

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
September 11, 2024

The Academic Council met at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 via Teams videoconferencing technology, with Professor Kimberly Winkle, presiding.

The following members of the council were present:

Dr. Thomas Payne	Dr. Matt Langford
Dr. Kumar Yelamarthi	Ms. Megan Atkinson
Dr. Daren Snider	Ms. Amy Hill
Dr. Jennifer Shank	Dr. Linda Null
Dr. Mike Gotcher	Ms. Ka Grimes
Dr. Lisa Zagumny	Dr. Brenda Wilson
Dr. Darron Smith	Dr. Mustafa Rajabali
Dr. Lee Ann Shipley	Dr. Krystal Kennedy
Dr. Dennis Fennewald	Dr. Lenly Weathers
Dr. Mark Creter	Ms. Amber Spears
Dr. Brian O'Connor	Mr. Harrison Simpson
Dr. Hyewon Park	Ms. Cheyenne Bare
Dr. Melissa Comer	Ms. Kathryn Dye
Dr. Alfred Kalyanapu	Ms. Kashaina Nucum
Dr. Syed Rafay Hasan	
Dr. Kexin Xu	
Professor Joshua Field	
Dr. Ann Manginelli	
Dr. Jennifer Mabry	

Others present were:

Dr. Lori Bruce
Dr. Julie Baker
Dr. Sharon Huo
Karen Lykins
Dr. Melinda Anderson
Charmian Leong
Neal Hunt
Dr. Barbara Jared

The following members of the council were absent:

Dr. Yi Peng
Dr. Christy Killman
Dr. Scott Christen
Dr. Krystal Kennedy
Dr. Amber Spears

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes from the April 10, 2024 Meeting

Proposal by the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, School of Professional Studies to remove the GRE admission requirement from all MPS Concentrations (Healthcare, Corporate Communication, Media and Strategic Communication, Project Management for the Professional, Public Safety, Strategic Leadership, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Training and Development)

Proposal by the Whitson-Hester School of Nursing to remove the admission requirement of 3 letters of recommendation from all joint DNP programs (Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Nursing and Healthcare Leadership, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner-Primary Care, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner)

Approve the Child Life New Program Request

New policy adopted out-of-cycle, Policy 790 (Participation in malign foreign talent recruitment programs) Information Only Item

Such other Matters

Adjournment

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from the April 10, 2024 Meeting

Dr. Darron Smith MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal by the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, School of Professional Studies to remove the GRE admission requirement from all MPS Concentrations (Healthcare, Corporate Communication, Media and Strategic Communication, Project Management for the Professional, Public Safety, Strategic Leadership, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Training and Development)

Dr. Mike Gotcher stated that the changes to these Catalog Admission Requirements are needed to better align with peer universities thus allowing us to recruit additional students. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Darren Smith SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Proposal by the Whitson-Hester School of Nursing to remove the admission requirement of 3 letters of recommendation from all joint DNP programs (Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Nursing and Healthcare Leadership, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Nurse

Practitioner-Primary Care, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner)

Dr. Barbara Jared stated letters of recommendation can be very difficult to obtain which can delay a student application being reviewed. We are recommending that the 3 letters of recommendation be removed from the Joint DNP application process. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Approve the Child Life New Program Request

Dr. Melinda Anderson stated in response to a changing education environment for the preparation of Child Life Specialists, TN Tech seeks to be a leader in developing a new education pathway for students who wish to become a Certified Child Life Specialist. Currently, undergraduate students must find and be selected by external agencies to complete an internship at a pediatric hospital; the successful completion of an internship provides eligibility to sit for the certification exam. After little discussion, Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

New policy adopted out-of-cycle, Policy 790 (Participation in malign foreign talent recruitment programs) Information Only Item

Charmian Leong stated the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 instructs federal agencies to prohibit personnel on federally sponsored projects if they are participating in Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (MFTRP). No Vote required.

Such other Matters

There were no such other matters.

Adjournment

Dr. Lisa Zagumny MOVED approval and Dr. Mike Gotcher SECONDED. APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Amy McCoy, Recorder

Documents on file with the minutes:
All documents presented at the meeting