

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

**August 28, 2018**

The Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee met on Tuesday, August 28, 2018, at Middle Tennessee State University. Chairwoman Pam Wright called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. A quorum was present with the following Committee members in attendance: J.B. Baker, Pete DeLay, Tony Johnston, Steve Smith, Peyton Tracy, Pam Wright, Keith Huber, and Chris Massaro. Trustee Joey Jacobs was unable to attend. Also present were Trustee Darrell Freeman; Sidney McPhee, President; Joe Bales, Vice President for University Advancement; 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; Kim Edgar, Executive Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff and, Heidi Zimmerman, University Counsel and Board Secretary.

Chairwoman Wright thanked everyone for being there and welcomed Peyton Tracy to his first committee meeting as the Student Trustee.

Dr. McPhee reported that MTSU is in the process of working with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission regarding transfer of a law school, and a special meeting of this committee may have to be called. He stated the having a law school would be transformative for the University.

The first action item on the agenda was approval of the minutes from the May 30, 2018 Committee Meeting. Trustee Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee DeLay. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve the minutes from the May 30, 2018 Committee Meeting.

The next item was promulgation of a rule regarding academic misconduct as required by statute. Revisions to the corresponding policy, 312 Academic Misconduct, were also presented. The provisions of the rule and the policy are consistent with each other. Trustee Johnston made the motion to approve the rule and revisions to the policy. Trustee DeLay seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the Motion carried unanimously to approve Rules of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Chapter 0240-07-04, Academic Misconduct, and revisions to Policy 312, Academic Misconduct.

The next item was revisions to Chapter 0240-07-03, the rule initially approved March 27, 2018, regarding Student Conduct. To be consistent with the revised rule and to confirm recent legislative amendments (PC 824), revisions to the corresponding policy, 540 Student Conduct, were necessary. After discussion of the rights of the accused and the victim, Trustee Baker made the motion to approve

revisions to the rule and policy. Trustee Johnston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the Motion carried unanimously to approve revisions to Rules of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Chapter 0240-07-03, Student Conduct and revisions to Policy 540, Student Conduct.

The next item for the committee was approval of expedited tenure for two faculty members currently serving as administrators. Dr. Byrnes told the committee that these two individuals were hired since the June meeting. Trustee Smith made the motion to approve expedited tenure for Anne Anderson and Cathy McElderry. Trustee DeLay seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the Motion carried to approve expedited tenure for Anne Anderson and Cathy McElderry.

The next item was notification of academic degrees under consideration: a Bachelor of Science in Data Science. Provost Byrnes said graduates from this interdisciplinary program would fill demand expressed by industry and labor statistics. Pending the results of feasibility studies, the University may submit Letters of Notification to THEC.

Next, Dr. Sells began by thanking the Trustees for their funding assistance to 35 students who were short of needed funds after financial aid came through. MTSU purged 5% fewer students than last year thanks in part to the Trustees' assistance. She noted that MTSU has made progress in the number of freshman applications and for ten years has enrolled the largest class of transfers of any university in Tennessee. Official census data will be available after September 9.

Finally, Chris Massaro gave the Trustees a "Year in Review" packet and highlighted academic and athletic accomplishments of MTSU student-athletes, coaches, and teams.

The meeting adjourned 12:31 p.m. (CST).

Respectfully submitted, Academic Affairs, Student Life and Athletics Committee