

**Middle Tennessee State University
Admissions and Standards Committee**

Minutes

Friday, September 25, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

Meeting Location: Zoom

Members Present: Rich Barnet, Helen Binkley, Nita Brooks, Harliana Burns, Keonte Coleman, Rick Morris, Colton Pickard, Teresa Thomas, and Laurie Witherow

Others Present: Mitzi Brandon and Darlene Fults

Members Absent: Michelle Finch, Louis Haas, and Rhonda Hoffman

1. Call to Order

The first meeting was called to order via Zoom by Nita Brooks, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Programs.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, and members present were asked to introduce themselves.

3. Committee Charge

Nita Brooks read the committee charge as given in Policy 32.

4. Chair Election

Nita Brooks asked the committee members for volunteers to serve as chair this academic year (2020-2021). Helen Binkley volunteered. A motion was made for Helen Binkley to serve as chair. The motion was seconded and approved.

5. Approval of Minutes from March 5, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2020 meeting, along with minor grammatical and spelling corrections. That motion was seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously. The corrected minutes are attached.

6. New Business

a. Discussion of Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) High School Equivalency Exam

Teresa Thomas presented summary information on the TASC exam for the committee's consideration. The Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) is a high school equivalency test like other options such as the GED (General Equivalency Diploma) and the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). Roughly 13 states across the country currently accept it. The committee discussed the test and requested additional information to assess the validity of the equivalency option.

Currently, no TBR institution or LGI has officially posted policies regarding the exam. Additional information will be provided to the committee prior to the next meeting to determine whether MTSU would like to include this option for individuals applying for admission.

Two additional items were presented for discussion by Teresa Thomas.

- Starting in October, ACT will send a superscore with test results. Colleges will set their own policies regarding superscoring.

The current admissions standards at MTSU were discussed. Some concerns (validity, economic impact, and student enrollment) were raised regarding the use of a superscore.

Additional information will be gathered and provided to the committee for discussion at the next meeting.

- Dual enrollment credit was discussed. The committee needs to examine how these credits will be incorporated into admission standards.

7. Adjournment

Nita Brooks called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

**Middle Tennessee State University
Admissions and Standards Committee
Thursday, March 5th, 2020
Student Union, Room 218**

Members Present: Lei Miao, Rich Barnet, Jenny Marchand, Lee Wade, Louis Haas (Chair), Blake Harrison

Ex-Officio Present: Teresa Thomas, Laurie Witherow

Proposal Presenters: Peter Cunningham, Provost's Office; Susan Fieldhouse, Registrar
Proposals:

Change to policies regarding degree requirements (five sections) presented by Peter Cunningham

1. Change 1: 42 semester hours to 36 semester hours of junior and senior level courses. Discussion: 53% of students are now transfer, and this would put us in line with peer institutions. Retroactive applied. Vote: unanimous approval
2. Change 2: From 30 semester hours to 12 semester hours of junior/senior courses must be completed, but specified hours must be in major. Not retroactive. Discussion: Brings in line with current standards and will alleviate waivers/exemptions. Vote: unanimous approval
3. Change 3: Minimum of 60 hours of senior credit to 50 hours of senior credit. Discussion: This is a fix from the reduction of the outdated 132-hour requirement to a 120-requirement for degree, which is current standard. Vote: unanimous approval
4. Change 4: With Dean approval, change from six of last 18 hours to 12 of last 30 hours can be completed at another university or via CLEP. Discussion: This is to allow students who study abroad to finish a full semester abroad and to be eligible for financial aid. Retroactive. Vote: unanimous approval
5. Change 5: For a 2nd bachelor's degree, change from minimum of 15 hours at MTSU out of 30 to 12 hours at MTSU out of 30 hours in upper division for each bachelor's degree beyond first. Credit beyond assessment may not be used. Not retroactive. Vote unanimous approval