

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT LIFE, AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

December 5, 2017

The Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee met on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at Middle Tennessee State University. Chairwoman Pam Wright called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present with the following Committee members in attendance: J.B. Baker, Pete Delay, Joey Jacobs, Tony Johnston, Steve Smith, Pam Wright, Lindsey Weaver, Keith Huber and Chris Massaro. Also present were Trustees Andy Adams and Darrell Freeman; Sidney McPhee, President; Joe Bales, Vice President for University Advancement; Brenda Burkhart, Chief Audit Executive; Mark Byrnes, University Provost; Andrew Oppmann, Vice President for Marketing and Communications; Bruce Petryshak, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; Deb Sells, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Enrollment and Academic Services; Alan Thomas, Vice President for Business and Finance; and, Heidi Zimmerman, University Counsel and Board Secretary.

Chairwoman Wright began the meeting with approval of the minutes from the August 15, 2017 Committee Meeting. Trustee Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Johnston. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2017 Committee Meeting.

The next item was promulgation of the rule Classification of Students defining residency of students as required by T.C.A. § 49-8-104. The rule will be used to determine whether or not out-of-state tuition shall be charged to a student enrolling at MTSU. To be consistent with the proposed rule, revisions to the corresponding policy, 501 Classifying Students In-State and Out-of-State for Paying University Fees and Tuition and for Admission Purposes, were necessary. Trustee DeLay made the motion to approve the rule and revisions to the policy. Trustee Johnston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the Motion carried unanimously to approve Rules of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Chapter 0240-07-01, Classification of Students and revisions to Policy 501 Classifying Students In-State and Out-of-State for Paying University Fees and Tuition and for Admission Purposes.

The next action item was a revision to University Policy 205, Promotion of Tenured and Tenurable Faculty, to allow the Provost to approve exceptions to minimum rank qualifications and add faculty to the process of recommending these exceptions. Trustee Johnston moved to approve the revisions with Trustee Jacobs seconding the motion. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve the revisions to University Policy 205.

The next item for the committee was approval of expedited tenure for three faculty members currently serving as administrators. Dr. Byrnes told the committee that tenure is typically approved at the June meeting, but this request is for administrators hired out of cycle. Trustee Smith made the

motion to approve expedited tenure for Kimberly Douglass, David Schmidt, and Cheryl Torsney. Trustee Baker seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve expedited tenure for Kimberly Douglass, David Schmidt, and Cheryl Torsney.

Approval of a new academic program, B.B.A. in Risk Management and Insurance, was the next action item. Trustee Wright moved for approval of the program and Trustee Smith seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve elevation of the existing concentration in Insurance within the B.B.A. in Finance to a Free-Standing B.B.A. degree in Risk Management and Insurance to be effective Fall 2018.

Next, Dr. Byrnes notified the committee of academic actions since this committee last met. The list included department name changes effective July 1, 2018, and academic program changes including name changes, program terminations, new concentrations, new minors and one consolidation.

Dr. Byrnes also notified the committee of new academic programs under consideration. Pending the results of feasibility studies, the University may submit Letters of Notification to THEC.

At a previous meeting the Committee asked for information about requesting disclosure of previous criminal convictions as a part of the admissions process. Dr. Sells reviewed current data on correlations to campus safety, impact on application rates, and impact on low income and minority students. There was a discussion on risk management and liability, as well as on our national ranking for safety. (MTSU is the only Tennessee campus included in a national ranking of safest campuses.) It was agreed that there was no value in adding this inquiry to the admissions process.

Next, Dr. Sells provided the committee with the Fall 2017 census data.

Dr. Joey Gray, 2017-18 Faculty Senate President, presented an overview of the Senate's most recent activities, the unique role of the faculty, and two resolutions from the Senate.

Athletic Director Chris Massaro presented findings and recommendations from architects, Heery and Associates, for athletics facilities. The proposal was for a 5 stage project at an estimated cost of between \$80 – 100 million. The project would become part of the campus Master Plan and will be placed on an upcoming agenda of the Finance and Personnel Committee.

The last item of business was approval of a new Board of Trustees policy that applies to travel by the Board of Trustees in the performance of their official duties. Trustee Smith made the motion to approve the policy. Trustee DeLay seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve the policy, Board of Trustees Travel, with amended language to section D:

- D. Combining University and Personal Travel. If a Trustee, **other than the Faculty or Student Trustee**, takes an indirect route or interrupts a direct route for any reason other than University business, the University shall reimburse only the portion required for business purposes. When the University prepaid the airfare, rental car, or lodging the Trustee shall reimburse the University for the unrelated portion of the expense. The Trustee may travel with athletic teams, but will reimburse the University for expenses incurred on their behalf **related to transportation and lodging**. Weekends, holidays or other necessary diversions or layovers shall be eligible for reimbursement when required for business or will result in safer or more reliable or cost efficient travel.

The meeting adjourned 12:10 p.m. (CST).

Respectfully submitted, Academic Affairs, Student Life and Athletics Committee