suggested that any additional information that can be beneficial to TSU, should be submitted along with the reports.

Trustee Martin then thanked President Glover and Provost Harris for the report.

X. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Trustee Martin announced the next agenda item as the Academic Affairs Report. Information regarding this Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee agenda item is included in your board materials dated June 17, 2021. Trustee Martin asked President Glover and her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. This is an informational discussion item only so no vote will be required.

President Glover asked Provost Harris to comment on this agenda item. Provost Harris detailed the outline found on pages #159 through #162 in the June 17, 2021, Board meeting materials. He gave highlights of Spring 2021 and plans for Fall 2021. He shared some of the academic program planning as it related to the proposed Ph.D. in Agriculture, BS in Africana/Black Studies, Ph.D. in Higher Education, Online MBA and the redesigned BS in interdisciplinary Studies.

Provost Harris then went on the briefly mention the implementation of the strategic plan "The Pathway to Excellence 2025", the quality enhancement plan "CADENCE" and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.

Trustee McKenzie asked if we had any curriculum to expose our students to blockchain. Provost Harris promised to get back to him. Trustee Van Pinnock wanted to know if the Chair is occupied for Banking. President Glover promised to work with the Dean in moving that seating process up. Trustee Cole was excited to learn about this, since she reminded the committee that it was both her and Ms. Delois Lewis who worked to get that Chair funded through the TN Bankers Association.

Several other comments were made by Trustee Pinnock and Student Trustee Tiara Thomas regarding programs and enhanced resources. Trustee Martin then thanked President Glover, Provost Harris and all others for the report. She also thanked everyone for their comments.

XI. STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

Trustee Martin introduced the next item on the agenda as a Student Affairs report. Trustee Martin asked President Glover or her designee to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. Information pertaining to this agenda item is included in the June 17, 2021, Board materials.

President Glover asked Dean Frank Stevenson to provide pertinent information related to this agenda item. Since this was an informational discussion item, no vote was required. Dean Stevenson shared updates which are outlined on pages #164 and #166 in the Board materials for the June 17, 2021 Board meeting. Dean Stevenson shared with the committee that the Tennessee State University ended last academic year with SEC week. This produced new student leaders who are: SGA President, Derek Sanders (Cincinnati, OH); SGA Vice President, Jabari Jefferson (Memphis, TN); Ms. TSU, Mallory Moore (Huntsville, AL); and Mr. TSU, Mark Davis (Cincinnati, OH).

Dean Stevenson took time to thank all the 'front line' workers on his team, namely the housing staff and Residence Life; the TSU Police Department; the IQ Team and all the student leaders. He stated that even during a pandemic, these groups kept working the frontline to ensure student safety and to provide the necessary student services. He wanted all to salute this group and he thanked them for doing an amazing job. Special mention was made to the nurse who was responsible for testing the students in the IQ Zone each day, even after sustaining a fall with injuries, she returned immediately to the job at hand with testing the students.

Dean Stevenson shared with the committee the impact of one of the Men's Initiatives where the 'murky middle students' (GPA 2.2-2.8) are the ones being supported. He said that TSU had approximately 110 students falling into this category. They tend to be left out of the top and bottom academic group. Special mentoring is done for these students as they are assigned one to one mentor and matched with careers and relevant information to assist with matriculation. These students also get dedicated staff members who

work with them on a daily basis to ensure their success. They get academic coaching using the 'gap program.' Dean Stevenson was very proud of this model and stated that it could be reviewed as a national model for these students' success. After this cohort, the outcomes will be measured and the data will be released.

Dean Stevenson closed off his report by stating that his Division was getting ready for the return of campus life. Everyone was anticipating an exciting year and were all happy to move on from the COVID year. He mentioned that Trustee Thomas was instrumental in organizing a TSU Time Capsule to be buried with memorabilia from the unprecedented pandemic year. Dr. Cole took the opportunity to thank Dean Stevenson and the Student Affairs staff for the fantastic job they did in keeping the students engaged during the pandemic year. Trustee Thomas made a point that the students felt very comfortable and safe during the semester. She commented that it was a vast improvement from the semester before, and when compared to other institutions, TSU was doing a much better job with the students than many others. She publicly thanked President Glover and the administration.

Trustee Martin added to the compliments that President Glover and her administration did an amazing job in keeping everyone safe and on track during the past pandemic year. Trustee Martin proceeded to thank Trustee Ali Sekmen for his service on the Board of Trustees from its inception. She stated that everyone has grown together in their roles and that he has given great insight to the Board from a faculty perspective and that he would be missed. As she again thanked President Glover and Dean Stevenson for the report, she went ahead and welcomed the new faculty trustee, Dr. William Johnson.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Martin asked if there was any additional business. Seeing none, she moved to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson which carried unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of Academic Program Modification –

Admissions Standards – Ph.D. in Biology

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

Committee, Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Life and Physical Sciences, requests approval to proceed with a revised admission standards for the Ph.D. in Biology.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes revised admission standards, the department chair initiates the process. The Dean, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the revision of admissions standards.

Ph.D. in Biology

- One Modification to the Admission Criteria is Proposed:
 - a. **Removal of GRE requirement** to be competitive with neighboring Ph.D. in Biology Programs.

Background

In order to better situate TSU's graduate programs in a highly competitive market, the proposed changes provide applicants with a focused admissions approach which highlights the academic records and experience of the applicant rather than the test score. These approaches have proven effective in other TSU graduate programs and other institutions across the nation. These proposed changes should have a direct impact on recruitment, retention, and completion of graduate degree programs.

MOTION: To approve an academic program modification by revising the admission standards for the Ph.D. in Biology, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of Academic Program Modification –

Admissions Standards - MS Professional School

Counseling

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

Committee, Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Education (Psychology Department), requests approval to proceed with a revised admission standard for the MS Professional School Counseling. The materials related to this agenda item are contained in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes revised admission standards, the department chair initiates the process. The Dean, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the revision of admissions standards.

MS in Professional School Counseling:

• One Modification to the Admission Criteria is Proposed:

a. Remove the GRE and MAT as requirements for admission, based on lack of research evidence that these are significant predictors of completion of the degree.

Background

In order to better situate TSU's graduate programs in a highly competitive market, the proposed changes provide applicants with a focused admissions approach which highlights the academic records and experience of the applicant rather than the test score. These approaches

have proven effective in other TSU graduate programs and other institutions across the nation. These proposed changes should have a direct impact on recruitment, retention, and completion of graduate degree programs.

MOTION: To approve an academic program modification by changing the admission standards for the Master of Science in Professional School Counseling, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.

Academic Program
Modification
—Method of Instructional
Delivery via Online —
Master in Business
Administration

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of Academic Program Modification – Method of

Instructional Delivery via Online – Master in Business

Administration

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

Committee, Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Business, requests approval to proceed with online instruction delivery of the Master in Business Administration degree. The materials related to this agenda item are contained in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes new and modified academic programs, academic departments may seek the establishment of a new or modified academic program initiating an internal review process. The department initiates the review process by developing and proposing the new/revised academic program for review at the departmental committee, college, and University levels. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the offering of a new or modified academic program. Upon approval by the Board, THEC must provide final approval.

Background

The Department of Business Administration is proposing to make available the following existing graduate program in a distance education (online) format: Master of Business Administration. The proposed online delivery of the degree programs is designed to offer students the experience of advanced study in their field of business administration during a time and place that is convenient for the student. The proposed online delivery is in addition to the hybrid and on-ground delivery modes which will be retained. The program will be cohort based and follow the accelerated progression to degree attainment in twelve (12) months.

MOTION: To approve an academic program modification by changing the method of instructional delivery for the Master in Business Administration to online delivery, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.

Academic
Program Modification

–Method of Instructional
Delivery via Online –
Master of Science
in Agricultural Science

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of Academic Program Modification – Method of

Instructional Delivery via Online – Master of Science in

Agricultural Science

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

Committee, Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Agriculture, requests approval to proceed with online instructional delivery of the Master of Science in Agricultural Science degree. The materials related to this agenda item are contained in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes new and modified academic programs, academic departments may seek the establishment of a new or modified academic program initiating an internal review process. The department initiates the review process by developing and proposing the new/modified academic program for review at the departmental committee, college, and University levels. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the offering of a new or modified academic program. Upon approval by the Board, THEC must provide final approval.

Background

This online delivery of the MS in Agricultural Sciences degree program is in addition to the traditional delivery of the same degree program. The current traditional mode of delivery of this degree program will be retained. The online delivery is designed to reach students who otherwise would not be able to be on campus to take courses and increase enrollment.

MOTION: To approve an academic program modification by changing the method of instructional delivery for the Master of Science in Agricultural Science to online delivery, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of New Program – Graduate Certificate in Higher

Education Administration Leadership

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Education, requests approval of a new graduate program – a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Administration Leadership. The materials related to this agenda item are contained in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes new academic programs, academic departments may seek the establishment of a new academic program initiating an internal review process. The department initiates the review process by developing and proposing the new/revised academic program for review at the departmental committee, college, and University levels. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the offering of a new academic program. Upon approval by the Board, THEC must provide final approval.

Background

The certificate in Higher Education Administration & Leadership (HEAL) is designed for faculty and staff already working at a college or university, or professionals working in the field of higher education for government or the private sector. Courses in this certificate will advance student knowledge of key managerial and organizational areas. The program is well-suited for those seeking to advance their career, e.g., from faculty to department chair; from department chair to dean; from a director-level position to an assistant/associate dean position; and so forth.

The HEAL certificate addresses a niche market of higher education professionals who may have been trained in a discipline or field other than higher education but are working as a higher education administrator or are seeking a position in administration. The required courses are also required for the Ed.D. in Higher Education, so the certificate could also serve as an embedded credential and a stepping-stone to the Ed.D. in higher education.

MOTION: To approve a new program to offer a graduate certificate in Higher Education Administration Leadership, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of a New Program – Graduate Certificate in Public

Health

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The University, with the support of the College of Public Administration, requests approval of a new graduate program – a Graduate Certificate in Public Health. The materials related to this agenda item are contained in the September 16, 2021, Board materials.

Pursuant to TSU's Academic Programs, Units and Modifications process, which includes new academic programs, academic departments may seek the establishment of a new academic program initiating an internal review process. The department initiates the review process by developing and proposing the new/revised academic program for review at the departmental committee, college, and University levels. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the submissions.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws, and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the offering of a new academic program. Upon approval by the Board, THEC must provide final approval.

Background

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health is designed to provide high-quality, graduate courses in public health that can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. The program provides students with the foundational knowledge and skills in public health that can enhance their career options and goals. The certificate integrates the public health principles that allow the candidate to transition into other educational paths and objectives including the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree.

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health will provide academic coursework in the area of Public Health and also serve as an interim credential toward the completion of the MPH. The program is a 4-course, 12-credit certificate which will be comprised of existing courses currently as part of the MPH program.

MOTION: To approve a new program to offer a graduate certificate in Public Health, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Approval of Additional AY 2020-21 Tenure

Recommendations

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

Background Information: Per university policy, the President recommends the granting of tenure to eligible faculty members in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TSU policy on tenure and promotion.

Tenure

Pursuant to the TSU tenure policy, tenure eligible faculty members must apply for tenure in their sixth year. A faculty member is required to submit a portfolio of materials in support of their tenure application. The criteria TSU uses to evaluate applicants include quality instruction, research and creative activities, public service and professional activities, and potential for professional growth.

The University reviews the tenure candidate's portfolio at several levels, including at the departmental, college, and University levels. The Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President must ultimately approve the applications. The comprehensive tenure review and approval process, as well as the list of those recommended for tenure, are included in your board materials.

As part of the tenure review process during this period, President Glover is recommending two (2) additional tenure applicants for tenure, as these two candidates were inadvertently left off the list of tenure applicants approved by the Board of Trustees at its June 17, 2021.

Pursuant to the FOCUS Act, the Board's Bylaws and the Board's Delegation of Authority to the President Policy, the Board must approve the awarding of tenure based on recommendations from the President.

See Attachment.

MOTION: To approve the list of recommended candidates for tenure, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's September 16, 2021, meeting.

Subject: Tenure recommendations

Background Information: Per university policy, the President recommends the granting of tenure to eligible faculty members. The recommendations are based upon the requirements of TSU policy on tenure and promotion.

Proposed Implementation Date: September 16, 2021

Item Details: A total of <u>2</u> additional faculty members are recommended for tenure from the academic year 2020-2021 tenure review process. The list of faculty members recommended is provided below.

	Name	Department/Division	Current Academic Rank
1	Klomegah, Roger	Sociology	Associate Professor
2	Li, Lin	Civil & Architectural Engineering	Professor

Please note that this action is an update and correction from the June 17, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Report on SACSCOC Ten Year Accreditation Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The President and/or designee will provide a report on the SACSCOC Ten Year Accreditation Review.

SACSCOC Report

University's Reaffirmation of Accreditation

The SACSCOC On-Site Reaffirmation Committee conducted its virtual on-site visit March 16-18, 2021. The University received the Report of the Reaffirmation Committee on April 30, 2021 and all standards were found to be compliance with the following two (2) exceptions:

Standard 13.2 *Financial Documents*: Recommendation 1: The On-Site Reaffirmation Committee recommends that the institution provide an institutional audit (or Standard Review Report for those institutions audited as part of a system-wide or statewide audit) for FY2019 and FY2020.

Standard 13.4 *Control of Finances:* Recommendation 2: The On-Site Reaffirmation Committee recommends that the institution document that it exercises appropriate control over all its financial resources.

The University is currently preparing its Response Report to the Visiting Committee to address the two recommendations in the Report of the Reaffirmation Committee due to SACSCOC September 30, 2021 (originally August 15, 2021 - extension granted by SACSCOC) Next Steps and Timeline

- December 2021 The Report of the Reaffirmation Committee and the University's Response to any formal recommendation contained in the Committee's Report will be reviewed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees.
- o December 4-7, 2021 SACSCOC Board of Trustees Reaffirmation Decision.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Academic Affairs Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The President and/or designee will provide a report on Academic Affairs.

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES INFORMATION ITEM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

September 16, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

Academic Affairs continues to make operational changes to respond to the needs of students, faculty, staff, and the University community. Two key changes are the improvements to UNIV 1000 (Freshman introductory course) and the transfer advising hold system. These changes are critical to students.

- ➤ UNIV 1000 UNIV 1000 continues to enhance its curriculum, content, and partners in order to best facilitate this campus transition and introduction course. The Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement coordinates the UNIV 1000 course and has added features including videos on the history of TSU and HBCUs, career development programs, advising, civic engagement, mindfulness, and financial aid. These enhancements better acclimate students to TSU, its history, and the skills needed to succeed as a student.
- ➤ Transfer Advising Holds previously students who were transferring with more than 30 credits had to be advised by a departmental advisor and then that advisor had to work with the Academic Success Center to remove the hold often resulting in delayed registration and enrollment. Academic Affairs worked with the Records Office and Office of Technology Service to streamline the hold removal process by creating a separate hold for transfer students (versus freshman). This hold the A7 hold can be removed by departmental advisors; thus, reducing the time between advising and registration. The advising and registration process can be conducted simultaneously in real-time. This reduces frustration for all stakeholders and ensures registration.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM PLANNING

The Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs has continued to work toward innovative program growth by designing and implementing new degrees that place TSU at the center of the marketplace and position our Colleges as centers for excellence. The following list provides an update on the strategic programs we are exploring and their current status in the design, review, and approval pipeline.

- ➤ *Ph.D. in Agriculture* this degree program had its external THEC review in August 2021. If approved, the degree program will begin in Spring 2022.
- ➤ **Bachelor's in Africana/Black Studies** the College of Liberal Arts developed a program proposal and is now in the program approval process (TSU, THEC, SACSCOC).
- ➤ *Ph.D. in Higher Education* the College of Education is currently working with our Office to obtain approval from THEC and SACSCOC for this program. The plan is to begin this program in Fall 2022.
- ➤ Online MBA the College of Business has designed an online version of their accelerated MBA program. The program is on the September 2021 Board agenda for review and approval. Following approval by all levels, including SACSCOC, the program intends to begin in Fall 2022.

While those listed above highlight our progress, other degree programs are currently being discussed, researched, and identified. This includes a Bachelor's in Nonprofit Leadership,

Doctor of Public Administration, and Master's of Music. Finally, in addition to the work on specific degree programs, the Office of the Provost has also been charged with exploring the feasibility of establishing professional colleges of law and pharmacy.

STRATEGIC PLAN - "The Pathway to Excellence 2025"

The Tennessee State University Strategic Plan, *Pathways to Excellence 2025*, (Plan) was crafted with five goals, and twenty-four (24) objectives. Initial meetings with faculty and staff produced ninety- three (93) strategies. Follow-up discussions with faculty and staff focused on refinement and resulted in a reduction in the number of the strategies. Strategies were also deleted from the implementation process due to repetition/duplication or because the responsible department no longer existed. This reduction produced fifty-five (55) strategies.

The various responsible departments collected data on eighteen strategies for the 2020-2021 year: eleven strategies met the established performance target and seven did not meet their targets.

The Annual Strategic Plan Evaluation Report was submitted and approved by Provost and President. The evaluation of Year One's implementation was guided by an evaluation which proposed further tapering of the plan. The Plan was evaluated using the SMART model (Specific - simple, sensible, significant; Measurable - meaningful, motivating; Achievable - agreed, attainable; Relevant - reasonable, realistic and resourced, results-based; Time bound - time-based, time limited, time/cost limited, timely, time sensitive) with an eye toward focusing the plan on achievable directions. The reduction in the number of objectives and strategies enables the ability to concentrate the focus of the Plan toward achievable targets. Adoption of modifications to the Plan for year two have been approved and will reduce the objectives from 24 to 19 and the strategies from 55 to 37.

The Year Two implementation will focus on guiding departments in the assessment of and data collection for established strategies.

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

The TSU Quality Enhancement Plan – CADENCE – was successfully affirmed at the SACSCOC site visit in March 2021. CADENCE represents years of work from units across campus and will provide TSU students with a pathway to a holistic, comprehensive academic experience that validates the in and out of classroom learning students receive at TSU. Overall, CADENCE (Connect \rightarrow Assess \rightarrow Develop \rightarrow Engage \rightarrow Navigate \rightarrow Create \rightarrow Excel) – seeks to promote student success through integrative advising, including improved utilization of academic and student support resources and the integration of educational and career planning.

CADENCE is centered on the following three initiatives:

- 1. Coordinated Care Network → CADENCE institutionalizes and expands the University's advising Coordinated Care Network by providing an ongoing leadership structure, professional development, and technical training and support.
- 2. Advising Resources \rightarrow CADENCE provides for the collection review, and publication of advising resources in a single online location. New resources include matriculation maps identifying engagement and career development opportunities and milestones.
- 3. Technology → CADENCE promotes and integrates the use of EAB Navigate for advising, Tiger Print for educational planning and engagement, and Handshake for career development.

The CADENCE steering committee has been formed with representatives from Academic Affairs, Academic Colleges, Student Services, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management and

Student Leaders. The committee had its first meeting on Tuesday, August 3. The CADENCE director has also formed student and faculty advisory committees to provide insight and feedback during the implementation of the QEP. The director is also in the process of hiring an administrative assistant, a graduate assistant, and a faculty coordinator to support the implementation of the QEP. Preliminary discussions are underway with several constituencies regarding the steps that need to be taken for integration of technological platforms that support the outcomes of the QEP.

Tennessee State University Board of Trustees



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Report on Research Funding and Programs

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The President and/or designee will provide a report on Research Funding and Programs.

Report on Research Funding and Programs

For FY21, Tennessee State University received a record \$70.7 million in grants and contracts from various funding agencies and sponsors. TSU's previous record was \$55.2M, received last fiscal year. Awards for the previous three years (FY19, 18, and 17) were \$47.9M, \$53.2M, and \$43.5M, respectively. This increase in grant awards received shows the commitment of our faculty and staff to scholarly achievement even during the pandemic. Further, it illustrates the growth and progression of TSU as a research institution (R2: Doctoral University – High research activity in the Carnegie Classifications for Institutions of Higher Education). In addition to our increased research awards, during FY21, TSU faculty and staff also submitted the highest number of proposals (221 proposals) to various funding agencies.

Grants were awarded from agencies including the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Energy, the Tennessee Department of Education, and various other agencies and corporations. Some of the awards are highlighted below:

- Dr. Karla Addesso (College of Agriculture), \$6,000,000 grant to lead a national effort in developing new tools to manage a woodboring beetle that attacks trees, from the US Department of Agriculture/NIFA
- Dr. Deo Chimba (College of Engineering), \$469,997, grant to study Transportation Resilient Under Catastrophic Events (TRUCE), from the US Department of Homeland Security
- Dr. Lin Li (College of Engineering), \$1,000,000, to provide scholarships to support undergraduate student success and broaden participation in engineering and computer science, from the National Science Foundation.
- Dr. Robbie Melton (Graduate School), \$788,577, to provide Strategic Planning to Implement Open Educational Resources and Practices in HBCUs, from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Dr. UrLeaka Newsome (College of Education), \$100,000, for a "Grow Your Own Partnerships" award, from the Tennessee Department of Education
- Dr. David Padgett (College of Liberal Arts), \$321,000, to support the Environmental Justice Technology and Training program, from the Department of Energy
- Dr. John Ricketts (College of Agriculture), \$1,000,000, for Rapid Rollout of 8 National Standard-based Rigorous and Remote AFNR Courses for Underserved College-bound Students, from the US Department of Agriculture
- Dr. Sarika Saraswati (College of Life and Physical Sciences), \$156,200, for "Elucidating Fibroblast Heterogeneity as a Pathway to Target Organ Fibrosis," from the US Department of Health and Human Services
- Dr. Kimberly Smith (Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences), \$14M award for the Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance (TECTA), from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Dr. Tina Smith (College of Health Sciences), \$477,274, to provide for tuition and course work for individuals seeking to obtain master's degree in Speech Language Pathology, from the Tennessee Board of Regents
- Dr. Andrea Tyler (Title III Office), \$240,428, to support the SOARS Scholars program, from the US Department of Education

Activities in the Division of Research and Sponsored Program (RSP) for the 2021-2022 academic year include facilitating the faculty development seminar series to develop faculty and staff in terms of scholarly activities (publications, grantsmanship, and transfer of technology). Seminars include:

- Workshops on topics such as developing a research agenda/roadmap, preparing research proposals (including how to develop proposal budgets), export control, technology transfer, as well as seminars hosted by funding agencies/program officers.
- The Jumpstart Program which introduces new investigators to the grant award process at TSU in a one-on-one setting. This training covers steps to set up the grant account, University policies pertaining to the implementation of the grant, project procurement/travel, personnel pay/stipends, scholarships, sub-awards/contracts, budget revisions, no-cost extensions, and information about project reports, etc.

Other faculty development activities include a writing retreat for TSU faculty which provides not only dedicated time for scholarly writing, but peer networking opportunities, and valuable feedback on writing projects. Initiatives to promote innovation and technology transfer through the expansion of the Office of Technology Transfer as well as by providing seminars/workshops that will educate faculty and staff in these areas (especially regarding submission of invention disclosures). Further, the services of the TSU Small Business Development Center at TSU will be leveraged for research discovery commercialization.

In addition, we are deploying a new proposal and grants administration software that will help to streamline some of the processes for faculty and staff from the proposal development stage to the post-award stage. This software will help with the efficiency and tracking of processes across multiple offices on campus. Lastly, RSP is increasing the dissemination and visibility of faculty scholarly achievements by introducing new publications—fall and spring newsletters (in addition to our annual report publication).

Tennessee State University Board of Trustees



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Report on Student Housing

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The President and/or designee will provide a report on student housing.

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT - STUDENT HOUSING

For the fall 2020-2021 academic year, we had an increase in the number of housing applications received. On August 17th, 2021, we closed our application process once we reached the limit of our overflow housing capacity leaving an additional fifty students who were unable to apply to receive housing.

Our housing capacity is 2960 beds on campus, and we had to accommodate an additional 479 students in off campus overflow spaces. The Best Western Hotel was able to lease us 259 beds, House of God Church was able to lease us an additional 160 beds, and the Ramada Inn was able to accommodate and additional 60 beds for 10 days until we were able to bring them back to campus in spaces where students did not show up.

The housing numbers indicate the trend we have been experiencing over the past 5 years where we have accommodated in-excess of our regular capacity numbers. As illustrated in Table 1.1 from 2017 to 2019, we housed students over our capacity limit averaging 105% occupancy. In 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we housed 1905 students which was 65% of our total occupancy. In fall 2021 we housed over 3306 students which is 112% occupancy rate. This significant increase is a result of an increased freshman class and the rise in Nashville housing market where it is difficult for students afford off campus housing.

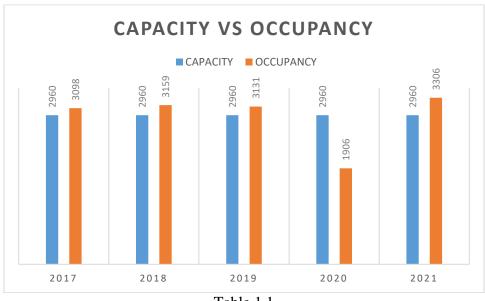


Table 1.1

Next year, we will be in a better position to accommodate the increased requests for on-campus housing with our new state of the art Residence Hall which is expected to open by the beginning of 2022 fall semester. The new residence hall has a capacity of 700 beds and will be the new home for most of the 2022- 2023 freshman class and some upperclassman. The new hall will have a very diverse population of students and was designed where students in different living learning communities such as the Dr. Levi Watkins Jr. program can be assigned together in a pod.

The additional facility will also increase the housing capacity by 24% from 2960 to 3660 beds. This is very exciting for the University because it is the first major step towards the housing master plan to expand our needs over the next five years and beyond, including establishing new

residence buildings and eventually replacing the old halls. The goals for this department will be to add graduate housing, partnerships with community colleges to provide housing for their students, family housing and staff and faculty housing. The addition of new buildings will allow us to introduce year-round housing to students who are considered homeless and to several athletic teams that participate in inter-collegiate sports during holiday breaks.

A survey conducted by the Director of Graduate School shows that there are over 200 to 300 students interested in on campus housing. In January 2022, we hope to add an additional 30 beds where we will be leasing over a period of five years with an option to expand the newly renovated Jefferson Flats which is a quarter mile away from our main campus.

In addition, there are current discussions with different stakeholders around different options to building new buildings and leasing options. In all, Department of Residence Life and Housing will continue to play an intricate part with the achievement of these goals to increase enrollment and retention of the University.

The Department of Residence Life and Housing's goal is to provide a residential living and learning experience that supports all students. There are four main areas that the department focus on which are:

- Promoting a safe and secure environment.
- Creating an environment where students can learn and develop.
- Promoting individual growth and sense of belonging in a college community.
- Provide a comfortable Living and Learning Environment

Other Housing Matters

Over the past year, despite the challenges faced during the pandemic, the department has made significant improvements and accomplished many tasks. Those accomplishments have improved the on-campus living experience for students. Our department was able to introduce self-selection through our Residential Management System Program RMS Mercury, allowing most returning students to select their rooms for the for the first time in Fall 2020. This update was very successful, and students welcomed the opportunity to select their residence hall or apartment and room. Another update to our RMS Mercury software allowed students to select their move-in date and time to create a smoother transition during move-in week.

Our department took several measures to ensure the students that their health and safety was our priority. This started with move-in week which was extended over several days to welcome our students back with a seamless and touchless move-in experience. The changes to the move-in process reduced the traffic flow creating less congestion, gave students adequate time to move into their room and allowed for the CDC guidelines to be followed. In addition, we extend our cleaning services to 11:00pm in all residence facilities to ensure that our community bathrooms, lobbies and all high touch point areas were frequently wiped and sanitized.

Tennessee State University Board of Trustees



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 16, 2021

ITEM: Student Affairs Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

PRESENTED BY: Chair of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee,

Trustee Pamela Martin

The President and/or her designee will provide a report on Student Affairs.

Division of Student Affairs Board Report

We have updated our COVID-19 health and safety protocols for students to ensure that TSU remains aligned with CDC, state and local COVID-19 guidance. Our updated protocols also take into consideration our current enrollment, campus housing environment, and comments conveyed by students, faculty and others to the administration regarding health and safety issues. We will continue to monitor the information that becomes available and make further adjustments as needed.

Administrative Guidance for COVID-19 Protocols for Students:

- 1. If a student experiences COVID-19 symptoms (fever, headache, sore throat, congestion), or simply wants to get tested, students shall go to the University Health Center (UHC) to get a COVID-19 test.
- 2. If a student receives a positive test at the UHC, the UHC shall notify the Isolation/Quarantine (IQ) Coordinator about the positive test results.
- 3. A student who takes a COVID-19 test at an off-campus testing center, and receives a positive test result, shall immediately notify the UHC about the positive test result.
- 4. With respect to any student who receives a positive test result, the IQ Coordinator shall notify the designated contact tracers, the student's roommate (s), other identified potentially exposed students, and the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, about the positive test result.
- 5. Upon being notified by the IQ Coordinator that a student has tested positive, the Division of Student Affairs shall notify, via email, the faculty members currently teaching the student's courses, copying the Division of Academic Affairs on the notification.
- 6. Faculty members shall work with students assigned to IQ and quarantine on a plan to continue their course work.
- 7. The University will take appropriate measures to ensure that students assigned to the IQ zone and quarantine will remain a part of their course related activities.
- 8. Students who have questions, comments or concerns regarding these protocols may contact the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean Frank Stevenson, or Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. William Hytche.

Campus COVID Analytics:

Students who received their vaccination on campus: 210

Vaccinated students living off campus: **507** Vaccinated students living on campus: **1,494**

Total number of students that have shown proof of vaccination: 2,001

Total number of students that have tested positive: 93