

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 2024 MEETING

9:00–10:15 a.m. EDT
Friday
September 13, 2024

East Tennessee Room
D.P. Culp Student Center
412 J.L. Seehorn Road
Johnson City, TN

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Janet Ayers, Committee Chair
Charles Allen, Jr.
Dr. Steph Frye-Clark
Dr. Linda Latimer
Tony Treadway

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. [Approval of the Committee Minutes from May 24, 2024](#)

ACTION ITEMS

- IV. [Recommendation for Promotion and Tenure of Faculty – *McCorkle* \(5 minutes\)](#)

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- V. [Academic Notification for Period January 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024 – *McCorkle* \(5 minutes\)](#)
- VI. [Provost Update – *McCorkle* \(15 minutes\)](#)
- VII. [ETSU Research Update: College of Public Health – *Wykoff* \(15 minutes\)](#)
- VIII. [ETSU Athletics Update – *Sander* \(15 minutes\)](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

- X. Committee Discussions
 - General Discussion
- XI. Other Business
- XII. Adjournment

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: Approval of the Minutes from May 24, 2024

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Adam Green
Board Secretary

The minutes of the May 24, 2024 meeting of the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee are included in the meeting materials.

MOTION: I move that the Board of Trustees adopt the resolution, approving the minutes as outlined in the meeting materials.

RESOLVED: The reading of the minutes of the May 24, 2024 meeting of the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee is omitted, and the minutes are approved as presented in the meeting materials, provided that the Secretary is authorized to make any necessary edits to correct spelling errors, grammatical errors, format errors, or other technical errors subsequently identified.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 24, 2024
Johnson City, Tennessee

The East Tennessee State University Board of Trustees' Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee met on Friday, May 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the East Tennessee Room of the D.P. Culp Student Center.

I. Call to Order

Trustee Charles Allen, substituting for Committee Chair Janet Ayers, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Board Secretary Dr. Adam Green conducted the roll call. The following committee members were physically present:

Trustee Charles Allen
Trustee Dr. Steph Frye-Clark
Trustee Tony Treadway

Other Board of Trustees members in attendance were Dorothy Grisham, Steve DeCarlo, Ron Ramsey, Aamir Shaikh, and Melissa Steagall-Jones.

III. Approval of the Committee Minutes from February 16, 2024

The minutes from the February 16, 2024, meeting of the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee were approved as submitted with Trustee Dr. Steph Frye-Clark making the motion and Trustee Tony Treadway seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

IV. Promotion and Tenure of Faculty Members

Provost Dr. Kimberly McCorkle gave a brief description of the promotion and tenure process at ETSU. A total of 54 faculty from nine of ETSU's colleges were recommended for promotion and tenure by President Noland and Provost McCorkle.

Trustee Frye-Clark made a motion to approve the promotion and tenure recommendations as presented, and Trustee Treadway seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

V. Approval of ETSU Academic Restructure Proposal

Provost McCorkle presented to the committee the final proposal for the academic restructure of the university. She indicated that the process has taken almost two years to complete, and she praised the work of the highly representative, 26-member task force, chaired by Dr. Nick Hagemeyer and Dr. Virginia Foley. During the course of the review, the task force met with over 1,000 individuals. Earlier this spring, both the Academic Council and the University Council unanimously approved the restructure proposal. Provost McCorkle told the Board that one of the guiding questions was: What college organizational structure would best serve our students to ensure they have a clear path from admission to graduation? Other considerations included the need to build on our existing strengths, the need to avoid duplication, and the need to build on our reputation as a premier health sciences institution.

Provost McCorkle told the committee that this new academic structure promises to strengthen the university's position in the health sciences while maintaining our reputation in medicine, nursing, public health, and pharmacy. It also ensures that units performing cross-college functions are aligned in administrative structures that empower their ability to serve their constituencies. It provides an academic structure that is easier for students and external stakeholders to navigate. It emphasizes signature programs and strengths of the academic portfolio. Furthermore, it aligns clusters of programs within colleges to foster collaboration.

Trustee Frye-Clark made a motion to approve the proposal as presented, and Trustee Treadway seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

President Noland expressed thanks to Provost McCorkle, the members of the task force, Dr. Hagemeyer, and Dr. Foley for their hard work and leadership. He described their work as a "Herculean initiative" and reminded the board that the last time the university took on a comprehensive academic restructuring was in 1977-78 during President Arthur H. DeRosier's administration.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. Financial Aid and Enrollment Update

Dr. Heather Levesque, Assistant Vice President and Executive Director of Admissions, and Ms. Catherine Morgan, Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, provided an overview of the

challenges brought about by the federal government's launch of a new FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Ms. Morgan explained that, typically, FAFSA launches October 1, for the following fall semester. This year, it launched January 30, which greatly shortened processing time for institutions and impeded decision-making for students and their families. Additional delays occurred, as well as technical issues. Ultimately, financial aid awards were delayed, from November until April. As a result, hundreds of thousands of students nationally were negatively impacted.

Dr. Levesque described how ETSU tailored its communication strategies in light of these problems, particularly focusing on new students. In addition to regular communication, ETSU directly communicated with high schools and community colleges, both through a newsletter and through physical presence in those schools. The university also offered multiple webinars to answer questions from students and their families about the FAFSA and financial aid at ETSU.

Ms. Morgan indicated that a web page was created for the purpose of providing information on FAFSA updates and challenges. Messages were also placed in GOLDLINK. A consultant was engaged so that the importing of FAFSAs into the Banner student information system would go smoothly. Dr. Levesque summarized her division's efforts by saying staff took an extremely challenging situation and did the best that they could to work with it. She added that she feels really good about where we are as we look to the fall.

Dr. Noland commented that less than half of Tennessee's high school seniors had completed the FAFSA, and the state is number one in the nation. He underscored the critical nature of FAFSA as an entry point to lottery scholarships, Tennessee Promise scholarships, and Pell grants.

VII. Research Update

Dr. Nick Hagemeyer, Vice Provost for Research, reviewed the research and scholarship vision as articulated by the ETSU Committee for 125 Chapter II: that the university be recognized, through funding and program rankings, as one of the premier R2 research universities in the nation. Dr. Hagemeyer told the committee about recent changes in the Carnegie classification system. To achieve Research 1 status—Very High Spending and Doctorate Production—institutions must spend at least \$50 million on research and development, on average, in a single year and produce at least 70 research doctorates. To achieve Research 2 status—High Spending and Doctorate Production—institutions must spend at least \$5 million on research and development, on average, in a single year and produce at least 20 research doctorates. Dr. Hagemeyer reported that ETSU will be at \$42.3 million for fiscal year 2023.

Dr. Hagemeyer provided a brief summary of the Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey, conducted annually by the National Science Foundation. It ranks all institutions with \$150,000 or more in research and development expenditures. In the most

recent survey, as is normally the case, Johns Hopkins ranked number one at \$3.4 billion. The University of Charleston ranked number 637 at \$217,000. These figures were from fiscal year 2022.

At ETSU, Dr. Hagemeyer said, research expenditures have gone up approximately 82% in the last two years, placing us ahead of some of our peer institutions. In total awards for fiscal year 2023, ETSU reports \$70.4 million.

Dr. Hagemeyer concluded his remarks by spotlighting several examples illustrating the diversity and depth of research that is ongoing at ETSU, including the newly created Trail Guide Research Mentorship Program. Eighteen faculty members were in the inaugural cohort. It was a yearlong process involving five mentors experienced in successful grant writing. Some 18 proposals will be submitted for external funding.

GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

VIII. Committee Discussions

There were no additional committee discussions.

IX. Other Business

There was no additional business to come before the committee.

X. Adjournment

Trustee Allen adjourned the committee meeting at 10:07 a.m.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACTION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: Recommendation for Promotion and Tenure of Faculty

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Kimberly D. McCorkle
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Promotion in rank recognizes the past achievements of a faculty member and expresses confidence in the person's ability to achieve greater accomplishments and assume increasing responsibility. Tenure is foundational to the principles of academic freedom, which is necessary for the creation, distribution, and application of knowledge. The assurances that accompany tenure allow that university faculty can responsibly engage in professional and community service, teach students to engage with empirically-sound information, and conduct research that contributes to society. In this respect, tenure and promotion are essential to the University's mission to improve the quality of life in the region and beyond. The University awards tenure to faculty whose professional abilities and accomplishments warrant the degree of recognition and permanence afforded by academic tenure.

MOTION: I move that the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED: Promotion in rank and/or the awarding of tenure is granted to the faculty members recommended by the President in the particular unit, department or college as outlined in the meeting materials.



**East Tennessee State University
Office of the President**

Box 70734 • Johnson City, Tennessee 37614-1710 • (423) 439-4211 • Fax: (423) 439-4004

September 13, 2024

Dr. Adam Green
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
East Tennessee State University

Dr. Green,

I recommend the Board of Trustees award tenure upon appointment to the individuals whose accomplishments are described below. Additionally, I recommend the promotion of a faculty member, and the correction to a faculty member's rank as presented in the Academic, Research, and Student Success Committee during the May 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Recommended for Tenure Upon Appointment

Dr. Kelly Hall

**Department of Management and Supply Chain
College of Business and Technology**

Dr. Kelly Hall was appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Management and Supply Chain on August 15, 2024. This recommendation for Dr. Hall's tenure at the rank of Associate Professor was fully supported by faculty in the Department of Management and Supply Chain, the chair, dean, and Provost. Dr. Hall comes to ETSU from Utah Valley University, where she was appointed to a tenure-track Assistant Professor position. Prior to her time at Utah Valley University, she was a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Stetson University. Dr. Hall holds expertise in Human Resources and Organizational Leadership. She led several Women's Leadership efforts at both institutions, where she was also a Provost Fellow. While at Stetson University, she served as Interim Chair of her department. She has 11 peer-reviewed academic journal publications and experience teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. She has also trained as a reviewer for AACSB accreditation. For her efforts, she was recognized as Distinguished EMBA Professor Award, Outstanding Innovator Award, Academic Innovation Award for Innovative External Collaboration, and was nominated for the Presidential Award and Faculty Senate Award of Excellence.

Dr. Anthony Vega

**Department of Geosciences
College of Arts and Sciences**

Dr. Anthony Vega was appointed as Professor and Chair of the Department of Geosciences on July 29, 2024. This appointment and recommendation for tenure is fully supported by faculty in the department, the chair, dean, and Provost. Prior to coming to ETSU, Dr. Vega served as Department Lead and Department Chair at PennWest University/Clarion. He began at PennWest

Clarion as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in 1994 and was promoted to Associate Professor and Professor, winning the university teaching award in 2019. He has taught courses in all modalities, including the development of a study abroad in collaboration with College of Business and Information Sciences. He has 31 peer-reviewed publications, as well as numerous book chapters and monographs. In addition to his publications, he has established a national and international presence through presentations on weather and meteorology, specifically the study of air. He provided extensive service to his profession, the institution, college, and department while at PennWest/Clarion. His service includes the National Love of Learning Selection Committee of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Dr. Amy Wright

Department of Literature and Language
College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Amy Wright was appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Literature and Language on August 12, 2024. This appointment and recommendation for tenure is fully supported by the faculty in the department, the chair, dean, and Provost. Dr. Wright, an internationally known writer, comes to ETSU from Austin Peay State University. While at Austin Peay she coordinated their creative writing program for the past decade, revising the program to include a publishing focus. She holds many awards for her writing and is a recognized fellow at many writing competitions. She has authored and edited five books, and her work has been published in 12 anthologies. Most recently, Dr. Wright served as the Basler Chair of Excellence at ETSU, where she focused on integrating science and literature. Dr. Wright is active in service to various literary series, including the Mecham Writers Conference, the Southern Festival of Books, and the AWP Conference and Bookfair. She also served as search committee chair for several positions and on the institutional Internal Grants Review Board. Additionally, she serves as the editor of an international peer-reviewed literary journal.

Recommended for Promotion

Ms. Angela Shelton

Department of Early Childhood Education
Clemmer College of Education and Human Development

Ms. Angela Shelton began as a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Early Childhood Education on August 15, 2017. She submitted paperwork for promotion in September, 2023. I am recommending that she be promoted to Clinical Associate Professor. Ms. Shelton is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Early Childhood with an expected graduate date of May, 2026. Ms. Shelton serves the college as the edTPA Coordinator, leading all teacher education students through the edTPA portfolio assessment, which is required for licensure in the State of Tennessee. Ms. Shelton also teaches in the Early Childhood program and supervises students in classrooms as they complete their student teaching. Ms. Shelton was awarded the Clemmer College of Education and Human Development Outstanding Field Supervisor in 2021. She is active in serving as the Chair of the Gilbreath Literacy Council and the Literacy Association of Tennessee where she serves as secretary of the state organization. She also trains educators on Trauma-Informed Care and Building Strong Brains. Prior to coming to ETSU, Ms. Shelton was an Instructional Coordinator for Washington County Department of Education.

Correction to May Materials Provided to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Sivarao Digavalli

Associate Professor
Gatton College of Pharmacy

The supporting documents provided to the Board of Trustees by the Office of the Provost at the May 2024 meeting as part of the action item for approval of tenure and promotion listed Dr. Sivarao Digavalli as holding the rank of Professor. In the 2023-2024 academic year, Dr. Digavalli sought tenure but did not seek promotion; therefore, this notification is to confirm that Sivarao Digavalli holds the rank of Associate Professor.

I am honored to recommend the faculty named in this letter for tenure upon appointment and/or promotion as outlined.

Sincerely,



Brian Noland
President

CC: Kimberly D. McCorkle, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Human Resources

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: Academic Notification for Period January 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Kimberly D. McCorkle
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

This information item is provided as an update regarding academic action items that have occurred between January 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024. The report is divided into two sections: Part I represents Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) notification items, and Part II represents ETSU academic approval items that do not require THEC action.

Part I: THEC Notification Items

These curriculum items are fully vetted through the ETSU curriculum approval processes and are subsequently submitted to THEC as notification items. The following table outlines the types of academic action notifications for the period of January 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024:

<i>Type of Action – THEC Notification</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Concentration Name Change	2
Establish Certificate Program	1
Change Instructional Delivery Mode	1

The following curriculum descriptions represent items identified in the table above:
Concentration Name Change:

[Change Name Concentration in MPH: Environmental Health to Environmental and Occupational Health](#)

This recommended concentration name change was based on academic content within the concentration. The Environmental Health concentration focuses on addressing environmental and occupational health topics. The addition of the phrase occupational to the concentration name will more appropriately reflect program content and align the concentration name with similar programs across the state and nation.

Change Name of Academic Program Concentration: MAT Teacher Education

This concentration name change was largely the result of Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) teacher licensing changes. The MAT Teacher Education concentration titled Secondary Education 6-12 and Pre-K-12 is being changed to Secondary Education 6-12. This name change aligns with revisions to state licensure guidelines and will allow those pursuing teacher licenses to obtain credentials aligned with grade-level content.

Establish New Certificate:

Establish New Certificate – Graduate: Qualitative Research Methods

This proposal was to establish an interdisciplinary graduate certificate in Qualitative Research Methods. The certificate will be a 12-credit program that provides students with training in the foundations of qualitative research design and methodologies for collecting and analyzing qualitative data. The proposed certificate is unique in its focus on *interpretive* research designs to support rigorous empirical studies connected to research in the social sciences, nursing, and other associated areas.

Change Instructional Delivery Mode:

Change Instructional Delivery Mode: Master of Public Health Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration

The MPH program attracts many working professionals who cannot attend a face-to-face program. By making this concentration option of the MPH available to students online, student enrollment is expected to increase as a broader audience will be able to access this academic program.

Part II: ETSU Approval items

These curriculum items are fully vetted through ETSU curriculum approval processes and are fully approved at the university level. The following table outlines the ETSU academic action items for the period of January 1, 2023, through July 31, 2023:

<i>Type of Action – University-Level Approval</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Revise Program Policy: Admission	6
Revise Program Policy: Progression	6
Revise Program Policy: Graduation	2
Revise Curriculum Substantive	5
Revise Articulation Agreement	1

The following curriculum descriptions represent items identified in the table above:

Revise Program Policy - Admission:

Revise Program Policy – Admission: BS Nursing

The proposed admission revision has resulted from a review of the admission requirements for the BS Nursing program. It was determined that there was a need to align the policy with other similar programs across the region and nation, as well as bring the admission criteria in line with best practice criteria in assuring that entering students are prepared for the program. Similar changes have been identified as improving student pass rates on the National Council State Board of Nursing Registered Nurse (NCLEX-

RN) licensure exam. The admission revisions address several nursing standards, pre-requisite courses, entrance exam scores, and required Nursing Program orientation.

Revise Program Policy: MSN Admission Policy

This admission policy revision addresses letters of recommendation for MSN applicants. Currently, applicants must submit letters of recommendation as part of admission requirements. It is not uncommon for applications to be delayed an admission decision because of missing letters of recommendation. Since the applicant has little to no control over this admission requirement and letters of recommendation are less important than other admission criteria, this requirement is being removed as a required admission criterion.

Revise Program Policy – Admission: PhD Nursing

This admission policy revision removes letters of reference as a requirement for admission to the program. It has been determined that other admission criteria are sufficient for assessing incoming students, and students are often held up for admission decisions when reference letters are not submitted in a timely manner. This revision also keeps admission requirements across graduate programs consistent.

Revise Program Policy – Admission: BSED, Elementary Education; BS, Early Childhood Development Pre-K-3 (Pre-K-3 Concentration); BS, Special Education; BS, Kinesiology Major (Physical Education K-12 Concentration); Secondary Education, Teacher Preparation Minor BSED

This admission policy revision applies to several licensure pathways. The revision is to move the point of formal admission to the program from prior to Pre-Residency to prior to Residency II. This move will allow students more flexibility in meeting admission requirements and should allow for more students to be successful in meeting all admission criteria, provides an outlet for students to continue to work toward licensure by extending time to meet state test score requirements. This revision is aligned with TNDOE licensure requirements for teacher education.

Revise Program Policy – Admission: BS Computing, Cybersecurity and Modern Networks

This admission policy revision removes department-level admission criteria. Prior to this revision, the admission criteria included seven prerequisite courses, class scheduling requirements, and expectations for career pathways. Following feedback from students and a review of other similar programs, all specific criteria are being removed, and admissions will be open. This change is expected to increase student interest and enrollment in the program.

Revise Program Policy –Admission and Progression: BM and BA Music (all concentrations)

This proposed policy revision addresses both admissions and progression through the Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts in Music programs. The admission component has been reworded to provide potential students with a clear understanding of the skill requirement for admission and the minimum score required on the admission exam. The program progression revision has been reworded to provide students with a clear understanding of progressing through competency levels 1, 2, and 3 while in the music program.

Revise Program Policy – Progression:

The following four policy revisions were completed on individual forms, but they represent progression policy revisions across music program concentrations and utilize the same academic justification.

Revise Program Policy – Progression: BM, Instrumental Performance concentration; BM, Instrumental/ General Music Education; BM, Vocal Performance; BM, Vocal/General Music

This progression policy revisions for the aforementioned four programs will provide clear expectations related to student minimum skill proficiency and minimum score for the proficiency exam for students in this concentration. These policy clarifications will also include student options for skill development if they need to continue moving through the program

Revise Program Policy – Progression: BBA Accountancy

This policy revision will remove the requirement of a B- or better grade in ACCT 2010 and ACCT 2020. This revision will align this program with similar programs across the region and nation and provide students with an enhanced opportunity to complete the full program.

Revise Program Policy – Progression: BSN

This policy revision will align the BSN with similar programs across the state and nation. It will allow opportunities for students to have greater success through the program. Following a review of program progression (completed in conjunction with the admission review), it was determined that there was a need to align the sequencing of program offerings with other similar programs across the region and nation and to bring the program progression in line with best practices in nursing preparation to assure that students exit the program with skills and knowledge appropriate for licensure and employment based on the National Council State Board of Nursing Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) licensure exam standards.

Revise Program Policy – Graduation:

Revise Program Policy – Graduation: MS Computer Science all concentrations

This policy revision clearly states all graduation requirements related to the computing exit exam, capstone presentation, and international student seminar. This effort ensures that no student perceives program-specific graduation requirements as hidden completion components.

This change will clarify and make graduation requirements transparent to all students.

Revise Program Policy – Graduation: MS Information Systems

This policy revision clarifies the requirements for all students completing this program. This policy revision clearly states all graduation requirements for the computing exit exam, capstone presentation, and international student seminar. This effort ensures that no student perceives program-specific graduation requirements as hidden completion components and standardizes graduation requirements across programs.

Revise Curriculum Substantive:

Revise Curriculum Substantive with Credit Change: MS Chemistry

The MS Chemistry program revisions will result in a change from 30 program credits to a range of 30-36 program credits. The addition of elective courses increases student flexibility in focusing on academic

interest areas within the program, and an increase in thesis research options will allow students involved in research to take additional research courses or extend field research as needed.

Revise Curriculum Substantive: PreK-3 Concentration

The curriculum revisions associated with this proposal involve deleting six courses and adding six courses; there is no change in total degree credits. This revision directly results from Tennessee Department of Education teacher license revisions associated with PreK-3 and Special Education Early Childhood Pre-K3 licensing requirements. These changes also align the program with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Division of Early Childhood, Council for Exceptional Children (DEC) standards.

Revise Curriculum Substantive: BS Engineering Technology

This curriculum revision consists of removing low-level mathematics courses and technical calculus from the core engineering technology curriculum and adding a preparatory engineering course and two semesters of calculus. The Department of Engineering, Engineering Technology, and Surveying and the Department of Mathematics & Statistics were involved in this program revision. This revision will align the program with similar programs across the state and nation.

Revise Curriculum Substantive: MAT Teacher Education

This policy revision includes two new courses, the revision of two courses, and two new concentrations: Elementary Education K-5 and K-12 Education. These changes to the MAT Teacher Education align with revisions to Tennessee's teacher licensure requirements.

Revise Curriculum Substantive: MAT, Secondary Education 6-12 and PreK-12 concentration

To ensure alignment of the MAT with TN DOE licensing requirements, the PreK-12 content from the renamed concentration is being included in a curriculum revision that results in two new courses, two-course revisions, and the establishment of two new concentrations that align with licensing endorsements: Elementary Education K-5 and K-12 Education.

Revise Articulation Agreement:

Revise Articulation Agreement: Chemistry and Pharmacy 3+1

The Gatton College of Pharmacy has revised admission requirements by adding a Human Physiology course, reducing the Biology requirement from eight credits to four, and eliminating the Economics requirement. The existing articulation agreement between Pharmacy and Chemistry must be updated to reflect these changes.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: Provost Update

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Kimberly D. McCorkle
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Staff will provide an update regarding initiatives underway across the Division of Academic Affairs for the upcoming academic year. After final approval of changes to the University's academic structure and the adoption of the new General Education curriculum, the implementation phase of these initiatives is progressing. This presentation will provide an update on these efforts as well as the continued focus on expanding community-engagement across the division in preparation for the University's Carnegie classification application, growing regional partnerships, and targeting curriculum development in areas related to workforce demand to impact student success.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: ETSU Research Update: College of Public Health

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

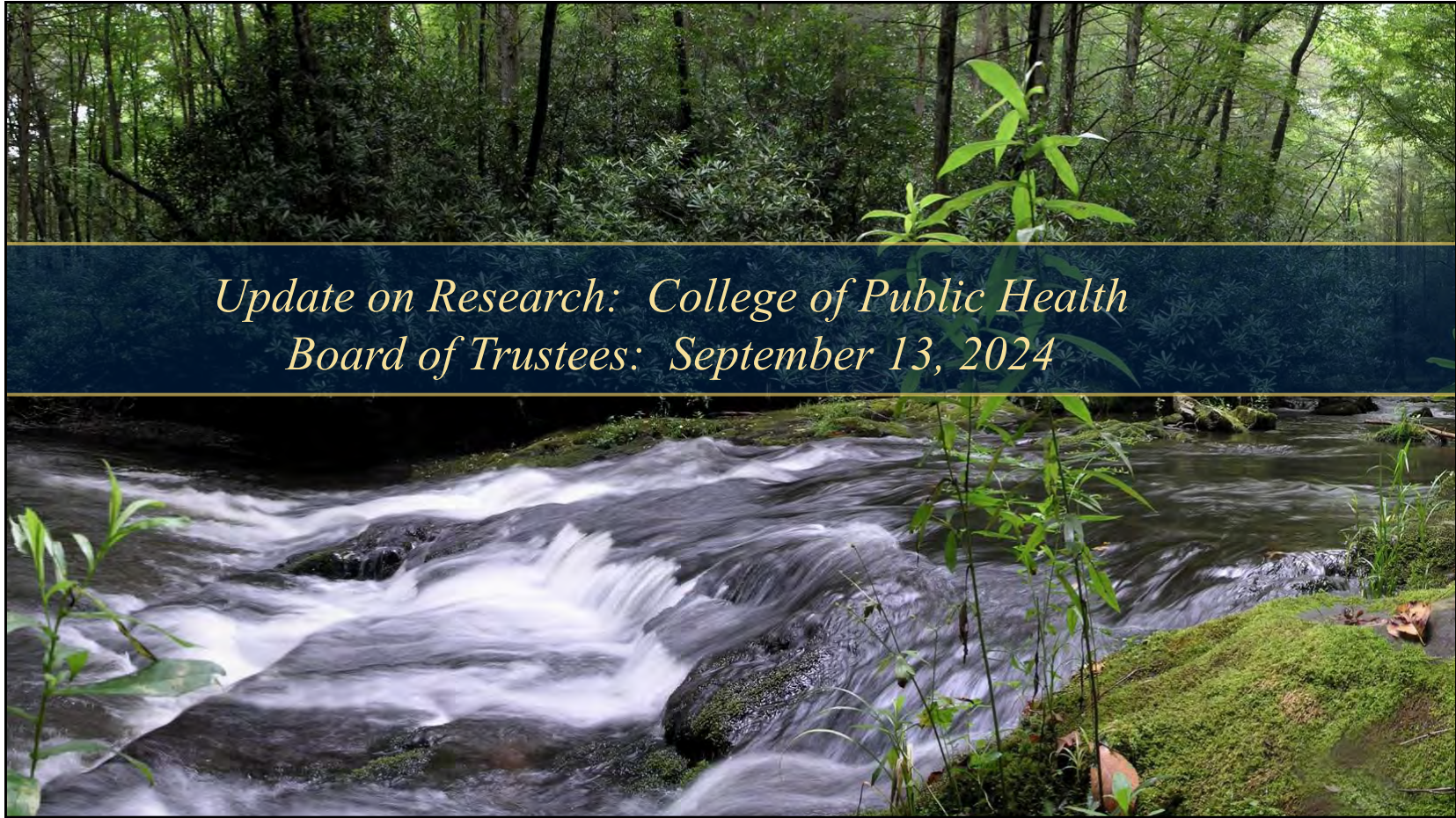
PRESENTED BY: Dr. Randy Wykoff
Dean, College of Public Health

Since its initial accreditation in 2009, the College of Public Health has received almost \$50 million in research funding from outside sources. Last year, the college generated over \$7 million in research expenditures, published over 50 peer-reviewed articles, and presented 180 times at professional conferences.

Four research centers/programs have driven this research growth: The Addiction Science Center, the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation of Women’s Health, the Center for Rural Health and Research, and the Tennessee Institute of Public Health. These centers, and two in development (the Center for Cardiovascular Risks Research and Mobilizing Opportunities to Strengthen Aging and Inter-generational Care—MOSAIC), are focused, specifically, on improving health and well-being in rural areas, including, but not limited to East Tennessee and Central Appalachia.

Well over half of all research projects in the college involve students, and students represented almost one-quarter of all presentations at the 2024 Appalachian Student Research Forum. Over three-quarters of all research projects by the College are considered community-based. In 2024, the college received the highly competitive Harrison C. Spencer Award for Outstanding Community Service.

Staff will provide an update to the Committee on these accomplishments.



Research in the College of Public Health: Outline

- Current Status of Research in the College of Public Health
- Lessons Learned:
 - Focus on regional challenges;
 - Create centers;
 - Focus on the intersection of research, teaching, and community service
 - Pursue excellence in all activities;
- Future Directions



COLLEGE of
PUBLIC HEALTH
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

*The College of Public Health:
Vision Statement*

*The ETSU College of Public Health is the School of Choice for Students Who
Want an Exceptional Educational Experience in a World-Class Environment*



Current Status of Research in the College of Public Health

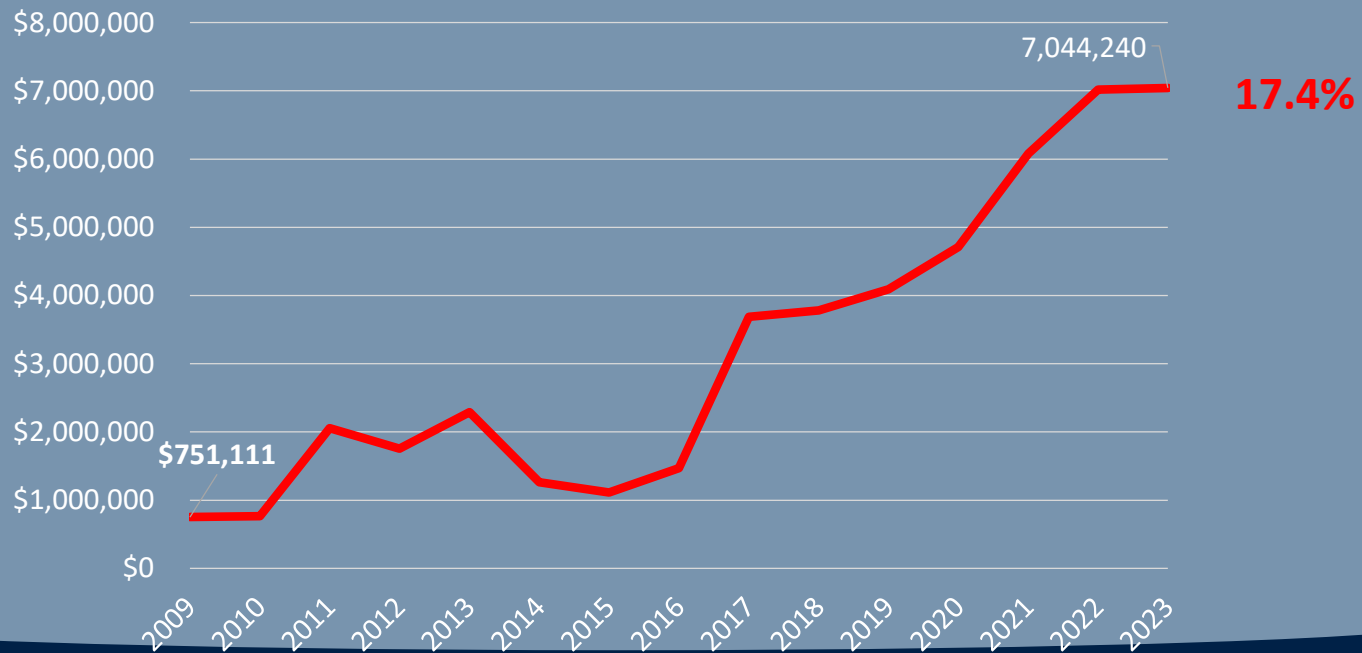
- Since accreditation in 2009, the College has brought in almost \$50 million in externally funded research;
- Last year saw over \$7 million in annual research spending—reflecting a 17% annual growth rate over the past 14 years;
- Last year, we provided 180 scientific presentations at scientific and professional conferences;



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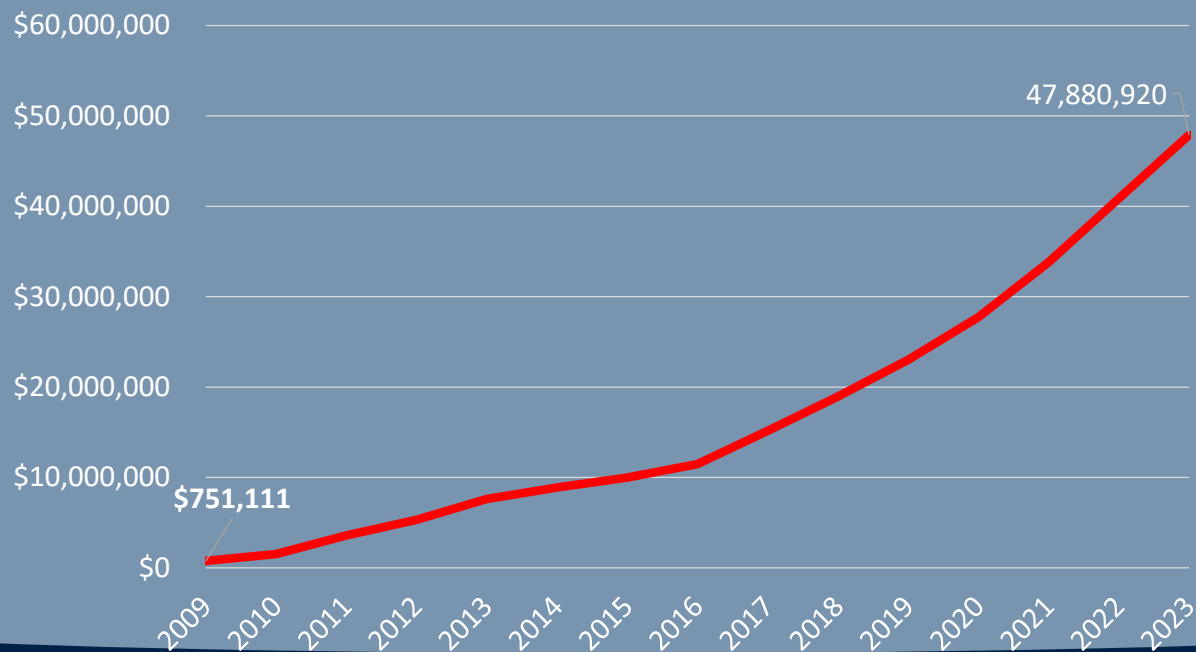
Current Status of Research in the College of Public Health: Annual External Funding (2009 – 2023)



Thanks to Karen Ervin and Hazel Robinson for compiling this information



Current Status of Research in the College of Public Health: Cumulative External Funding (2009 – 2023)



Thanks to Karen Ervin and Hazel Robinson for compiling this information



COLLEGE of
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Research in the College of Public Health: Lessons Learned: Focus on Regional Challenges

- Leading Challenges for East Tennessee and Central Appalachia
 - Pervasive poverty;
 - Lack of educational achievement;
 - Poor health habits, especially:
 - Smoking
 - Poor diet/sedentary lifestyle
 - Opioids
 - Lack of access to healthcare
 - Environmental threats
 - Aging population

It is important to focus on these challenges, both because they matter to the people of our region, and because this is where we have competitive credibility.



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*Research in the College of Public Health:
Lessons Learned: Create Centers*

- Addiction Science Center
- Center for Rural Health and Research
 - ETSU/NORC Rural Health Equity Research Center
- Center for Applied Research and Evaluation in Women's Health
- Center for Cardiovascular Risks Research
- Tennessee Institute of Public Health
- Tennessee Public Health Training Center



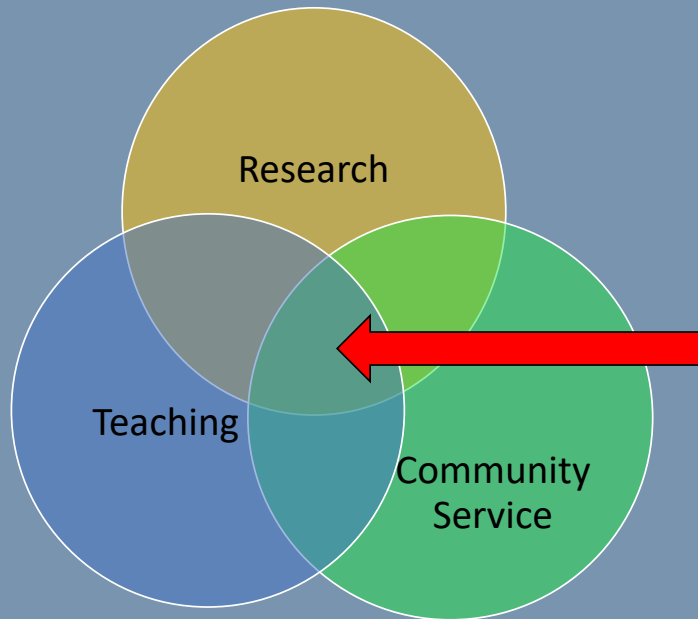
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Research in the College of Public Health: Lessons Learned: Create Centers

- The Characteristics of a Research Center:
 - Dedicated Leadership;
 - Highly inter-professional;
 - Diverse community partners;
 - (Ideally) multiple sources of external funding;
 - Focused on:
 - National reputation and
 - Local impact



*Research in the College of Public Health:
Focus on the Intersection of Research, Teaching, and Community Service*



*Research in the College of Public Health:
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In 2023, over two thirds of research projects involved students, and they were part of over one half of the 180 scientific and professional conference presentations.

In the Appalachian Student Research Forum, the College had 12 of 34 (35%) oral presentations and 44 of 188 (23%) poster presentations—representing over a quarter of all presentations.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Posters</u>	<u>Oral Presentations</u>	<u>Total Students Involved</u>	<u>Total Faculty Involved</u>
2011	19	2	19	14
2024	44	12	78	29



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ASPPH HARRISON C. SPENCER AWARD

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

2024 Award Recipient:



COLLEGE of
PUBLIC HEALTH
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

East Tennessee State University College of
Public Health



Community Partners Who Met with the Site Visit Team: Harrison C. Spencer Award for Outstanding Community Service

Cathy Ball, City Manager for Johnson City, TN

Oliva Barnes, AdaptoPlay Board Member & ETSU Alumna

Trent Coffey, Executive Director, Schools Together Allowing No Drugs (S.T.A.N.D.)

Robin Crumley, President and CEO of Boys and Girls Club Johnson City/Washington County

Kim Gass, Regional Career Connect Coordinator, Niswonger Foundation

Joe Grandy, Washington County Mayor

Pat Hankins, Former Greene County Sheriff

Jodi Jones, Washington County Commissioner and Chair, Health Education & Welfare Committee

Jeff Keeling, Digital Reporter, WJHL-TV

Kyle Kramer, Maker Team Director, AdaptoPlay

Kristina Peters, Workforce Employer Manager, First Tennessee Development District

Ryan Porter, Chief Operating Officer, Jackson Energy Authority

Ben Robertson, Assistant Director of Special Education, Kingsport City Schools

Priscilla Rogers, Founder, Mooresburg Community Association in Hawkins County

Lottie Ryans, Director of Workforce & Literacy Initiatives, First Tennessee Development District

Keith Sexton, Washington County Sheriff

Aaron Scott, Business Manager for The Salvation Army

Alma Vazquez, Juntos and Catholic Charities for East Tennessee

Susan West, Physical Therapist, AdaptoPlay Board Member

Maria Whiston, Community Organizer and Advocate for Veterans

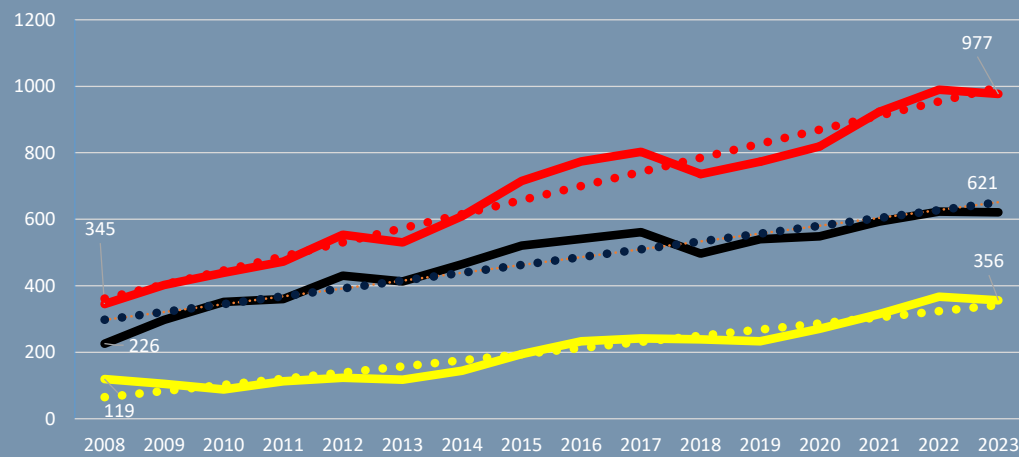


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The Status of the College of Public Health: Lessons Learned: Pursue Excellence in All Activities: Enrollment Growth

**We are now the largest School of Public Health in all of Appalachia, and
in the top quarter of all schools in the country**



Thanks to Chris Sutter for compiling this information



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*The Status of the College of Public Health:
Lessons Learned: Pursue Excellence in All Activities: Enrollment Growth*

- The College received what we believe is an unprecedented 100 percent “clean” reaccreditation report in 2023.
- 100% of graduates for the past three years, are in graduate/professional school, or employed by one year after graduation.
- The College is one of only two schools in the Nation to have received BOTH the Harrison C. Spencer award and the Delta Omega Award for Innovative Curriculum;
- Over the last three surveys, 97% of graduates were satisfied with their overall educational experience and 97% would recommend the college to others.



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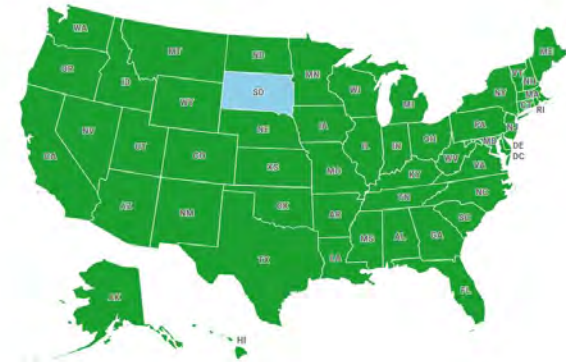
Applications: 2013-2023

75 Countries, 49 States and 86 Tennessee Counties

Applications from Tennessee per County: 2018 - Current



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Research in the College of Public Health: Future Directions

- 1) Create a new Center to address the needs of our aging populations and their care-givers: “Maximizing Opportunities to Strengthen Aging and Intergenerational Care” (MOSAIC);
- 2) Create new certificates, degrees, and research opportunities around the health implications of our changing environment by partnering with Biology, Geosciences, Appalachian Studies, and others;
- 3) Address the needs of our region’s educational and economic challenges by supporting and working with other Colleges and regional partners;
- 4) Exploring sustainable funding mechanisms



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EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INFORMATION ITEM

DATE: September 13, 2024

ITEM: ETSU Athletics Update

COMMITTEE: Academic, Research, and Student Success

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Richard Sander
Athletics Director

Staff will provide an overview of progress made by the Department of Athletics since August 1, 2022. This presentation will include a synopsis of financial conditions, the student-athlete experience, and the progress toward Title IX compliance. It will also include a brief update on the state of intercollegiate athletics and how ETSU Athletics will be impacted in the future as it attempts to navigate the fluid landscape that defines the NCAA and Division I programs.

Overview of ETSU Athletics

Dr. Richard Sander
Athletics Director



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
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Presentation Overview

- Report on the progress made in FY 23 & FY 24
- Update on the state of college athletics
- Path forward



State of ETSU Athletics

- Tenure began as interim AD on August 1, 2022
- Immediate Priorities:
 - Stabilize the Athletics Department
 - Assess the financial state of the department
 - Evaluate personnel and sport programs
 - Evaluate the student-athlete experience
 - Evaluate Title IX Compliance



Financial State of ETSU Athletics



Financial State

- As of August 1, 2022, the structural deficit for the department was over \$ 3 million
- Executed immediate tactics to reduce deficit



Financial State of ETSU Athletics

Projected Deficit for FY 23 as of August 1, 2022	Actual Deficit for FY 23	Actual Deficit for FY 24
\$3,308,220	\$1,348,132	\$280,951



Evaluation of Personnel and Sport Programs



Good to GREAT



Good to GREAT

- Coaching hires
- Administrative hires
- Evaluation and empowerment of staff
- Staff-focused initiatives
 - Myers Briggs Training for entire department
 - Comprehensive annual coach and sport program evaluation
 - Assistant Coaches Council
 - Professional development opportunities



Evaluation of Student-Athlete Experience



Academic Impact of Student-Athletes

- Department GPA: **3.358**
- Student-Athlete Undergraduate Success
 - Total # of 4.0 GPA = **46**
 - Total # of Dean's List (3.5 or higher) = **146**
 - Total # of Honor Roll (3.0 -3.499) = **80**



New Student-Athlete Focused Initiatives

- Developed **Be GREAT**
- Hired a full-time mental health professional
- Created Mental Health Task Force
- Nutrition enhancements
- Launched the Student-Athlete Success Department
- Created Buc Mentorship & the Academy of Leaders
- Financial Literacy Programming



Impact on Enrollment

- FY 25 projecting 388 student-athletes
 - Incoming Freshmen: 101
 - Out-of-State student-athletes: 251
 - \$3,887,332 tuition paid to ETSU
 - \$1,346,364 room and board paid to ETSU
 - In-State student-athletes: 137
 - \$1,434,664 tuition paid to ETSU
 - \$734,868 room and board paid to ETSU



Impact of Title IX Focused Initiatives

University Enrollment						
	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
Men	3541	40%	3211	38%	3371	39%
Women	5249	60%	5159	62%	5240	61%

Athletics Duplicated Count Breakdown						
	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
	Year Before Hire		Majority of Rosters Set Before Start Date		First Year with Focus on Title IX	
Men	290	57%	312	59%	249	51%
Women	219	43%	216	41%	245	49%
	-17%		-21%		-12%	



Current State of College Athletics



- Court cases have significantly changed the landscape of college athletics
 - Transfers, Alston Award, NIL, Roster size, Scholarship Awards and Requirements
 - Final settlement of House case will forever change the future of collegiate athletics
- Immediate impact (Ohio State)
- Southern Conference decisions



Words Around the Country

- **Ohio State President-** “We've just got to make sure that we maintain, even with this revenue-share model, that we can do everything that we can to be self-sufficient. This program has been self-sufficient, and we anticipate it will be self-sufficient going forward... you're going to find only maybe three to five programs that are going to be able to say that in the next model.”
- **Former NC Central AD-** “Every FCS department has deficit issues, fundraising challenges, insurance issues, and just plain ‘not enough money’ issues. The key is to have a plan.”
- **Utah St. AD-** “We don't have that financial fund just ready to go. Every day we eat what we can kill, and we have to do a better job of having more reserves, so that we can plan for that.”
- **Minnesota AD-** Cut 4 programs to help with money and Title IX. “All programs are trying to figure out how we manage the back payments for the house settlement and then how we determine the revenue share model moving forward.”



Change is the Only Constant

- The landscape of college athletics is changing rapidly.
- The world of college of athletics this year, next year, and three years from now will look totally different.
- We will have to adapt to be successful.



Path Forward

- Community Conversations
 - Financial model
 - Definitive priority of sports and allocation of resources
 - Student-athlete success model
 - Facilities
 - Organizational structure and operations
 - Revenue generation
- Hard decisions, changes, and opportunities

