

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT LIFE, AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

The Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee met on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, in the Miller Education Center Meeting Room at Middle Tennessee State University.

Call to Order

Committee Chair Pam Wright called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Secretary James Floyd called the roll. The following Committee members were in attendance: J.B. Baker, Tom Boyd, Pete DeLay, Bill Jones, Mary Martin, Steve Smith, Michael Wade, Pam Wright, Keith Huber, and Chris Massaro. Christine Vanek and Shaylaine Roker were absent. A quorum was declared.

President Sidney A. McPhee; Joe Bales, Vice President for University Advancement; Mark Byrnes, Provost; Yvette Clark, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; Khalilah Doss, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students; Andrew Oppmann, Vice President for Marketing and Communications; Alan Thomas, Vice President for Business and Finance; Leah Ladley, Chief Audit Executive; and James Floyd, University Counsel and Board Secretary; and Kim Edgar, Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes - Action

The first agenda item was approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2024, Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee meeting. Trustee Delay moved to approve the November 12, 2024 meeting minutes, and Trustee Baker seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Approval of Policy Revision - Action

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Khalilah Doss presented revisions to Policy 541 Residential Life and Housing that included cancellation and refund provisions,

restrooms for non-residents, discipline for housing drug offenses, permission of tasers and stun guns, and allowance of toaster ovens and coffee pots in apartments.

Chairman Smith moved to approve the policy revisions, and Trustee Jones seconded the motion.

During the discussion, Trustee Smith questioned the change in directing guests to restrooms in the lobby in Section XI, Visitation. Trustee Boyd suggested changing “guest bathrooms are located in the lobby” to “appropriate opposite-sex guest bathrooms are located in the lobby.”

Trustee Boyd moved to amend the motion to incorporate this new language, and Chairman Smith seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to amend carried.

A second voice vote was taken to approve revisions to Policy 541 with the amended language, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Annual Report of Academic Program Actions - Information

Vice Provost for Academic Programs Amy Aldridge presented academic program actions and approvals of centers from calendar year 2024. She also discussed stackable digital badges students can earn through coursework and extracurricular activities and post on their resumes and LinkedIn.

President McPhee reported that MTSU hosted Congressman Chuck Fleischman and Dr. Stephen Streiffer from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to discuss quantum science. MTSU is a leader in this area and asked the state for \$25M to support quantum research.

Athletics Report - Information

Athletics Director Chris Massaro reported that Conference USA will honor four MTSU students as “Stars of Tomorrow.” During the conference basketball tournament in Huntsville, AL, the students are invited to engage with industry and explore career opportunities.

MTSU’s Graduation Success Rate (GSR) for the 23-24 season was 94%, the best in Conference USA. Football was 92%, also the best in Conference USA.

Adjournment

Committee Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee