

CHAIRS' COUNCIL MEETING #6 Agenda

Date 18 Mar 2024

Time 3:00PM – 4:30PM

Location Zoom

<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/86071990210?pwd=N1kxVCtZVzdYaDMyTFBrcmdEM082dz09>

VISITORS

Concern – MTSU board chairman wants to close meetings for “sensitive” topics.

- Please read the article associated with the link above.
- This may end up being an issue for us.

Guided Self-Placement

Kate Pantelides

- [See PowerPoint](#)
- Guided Self-Placement – uses multiple measures including test scores, prior learning, preferences, and student input to guide students in course placement selection. In other words, not just looking at the ACT but looking at multiple types of measurements.
 - Recognizes individual assessments.
 - Empowers students and encourages them to take responsibility by including them in the course selection process.
 - GSP changes the culture around learning and support – students are not “forced” to take prescribed classes.
 - They started researching this in 2018, have been piloting it since. They want to expand it.
 - Standardized test scores have been used for a long time, but they do not really reflect academic success. In general, they seem to reflect demographics.
 - ACT and SAT
 - The problem is when they are used for placement mechanisms.
 - Now, if students score a certain number on the ACT, they must take remedial classes, etc.
 - Implications are problematic for faculty and students.
 - Students do not feel “good enough” by being prescribed courses and having no choice.
 - We hope it is successful so that it can be applied more broadly across the curriculum (e.g., math).

Sandbox Student Organization

Adam McInturff

- Interdisciplinary Student Organization
 - They want to expand interdisciplinary work and student creativity.
 - Anything students want to create, the club can help them do that.
 - Basically, they want multiple creators from different disciplines working on the same project.

Multi-Factor Identification

Alan Franklin

- He is the director of client services in ITD.
- They have received reports about excessive prompts, but they have a hard time getting data about those prompts in a timely manner.
- A lot of these problems are intermittent.
- They need someone who is getting multiple MFA prompts to work with them to figure out what is going on. They have to “capture” it in real time.
 - Amy Atchison (PGA) volunteered.
- Contact Alan directly if you are having issues with MFA prompts.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

QEP GTA

Chandra Story

- 2026 is a year for reaccreditation.
- They are able to hire a grad assistant to work on the QEP for the new accreditation.
 - One year appointment starting August 1
 - Want a graduate student who:
 - Is passionate about student success
 - Has quantitative and qualitative analysis skills
 - Has data collection skills
 - Has experience with survey development
 - Is proficient with literature reviews
 - Can work with new technologies
 - Email Chandra if you have a student you would recommend.

College Advisors

Amy Atchison

- Advisors are overloaded with students.
- As we lose advisors, they are not replacing them.
- Also, we are worried about advisors giving wrong information.
- Is this an issue for everyone?
 - Multiple colleges are reporting excessive workloads for advisors.
- Who is employing the advisors?
 - University college but serve other colleges.
- Concern: if we overwork people, we will lose them.
- An issue is that we expect them to have a master’s degree but do not pay them to match that education.
- The provost office is hoping to develop a way for advisors to get promoted and raises to help with attrition.
 - Also allowing them to work one day from home a week.
- Is there a way the chairs council can say that we have concerns about this?
 - But the issue is that it varies so much across colleges and departments, so it may not be a one-size-fits-all solution.
- The provost will ask where they will get the money.
- This is also a retention concern.
- Steve will raise issue with Provost at next Chairs’ Exec Council mtg

Chair Training Project

Eric Oslund
Gina Pisut

- Want to help chairs get training before they start the job and then get continued training as they chair.
- Creating a new chairs handbook
- Dean Hein has a list of who he will contact to do an interview for a needs assessment.
- Gina is more focused on the training, and Eric is more focused on the handbook and the job description.

Exec Council Update

Steve Severn

- Grad Program Director summer pay
 - All grad directors will be compensated in some way, but we will hear more news soon.
- Merit pay
 - There is a committee that HR has formed, and Kari Neely is on it. We said that there needs to be a chair on that committee since we are the ones that have to do it.
 - However, they are just going to have Kari relay the information.
 - The outlook does not look good.
- Department health check-ups
 - They will happen in the summer to coincide with a chance to talk about line requests (in theory).

Veterans' Impact Celebration – Aug 16

Steve Severn

- Go if you have not been prior.
- Open bar and good dinner.
- Good speakers. => This year will be Keith D. Stansell, author of *Out of Captivity: Surviving 1967 Days in the Colombian Jungle*
- Great event.
- Friday before classes start.

Grad Ed / Research Study Next Steps

Steve Severn

- There is a cohesive draft now.
- Please look at it and give comments.
- We want to vote on it next meeting.
- Challenges: president and provost saying different things about R1.
- There is no clear document with expectations for what is expected of each those positions (i.e., dean of grad studies, and research)

Chairs' Council Next Year – Looking Ahead

Steve Severn

- If you want to be on the exec council to serve, please reach out to Steve.
- Position available – Chair-elect.
 - Will serve as chair 2025-2026 after Eric Oslund chairs next year.
 - Will be on the executive council, which meets with the provost once a month and is a good opportunity.

CHAIRS' COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING
Attendants
March 18, 2024

	COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES	
x	Dr. Chaminda Prelis	Aerospace
	Dr. Jessica Carter, Director	Agriculture (School of)
x	Dr. Dennis Mullen	Biology
	Dr. Amy Phelps, Interim	Chemistry
x	Dr. Medha Sarkar	Computer Science
x	Dr. Tom Nicholas, Director	Concrete and Construction Management (School of)
x	Dr. Kenneth Currie	Engineering Technology
x	Dr. Melissa Lobegeier, Interim	Geosciences
	Dr. Chris Stephens	Mathematical Sciences
	Dr. Ron Henderson	Physics and Astronomy
	COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES	
x	Dr. Joshua Harms, Interim	Criminal Justice Administration
x	Dr. Chandra Story, Interim	Health and Human Performance
x	Dr. Gina Pisut	Human Sciences
x	Dr. Jenny Sauls, Director	Nursing (School of)
x	Dr. Nancy Stone	Psychology
	Dr. Cathy McElderry	Social Work
x	Dr. Marie Patterson (director)	Physician Assistant Studies
	COLLEGE OF BUSINESS	
x	Dr. Kim Honaker, Interim	Accounting
	Dr. Tim Greer	Information Systems and Analytics
x	Nita Brooks for Tim Greer	
x	Dr. Stuart Fowler	Economics and Finance
x	Dr. Deana Raffo	Management
x	Dr. Robert B. Blair	Marketing
	COLLEGE OF EDUCATION	
x	Dr. Eric Oslund	Elementary and Special Education
x	Dr. Donald Snead	Womack Educational Leadership
	COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS	
x	Mr. Jimmy Mumford	Art and Design
x	Dr. Mary Beth Asbury	Communication Studies
x	Dr. Steve Severn	English
x	Dr. Amy Atchison, interim	Global Studies and Human Geography
x	Dr. Emily Baran	History
x	Dr. Chris Dye, Interim	Music (School of)
x	Dr. Mary Magada-Ward	Philosophy and Religious Studies
x	Dr. Amy Atchison	Political Science and International Relations
	Dr. Brandon Wallace	Sociology and Anthropology
	Ms. Kristi Shamburger, Interim	Theatre and Dance
	Dr. Olaf Berwald	World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
	COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT	
x	Dr. Katie Foss, Director	Journalism and Strategic Media (School of)
x	Marie Barnas	Media Arts
x	Michelle Conceison	Recording Industry
	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE	
x	Dr. Matthew Duncan	University Studies
	WALKER LIBRARY	

x	Kristen West, Interim	User Services
x	Beverly Geckle Denise Quintel, Interim	Collection Development and Management