

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**EXECUTIVE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

The Executive and Governance Committee met on Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Committee Chair Steve Smith welcomed those participating and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Chairman Smith asked Board Secretary James Floyd to call the roll.

The following Committee members were in attendance: Tom Boyd and Steve Smith, while Chris Karbowski Vanek was absent. A quorum was declared. Also present were Trustees: J.B. Baker, Pete DeLay, Bill Jones, Mary Martin, Michael Wade, and Pam Wright.

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

Approval of Minutes

The first agenda item was approval of the minutes of the February 27, 2024, meeting of the Executive and Governance Committee. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Trustee Boyd and seconded by Chair Smith. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to approve the

minutes of the February 27, 2024, meeting of the Executive and Governance Committee passed unanimously.

Approval of the 2035 Strategic Plan - Action

MTSU's institutional accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, requires formal, comprehensive, and institution-wide planning. Mary Hoffschwelle, Associate Provost, outlined that the Planning Committee, University Provost, and President have reviewed and recommend approval of the 2035 Strategic Plan with implementation to begin in May 2025.

Discussion ensued and included an inquiry initiated by Trustee Boyd about the metrics and Indicators of success chart. In particular, whether there are goals for undergraduate and graduate enrollment. Associate Provost Hoffschwelle responded in the affirmative, stating that the Planning Committee Chair, Jeff Gibson, and Co-Chair, Layne Bryant, developed an intentional implementation process and have already organized implementation committees to begin preparing specific objectives and metrics for those areas. She then explained the steps in the plan's implementation cycle, which will lead to a mid-year report and then a final reporting out process the following year. With regards to enrollment, this will include assessing degrees, concentrations, and certificates. Dr. McPhee added that the materials present an outline of the strategic plan, and the implementation for each year will involve setting specific goals.

Dr. McPhee next advised that the academic staff had done a good job of clearly laying out an expansive, comprehensive plan of programs to be pursued. Provost Byrnes added that they are presently seeking the Board's approval of the overall plan and structure. The specific numbers will come in the metric setting phase. He also stated that in terms of overall programmatic planning, the University is constantly doing that. This includes looking at industry needs as reflected through the various partnerships that the University has with industry in conjunction with our consultants. Provost Byrnes told Trustee Boyd that his office will work on some ideas

about ways that it can keep the Board informed about where it is in evaluating program/degree opportunities.

As a follow-up, Trustee Martin asked if we have some measurement of right sizing of the different kinds of resources to match prospective growth. Provost Byrnes stated that resource allocation is a key part of every discussion we have about a new program proposal. The first step is to reallocate existing faculty resources, and then as programs are approved and generate students, which generates revenue, we can add additional faculty as needed. The University wants a demonstration of success before creating new faculty lines.

A motion to approve the 2035 Strategic Plan was made by Trustee Boyd and seconded by Chair Smith. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to approve the 2035 Strategic Plan passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive and Governance Committee