



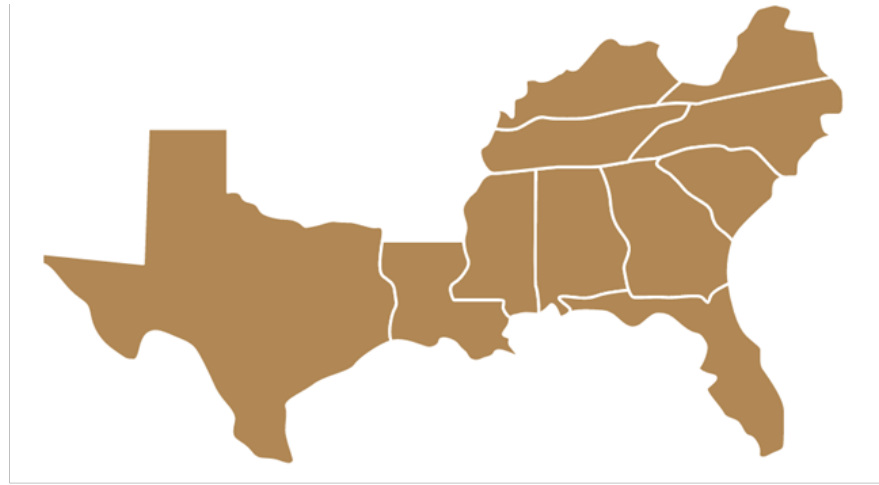
Presentation to Academic & Student Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
March 11, 2021



SACSCOC Updates

Presented to
Tennessee Tech University
Board of Trustees





- SACSCOC – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges
- Regional accreditation agency, certified by Department of Education
- SACSCOC accreditation certifies an institution’s eligibility under Title IV for student financial aid
- Who is SACSCOC? Us! Evaluators are colleagues from institutions in the South
- Re-accreditation cycle: every 10 years



Comprehensive Review

- Institutional Mission
- Governance and Administration
- Educational Programs, Graduate and Undergraduate
- Faculty
- Institutional Effectiveness
- Library & Learning Support
- Student Affairs and Services
- Resources, including Fiscal and Physical
- Policy Compliance, including Federal Standards



Two key written documents

- Compliance Certification (~100 principles in 14 categories)
- Quality Enhancement Plan

Three reviews

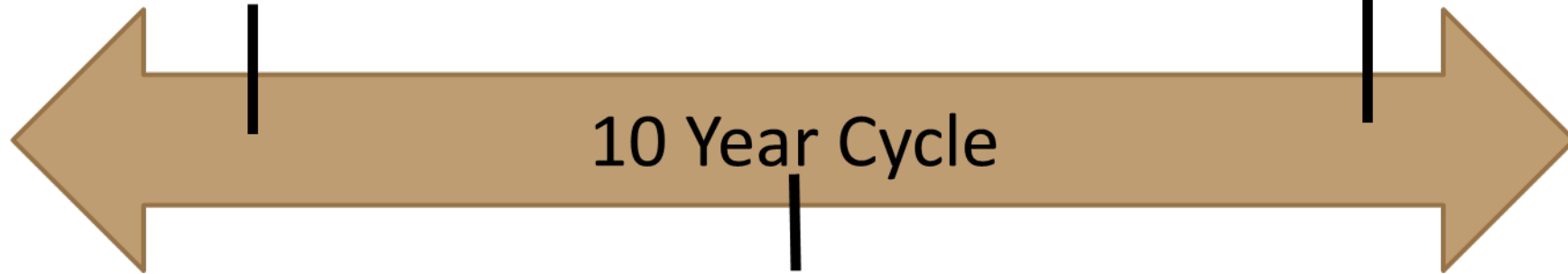
- Off-site review
- On-site review
- SACSCOC Board of Trustee review

Tennessee Tech Univ. 2016

Reaffirmation of
Accreditation

Tennessee Tech Univ. 2026

Reaffirmation of
Accreditation



5th Year Interim Report

Tennessee Tech Univ. 2022

Two key written documents

- Compliance Certification (subset of 22 principles)
- Quality Enhancement Plan Impact Report

One review

- Off-site review



Fifth-Year Interim Report Timeline

Date	Description of Activity
April 26, 2021	Institutions receive Notification Letter from the President of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees
March 15, 2022	Due date for Fifth-Year Interim Report
June 2022	Review by a SACSCOC Fifth-Year Interim Committee
Mid-July 2022	A letter with results of the review is sent out to each institution



Components of the Report

Part I:

Signatures Attesting
to Integrity

Part II:

Institutional Summary
Form Prepared for
Commission Reviews

Part III:

Fifth-Year Compliance
Certification

Part IV:

~~Followup Report
(*applicable only to select
institutions*)~~

Part V:

Impact Report of the
Quality Enhancement
Plan

Review of off-campus instructional sites initiated since last reaffirmation
but not reviewed by a committee (*indicated in notification letter*)



Review Outcomes

Review of a Fifth-Year Interim Report

Two Possibilities:

- (1) No Referral Report
- (2) Referral Report required - Due the following April

Review of a Referral Report

Four Possibilities:

- (1) No additional report requested
- (2) Request a monitoring report (two-year limited monitoring period)
- (3) Recommend placing the institution on a sanction
- (4) Recommend removal from membership



Fifth-Year Interim Report Committees

- Leadership Committee
- Compliance Committee for the Fifth-Year Interim Report
 - Narrative Developer Teams
 - Institutional Effectiveness Subcommittee
 - Report Reviewer and Editorial Subcommittee
- Quality Enhancement Plan Impact Report Committee



TTU Compliance Certification Committee (Fifth-Year Interim Report)

- **Dr. Sharon Huo**, Associate Provost -- Chair
- **Dr. Doug Bates**, Dean of Library and Learning Assistance
- **Dr. Katherine Friedrich**, Director of Institutional Assessment,
Research and Effectiveness
- **Dr. Mike Gotcher**, Dean, College of Interdisciplinary Studies
- **Dr. Barbara Jared**, Director, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Allan Mills**, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
- **Dr. R. Natarajan**, Associate Dean, College of Business
- **Dr. Jessica Oswalt**, Associate Dean, College of Engineering
- **Dr. Lisa Zagumny**, Dean, College of Education
- **Ms. Amy Hill**, Editor, Office of Research and Economic Development
/Water Center



Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Impact Report Committee

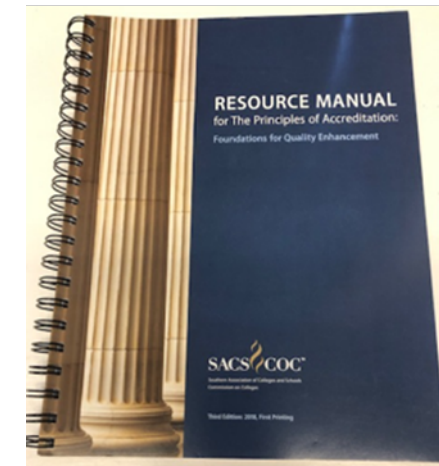
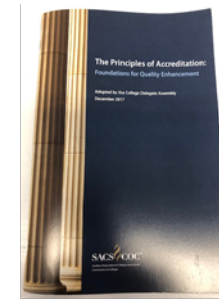
- **Dr. Lenly Weathers**, Director, Office of Creative Inquiry
- **Dr. Kevin Harris**, Associate Director, Office of Institutional Assessment, Research & Effectiveness
- **Ms. Amy Hill**, Editor, Office of Research and Economic Development/Water Center

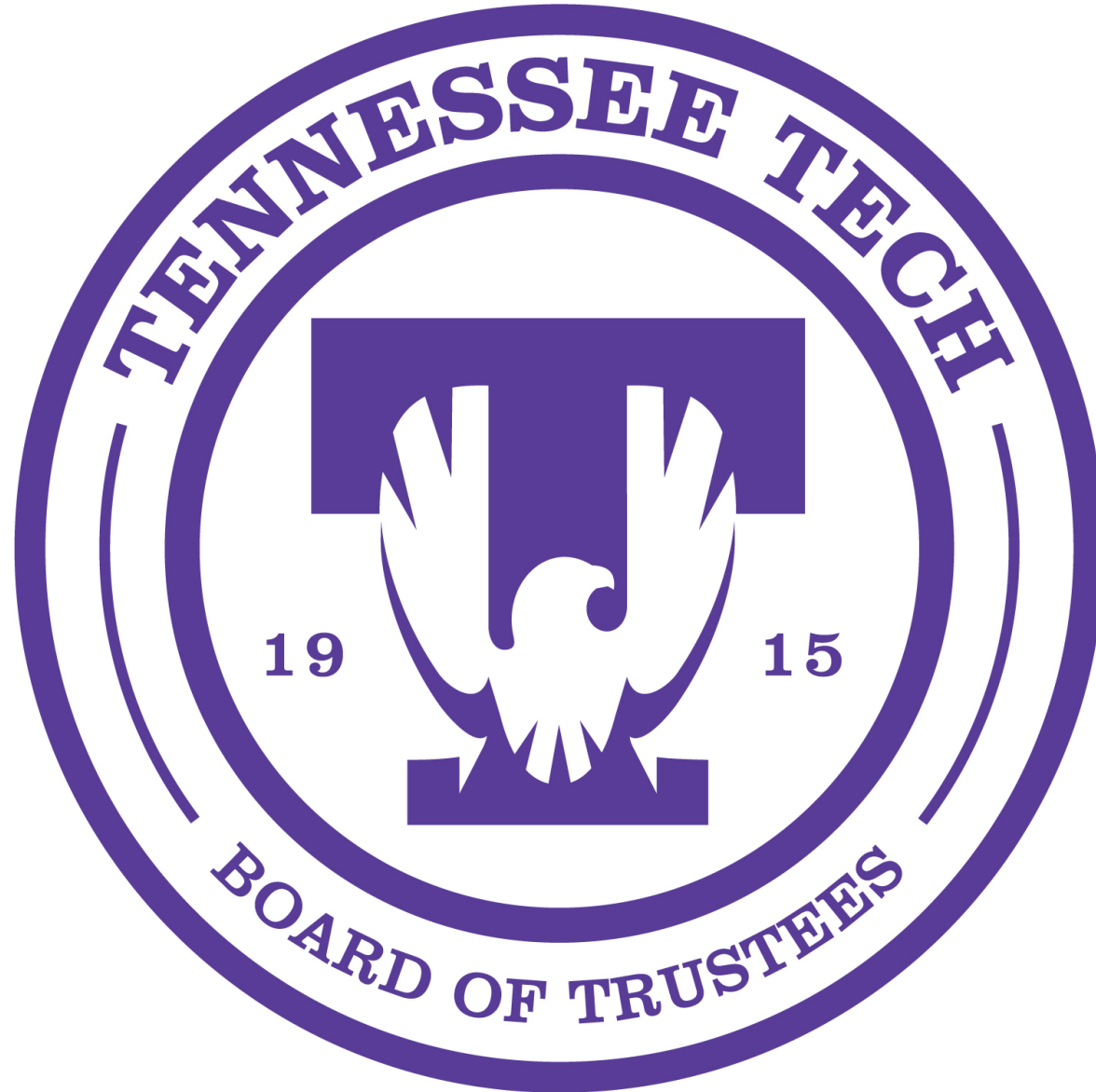


SACSCOC Resources

<https://sacscoc.org/accrediting-standards/institution-resources/the-fifth-year-interim-report/>

- [Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement](#)
- [Resource Manual for the Principles of Accreditation](#)
- [The Fifth-year Interim Report Process: An Overview](#)







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Academic Affairs

Highlights of Key Initiatives

related to

Tech Tomorrow Strategic Plan





TECH TOMORROW STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC GOAL

ONE: *Education for Life*

TWO: *Innovation in All We Do*

THREE: *Exceptional Stewardship*

FOUR: *Engagement for Impact*



STRATEGIC GOAL TWO

Innovation in All We Do

Tennessee Tech innovates in all we do, embracing and deploying our technological foundation in our education, research, service, and stewardship.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- A.** Every college will develop and implement technologically infused programs.
- B.** Increase research, scholarly activities, and intellectual and creative contributions aligned with university, college, and departmental strategic priorities.
- C.** Implement specific strategies, structures, and resources to serve adult learners and offer online/hybrid delivery systems to increase accessibility, expand our reach, and enhance our impact and reputation.
- D.** Recruit, hire, retain, and reward a diverse faculty/staff with a demonstrated commitment to collaboration, external engagement and lifelong learning.

As recommended by the
2019-20 Strategic Planning Implementation Team

- Restructure and Invest in Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning
- Establish CAFE – Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence
- Provide Leadership by Associate Provost for Online Education & Faculty Excellence

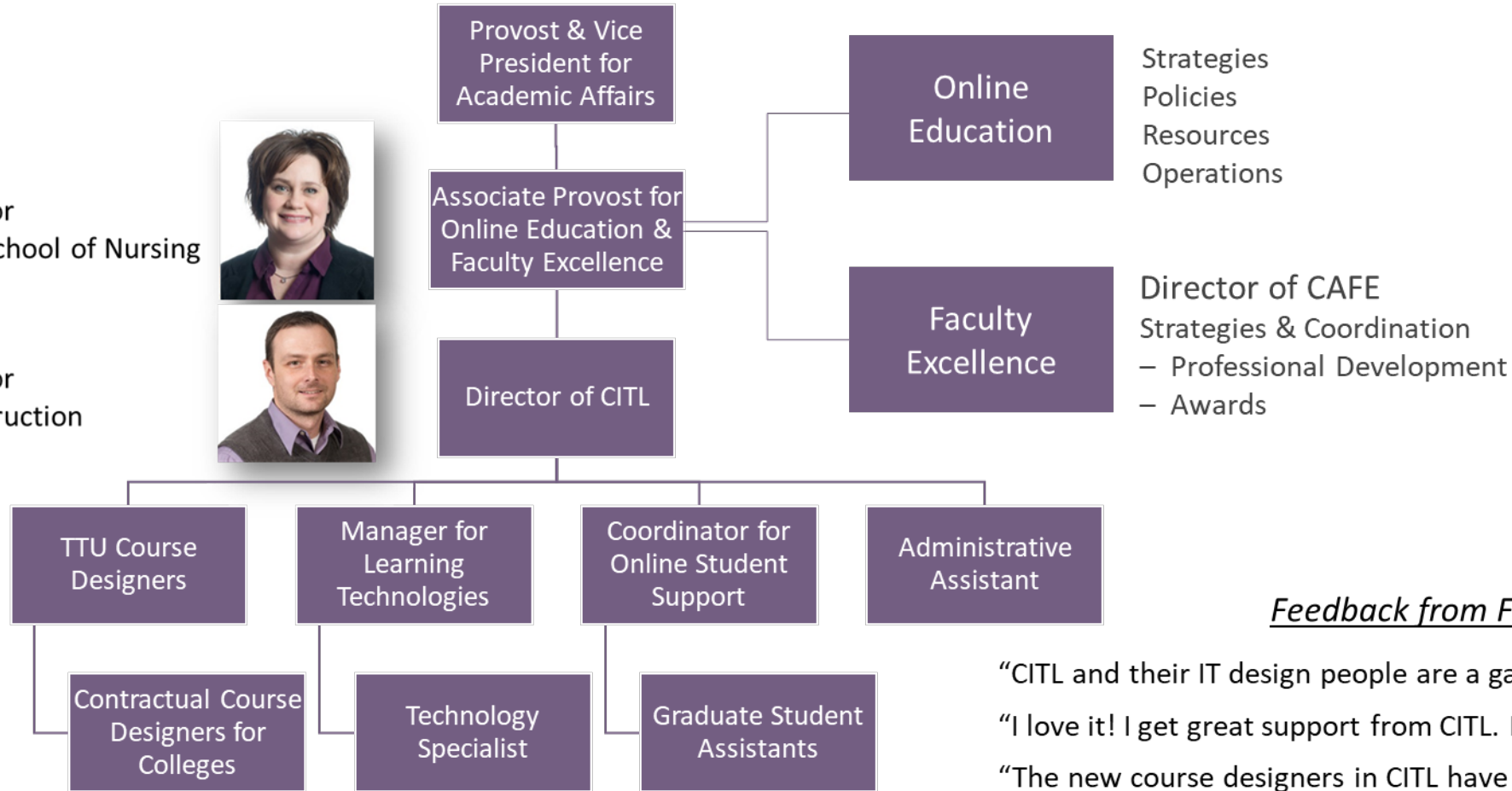


Online Education & Faculty Excellence

Dr. Bedelia Russell
Associate Professor
Whitson-Hester School of Nursing



Dr. Jason Beach
Associate Professor
Curriculum & Instruction



Feedback from Faculty

- “CITL and their IT design people are a game-changer”
- “I love it! I get great support from CITL. It’s a perfect solution.”
- “The new course designers in CITL have been a lifesaver!!”
- “I always sign-up for the available training sessions. These are SO VERY HELPFUL and the CITL staff have been absolutely remarkable.”



CAFE – Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence



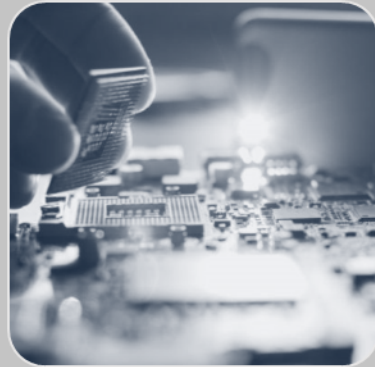
Teaching & Learning

Innovative Teaching Enhancements

Online Education Development

Instructional Technology Support

Academic Learning Communities



Research & Scholarship

Proposal Writing Workshops

Grant Management Seminars

IRB Training

Network of Scholars

Write Now – Writing workshops



Career Milestones

New Faculty Orientation

Promotion & Tenure Workshops

Awards & Fellowships



Leadership Development

Academic Leadership Series

Faculty Leadership Seminars

Dean Development Activities



STRATEGIC GOAL **THREE**

Exceptional Stewardship

Tennessee Tech is committed to optimizing resources and continuously improving effectiveness, efficiency, and return on investment for students.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- A.** Improve efficiency and effectiveness of operational/administrative processes and procedures.
- B.** Increase the size and effectiveness of scholarship endowments.
- C.** Continue to develop, implement, and evaluate a dynamic long-term budget model that informs effective financial management and consistent strategic investment.

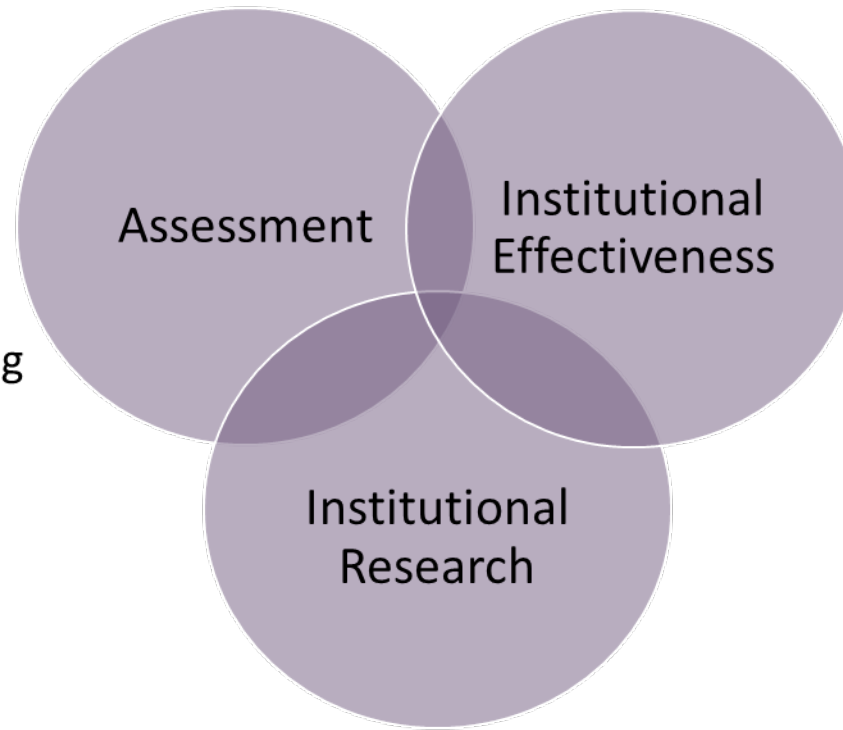
- Restructure and Invest in Institutional Research
- Merge Institutional Research with Institutional Assessment & Institutional Effectiveness
- Centralize & Elevate IARE to Empower Metric-Informed Decision Making at the University Level and Local Levels



IARE - Institutional Assessment, Research, & Effectiveness

Course Evaluations by Students
NSSE Survey
Exit Exams
Program Reviews

- TN Quality Assurance Funding
- SACSCOC Accreditation



Continuous Quality Improvement at
Department/Programmatic Level
➤ SACSCOC Accreditation

Institutional Data & Metrics (collection, analysis, dissemination)
Metric-Informed Decision Making

- TN Performance Based Funding Model
- TN Quality Assurance Funding
- SACSCOC Accreditation

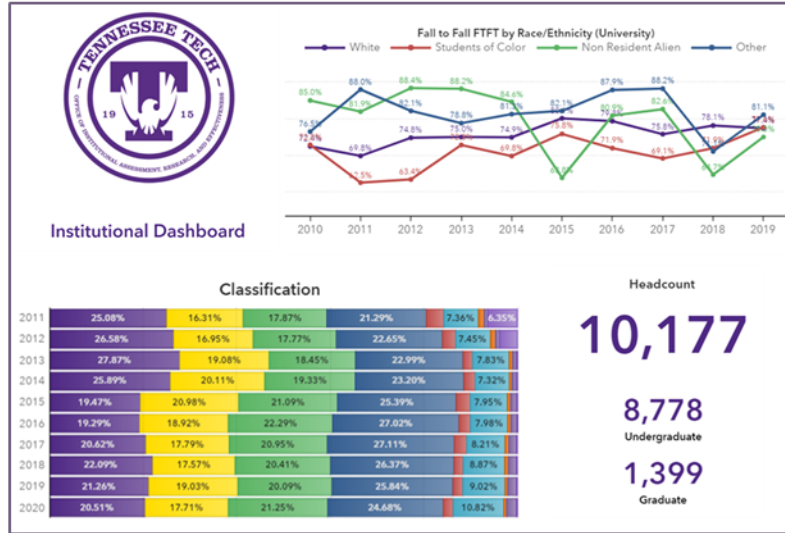


Director of Institutional Assessment, Research, & Effectiveness

Dr. Kathy Friedrich



Interactive Metrics Dashboards & Reports



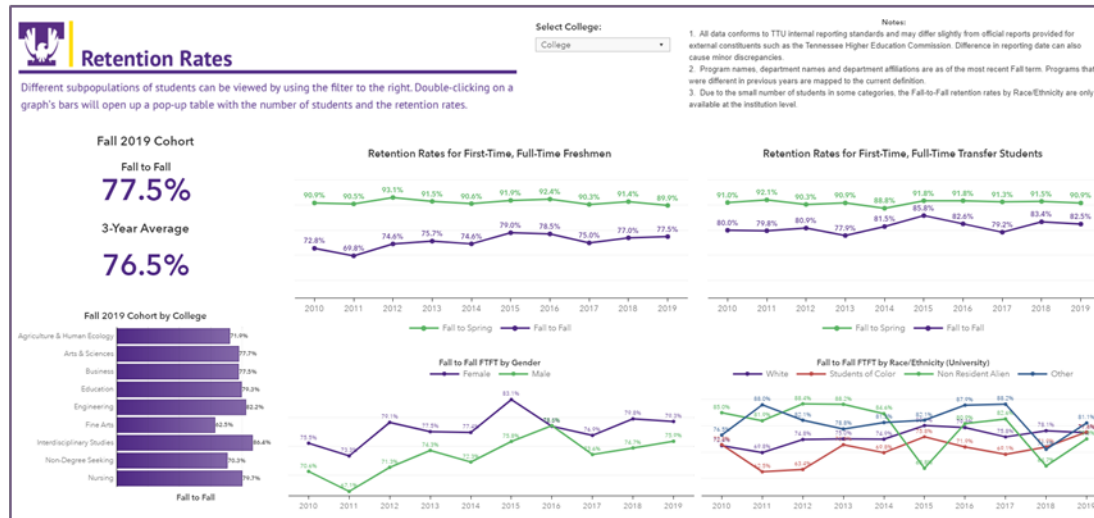
Feedback from Faculty & Staff

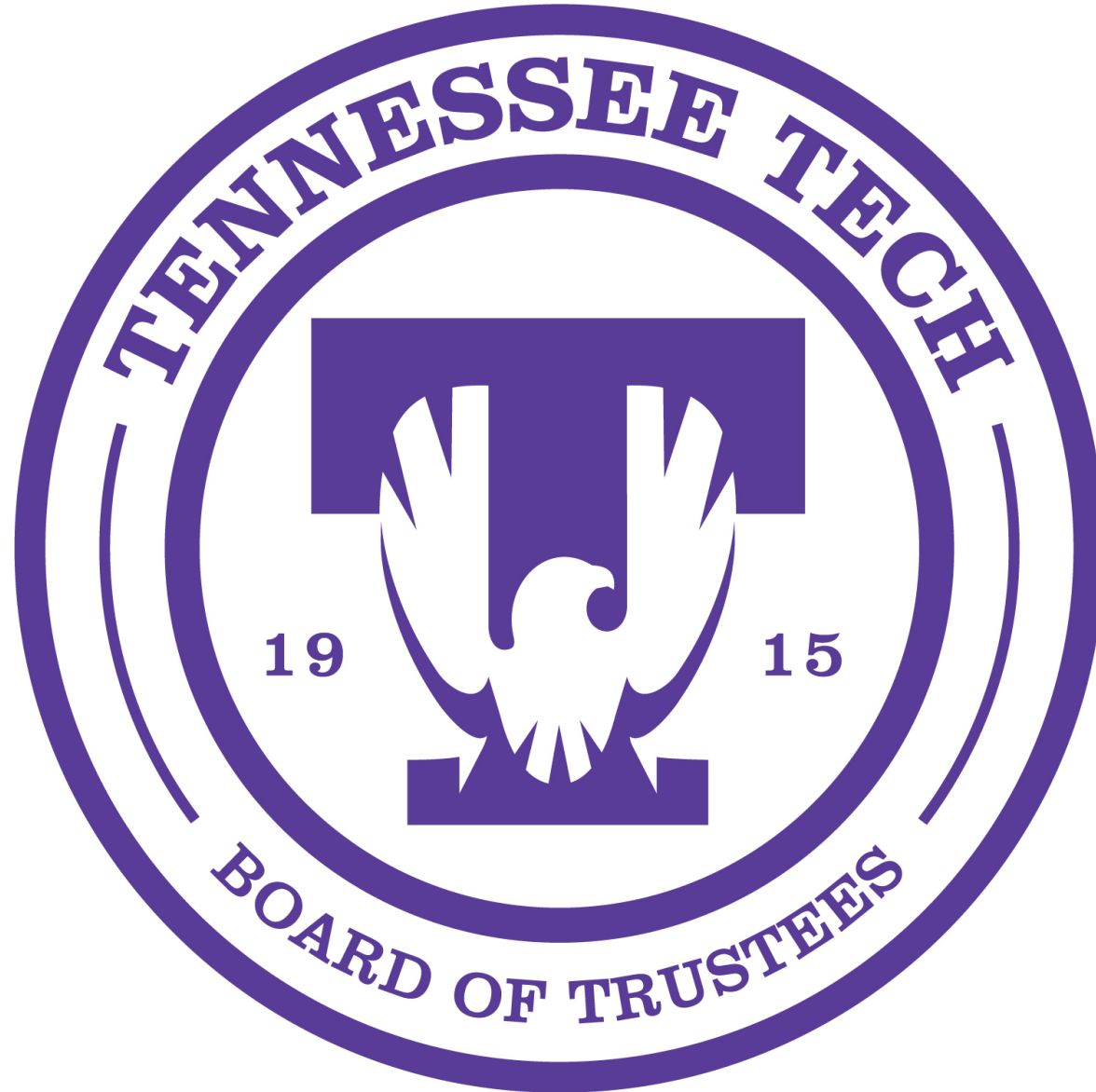
“Please pass on my congratulations to you and your team for getting this dashboard up and running. We’ve needed something like this for quite a while. ... it will help us focus creation of our departmental objectives and key results.”

“Much appreciation to you and your team! The dashboard looks great. I am so excited to have this tool!”

“Thank you!! You are the absolute bomb!! I just opened the “degrees conferred” document you sent and it is WONDERFUL. Easy to use, easy to drill down to our college and it makes SENSE!!!! Thanks to you and your entire team.”

“Wow what a joy to have data at our fingertips that is helpful and useful.”







Ethnic Diversity Enrollment

A Presentation to the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees'
Academic and Student Affairs Committee

March 11, 2021



STRATEGIC GOAL

ONE

Education for Life

Tennessee Tech provides education that unleashes the potential and passion within our students and prepares them for successful careers and culturally enriched lives. TTU also provides educational opportunities, programs, credentials, and degrees to fuel the lifelong learning necessary for enduring achievement.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- A.** Incorporate multiple experiential learning opportunities in all undergraduate programs.
- B.** Create a Tech-unique general education curriculum to provide the foundation for technologically adept, analytically capable, career-ready graduates.
- C.** Increase student diversity.
- D.** Develop and expand experiences that emphasize diversity and build global awareness, such as international travel, study abroad, and other high impact practices.
- E.** Develop innovative, stackable credentials, and associated pathways responsive to stakeholder needs and entrepreneurial opportunities.



Ethnic Diversity Enrollment Goal

By fall 2025, 22% of Tennessee Tech University's enrollment will be ethnically/racially diverse.



Ethnic Diversity Enrollment Goal

<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>Fall 20 Headcount Actual</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Fall 25 Headcount Goal</u>	<u>%</u>
Students of Color	1,235	12.1%	1,920	16%



Ethnic Diversity Recruitment Plan

Hire an Admissions Counselor for Diversity Recruitment

Timeline to Implementation: Complete

Purpose: Allow for more targeted and intentional recruitment of racial and ethnic minority students.

Process: Counselor was hired and a specific recruitment territory was created to maximize her effectiveness as a diversity recruitment specialist.

Host an Annual Diversity Recruitment Event in the Fall

Timeline to Implementation: Complete

Purpose: Create a recruitment event designed specifically to attract students from diverse backgrounds.

Process: RACE to Tech was a success in the fall in terms of content and student feedback, but improvements are still necessary to increase student attendance.



Ethnic Diversity Recruitment Plan

RACE Mentor Communications

Timeline to Implementation: April 1

Purpose: RACE mentors will engage prospective, applied, and admitted minority students through phone and mail communications to show the students that they are wanted and that they matter to the University.

RACE Mentor Instagram Live Q&A Sessions

Timeline to Implementation: April 1, May 1

Purpose: Engage prospective students at a distance and allow them to begin forming connections with current students at Tech.



Ethnic Diversity Recruitment Plan

Diversity Recruitment Email/Text Communication Plan

Timeline to Implementation: April 1

Purpose: Create a supplemental layer of communication to prospective, applied, and admitted students from diverse backgrounds with targeted messaging.

Diversity Reports for Multicultural Affairs

Timeline to Implementation: April 1

Purpose: Allow for closer recruitment alignment between Multicultural Affairs and Admissions by providing the contact information of all deeply-interested prospective students.



Ethnic Diversity Recruitment Plan

Provide Transportation to Prospective Students

Timeline to Implementation: Fall 2021

Purpose: Encourage more diverse students to visit Tech's campus by offering \$250 transportation reimbursements for up to six high schools each year.

Off-campus Diversity Recruitment Events

Timeline to Implementation: Fall 2021

Purpose: Meet students and their families where they are to promote a Tech education.



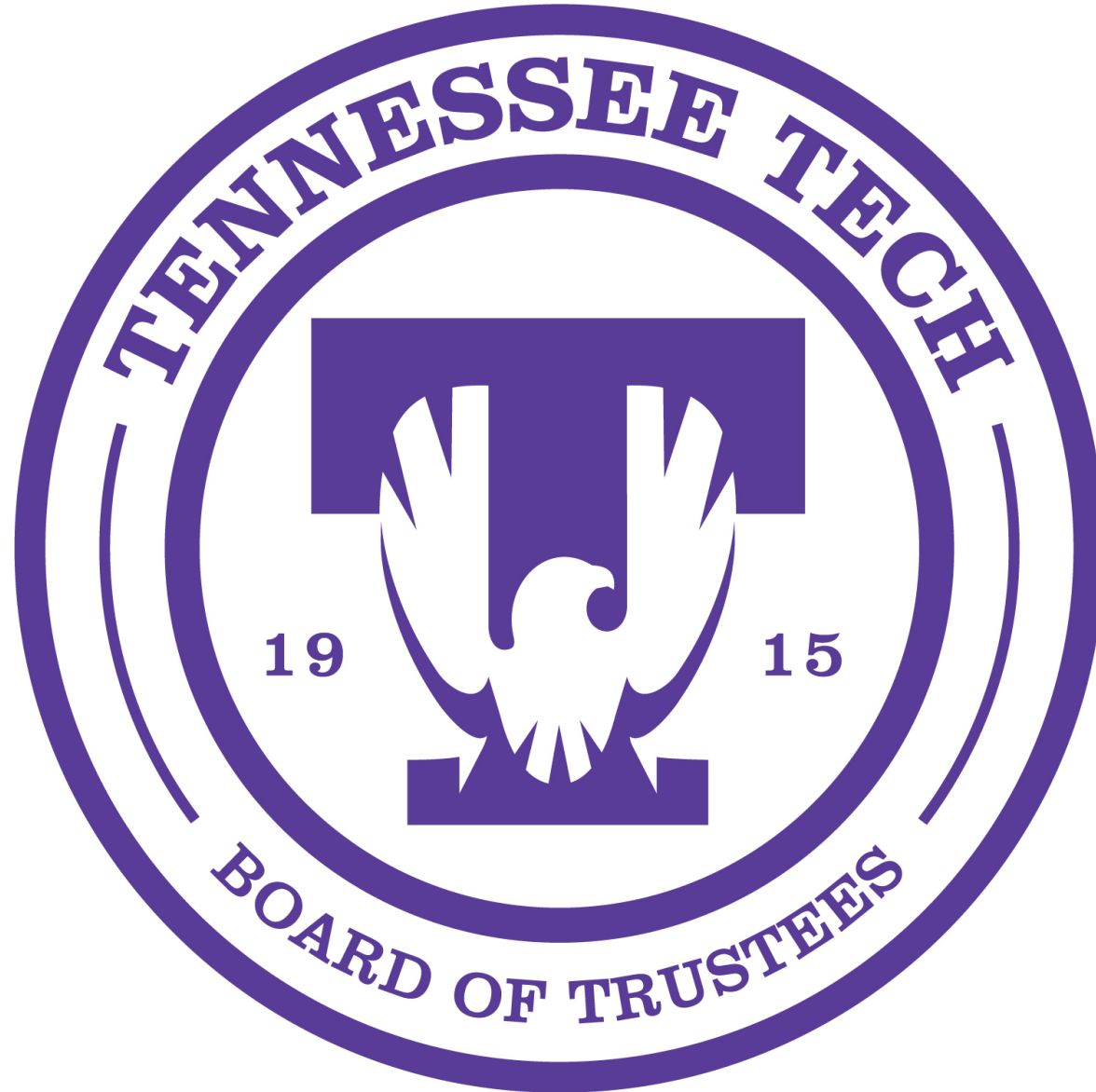
Ethnic Diversity Recruitment Plan

Multicultural Summer Leadership Academy

Timeline to Implementation: May 2022

Purpose: Establish Tennessee Tech as the state's leader in providing leadership training to multicultural student leaders at the secondary level. The 100 student participants will be heavily recruited while on campus as they engage with student, professor, and University leadership.







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OVC Member Schools

School:	Enrollment:	OVC Member Since:	Football?
Austin Peay	11,048	1962	X
Belmont	8,481	2012	
Eastern Illinois	8,630	1996	X
Eastern Kentucky	17,034	1948	X
Jacksonville State	9,238	2003	X
Morehead State	9,561	1948	
Murray State	9,456	1948	X
Southeast Missouri	11,502	1991	X
SIUE	12,860	2008	
Tennessee State	7,774	1986	X
Tennessee Tech	10,177	1949	X
UT Martin	7,119	1992	X



