

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE
APRIL 2019 MEETING

?? am EDT
Friday
April 26, 2019

Third Floor Meeting Room
Reece Museum
412 J.L. Seehorn Road
Johnson City, TN

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Committee Minutes from February 22, 2019 (Attachment)
- IV. Information Item- Update on University Operations Alignment Initiative

ACADEMICS: Action Items

- V. Promotion and Tenure of Faculty Members
- VI. Approval of the Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (2 attachments)



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- VII. Approval of the Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Master of Fine Arts in Digital Media (2 attachments)



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- VIII. Academic Calendars for 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 (2 attachments)



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RESEARCH: Information Item

- IX. Research Metrics and Teaching Profile of ETSU Faculty (attachment)

STUDENTS: Information Item

- X. Multicultural Center: Overview of the Talent, Innovation & Equity (TIE) Grant and the Summer Bridge Plus Program (attachment)

GENERAL Information Items

- XI. ETSU Aligned Institutional Mission (AIM) Update (attachment?)
- XII. University Operations Alignment Initiative Update (attachment?)
- XIII. Other Business
- XIV. Adjournment

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019

ITEM: Approval of the Minutes of February 22, 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Nathan Dugger, Deputy Secretary

The minutes of the February 22, 2019 meeting of the Academic, Research and Student Success Committee are included in the meeting materials.

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee adopt the resolution, approving the minutes as outlined in the meeting materials.

RESOLVED: The reading of the minutes of the February 22, 2019 meeting of the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee is omitted, and the minutes are approved as presented in the meeting materials, provided that the Secretary is authorized to make any necessary edits to correct spelling errors, grammatical errors, format errors, or other technical errors subsequently identified.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 27, 2018

ITEM: Promotion and Tenure of Faculty Members

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Bert C. Bach
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Promotion in rank recognizes the past achievements of a faculty member and expresses confidence that she or he is capable of even greater accomplishments and of assuming greater responsibilities. The University awards tenure to faculty whose professional abilities and accomplishments warrant the degree of permanence afforded by academic tenure.

The attached report contains recommendations for faculty promotion and tenure effective 2019-2020 for approval.

The report also includes for information the names of those for whom tenure upon appointment was approved by the ETSUBT during the past year, as well as the names of lecturers who were promoted according to established procedures.

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: Promotion in rank and/or the awarding of Tenure is granted to the faculty members recommended by the President in the particular unit, department, or college as outlined in the meeting materials.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019

ITEM: Approval of the Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Nathan Dugger, Deputy Secretary

The Letter of Notification (LON) for the Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD) is the first step in a series of ETSUBT review protocols necessary to the establishing of a new program. This item was approved internally – including approval by Academic Council and President Noland - according to established procedures. Pending the the Board of Trustee’s approval, the item will be sent to THEC where it will be posted for public comment. At a future Board meeting, the proposal to establish the degree (pending development and intervening approvals) will return to the ETSUBT for approval. Depending on the speed with which the vetting and approval steps occur, the program will likely be implemented in Summer 2022. [This new degree was included on the *Academic Programming & Program Delivery: A Report of the Advisory Work Group* report that was presented to the ETSUBT during the September 2018 meeting.]

The College of Clinical and Rehabilitative Health Sciences proposes to establish a program of study that leads to a clinical doctorate degree in Occupational Therapy (OTD). The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) defines an occupational therapist as a professional who “helps people of all ages participate in things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations). Unlike other professions, occupational therapy helps people function in their environments (e.g., home, work, school, community) and addresses the physical, psychological, and cognitive aspects of their well-being through engagement in occupation” (AOTA).

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) has recently recommended the entry-level degree for occupational therapy education be elevated to the doctorate level. They have proposed a mandate that all programs offering a degree in occupational therapy will be at the doctorate level by 2027. Only about 35% of the accredited programs in the United States are currently doctoral level programs or have applied for transition to the doctorate. The key findings and program demand forecast for the OTD in the southeast and nationally provide substantial support for the future sustainable need and demand for the proposed OTD program. Additionally, data (outlined in the attached LON) indicates that: (1) Student interest and demand is growing, and (2) Competitive saturation is low for the OTD.

ETSU would be the first public institution within more than 200 miles to offer an OTD program in Tennessee, and the only to offer the degree with other established graduate rehabilitation programs within the same college (physical therapy, speech-language pathology, and social work) and within a broader university interprofessional education program that includes medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and public health.

The proposed program will offer applicants an option to complete a doctoral degree from a public university, which is more financially feasible for many students in this region. The proposed curriculum includes an interprofessional focus, which will prepare graduates to practice with appropriate skills and expertise in a field that requires collaboration and teamwork. The projected employment potential for the occupational therapy profession continues to be optimistic with the number of jobs available expected to grow over the next eight years. This proposed program will help to meet those workforce demands with highly-qualified applicants who are well prepared to be autonomous practitioners.

Attachments:

- Letter of Notification
- THEC Financial Projections Form

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research and Student Success Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: The Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD), is approved by the Board as outlined in the meeting materials. The University is directed to submit the LON with the Board's decision to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for its consideration.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019

ITEM: Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Master of Fine Arts in Digital Media

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Bert C. Bach
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Letter of Notification (LON) for the MFA in Digital Media is the first step in a series of ETSUBT review protocols necessary to the establishment of a new program. This item was approved internally – including approval by Academic Council and President Noland - according to established procedures. Pending ETSU Board of Trustee’s approval, the item will be sent to THEC where it will be posted for public comment. At a future Board meeting, the proposal to establish the degree (pending development and intervening approvals) will return to the ETSUBT for approval. Depending on the speed with which the vetting and approval steps occur, the program will likely be implemented in Summer 2020. [This new degree was included on the *Academic Programming & Program Delivery: A Report of the Advisory Work Group* report that was presented to the ETSUBT during the September 2018 meeting.]

The Department of Digital Media developed the proposal for a Master of Fine Arts in Digital Media degree to offer more opportunities for future graduates and meet the growing need of the industry for highly qualified digital artists. The MFA focuses on professional production practices and is the professional and academic preferred terminal degree option. Of the current undergraduate faculty of ETSU’s Department of Digital Media, 75% have an MFA as their terminal degree. The information below highlights the reasons for the development of this program and for the timing of its implementation:

- **The proposed degree, MFA in Digital Media, would help graduates to further develop professional, technical, and artistic skills to break into an increasingly competitive industry.** The field of digital media has experienced rapid growth in popularity. Although many students find success after graduation from the ETSU digital media undergraduate program, many others find that four years of undergraduate work was simply not enough to give them a competitive advantage in their desired field. Graduates face fierce competition for coveted jobs in animation, game design, visualization, and visual effects.
- **The proposed degree program, the MFA in Digital Media, is designed to serve the professional creative community by both advancing learning and skills and providing**

credentials for career transitions. Many industry professionals are interested in leaving the fast-paced industry to pursue a career in academia. Although they bring a wealth of industry experience and accolades, they do not have the terminal degree credential for this change in career.

- **Other institutions are currently meeting ETSU graduates' existing demand for post-graduate education and skill development.** Many recent graduates, graduates from other programs, and professionals from the industry have directly contacted individual faculty of ETSU's Digital Media program expressing interest in an MFA in Digital Media. Without a comparable MFA in Digital Media, graduates have left the state and applied to graduate schools such as SCAD, DePaul University, and Georgia Institute of Technology. Many also pursue post-graduate certification programs online such as Animation Mentor or iAnimate.
- **The state of Tennessee recently passed the Tennessee Visual Content Modernization Act of 2018 to incentivize new businesses in animation, visual effects, game development, virtual reality, augmented reality, and other various facets of digital media.** The act targets \$25 million recurring (annually) for grants to businesses. These potential growth areas all align with the focus of the proposed MFA in Digital Media.

Attachments:

- Letter of Notification
- THEC Financial Projections Form

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research and Student Success Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: The Letter of Notification (LON) Regarding the Establishment of a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Digital Media, is approved by the Board as outlined in the meeting materials. The University is directed to submit the LON with the Board's decision to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for its consideration.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019

ITEM: Academic Calendars for 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Bert C. Bach
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

ETSU develops its academic calendar in accordance with Federal Regulation (CFR) 34 Section 600.2 (July 1, 2011), which mandates accredited institutions comply with the established definition of a credit hour.

- ETSU offers 15-week fall and spring semester terms and a 13-week summer term.
- Dates related to registration, drop/add, and withdrawal shall be included in the academic calendar.
- Holidays and breaks are scheduled so that hours of instructional time are not affected.
- Final examinations are scheduled at the conclusion of the instructional time and noted in the academic calendar. Summer and alternative terms do not include a designated week for finals.
- ETSU may include alternate term formats compliant with federal regulations and equivalent in terms of student outcomes and competencies within the fall and spring semesters or the summer term. The university considers calendar conflicts and federal financial aid requirements when developing alternate terms.
- Fall and spring commencement ceremonies are identified.

According to ETSU *Academic Calendar* policy, the Registrar's Office develops the Academic Calendars, which are projected for at least three years. The attached Academic Calendars for 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 have been recommended by the Academic Council and approved by the president.

Attachments:

- Academic Calendars
- President Approval

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research and Student Success Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: The Academic Calendars for 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 are approved by the Board as outlined in the meeting materials. The Registrar is directed to post the calendars per established procedure.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
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INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019

ITEM: Research Metrics and Teaching Profile of ETSU Faculty

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

PRESENTED BY: Mike Hoff
Associate Vice President/Chief Planning Officer

Hoff to provide

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
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INFORMATION ITEM

DATE:	April 26, 2019
ITEM:	Multicultural Center: Overview of the Talent, Innovation & Equity (TIE) Grant and the Summer Bridge Plus Program
COMMITTEE:	Academic, Research, and Student Success
PRESENTED BY:	Carshonda Harris Director, Multicultural Center and Access and Student Success Programs

Tennessee was one of two states to receive the Lumina Foundation's inaugural Talent, Innovation and Equity (TIE) grant. The objective of this grant is to reduce gaps in educational attainment along racial lines. THEC awarded the majority of these grant funds directly to institutions that demonstrate a commitment to improving outcomes for students of color on their campuses, and ETSU was one of five institutions that was awarded the TIE Grant. ETSU's mission declares, "Education is the university's highest priority, and the institution is committed to increasing the level of educational attainment in the state and region." In addition, we affirm "the contributions of diverse people, cultures and thought" to the university and the region. Yet despite ETSU's deeply held commitments, some African American, Hispanic and Native American undergraduate students do not thrive here at ETSU. The TIE Grant Committee planned a Bridge-Plus Program that could address issues revealed through our data analysis by supporting and enhancing students' educational experience and by providing greater incentives for eligible students to take advantage of these opportunities. This presentation will provide an overview of the first cohort of the Bridge-Plus Program and an evaluation of the students' success and engagement during their first year at ETSU. In addition, we will provide further information about other access and success initiatives of the Multicultural Center that have shown success with underrepresented students at ETSU.

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INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019
ITEM: ETSU Aligned Institutional Mission (AIM) Update
COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success
PRESENTED BY: Wilsie S. Bishop
Vice President for Health Affairs

Bishop to provide

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
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INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: April 26, 2019
ITEM: University Operations Alignment Initiative Update
COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success
PRESENTED BY: Wilsie S. Bishop
Vice President for Health Affairs

Bishop to provide