

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
April 10, 2024

The Academic Council met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 via Teams videoconferencing technology, with Professor Kimberly Winkle, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne	Dr. Jennifer Mabry
Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi	Dr. Matt Langford
Dr. Jeff Roberts	Ms. Megan Atkinson
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Dr. Troy Smith
Dr. Lisa Zagumny	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Darron Smith	Ms. April Crockett
Dr. Dennis Fennewald	Dr. Brenda Wilson
Dr. Mark Creter	Dr. Krystal Kennedy
Dr. Brian O'Connor	Dr. Lenly Weathers
Dr. Sean Alley	Ms. Amber Spears
Dr. Hyewon Park	Ms. Claire Myers
Dr. Melissa Comer	
Dr. Stephen Canfield	
Dr. Syed Rafay Hasan	
Dr. Scott Christen	
Dr. Ann Manginelli	

Others present were:

Dr. Lori Bruce
Dr. Bedelia Russell
Dr. Julie Baker
Dr. Sharon Huo
Dr. Chris Wilson
Mr. Jason Luna
Dr. James Baier
Dr. Dennis Tennant
Dr. Jeremy Wendt

The following members of the council were absent:

Dr. Jennifer Shank
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley
Dr. Christy Killman
Dr. Christopher Reames
Dr. Mustafa Rajabali
Ms. Lindsey Taylor
Mr. Eli Anderson
Ms. Reece Edwards

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes from the March 6, 2024 Meeting

Annual Committee Reports

College of Engineering Revision to admission requirements for MS Engineering Management Program

School of Agriculture Create a new MS degree program-Agriscience

College of Arts & Sciences Department of English Curriculum Changes

Study Abroad Name Change (Informational Only)

College of Engineering General & Basic Engineering New Minor

College of Business Economics, Finance & Marketing New Minor

College of Engineering Manufacturing & Engineering Technology New Concentration

College of Arts & Sciences Geology New Concentration

College of Education Exercise Science New Concentration

College of Engineering Mechanical Engineering Name Change

College of Education Curriculum & Instruction Name Changes

School of Professional Studies Concentrations in Public Safety

School of Professional Studies Concentrations in Desktop Publishing

Such other Matters (New Chairperson)

Adjournment

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from the March 6, 2024 Meeting

Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Annual Committee Reports

All reports were approved and seconded. Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Engineering Revision to admission requirements for MS Engineering Management Program

Dr. Chris Wilson stated the College of Engineering no longer has a list of admission-criteria for its M.S. programs. Each M.S. program needs its own admission's criteria. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Agriculture Create a new MS degree program-Agriscience

Dr. James Baier stated we began this process in response to increasing inquiries for a degree program tailored to young professionals, those currently in the workforce, and undergraduate students interested in continuing their education in agriculture. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Arts & Sciences Department of English Curriculum Changes

Dr. Linda Null stated external evaluators in recent past reports and students in official and anecdotal feedback to the department have suggested that the English curriculum should represent professional knowledge from each of our main areas of concentration in the core requirements. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Study Abroad Name Change (Informational Only)

Dr. Julie Baker stated changing the name of the unit will provide greater understanding and clearer identity for prospective and current students, and it aligns with the Tech Tomorrow Engagement for Impact Global Experience initiative.

College of Engineering General & Basic Engineering New Minor

Dr. Chris Wilson stated the minor is designed to introduce non-engineers to the engineering profession. Both engineering design and analysis are considered with opportunities in both the classroom and the laboratory. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Business Economics, Finance & Marketing New Minor

Dr. Sean Alley stated that this new minor will allow students from across the university the opportunity to develop specialized expertise in a high-growth field. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Engineering Manufacturing & Engineering Technology New Concentration

Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi stated the Department of Engineering Technology is proposing a new concentration in Smart Manufacturing to provide current and prospective students with opportunity to focus their coursework on topics specific to the manufacturing industry while maintaining a base knowledge in Engineering Technology. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Arts & Sciences Geology New Concentration

Dr. Jeanette Luna stated the addition of a planetary geology concentration will allow students to complete classic geology coursework as well as coursework focused on remote sensing and orbital observation. . After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Education Exercise Science New Concentration

Dr. Lisa Zagumny stated the exercise science concentration will provide students with multiple opportunities to study in areas within exercise science that are most interesting to them while providing a rigorous and well-rounded education. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Engineering Mechanical Engineering Name Change

Dr. Stephen Canfield stated the name change to Mechatronics and Robotics will better reflect the broader nature of our program and differentiate the TTU program from the others. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

College of Education Curriculum & Instruction Name Changes

Dr. Jeremy Wendy stated these concentration name changes will simplify and accurately reflect our current Tennessee licensure pathways and align them with our other programs. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Professional Studies Concentrations in Public Safety

Dr. Dennis Tennant stated this will prepare students to take leadership roles in a variety of organizational settings, both emergency management and first responders. Tech undergraduate Professional Studies students have expressed interest in coursework in this area for several years thus taking Public Safety classes as an emphasis area in COIS. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

School of Professional Studies Concentrations in Desktop Publishing

Dr. Dennis Tennant stated this will prepare students to take leadership roles in a variety of organizational settings, both for-profit and non-profit. Tech undergraduate professional studies students have expressed interest in coursework in this area for several years. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Such other Matters (New Chairperson)

Prof. Kim Winkle was nominated and elected as chairperson. After minimal discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Thomas Payne SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Adjournment

Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Sean Alley SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Amy McCoy, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:

All documents presented at the meeting