

**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, August 20, 2024, 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, Bill Jones, Mary Martin, Steve Smith, Christine Vanek, Michael Wade, Pam Wright, Shaylaine Roker, Keith Huber, and Chris Massaro. Pete DeLay was 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; 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 May 21, 2024, Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee meeting. Trustee Vanek moved to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2024, meeting, and Trustee Martin seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Student Life Presentation – Information

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Khalilah Doss gave an overview of the division, including accomplishments, initiatives, and goals for the academic year. The four pillars

of the division are student health and wellbeing, student leadership, student belonging, and student engagement and support. Her presentation is posted on the MTSU Board of Trustees website.

Enrollment Report – Information

Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Laurie Witherow shared that 19,980 students were registered for the fall semester, which is less than a 1% increase and a 1.27% increase in the freshman class. In light of the issues with the FAFSA, this is remarkable.

Athletics Report - Information

Athletics Director Chris Massaro reported that 73 student-athletes graduated last academic year. We are less than one year from occupying the Student-Athlete Enhancement Center.

A new video board and sound system were installed in the football stadium.

Coach Derek Mason instituted the Blue Collar Project, in which football players were required to provide 10 hours of service to support our community.

Tailgating has been upgraded with “Party in the Grove,” in partnership with Marketing and Communications and the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Media and Entertainment.

Regarding the NCAA-House Settlement, MTSU is positioned well in a growing metropolitan area. There will be hard decisions regarding resources. We must rethink how we allocate our resources and generate more scholarships to enhance their experience at MTSU.

Chairman’s Remarks

Chairman Smith asked Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Keith Huber to give a summary of fundraising events for the Charlie and Hazel Daniels Veterans and Military Family Center. The 7th annual Veterans Impact Celebration took place August 16, and on October 10, a breakfast event will feature General James Mattis (USMC, Retired) in discussion with former Senator Bill Frist.

Adjournment

Committee Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Athletics Committee