Undergraduate Admissions and Standards 2025-2026 Committee Report

Committee Chair: Kate Pantelides
Committee Vice Chair: Lucy Matthews
Committee Recording Secretary: Mitzi Brandon
Committee Voting Members: Peter Neff (CBAS/Aerospace), Souvik Banerjee (CBAS/Chemistry), Trevor deClercq (CME/Recording Industry), Jim Rost (COE/Educaθonal Leadership), Lucy Matthews (COB/Marketing); Richard Meeks (CBHS/Nursing); Christoph Rosenmuler (CLA/History), R.J. Ware (SGA student representative) and Aeriel Holt (SGA student representative)

Ex-officio Members: Amy Aldridge (Vice Provost for Academic Programs); Teresa Thomas (Executive Director, Enrollment Technical Services); Mitzi Brandon (Director, Catalog/Curriculum Management); Tyler Henson (University Registrar and Assistant Vice Provost for Registration and Student Records); Cindy Habara for Robert Summers (Vice Provost for International Affairs); Christina Cobb (Director, True Blue Core) and Laurie Witherow (Vice Provost for Enrollment Services)

The Admissions and Standards committee convened the first 2025-2026 academic year meeting on September 10th, 2025. Dr. Kate Pantelides presided as Chair and Dr. Lucy Matthew was elected Vice Chair. The committee approved a motion to elect Mitzi Brandon committee recording secretary.

Across the term, the committee planned to convene five times: September 10th, October 8th, November 19th, February 25th, and April 8th, though the November meeting was cancelled. The committee began their work with a discussion of advanced standing review procedures, and ultimately decided to review the Cambridge and Dantes exams, moving the previously scheduled CLEP review to 2026-2027. The committee chair spoke with Cambridge representative Janet Swandol, who suggested that the MTSU cut scores for credit were based on a misunderstanding of Cambridge scores, resulting in very few credits awarded to students based on the current MTSU guidelines. Thus after extensive research and discussion, the committee voted to accept Cambridge scores of "E" for credit, with the possibility of departments opting out. The committee chair notified department chairs and communicated requested exemptions to Teresa Thomas.

The committee next updated the DSST exam offerings, formerly known as Dantes. Of the 37 DSST Exams available, 16 were approved for credit 3/2/23; 17 were not approved at the time; and 4 exams were awaiting further consideration but were not approved before the end of the year: Fundamentals of Cybersecurity, Introduction to Geology, Lifespan Developmental Psychology, Substance Abuse. The committee chair requested updates from department chairs, and one course was added to the list of approved DSST exams; CYBM 1300 with a score of 400 or above will now be accepted for Fundamentals of Cybersecurity. This concluded the work of the committee.

All minutes and notes from the 2024-2025 academic year can be found on the commi1ee's webpage (h1ps://www.mtsu.edu/admin-std/agenda-minutes/).