

Middle Tennessee State University Admissions and Standards Committee

Minutes
November 2015

Members present: NA

1. Meeting called to order: NA.

2. Approval of Minutes

September and October minutes not available for committee approval.

3. New Business

Email discussion and vote on on the proposal, "Raising the English Language Proficiency Standards for Admission to the College of Graduate Studies."

From Annette Williams:

"10 faculty and 2 student members of the A&S Committee have voted by email all agreeing to conduct the vote via email on the proposal that is now before the committee. I now open the discussion on the proposal, *Raising the English Language Proficiency Standards for Admission to the College of Graduate Studies*. If you have any comments on the proposal, *Reply to All*. After allowing a week for discussion, I will call for a vote.

I want to make it clear that the voting by email is only for this proposal. Should another proposal arise, the committee will meet to discuss and vote. I only agreed to vote by email since some of the committee members and all of the ex-officio members met and discussed the proposal."

From Christine Kim:

"I was not able to attend the meeting, so I apologize if this was asked and answered. While I am in favor of raising standards, I am wondering if the university will be able to make exceptions for outstanding students. In the School of Music, we have had wonderful musicians who are a great asset to the program, but would not meet the new English language entrance standards. If exceptions are not allowed, I am concerned about the potential impact on our future recruitment. "

From Jackie Eller;

"Absolutely we can make exceptions for outstanding students. We hope, of course, that students would be able to achieve the standard so that their success is not impacted, but we can be flexible for outstanding students otherwise. Further, we understand that English skills are more necessary in some programs than in others as well, so that would be part of the exception consideration."

From email dated November 11, 2015, 8:36 am from Chair Annette Williams:

“The vote results for the proposal to raise the English language proficiency standards for admission to the College of Graduate Studies were 9 faculty votes to approve the proposal with no votes against. I did not receive any student member votes. The proposal is approved, and I will be in contact with Dr. Handy to sign the form.”

4. Old Business

None