

**Admissions and Credits Committee
March 19, 2024**

Members Present

Victoria Ayres
Jane Baker
Ed Beason
Kelsey Hewitt
Amy Hill
Barbara Jared
Damian Kubiak
Jennifer Murphy for Carol McGee
Robert Owens
Dennis Tennant
Tom Timmerman
Lenly Weathers
Kayla Wilson
Rena Wood

Members Absent

Harry Ingle
Frankie Wolford
Kumar Yelmarthi

Guests

Karen Lykins
Frank Tittle
Jerri Wunningham

Dr. Beason called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Jared made the motion to approve the agenda as presented to the committee and Dr. Tennant second the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Approval of January 30 Minutes

Dr. Hill made the motion to approve the minutes as presented to the committee and Ms. Wilson second the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Holistic Review Update

Dr. Beason recognized Dr. Tittle to share information on the holistic review of student applicants. Between fall and spring semesters, Dr. Tittle and two staff members within the Admissions Office were reviewing applicants who did not meet the admission requirements to make a timely decision. The Holistic Review Committee is scheduled to meet monthly within the semester to review the previous month's applicants. Approximately 300 applicants are receiving notifications via e-mail requesting that a letter be sent to the Admission Office providing information on why the student did not perform well during his/her previous academic career. Data and Systems staff along with Admissions staff are working on an automated process to notify these applicants on a regular basis of their missing item for them to be reviewed. The committee is scheduled to meet next week.

Dr. Beason shared with the members that there are times when additional information is received on the holistic review applicants that will allow for a decision to be made by the admissions' staff like a higher-grade point average or higher ACT scores. Dr. Beason reminded Dr. Tittle of the student that he had shared with the committee members who had been admitted to the university. The student performed well enough at the university to be placed on dean's list for three semesters in a row.

Direct Admission to the School of Nursing

Dr. Beason recognized Dr. Jared to present her agenda item on the change of admission into the nursing program. Dr. Jared shared that currently applicants are admitted into the interdisciplinary studies program with a student attribute for nursing. The School of Nursing requires a separate application. The faculty have approved to directly admit freshman into the nursing program effective fall 2024. There were several things driving this initiative. Last year, the School of Nursing yielded only 23% of the applicants who were admitted. Other institutions have already made this change to admit applicants directly into their nursing program. The applicants for the program are very different from those that applied prior to COVID. The goal is to retain those students who have high test scores and high GPA and they will not be required to reapply to the program as long as they maintain their college GPA at the University. Parameters are not being set because the program has a set capacity that varies year to year. The goal is to admit between 150 to 160 students realizing that some students will enter the university with transfer credit that may place them in upper division a semester early. Discussion was held by the committee.

Chair Election 2024-2025

Dr. Beason recognized Dr. Rob Owens to present the slate for the chair election. Dr. Owens shared with the members that he and Dr. Tennant present Dr. Beason as the sole nomination for the 2024-2025 chair. Dr. Jared made the motion that nominations cease. Dr. Beason was elected by acclamation.

Such Other Items

Dr. Owens questioned whether he may continue to serve on the Holistic Review Committee if his membership was ending at the end of this academic year. Discussion was held. Dr. Owens and Dr. Tennant would like to be reappointed to the committee. Dr. Owens recognized how well the holistic

review committee was running with that Dr. Beason's and Dr. Tittle's input. Dr. Owens made the motion to adjourn and Dr. Jared second the motion. Meeting adjourned.