

# MEETING OF THE



## TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Spring Quarterly Meeting  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Parkway Towers  
April 22-23, 2015

**Tennessee Higher Education Commission**  
**April 22, 2015**  
**Work Session Agenda**  
**1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Central Time**

- I. 2015-25 Planning Cycle Update (*Information*)
  - a. Master Plan
  - b. Quality Assurance
  - c. Funding Formula
  
- II. 2015 Legislative Reports Overview (*Information*)
  - a. Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Annual Report
  - b. Fact Book
  
- III. Postsecondary Education Authorization (*Action Item; Staff recommends Consent*)
  - a. Institutional Reauthorization (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)
  - b. Authorization of New Institutions
  - c. Approval of New Programs
  - d. Recommendations for Appointments to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions
  - e. Recommendation Concerning DPSA Complaint #13-0135 – to Proceed with a Hearing on Concord School of Grooming
  
- IV. New Academic Degree Programs (*Action Item; Staff recommends Consent*)
  - a. University of Tennessee Martin, Strategic Communication, MA
  - b. Middle Tennessee State University, Liberal Arts, MA
  
- V. Adult Learner Initiatives Overview (*Information*)
  
- VI. College Access Programs Update (*Information*)
  - a. GEAR UP Annual Report
  - b. TN Promise Forward Grant RFP
  
- VII. Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) (*Information*)
  
- VIII. 2015-16 Legislative & Budget Update (*Information*)
  - a. Amendment to the 2015-16 Disclosed Capital Projects List
  - b. Governor’s 2015-16 Budget Proposal
  - c. Legislative Update
  
- IX. Future THEC Meeting Format & Possible Retreat (*Information*)

**Worksession Agenda Item:**     I.    

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** 2015-25 Master Planning Cycle Update

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Since the summer of 2014, members of the THEC staff have undertaken a range of activities to prepare for the 2015-2025 long-range higher education planning cycle. These include:

- Collaborative development of the Tennessee Economic Success Metrics tool, which shows employment and earnings outcomes for recent college graduates by institution, degree program, and degree level;
- Collaborative development of the EduTrendsTN.com web site, which shows the above outcomes for postsecondary completers one-, three, and five-years following entry into the Tennessee labor force;
- Development of a Simulation Tool for modeling changes in postsecondary diploma, certificate, and undergraduate degree outputs in light of simulated changes in in the K-12 and postsecondary productivity and efficiency;
- Individual interviews and webinars conducted with members of the Tennessee Higher Education Master Planning Committee;
- An updated Supply-Demand study for graduates of Tennessee postsecondary education; and
- Contracting with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) for technical assistance in developing the 2015-2025 *Plan*.

The upcoming planning cycle has been extended from the typical five years to ten because of two factors: 1) it coincides with the planning horizon of the Drive to 55; and 2) overarching planning assumptions and environments are not predicted to change appreciably. A mid-cycle review of planning objectives and progress-to-date is planned.

The Commission has three primary mechanisms at its disposal to establish policy, planning, and funding priorities for the decade 2015-2025:

- Tennessee Higher Education Master Planning Committee (David L Wright, lead staff)
- Funding Formula Review Committee (Russ Deaton, Crystal Collins, and Steven Gentile, lead staff)
- Quality Assurance Funding Committee (Betty Dandridge-Johnson, lead staff)

These Committees contain representation from the three grand divisions of the state; postsecondary campus, system, and sector leaders; business and community leaders; the Governor's Office; the General Assembly; the Department of Education; the Department of Labor & Workforce Development; and the Department of Economic & Community Development.

The Work Session will contain updates from each Committee, with resulting questions from and discussion by members of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

# Perspective on Tennessee's Policy and Planning Issues for the Decade 2015-2025

submitted April 15, 2015

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The overarching goal for Tennessee is already well-established in the Drive to 55 – that 55 percent of Tennesseans ages 25-64 will have a postsecondary degree or credential of value by 2025. With the major goal already in place, the master planning effort for the next decade needs to address the following topics:

- Other State goals deserving of attention
- Adding detail to D55
- Determining additional capacity needed to meet goals
- A financing strategy – how to pay for goal attainment

A brief elaboration of each of these topics is provided below.

## **1. Other State Goals**

While Drive to 55 is the centerpiece goal, there are other goals that should be given consideration, specifically:

- a. Innovation/contributions to *expansion and diversification of the state's economy*. Provision is made in the funding model to reward Universities for research funding. The questions for consideration in the master planning process are:
  - Whether or not goals for research funding should be established – either in total or in specific fields.
  - Whether goals should be established for technology transfer, economic growth that can be traced to university research activity. There is no real consensus on how to articulate this particular type of goal or on which metrics to use in monitoring performance. Among the metrics used elsewhere are:
    - Licensure revenues
    - Number of start-up companies (or employment in such companies) derived from research activity
- b. *Workforce development responsiveness to employer needs*. This is discussed in more depth under the D55 Detail label.



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## 2. *Adding Detail to the Drive to 55*

There are numerous dimensions/questions to be addressed under this topic, among them:

- a. *Developing targets by level of degrees/awards.* Of the additional degrees/certificates that must be produced to reach the 55 percent goal, what proportion should be
  - Baccalaureate degrees
  - Associate degrees
  - Certificates with workplace value

Nested within this question are questions about workforce needs, not only level but key areas – STEM, health professions, advanced manufacturing/skilled trades and other fields (as identified by the State’s Departments of Economic & Community Development and Labor & Workforce Development) and whether and how to attach incentives to credential production and/or placement in these areas.

- b. *Developing targets for improved cohort-based completion rates.*
- c. *Identifying underserved populations* that must be served if the D55 goal is to be attained. This may result in sub-goals being established in order to:
  - Close the racial attainment gap
  - Close the economic attainment gap
  - Close the geographic gaps – in student access and completion not education attainment (student mobility after college and differences in economic opportunity make it difficult to close attainment gaps by county/region, but it’s worth a discussion)
  - Increase the number of degrees/certificates awarded to adults
  - Leverage the return on investment represented by veterans of military service – a population of sufficient number for Tennessee to build a strategy around.

*The objective should be a strategy that combines achieving success with different subpopulations and producing degrees of different types/levels.* For example, the strategy for serving additional numbers of adults should recognize that the large majority of such students will seek high-value certificates, more so than AAs or BAs.

## 3. *Assessment of Required Capacity – Strategy for Delivering Services*

The strategies for reaching established goals will require both that a) a higher proportion of enrolled students succeed in completing academic programs, and b) additional students (as identified above) be served successfully. Increased capacity may be required with regard to each category. Increased completion rates may require provision of additional student support services or data analytics capacity that allows early intervention and provision of support services to students at risk of failure/dropping out.

Accommodating additional students may require added capacity of various types:

- a) Additional programmatic capacity to serve more adults in the TCATs

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- b) Additional sites in underserved regions of the state
  - c) Expansion of physical capacity at existing sites and centers
  - d) Creation of entirely new delivery models
    - o A centralized capacity for PLA (Prior Learning Assessment)
    - o Expanded online or new competency-based delivery models (in addition to WGU TN)

The determination in all of these areas needs to be rationalized as responsive to conclusions about the numbers and characteristics of new students to be served.

As part of the calculus regarding needed capacity, informed estimates will need to be made about the numbers of additional degrees produced/students served that will be contributed by non-public institutions.

The master plan need not address capacity issues in detail, but it should describe the array of steps needed for goal attainment – the extent to which Tennessee will rely on the individual broad strategies to reach the overarching goal.

#### ***4. Paying for Goal Attainment***

At the end of the day, the stated goals can be reached only if a way can be found to fiscally support their attainment. As part of the master planning activity, it is suggested that some effort be devoted to investigating different scenarios regarding appropriations to institutions, tuition, student financial aid, improvements in institutional productivity, and reliance on alternative providers that:

- a) Support goal attainment
- b) Provide adequate funding to institutions
- c) Bring the necessary additional students into the system
- d) Maintain affordability, for students and the State

The objective is to create scenarios that provide broad cost estimates based on a reasonable set of assumptions. As part of the calculation, some estimate of costs associated with goals other than D55 should be made.

#### ***5. Supporting requirements***

- a) Underpinning all the above must be a foundation of trusted, reliable data. Here, Tennessee has an advantage over many states, in that it has a longitudinal student unit record data system that provides the analytic capacity to shed light on the policy issues surfaced above. Further, the working relationships between the coordinating board, the two public governing boards, and the non-public sectors are typically collegial and productive.
- b) Informing campus, system, and state leaders of progress toward goal attainment must be an ongoing program of formative (in-process) and summative (at the end of the planning cycle) monitoring of D55 goals and processes. This need not be

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thought of as an accountability mechanism in the same sense as the Outcomes-Based Funding Formula and the long-standing Quality Assurance (formerly Performance Funding) program, which tie funding directly to performance. Yet, there is still a separate need for an online gathering place for information on D55 goal attainment that stands apart from all the initiatives and activities and asks, “How are we doing as a State? As a region? As a system? As an institution?”

This could take the form of an ongoing Progress Report that is updated annually or biannually, depending on how frequently the data are refreshed. There are helpful antecedents for this kind of tool in the form of secondary and postsecondary dashboards on the Tennessee Longitudinal Data System (TLDS) website; the Tennessee Economic Success Measures web tool (<http://esm.collegemeasures.org/esm/tennessee/>); and the EduTrendsTN.com website developed in concert with College Measures and MatrixKnowledge.

## APPENDIX A

### Methodology for Undergraduate Award Projections and Credentials Gap Estimation

This appendix describes the approaches employed to project the production of college credentials and calculate the gap between the *Needed Growth* in award production to meet the Drive to 55 goal, and the projected *Natural Growth* in undergraduate credentials.

Section A1 provides the background and the working assumptions of the methodology. Section A2 describes how award projections were calculated. Section A3 explains the steps to calculate the gaps in award production. Section A4 provides tables and figures for the output described in sections A1-A3.

#### Section A1. Background and Working Assumptions.

The Drive to 55 campaign intends to raise the proportion of the state's working-age population (age 25-64) with college credentials to 55 percent by 2025. THEC's 2015-2025 Master Plan outlines the roadmap toward this goal. The working assumptions outlined below provide for the use of the selected methodology.

The first assumption is that the focus should be on the undergraduate credentials, that is, on pre-baccalaureate certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees. The rationale for this decision is that graduate degrees require a prior bachelor's degree and do not affect conventional estimates of education attainment as defined for the Drive to 55 purposes.

A related working assumption is that college *completers* should be counted, as opposed to postsecondary *awards* produced by Tennessee institutions. By focusing on award recipients and counting only the highest level of attainment, this approach avoids double-counting individuals who have received more than one credential. To achieve this goal, duplicate observations of students were removed prior to making projections.

The third assumption accounts for various factors affecting the production of college credentials. The choice of predictors of postsecondary award production is driven by prior research, theory, and data availability. Undergraduate award projections and award production gap estimates are also dependent on secondary data projecting high school graduates and statewide population growth. Data sources and their applications are explained below.

Finally, historical data on undergraduate degree completers over multiple years and across all institutional sectors are used to create reliable projections for the next eleven years. In addition, overall projections by award type lend themselves to projections by institutional sector. The latter should serve as a basis for estimating institutional shares in projected undergraduate award production.

#### **Section A2. Undergraduate Award Projections: 2015-2025.**

Credential production projections were calculated by award level (pre-baccalaureate certificates, associate's, and bachelor's degrees) and institutional sector. This section describes the methods and data used for these award projections. Overall and sector-specific projections, as well as estimated institutional shares, are presented in Section A4.

Undergraduate award projections require several steps. First, historical data were collected across all institutional sectors from 2006 to 2014. Availability of reliable data for all institutional sectors determined the time period. The institutional sectors include Tennessee public universities; community colleges; Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs); private not-for-profit, for-profit, and out-of-state institutions reporting to THEC's Division of Postsecondary Authorization (DPSA); and private not-for-profit institutions, including TICUA member institutions

and private schools operating in Tennessee not reported to DPSA. Table 1 in Section A4 depicts the historical degree counts used in the projections.<sup>1</sup>

Multivariate linear regression was used as the primary method to project postsecondary awards over the next ten years. The key advantage of this method is its ability to predict future values of the outcome variables (number of credential recipients) based on a combination of independent variables (the predictors listed below) used in the model. Another advantage of this approach is that it allows for by-sector estimates to precisely match the overall estimates. This characteristic of the linear model is important due to the need to project award production by credential and sector and keep these predictions within the constraints of the overall projections for Tennessee higher education.

The independent variables (predictors) used in the model include: the total undergraduate enrollment in Tennessee institutions (Source: IPEDS), number of high school graduates (Source: WICHE <sup>2</sup>), college-going rate (Source: THEC SIS), and statewide unemployment rate (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics). To calculate the future values of these predictors (in 2015-2025), the following decisions were made: (a) predict future undergraduate enrollment in a separate model, (b) keep the college-going rate at the last available value, (c) use the ten-year average for the unemployment rate, and (d) use high school graduates projections estimated by WICHE.

Postsecondary enrollment was estimated using a time-series model<sup>3</sup>, based on the historical data from 1997 through 2013, and using five predictors: number of high school graduates, college-going rate, unemployment rate, inflation-adjusted personal per capita income, and number of Tennessee residents aged 25-64. The data sources are as above. Data on per capita income were collected from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the last available value was used for the

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<sup>1</sup> Although award duplication was eliminated for all public sectors (highest award was selected for each individual), some small degree of award duplication could be present in data on private institutions.

<sup>2</sup> Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). [www.wiche.edu/pub/knocking-8th-and-supplements](http://www.wiche.edu/pub/knocking-8th-and-supplements)

<sup>3</sup> Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) model was used to predict enrollment.

period after 2013. The working-age population includes both historical data and data projected by the University of Tennessee's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER).

Award projections (*natural growth* in credential production) were estimated by award type (Figure 1 shows both historical data and projections), by award and institutional sector (Figures 2, 3, and 4), and by sector with all awards combined (Figure 5). As explained above, projections by award and sector add up to match the overall projections.

Finally, based on each institution's share of credentials in its sector, expectations of institutional contributions to each sector's projected award production were estimated (Figures 6, 7, 8, and 9). Historical shares for each institution were calculated for the period 2006-2014, and were then applied to the respective sector's projections. The assumption is that within-sector institutional shares will remain stable over the next eleven years.

These award projections serve as a foundation for estimating the gap between the *Natural Growth* and the *Needed Growth* to meet the Drive to 55 goal.

### **Section A3. Estimating the Gap in Credential Production.**

Estimating the gap in award production is a multistep process, based on data from various sources and several key assumptions.

To estimate the gap, two factors must be taken into account: a) the number of credentialed working-age individuals at the starting and finishing points of the projection period and b) the natural growth in award production.

To calculate the number of credentialed individuals needed to meet the Drive to 55 goal, one must first project the number of 25-64 years olds who will live in Tennessee in 2025. These data are available from CBER's population projections. Based on these projections, Tennessee will require **1,978,283** residents with a postsecondary certificate, Associate's degree, or Bachelor's degree to boast 55 percent of working age adults with postsecondary credentials in 2025.

The gap estimation relies on the 2013 American Community Survey (ACS), which provides data on educational attainment. The ACS does not include certificate holders; thus, based on the findings of a CBER's study<sup>4</sup>, we assume that four percent Tennessean's hold a certificate from a postsecondary institution. Tennessee's educational attainment (certificates or higher) in 2013, therefore, was 37.1 percent, which translates into **1,268,853 individuals** (Table 2).

To use 2013 as a starting point, it is necessary to include only Tennesseans who were 54 or younger in that year. The rationale for this is that this group will not age out of the workforce before 2025, and will be included in educational attainment estimates in 2025. Applying the same finding that four percent of residents will hold a postsecondary certificate, and adding this number to the ACS-estimated number of people with at least an associate's degree totals **1,053,969** credentialed Tennesseans who will not age out of the workforce by 2025.

The gap estimation also requires assumptions about interstate migration by educational attainment and natural mortality. Based on prior findings<sup>5</sup>, we assume that Tennessee has a positive net migration at every level of educational attainment, and therefore, the net migration of credentialed individuals is assumed to be zero. In other words, it was conservatively assumed that over the next eleven years, the proportion of residents with college credentials will remain unchanged. For the purposes of these estimations, due to data limitation, mortality was also assumed to be zero.

The difference between the number of credentialed individuals in 2025 and credentialed individuals below the age of 54 in 2013 minus the number of graduates in 2014 (69,817 awards) gives the overall number of credentials needed to meet the Drive to 55 goal. This number is estimated to be 854,498 awards, which translates into 77,682 credentials needed annually between

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<sup>4</sup> Carruthers, C. K., & Fox, W. F. (2013). *The 2011 stock of postsecondary certificate holders in Tennessee*. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Center for Business and Economic Research.

<sup>5</sup> THEC. (2013, 2014, 2015). *Profiles and Trends in Tennessee Higher Education*. Nashville, TN: Author.

2015 and 2025 (Table 3). It should be noted that this number includes both the *Natural Growth* over the next 11 years and the gap between the *Natural Growth* and the *Needed Growth*.

Table 4 presents two main gaps: (1) The gap between the *Needed Growth* and the projected *Natural Growth* in award production for the period from 2015 to 2025 and (2) The gap between the *Needed Growth* and the award production at the 2014 level. The latter assumes that the natural annual growth will be equal to zero and each year Tennessee will produce awards at the level of 2014 (69,817 credentials). Based on the more realistic first gap, it was estimated that Tennessee needs to produce 59,820 additional degrees—that is, above the *Natural Growth* trajectory—to meet the Drive to 55 goals by 2025. Figure 10 depicts the same gaps visually.

## Section A4. Figures and Tables.

Table 1. Historical Data Used for Award Projections<sup>6</sup>

sector	degree	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Public universities: TBR	Associate	153	160	186	175	170	232	261	323	320
Public universities: TBR	Bachelor	10,652	10,993	11,090	11,674	11,515	12,137	12,472	13,234	13,178
Public universities: UT	Bachelor	5,613	5,556	5,885	6,362	6,396	6,616	7,088	7,177	7,225
Community colleges	Associate	4,816	4,821	4,674	4,775	5,352	6,180	7,418	8,461	8,880
Community colleges	Certificates	1,025	935	986	1,020	1,400	1,643	3,253	2,457	2,791
TCATs	Certificates / diplomas	4,653	5,385	5,284	5,217	6,469	7,483	6,596	6,395	6,428
Private not-for-profit	Associate	667	536	507	453	489	534	570	646	666
Private not-for-profit	Bachelor	9,352	9,768	10,032	10,128	10,475	10,767	11,136	11,686	11,906
Private not-for-profit	Certificates	63	50	56	62	58	66	50	77	75
DPSA schools	Associate	NA	NA	2,479	2,761	2,841	3,930	4,280	3,275	2,840
DPSA schools	Bachelor	NA	NA	585	1,412	1,752	1,812	2,130	2,128	1,454
DPSA schools	Certificates / diplomas	NA	NA	18,947	15,116	16,004	15,611	15,045	13,836	14,054

<sup>6</sup> The table presents counts of completers by the highest award level for public institutions and counts of awards for private institutions.

Figure 1. Award Production by Award Level: Historical Data and Projections

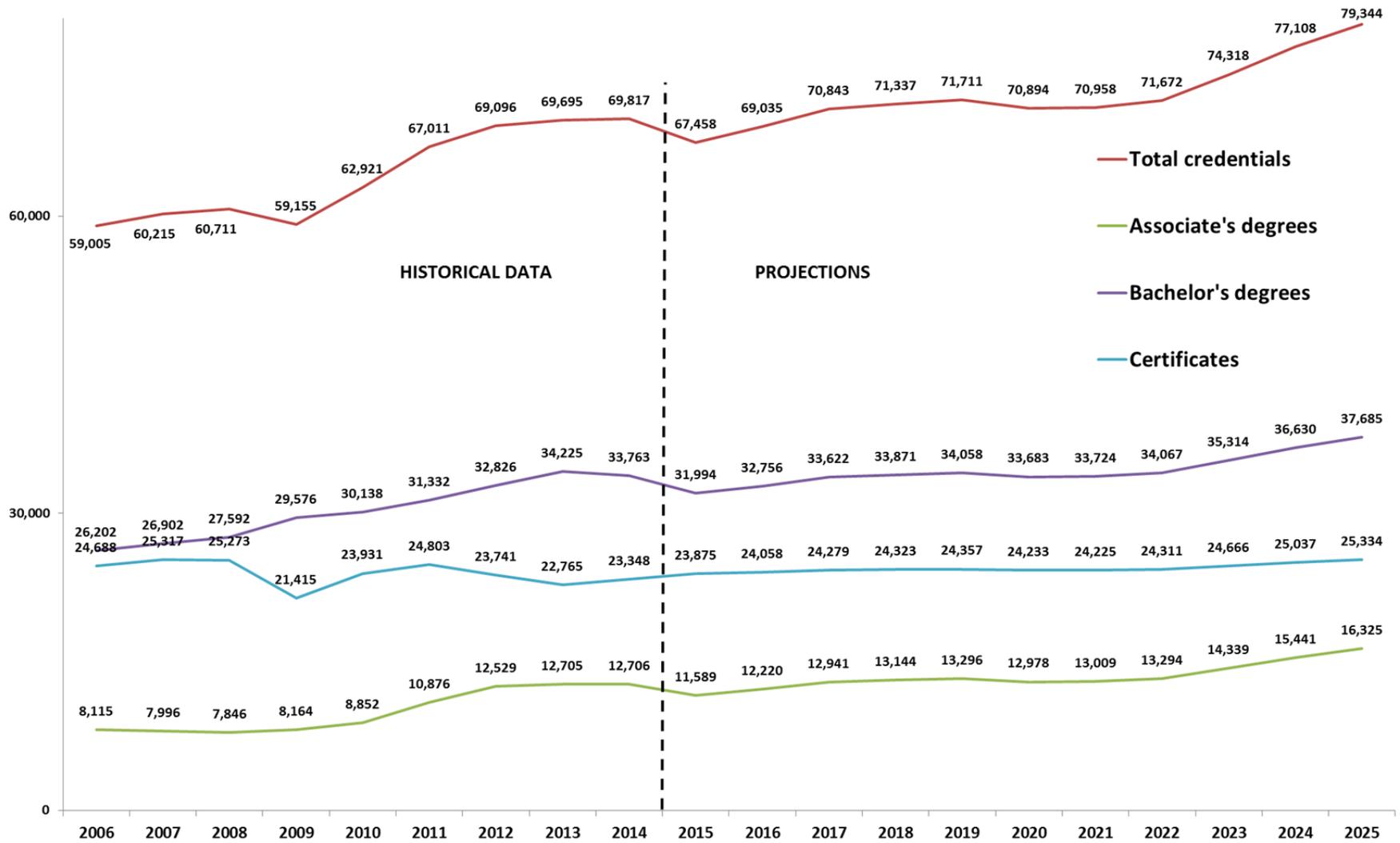


Figure 2. Bachelor's Degree Production by Sector

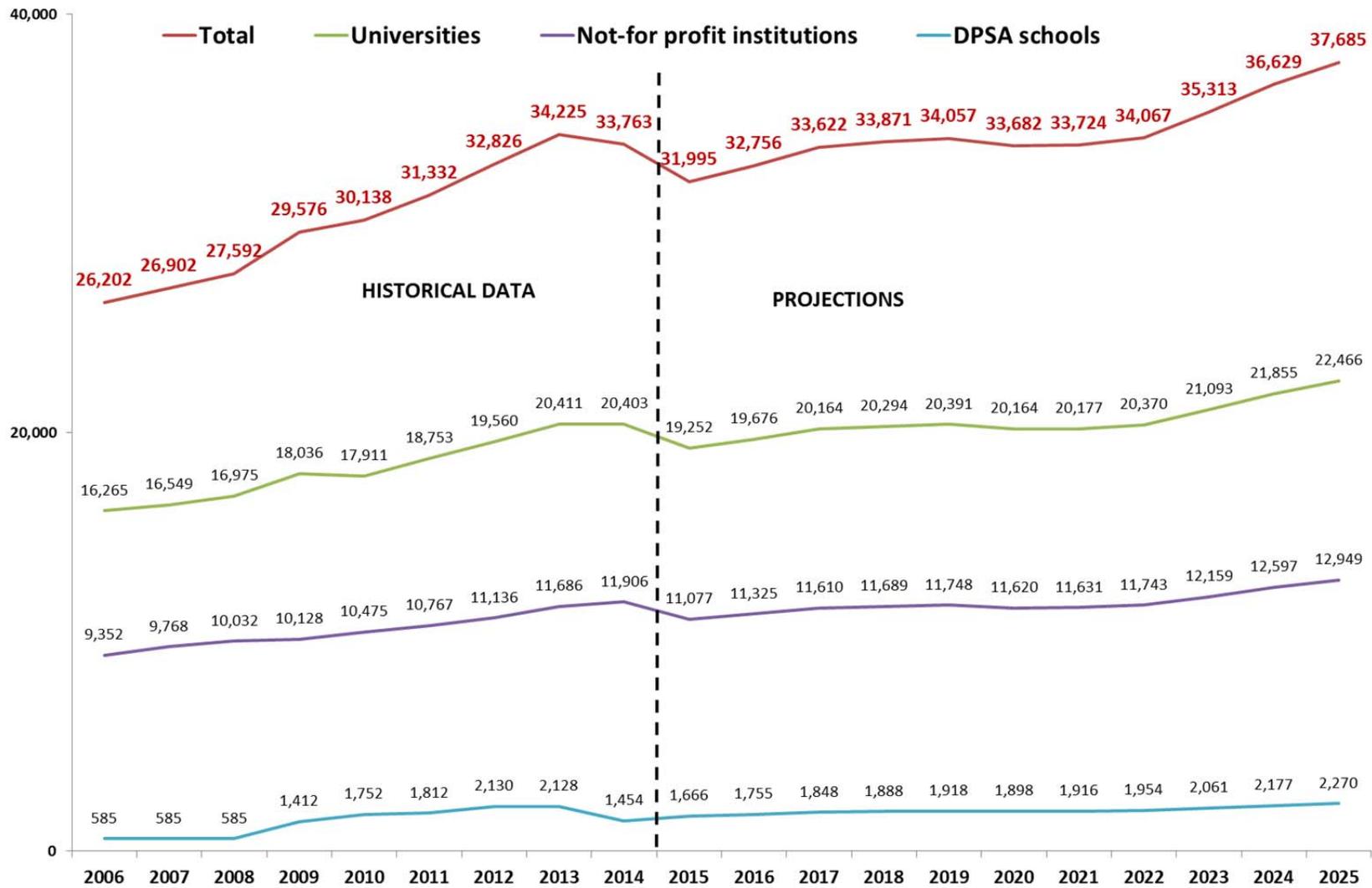


Figure 3. Associate's Degree Production by Sector

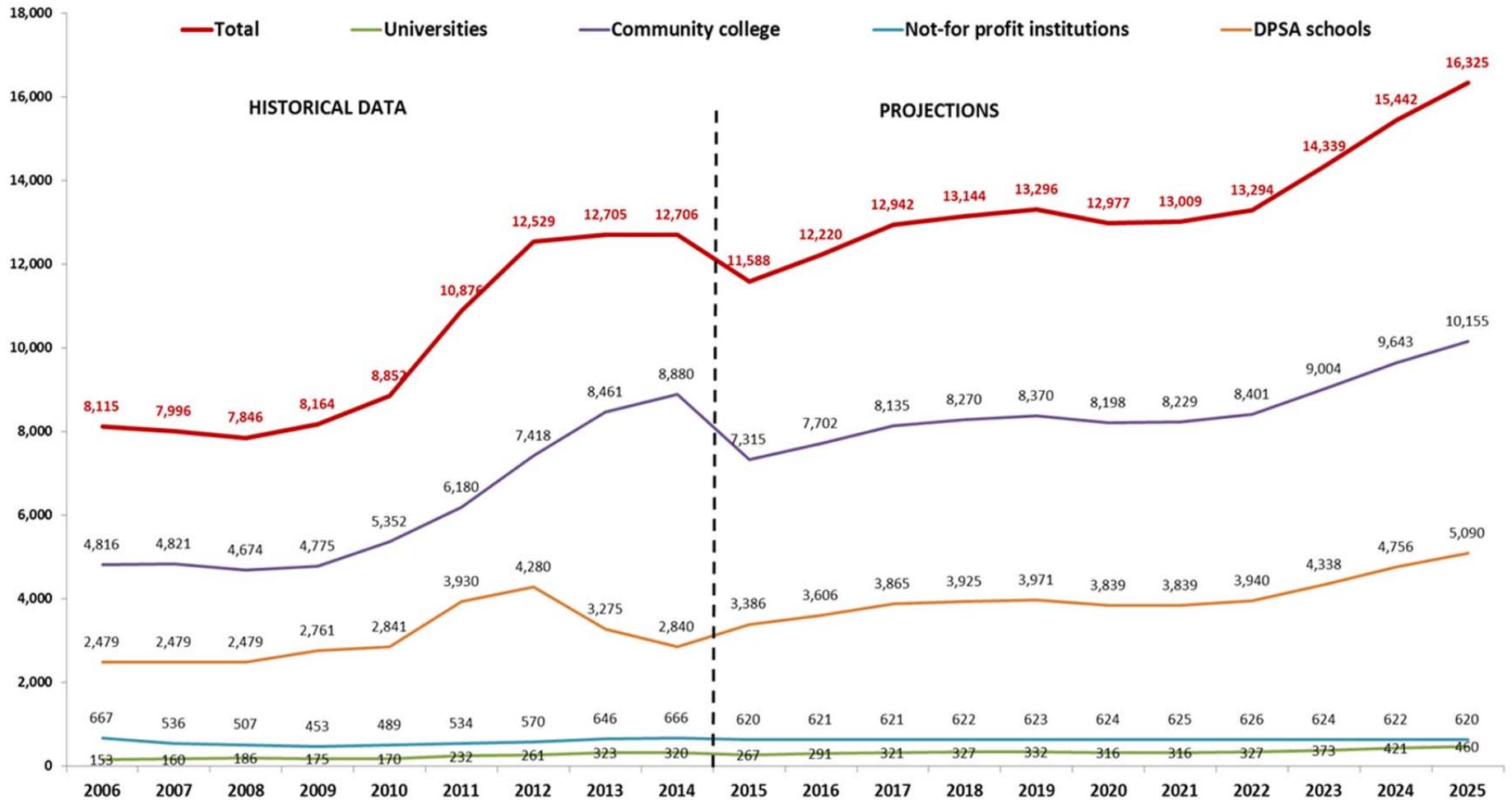


Figure 4. Certificate Production by Sector

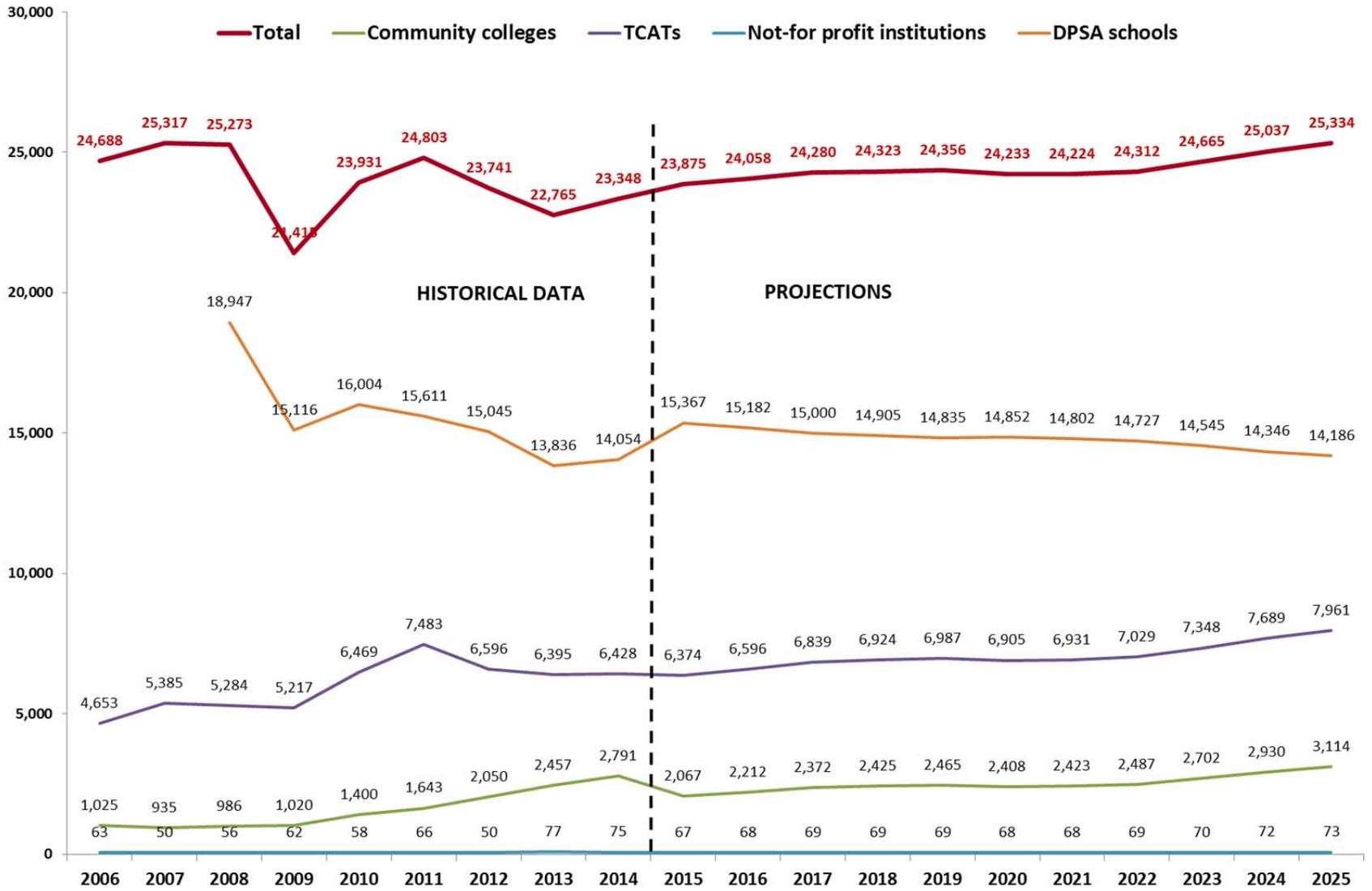


Figure 5. Total Award Production by Sector

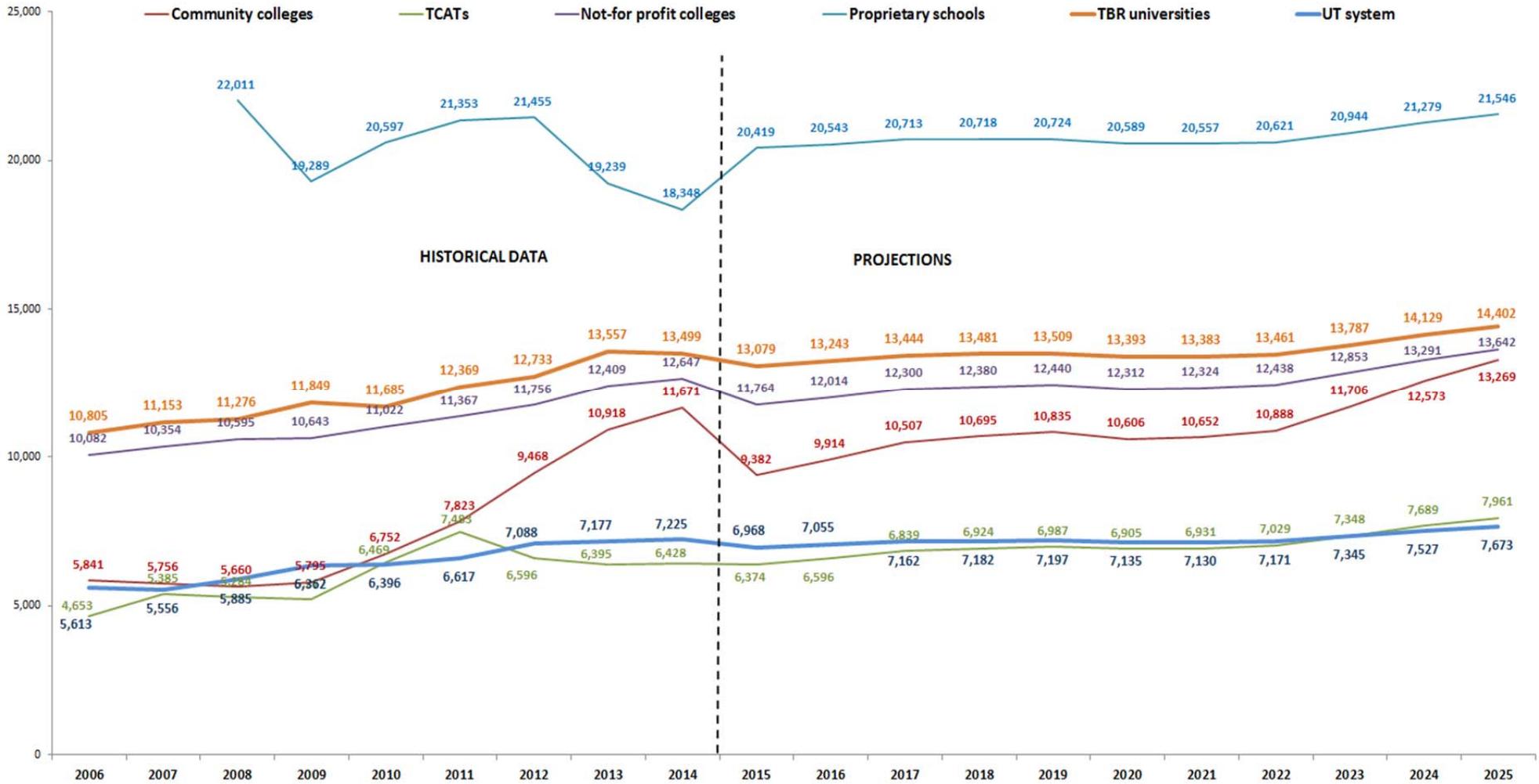


Figure 6. Award Production Projections: Public Universities

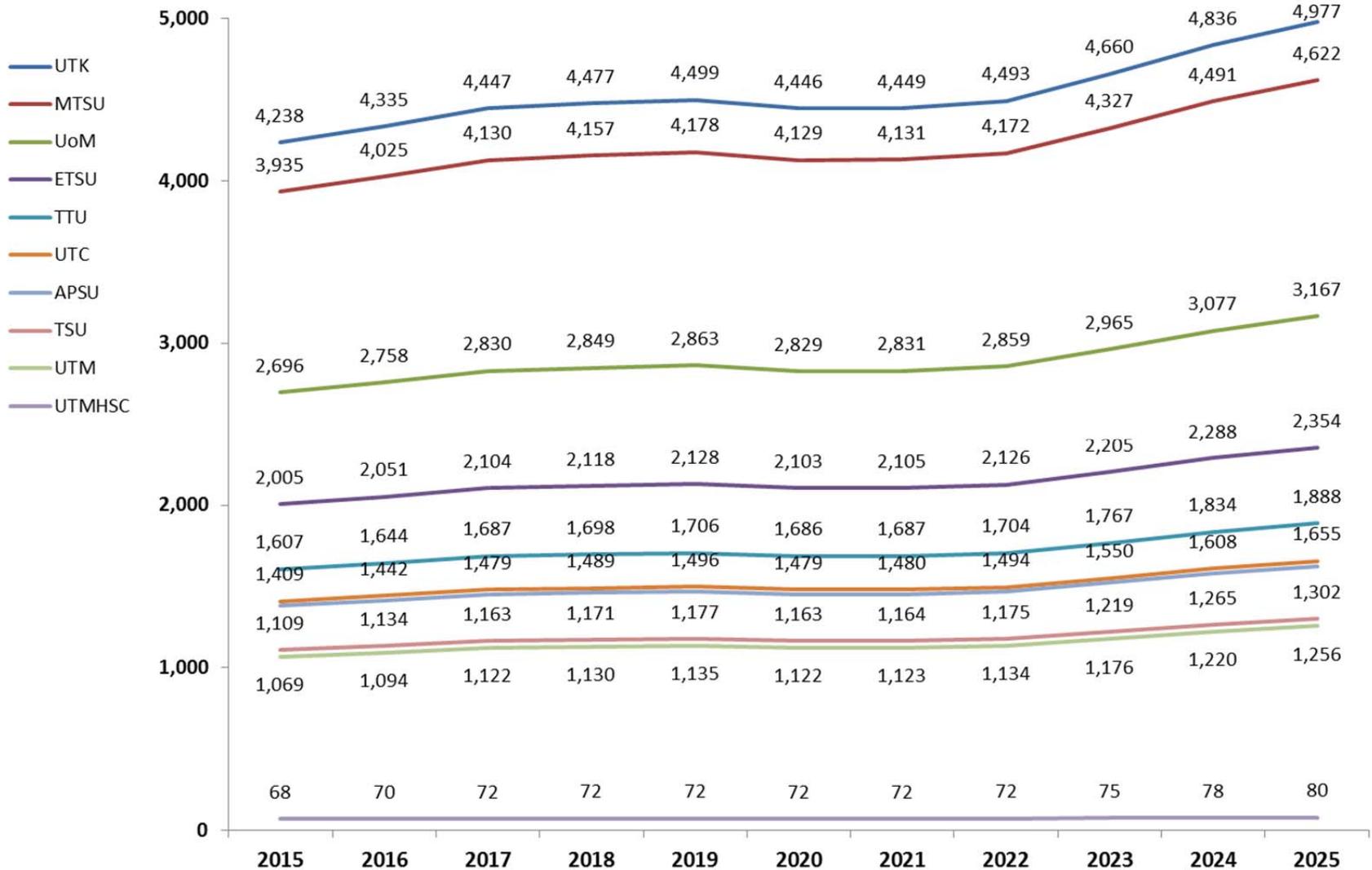


Figure 7. Award Production Projections: Community Colleges

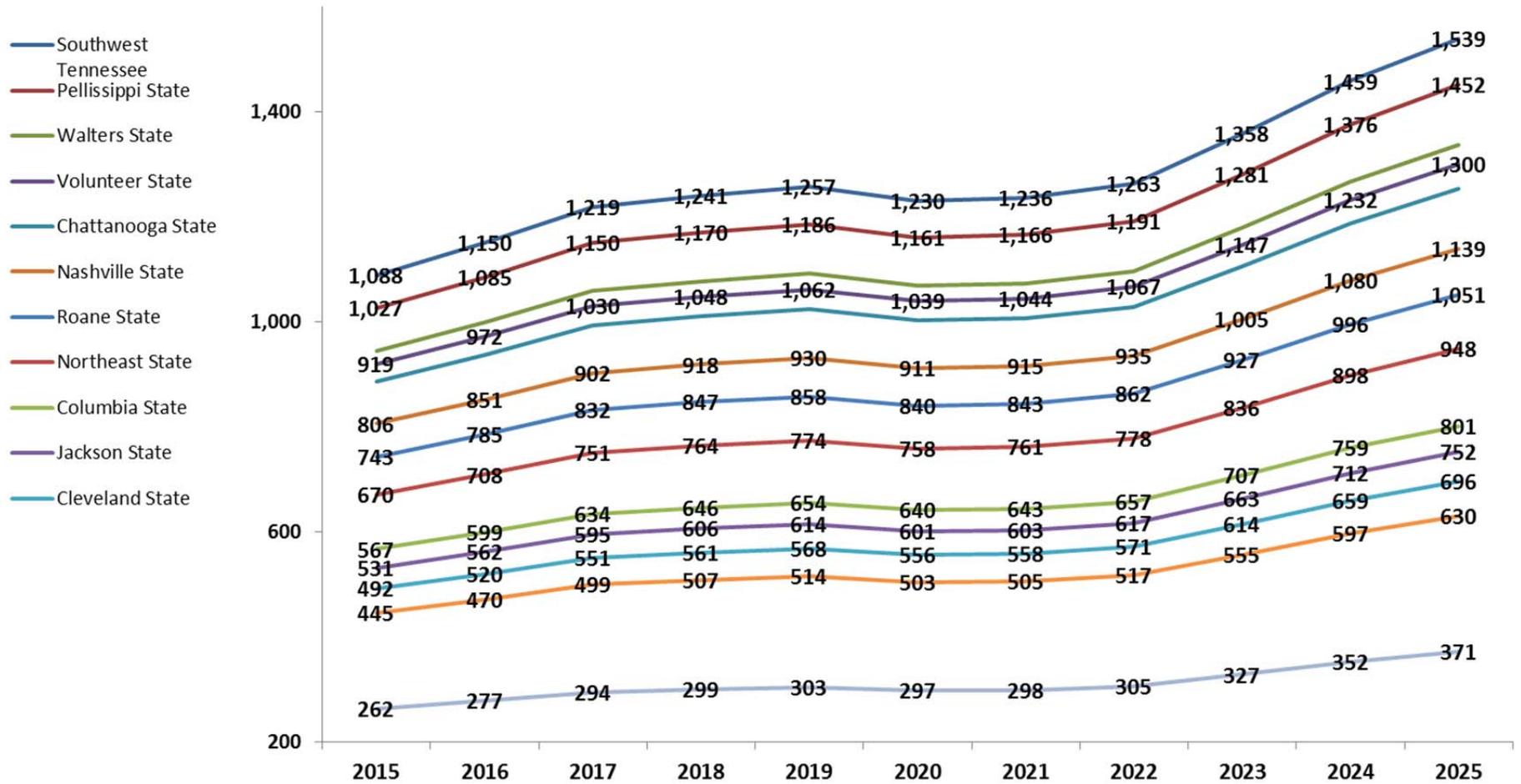


Figure 8. Award Production Projections: Tennessee Centers of Applied Technology

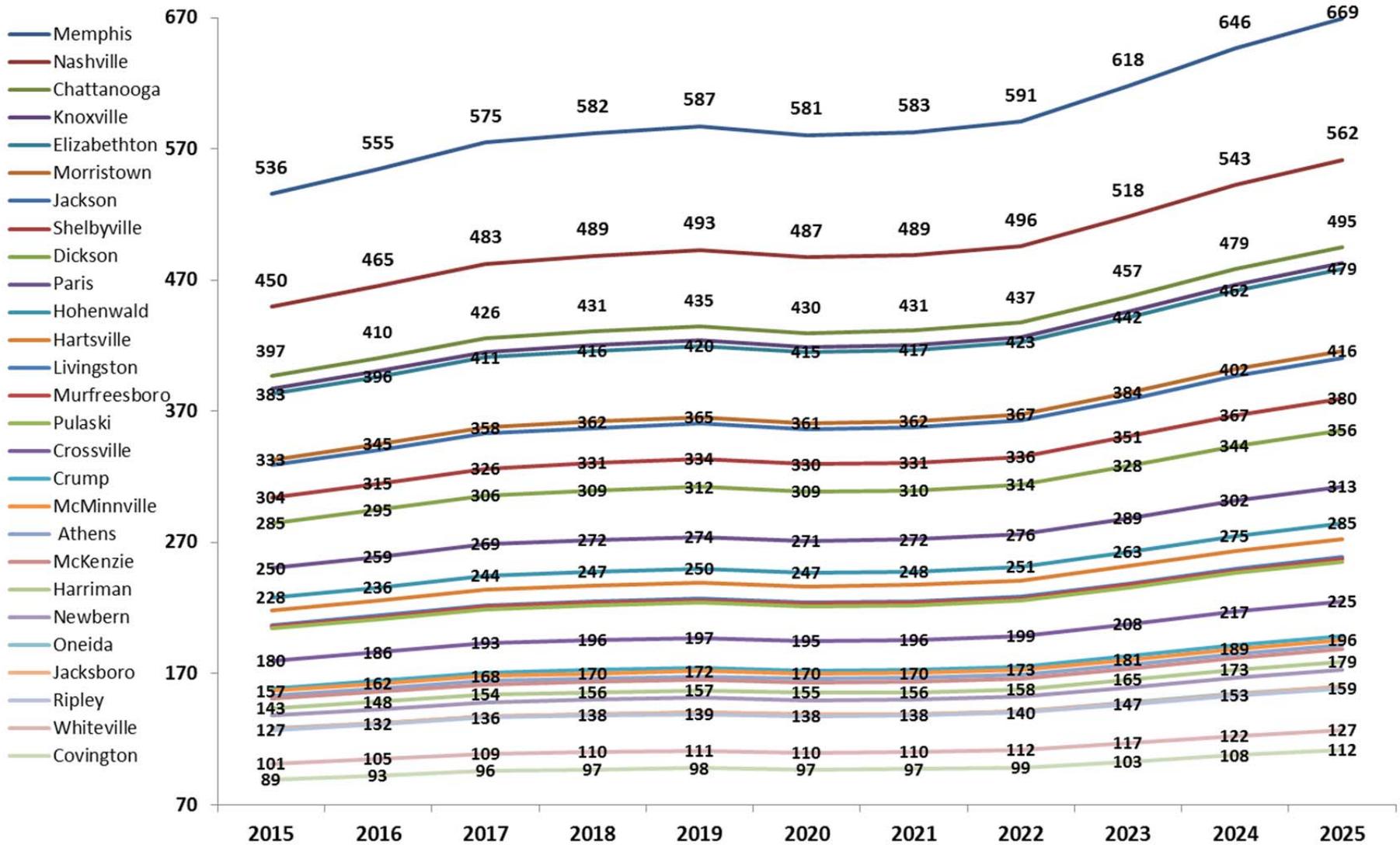
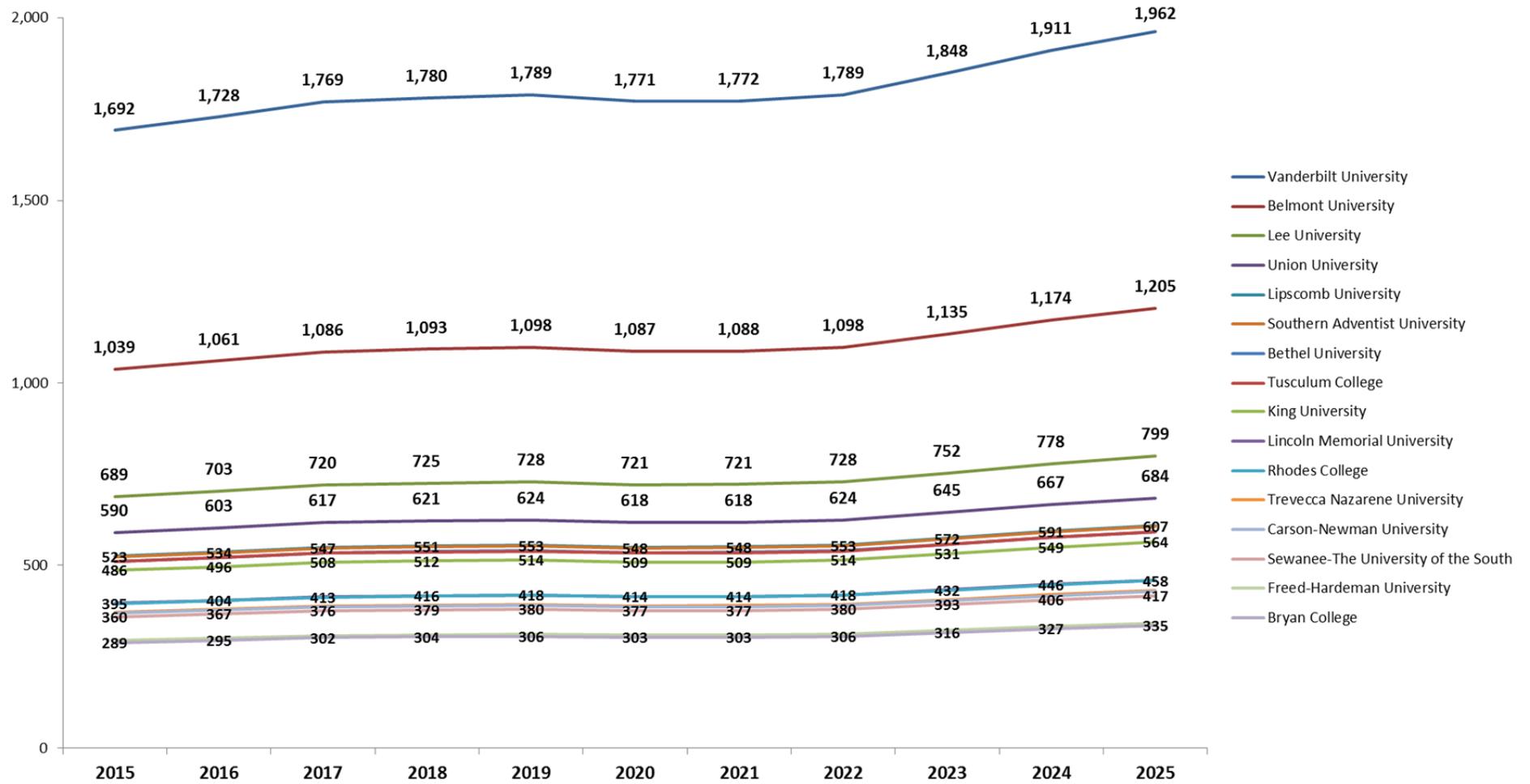


Figure 9. Award Production Projections: Top 20 Private Not-for-profit Institutions<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup> Top twenty institutions are determined based on the historical share and thus on the projected number of degrees produced.

**Table 2. Needed Number of Credentialed Individuals to Meet the D55 Goal**

<b>2013</b>	
Working-age adults (25-64 years old)	3,418,195
Adults with associate's or higher (33.1%)	1,132,125
Certificate-holders (assume 4% based on prior research)	136,728
Total: Adults w/ college credentials	1,268,853
Percent of working-age adults w/ college credentials	37.1%
<b>2025</b>	
Projected number of working-age adults (25-64 years old)	3,596,879
The D55 goal	55.0%
Needed number of credentialed individuals	<b>1,978,283</b>

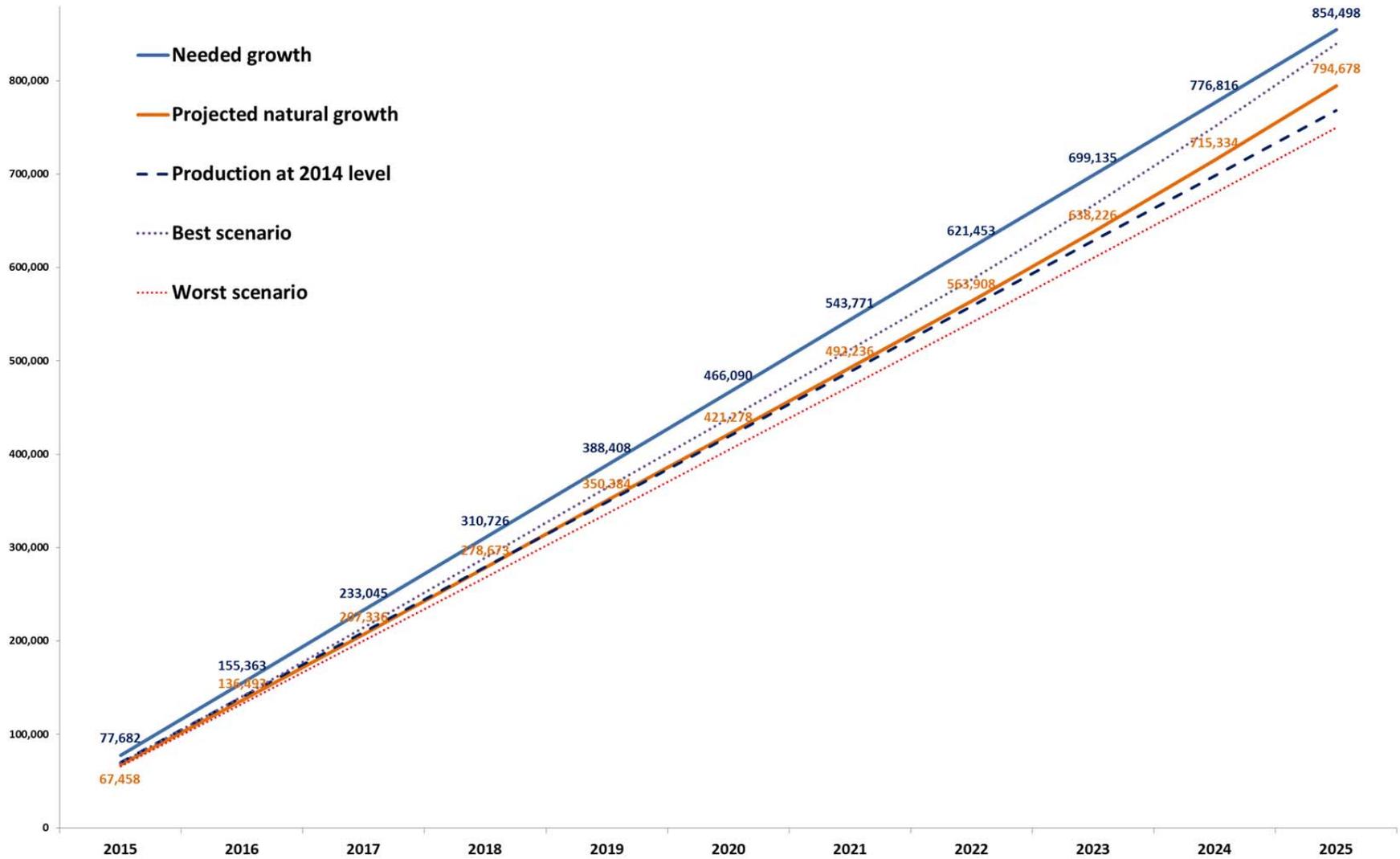
**Table 3. Gap: Number of Degrees Needed to Meet the D55 Goal**

Total population: 25 < N < 54 in 2013	2,501,840
Residents < 54 with an associate's & higher	953,895
Certificate-holders (assume 4% based on prior research)	100,074
Total number of awards for residents < 54 years	1,053,969
Needed number of credentialed individuals in 2025	1,978,283
Number of awards earned in 2014	69,817
<b>Gap: Number of awards needed to meet the D55 goal</b>	<b>854,498</b>
Annual needed growth to meet the D55 goal	77,682

**Table 4. The Overall Gap between the Needed Growth and the Projected Natural Growth in Award Production**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Needed growth	77,682	155,363	233,045	310,726	388,408	466,090	543,771	621,453	699,135	776,816	854,498
Projected natural growth	67,458	136,493	207,336	278,673	350,384	421,278	492,236	563,908	638,226	715,334	794,678
Production at 2014 level	69,817	139,634	209,451	279,268	349,085	418,902	488,719	558,536	628,353	698,170	767,987
Best scenario	69,133	140,396	214,522	289,291	364,557	438,280	511,977	586,795	666,313	750,919	839,642
Worst scenario	65,783	132,590	200,150	268,056	336,212	404,277	472,496	541,022	610,140	679,750	749,715
Overall gap in awards	10,224	18,870	25,709	32,053	38,024	44,812	51,535	57,545	60,909	61,482	59,820

Figure 10. The Overall Gap Between the Needed Growth and the Projected Natural Growth in Award Production



**Worksession Agenda Item:** II.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Legislative Reports Overview and Policy Update

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Staff will present information included in the annual *Tennessee Higher Education Factbook*, the annual *Student Fees* report, and the annual *Off-Campus Locations* report.

Topics for discussion will include an update on Governor Haslam’s Drive to 55 initiatives, changes in public higher education enrollment, improvements in statewide and count-level college-going rates, a reduction in the need for remedial and development education, improved postsecondary graduation rates, and aligned major field awards with the needs of Tennessee’s economy.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** III.A.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Institutional Reauthorization (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act (the Act), has the responsibility to act upon applications for reauthorization of postsecondary educational institutions.

**Authorized Locations With Regular Authorization (265)**

1. A+ Nurse Aide Training (Manchester, TN - Code: 1614)
2. Academy of Allied Health Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1206)
3. Academy of Make-Up Arts, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1558)
4. Advanced Nurse Assistant Training LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1577)
5. All Saints Bible College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1208)
6. Allied Health Careers Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1210)
7. American Home Inspectors Training Institute, LTD (Nashville, TN - Code: 1212)
8. American Red Cross (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1213)
9. Amridge University (Montgomery, AL - Code: 1218)
10. Appalachian Training Center for Healing Arts (Dandridge, TN - Code: 1221)
11. Arbor College - School of Massage (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1223)
12. Argosy University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1224)
13. Argosy University (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1225)
14. Arkansas State University (State University, AR - Code: 1226)
15. Art Instruction Schools (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1227)
16. Ashford University (San Diego, CA - Code: 1228)
17. At-Home Professions (Fort Collins, CO - Code: 1229)
18. Belhaven University (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1232)
19. Belhaven University (Jackson, MS - Code: 1616)
20. Belhaven University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1231)
21. Brown Mackie College (Hopkinsville, KY - Code: 1236)
22. Capella University (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1239)
23. Career Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1240)
24. Career Training Institute (Memphis, TN - Code: 1241)
25. CCS Truck Driving School, Inc. (Fall Branch, TN - Code: 1555)
26. Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1595)
27. Central Michigan University's Global Campus (Mount Pleasant, MI - Code: 1618)

28. Chattanooga College Medical, Dental and Technical Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1246)
29. Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, and Technical Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1247)
30. Chattanooga Massage Institute (Hixson, TN - Code: 1248)
31. Church of God School of Ministry (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1249)
32. CNA Training Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1593)
33. Codes Unlimited Healthcare Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1251)
34. Commercial Driver Institute, Inc. (CDI) (Christiana, TN - Code: 1252)
35. Compassionate Care Technical Center, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1677)
36. Concorde Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1255)
37. Crown College of the Bible (Powell, TN - Code: 1256)
38. Cumberland Institute of Holistic Therapies, Inc. (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1257)
39. Dallas Theological Seminary (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1561)
40. Dark Horse Institute (Franklin, TN - Code: 1596)
41. Daymar College (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1259)
42. Daymar College (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1260)
43. Daymar College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1262)
44. Delta Technical College (Horn Lake, MS - Code: 1597)
45. Dental Staff School (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1655)
46. Dental Staff School of Tennessee (Franklin, TN - Code: 1263)
47. DeVry University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1267)
48. DeVry University (Naperville, IL - Code: 1265)
49. DeVry University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1268)
50. Drive-Train (Dyersburg, TN - Code: 1656)
51. Drive-Train (Jackson, TN - Code: 1270)
52. EduMed Partners, LLC (Goodlettsville, TN - Code: 1648)
53. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1272)
54. Emmanuel Bible College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1273)
55. Faith is the Victory Life Christian Bible Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1275)
56. Genesis Career College: Nashville Airport Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1278)
57. Genesis Career College: Nashville Downtown Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1279)
58. Georgia Career Institute (McMinnville, TN - Code: 1280)
59. Georgia Career Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1281)
60. Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee (Nashville, TN - Code: 1282)
61. Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc (Morristown, TN - Code: 1284)
62. Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1283)
63. Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1285)
64. Harding University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1286)
65. Health - Tech Institute of Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1288)
66. Health Careers Training Center (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1287)
67. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Alcoa, TN - Code: 1292)
68. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Arlington, TN - Code: 1329)
69. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Atoka, TN - Code: 1321)
70. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Bartlett, TN - Code: 1332)
71. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Celina, TN - Code: 1345)
72. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1298)
73. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1372)
74. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1301)

75. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1302)
76. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1303)
77. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1296)
78. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1297)
79. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clinton, TN - Code: 1346)
80. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1623)
81. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Crossville, TN - Code: 1293)
82. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Farragut, TN - Code: 1318)
83. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Franklin, TN - Code: 1624)
84. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Gainesboro, TN - Code: 1621)
85. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Harriman, TN - Code: 1351)
86. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Hermitage, TN - Code: 1572)
87. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jacksboro, TN - Code: 1622)
88. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jackson, TN - Code: 1304)
89. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jackson, TN - Code: 1305)
90. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1365)
91. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1310)
92. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1312)
93. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1565)
94. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1381)
95. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lenoir City, TN - Code: 1317)
96. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lexington, TN - Code: 1379)
97. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1334)
98. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1335)
99. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1339)
100. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madisonville, TN - Code: 1628)
101. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Maryville, TN - Code: 1294)
102. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (McMinnville, TN - Code: 1564)
103. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1322)
104. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1323)
105. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1324)
106. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1376)
107. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Millington, TN - Code: 1320)
108. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Morristown, TN - Code: 1315)
109. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Morristown, TN - Code: 1316)
110. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Mt. Juliet, TN - Code: 1566)
111. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1370)
112. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1568)
113. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1291)
114. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1336)
115. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1337)
116. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1338)
117. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1340)
118. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1343)
119. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1371)
120. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1570)
121. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1573)
122. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1575)
123. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Newport, TN - Code: 1355)
124. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Oliver Springs, TN - Code: 1356)

125. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Oneida, TN - Code: 1357)
126. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Paris, TN - Code: 1569)
127. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Ripley, TN - Code: 1625)
128. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Sevierville, TN - Code: 1361)
129. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1344)
130. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Tazewell, TN - Code: 1364)
131. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Tullahoma, TN - Code: 1620)
132. Huntington College of Health Sciences (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1382)
133. International Academy of Design & Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1387)
134. ITT Technical Institute (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1393)
135. ITT Technical Institute (Cordova, TN - Code: 1390)
136. ITT Technical Institute (Indianapolis, IN - Code: 1392)
137. ITT Technical Institute (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1395)
138. ITT Technical Institute (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1389)
139. ITT Technical Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1391)
140. Jones International University (Centennial, CO - Code: 1650)
141. Kaplan College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1400)
142. Kaplan University (Chicago, IL - Code: 1401)
143. Knoxville Area Urban League (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1402)
144. Lab Four Professional Development Center (Memphis, TN - Code: 1405)
145. Lab Four Professional Development Center (Nashville, TN - Code: 1556)
146. L'Ecole Culinaire Memphis (Cordova, TN - Code: 1404)
147. Lincoln College of Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1428)
148. Lindsey Wilson College (Gallatin, TN - Code: 1407)
149. Magic Valley CNA (Camden, TN - Code: 1410)
150. Massage Institute of Cleveland (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1411)
151. Massage Institute of Memphis, LLC (Memphis, TN - Code: 1412)
152. MaySept Healthcare Services (Memphis, TN - Code: 1613)
153. Medical Billing Academy (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1670)
154. Memphis Academy of National Nursing Assistants (Memphis, TN - Code: 1415)
155. Meridian Institute of Surgical Assisting, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1418)
156. Mid-South Christian College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1419)
157. Milan Express Truck Driving School (Jackson, TN - Code: 1420)
158. Miller-Motte Technical College (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1422)
159. Miller-Motte Technical College (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1421)
160. Miller-Motte Technical College (Madison, TN - Code: 1423)
161. Mind Body Institute, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1424)
162. NASCAR Technical Institute ( Mooresville, NC - Code: 1426)
163. Nashville Academy of Reflexology, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1680)
164. Nashville College of Medical Careers (Madison, TN - Code: 1429)
165. Nashville Film Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1430)
166. National American University (Rapid City, SD - Code: 1431)
167. National College (Bartlett, TN - Code: 1437)
168. National College (Bristol, TN - Code: 1434)
169. National College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1433)
170. National College (Madison, TN - Code: 1436)
171. National College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1435)
172. National College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1432)
173. NATS, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1438)
174. Nazarene Theological Seminary (Nashville, TN - Code: 1562)

175. New College Franklin (Franklin, TN - Code: 1440)
176. New Horizons Computer Learning Center (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1441)
177. New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1443)
178. New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Nashville (Nashville, TN - Code: 1444)
179. NHLA Inspector Training School (Memphis, TN - Code: 1445)
180. North Central Institute (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1447)
181. Nossi College of Art (Nashville, TN - Code: 1448)
182. Oak Ridge Regional Training Corporation (Oak Ridge, TN - Code: 1449)
183. Ohio Technical College (Cleveland, OH - Code: 1669)
184. Olympic Career Training Institute (Memphis, TN - Code: 1599)
185. Oxford Graduate School (Dayton, TN - Code: 1452)
186. Park University (Millington, TN - Code: 1453)
187. Prepare to Care Training Center, LLC (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1458)
188. Private First Class Driving Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1459)
189. Professional Bartending School (Nashville, TN - Code: 1460)
190. Reflections of Health School of Massage (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1463)
191. Reformed Theological Seminary (Memphis, TN - Code: 1464)
192. Remington College (Heathrow, FL - Code: 1617)
193. Remington College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1465)
194. Remington College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1466)
195. Richmond Graduate University (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1467)
196. SAE Institute of Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1472)
197. Sanford-Brown College Online (Tampa, FL - Code: 1388)
198. SASH Nursing Assistant Training (Nashville, TN - Code: 1473)
199. Seminary Extension (Nashville, TN - Code: 1475)
200. Smokey Mountain Trucking Institute (Sevierville, TN - Code: 1477)
201. South College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1478)
202. South College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1479)
203. Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1271)
204. Southeast Lineman Training Center (Trenton, GA - Code: 1480)
205. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Franklin, TN - Code: 1485)
206. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Jackson, TN - Code: 1483)
207. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Lenoir City, TN - Code: 1484)
208. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville, KY - Code: 1482)
209. Southern Illinois University (Millington, TN - Code: 1486)
210. Strayer University - Knoxville Campus (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1489)
211. Strayer University - Nashville Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1490)
212. Strayer University - Online (Salt Lake City, UT - Code: 1488)
213. Strayer University - Shelby (Memphis, TN - Code: 1491)
214. Strayer University - Thousand Oaks Campus (Memphis, TN - Code: 1492)
215. Sullivan University (Louisville, KY - Code: 1493)
216. Superior Drivers Institute (Columbia, TN - Code: 1494)
217. Swift Driving Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1495)
218. Tennessee Bible College, Inc. (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1497)
219. Tennessee Career Institute Inc. (Columbia, TN - Code: 1559)
220. Tennessee Health Careers, LLC (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1498)
221. Tennessee School of Massage (Memphis, TN - Code: 1499)
222. Tennessee School of Therapeutic Massage, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1501)

223. Tennessee Truck Driving School (Louisville, TN - Code: 1502)
224. The Art Institute of Tennessee (Nashville, TN - Code: 1503)
225. The Institute for Global Outreach Developments International (Old Hickory, TN - Code: 1504)
226. TN Professional Training Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1681)
227. Transport Training Group (White Pine, TN - Code: 1507)
228. Transportation Training Centers (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1508)
229. Tri Cities School of Preaching & Christian Development (Elizabethton, TN - Code: 1509)
230. Troy University (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1511)
231. Troy University - eTroy (Troy, AL - Code: 1512)
232. Truck Driver Institute, Inc. (Christiana, TN - Code: 1514)
233. Truck Driver Institute, Inc. (Tupelo, MS - Code: 1513)
234. Tulsa Welding School (Jacksonville, FL - Code: 1515)
235. Union College (Barbourville, KY - Code: 1673)
236. Union College (Greeneville, TN - Code: 1671)
237. Union College (Kingsport, TN - Code: 1672)
238. United Truck Driving School (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1517)
239. Universal Technical Institute Motorcycle & Marine Mechanics Institute & Automotive Divisions (Orlando, FL - Code: 1518)
240. Universal Technical Institute of Texas, Inc. (Houston, TX - Code: 1519)
241. University of Arkansas (Millington, TN - Code: 1520)
242. University of Northwestern Ohio (Lima, OH - Code: 1521)
243. University of Phoenix (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1525)
244. University of Phoenix (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1528)
245. University of Phoenix (Cordova, TN - Code: 1524)
246. University of Phoenix (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1526)
247. University of Phoenix (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1527)
248. University of Phoenix (Nashville, TN - Code: 1523)
249. University of Phoenix (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1522)
250. University of St. Francis (Joliet, IL - Code: 1531)
251. University of the Cumberland (Williamsburg, KY - Code: 1659)
252. University of the Rockies (Colorado Springs, CO - Code: 1533)
253. Urban League of Greater Chattanooga (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1534)
254. Vatterott Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1536)
255. Vatterott Career College - Appling Farms Pkwy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1535)
256. Virginia College (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1538)
257. Virginia College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1611)
258. Visible Music College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1539)
259. Walden University (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1540)
260. Webster University (Millington, TN - Code: 1541)
261. West Tennessee Business College (Jackson, TN - Code: 1543)
262. Western International University Inc. (Tempe, AZ - Code: 1546)
263. William and Johnson Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1258)
264. Yip Yap School of Grooming (Columbia, TN - Code: 1612)
265. YWCA of Greater Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1554)

### **Authorized Locations With Temporary Authorization (48)**

1. Asbury Theological Seminary - Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1697)
2. At Home Prep (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1739)
3. Center Centre (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1705)
4. Concorde Career College (Kansas City, MO - Code: 1718)
5. Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus (Southaven, MS - Code: 1698)
6. Crown School of Trades and Technology (Powell, TN - Code: 1720)
7. Dark Horse Institute (Franklin, TN - Code: 1721)
8. Dental Assistant School of Nashville (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1726)
9. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Worldwide Online Campus (Daytona Beach, FL - Code: 1701)
10. Excel Dental Training Institute (Goodlettsville, TN - Code: 1690)
11. Franklin Institute of Wellness (Franklin, TN - Code: 1704)
12. Genesis Career College (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1732)
13. Genesis Career College (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1722)
14. Gould's Academy of Massage (Memphis, TN - Code: 1723)
15. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Athens, TN - Code: 1682)
16. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Dandridge, TN - Code: 1683)
17. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Gallatin, TN - Code: 1686)
18. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Hendersonville, TN - Code: 1685)
19. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (White House, TN - Code: 1684)
20. Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1750)
21. Kennis Institute of Health Care Services (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1738)
22. Lancaster Bible College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1731)
23. Life Academy Bible College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1729)
24. Marian University (Indianapolis, IN - Code: 1694)
25. Marian University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1706)
26. Medical Response Institute (Winchester, TN - Code: 1733)
27. Mesilla Valley Training Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1734)
28. Miller-Motte College (Wilmington, NC - Code: 1725)
29. Montessori Educational Institute, North America (Jackson, TN - Code: 1416)
30. Montessori Training Center of Brentwood at Montessori Academy (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1737)
31. Nashville School of Massage Therapy (Franklin, TN - Code: 1736)
32. New Horizons Computer Learning Center (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1442)
33. North Delta Technical Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1687)
34. OnePulse Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1730)
35. Peak Technical Institute (Maryville, TN - Code: 1727)
36. Professional Bartending School of Knoxville (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1461)
37. Relay Graduate School of Education (Memphis, TN - Code: 1759)
38. Rivercity Technology (Memphis, TN - Code: 1728)
39. Roadmaster Drivers School of Chattanooga, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1470)
40. Roadmaster Drivers School of West Memphis, Inc. (West Memphis, AR - Code: 1471)
41. Ross Medical Education Center (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1702)
42. Ross Medical Education Center (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1744)
43. Smokey Mountain Trucking Institute (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1740)
44. Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology (Tulsa, OK - Code: 1487)

45. The Blackbird Academy (Nashville, TN - Code: 1703)
46. The Jubilee School (Nashville, TN - Code: 1700)
47. Total Tech, LLC (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1506)
48. Vatterott College - Sunset Hills (Sunset Hills, MO - Code: 1594)

**Authorized Locations With Conditional Authorization (12)**

1. Brightness-Massage School for the Blind (Memphis, TN - Code: 1235)
2. Cambridge College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1238)
3. Concord School of Grooming (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1254)
4. Fortis Institute (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1413)
5. Fortis Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1414)
6. Fountainhead College of Technology (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1277)
7. Knoxville College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1403)
8. North American Lineman Training Center, LLC (McEwen, TN - Code: 1446)
9. Tennessee School of Religion (Memphis, TN - Code: 1500)
10. Wyoming Technical Institute (Blairsville, PA - Code: 1551)
11. Wyoming Technical Institute (Laramie, WY - Code: 1552)
12. WyoTech (Ormond Beach, FL - Code: 1553)

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Temporary Authorization of New Institutions under the Postsecondary Authorization Act

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Temporary Authorization

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act, has the “power and duty” to act upon applications for authorization to operate an educational institution in the state. For the institutions listed below, applications have been reviewed, site visits have been performed, and staff has determined that all necessary documentation and bonds have been secured. The Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions met on April 9, 2015 and endorsed staff recommendations for Temporary Authorization of these institutions.

**A. Affordable Dental Assisting Program of Nashville, Nashville, TN LLC**  
451 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37210

**Corporate Structure:** Limited Liability Company (LLC)  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No

Affordable Dental Assisting Program of Nashville, LLC is seeking approval for four new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Nashville, Tennessee.

**1. Program: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 184 Contact Hours**  
**3 Months**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**2. Program: Coronal Polishing**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 14 Contact Hours**  
**2 Days**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Approval of New Programs under the Postsecondary Authorization Act

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act, has the “power and duty” to act upon applications for authorization of educational programs in the state. Applications have been reviewed and staff has determined that all necessary documentation for the institutions submitting new program applications is in accordance with the Act and postsecondary rules. The Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions, which is a review and advisory committee to the Commission, met on April 9, 2015 and affirmed staff recommendations for approval.

**A. Belhaven University** **Chattanooga, TN**  
535 Chestnut Street, Suite 100, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

<b>Corporate Structure:</b>	Not-for-Profit Corporation
<b>Authorization Date:</b>	April 13, 1992
<b>Accreditation:</b>	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
<b>Title IV Funding:</b>	Yes
<b>Highest Credential Offered:</b>	Master Degree

Belhaven University is seeking approval for one new program that will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Chattanooga, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

Belhaven University is also seeking approval to revise two programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

- |           |                            |  |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Program:</b>            | <b>Health Administration</b>           |
|           | <b>Credential Awarded:</b> | <b>Graduate Certificate</b>            |
|           | <b>Length of Program:</b>  | <b>9 Semester Credit Hours</b>         |
|           |                            | <b>6 Months Full-Time</b>              |
|           |                            | <b>12 Months Part-Time</b>             |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Program:</b>            | <b>Health Administration (Revised)</b> |
|           | <b>Credential Awarded:</b> | <b>Bachelor</b>                        |
|           | <b>Length of Program:</b>  | <b>124 Semester Credit Hours</b>       |
|           |                            | <b>48 Months Full-Time</b>             |
|           |                            | <b>96 Months Part-Time</b>             |

- 3. **Program:** Social Services (Revised)  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Arts  
**Length of Program:** 124 Semester Credit Hours  
48 Months Full-Time  
96 Months Part-Time

**B. Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus** **Southaven, MS**  
7900 Airways, Suite 103, Southaven, Mississippi 38671

- Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation
- Authorization Date:** November 14, 2013
- Accreditation:** Council on Occupational Education (COE)
- Title IV Funding:** Yes
- Highest Credential Offered:** Associate Degree

Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. The institution is recruitment only and all instruction will be provided by faculty from their authorized site in Southaven, Mississippi.

- 1. **Program:** Massage Therapy  
**Credential Awarded:** Diploma  
**Length of Program:** 862 Contact Hours  
11 Months

**License/Certification Required for Employment:** Licensed Massage Therapist  
**Licensing Board/Agency:** Board of Massage Licensure

**C. Dark Horse Institute** **Franklin, TN**  
2465 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, Tennessee 37064

- Corporate Structure:** Limited Liability Company (LLC)
- Authorization Date:** January 30, 2014
- Accreditation:** None
- Title IV Funding:** No
- Highest Credential Offered:** Certificate

Dark Horse Institute is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Franklin, Tennessee.

- 1. **Program:** Entertainment Entrepreneurship  
**Credential Awarded:** Certificate of Completion  
**Length of Program:** 300 Contact Hours  
3 Months

**D. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University** **Memphis, TN**  
3221 Players Club Parkway, Memphis, Tennessee 38125

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 1, 1976  
**Accreditation:** Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,  
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is seeking approval for five new programs. The programs will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Memphis, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

- 1. Program:** **Information Security and Assurance/Protecting Business Intelligence**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Master of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **36 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**
- 2. Program:** **Management Information Systems**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Master of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **36 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**
- 3. Program:** **Emergency Services - Aviation Emergency Management**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**48 Months Full-Time**  
**96 Months Part-Time**
- 4. Program:** **Emergency Services - Fire and Emergency Services Specialization**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**48 Months Full-Time**  
**96 Months Part-Time**
- 5. Program:** **Engineering Fundamentals**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Associate of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **65 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**

**E. Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care Murfreesboro, TN**

210 Robert Rose Drive, Suite 2, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 29, 2015  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Diploma

Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care is seeking approval for two new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

- 1. Program: Coronal Polishing**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 14 Contact Hours**  
**2 Days**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

- 2. Program: Sealant Application**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 6 Contact Hours**  
**1 Day**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**F. Total Tech, LLC Smyrna, TN**

131 Weakley Lane, Suite 160, Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 18, 2010  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Certificate

Total Tech, LLC is seeking approval for two new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Smyrna, Tennessee.

- 1. Program: Electrical Fundamentals**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 100 Contact Hours**  
**2 Weeks Full-Time**  
**1 Month Part-Time**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Limited Licensed Electrician (LLE)**

**Licensing Board/Agency: Board for Licensing Contractors**

- 2. Program: Plumbing Fundamentals**
- Credential Awarded: Certificate**
- Length of Program: 100 Contact Hours**
- 2 Weeks Full-Time**
- 1 Month Part-Time**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Limited Licensed Plumber (LLP)**

**Licensing Board/Agency: Board for Licensing Contractors**

- G. Troy University - eTroy**  
100 University Park, Troy, Alabama 36082

**Troy, AL**

- Corporate Structure:** Government Agency
- Authorization Date:** November 16, 2006
- Accreditation:** Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,  
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- Title IV Funding:** Yes
- Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Troy University - eTroy is seeking approval for five new programs. The programs will be offered in a distance learning format. This institution is recruitment only and all instruction is provided on-line.

- 1. Program: Sports Management**
- Credential Awarded: Doctor of Philosophy**
- Length of Program: 75 Semester Credit Hours**
- 38 Months Full-Time**
- 76 Months Part-Time**
  
- 2. Program: History**
- Credential Awarded: Master of Arts**
- Length of Program: 36 Semester Credit Hours**
- 14 Months Full-Time**
- 28 Months Part-Time**
  
- 3. Program: Social Sciences**
- Credential Awarded: Master of Social Science**
- Length of Program: 36 Semester Credit Hours**
- 14 Months Full-Time**
- 28 Months Part-Time**

- 4. **Program:** Health Practice Management  
**Credential Awarded:** Graduate Certificate  
**Length of Program:** 12 Semester Credit Hours  
12 Months Full-Time  
14 Months Part-Time
- 5. **Program:** English  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours  
48 Months Full-Time  
96 Months Part-Time

**H. University of Phoenix** **Cordova, TN**  
65 Germantown Court, Suite 100, Cordova, Tennessee 38018

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** July 17, 2003  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Cordova, Tennessee.

- 1. **Program:** Business  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours  
51 Months

**I. University of Phoenix** **Nashville, TN**  
616 Marriott Drive, Suite 150, Nashville, Tennessee 37214

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 31, 2002  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Doctorate Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval to revise one program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Nashville, Tennessee.

- 1. **Program:** Business (Revised)  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours

**51 Months**

**J. University of Phoenix**

**Phoenix, AZ**

3157 East Elwood Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85040

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 15, 2001  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Doctorate Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval to revise two programs. The programs will be offered in a distance learning format. This institution is recruitment only and all instruction is provided on-line.

- 1. Program: Administration of Justice and Security (Revised)**  
**Credential Awarded: Master of Science**  
**Length of Program: 37 Semester Credit Hours**  
**19 Months**
  
- 2. Program: History (Revised)**  
**Credential Awarded: Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program: 120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**51 Months**

**K. Webster University**

**Millington, TN**

5750 Essex Street, Building S-239, Wing 7, Room 7144, Millington, Tennessee 38054

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 15, 2001  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Webster University is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Millington, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

- 1. Program: 1-Yr MBA**  
**Credential Awarded: Masters of Business Administration**  
**Length of Program: 37 Semester Credit Hours**  
**12 Months**

**Worksession Agenda Item:** III.D.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Recommendations for Appointments to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In 1992, state law created under the auspices of the Commission an advisory committee for recommendations and the review of issues relative to institutions subject to the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act. Persons appointed shall be broadly representative of the geographical characteristics of Tennessee. Five (5) members of the Committee shall be employed by, hold an ownership in, or otherwise be affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight. Four (4) members shall be representative of the public interest and shall have no association or relationship with such institutions. Two (2) members shall be representative of community based organizations that have an interest in postsecondary occupational education. Of the thirteen (13) members, eleven (11) are appointed with the remaining two (2) serving by virtue of their position as Executive Director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and as Executive Director of the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

Commission staff is recommending three (3) committee members to be reappointed to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

**1. Reappointment:** Mr. Bill Faour, Director/Owner, Chattanooga College Medical, Dental and Technical Careers

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**2. Reappointment:** Dr. Kittie Myatt, Chair of Psychology Department, Argosy University – Nashville

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**3. Reappointment:** Mr. John A. Keys, Former Commissioner of Veteran Affairs, State of Tennessee

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

Other members of the committee are:

**Dr. Russ Deaton, Chair**

Interim Executive Director, THEC/TSAC

**Ms. Denise Bentley, Esq., Youth Court Coordinator, Tennessee Bar Association**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**Ms. Vicki Burch, President/Owner, West Tennessee Business College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Mr. Miles Burdine, President and CEO, Kingsport Chamber of Commerce**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**Mr. Larry Griffin, President, Mid-South Christian College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Mr. Gaylon Hall, Director Emeritus, William R. Moore College of Technology**

Representative of a community based organization that has an interest in postsecondary occupational education.

**Mrs. Lethia Swett Mann, Vice President, The One Fund, Nashville Minority Business Center**

Representative of a community based organization that has an interest in postsecondary occupational education.

**Mr. Steve South, President/Owner, South College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Dr. Earlie Steele, Retired Assistant Professor of Education, Fisk University**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** III.E.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** DPSA Complaint #13-0135

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Proceed to Appoint an Administrative Law Judge to  
Conduct an Administrative Hearing Sitting Alone

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Division of Postsecondary School Authorization (DPSA) received a complaint on behalf of a student of Concord School of Grooming in Knoxville, Tennessee. The only issue raised in the complaint is whether the student is due a refund after withdrawing from the institution's program.

DPSA investigated the complaint and notified the institution of its findings and determination that the student is owed a refund. DPSA provided the institution an opportunity to respond to the notification, and the institution responded and disagreed. Thereafter, the parties made a final attempt to resolve the complaint informally; however, the parties did not reach a resolution.

In this case, DPSA opines that it is appropriate to proceed to a hearing pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-7-2011(b) and (c). DPSA is of the opinion that the complainant has suffered a loss as a result of the institution's actions and is due a refund. Additionally, it may be appropriate to assess a fine or alter the institution's authorization status as a result of a rule violation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Given these facts, on April 9, 2015, the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions voted unanimously to recommend to the Commission that it direct DPSA to discuss an agreement with the Secretary of State's office to allow this complaint (as well as any future cases, as necessary) to proceed to a hearing to be conducted by an Administrative Law Judge sitting alone.

This recommendation is now before the Commission. DPSA recommends that the Commission adopt the Committee's recommendation and allow the proceeding to move forward.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** IV.A.**DATE:** April 22, 2015**SUBJECT:** University of Tennessee, Martin, Master of Arts – Strategic Communication**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The University of Tennessee, Martin proposes to offer a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Communication (MASC) that will meet the growing need for qualified candidates with strategic planning and advanced communication skills. Strategic communication refers to the purposeful planning and management of communication to achieve organizational goals. The MASC will be a professionally oriented, executive-style degree program designed to prepare communication professionals for communication management, planning, and production in a broad range of career tracks and organizations, including mass media, for-profit corporations, non-profit organizations, government, and advertising/public relations agencies.

The MASC degree will build upon the existing Communications BA/BS degree programs that are fully accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC). This graduate program is expected to be attractive to students who have begun their initial career in communications and will be delivered in online and hybrid methods that provide flexibility for working professionals to complete the program.

**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Fall 2015

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The University of Tennessee at Martin’s mission is to provide a “quality undergraduate education” and “meet lifelong educational needs by providing graduate programs, distance-learning opportunities, and other creative endeavors.” The proposed MA in Strategic Communication would further the University’s mission by providing a graduate program to prepare individuals for management jobs. The proposed program also contributes to the three system-wide areas of the University of Tennessee’s strategic plan student access and success, research and economic development and outreach and globalization.

Master of Arts degree in Strategic Communication program is in alignment with the goals outlined in the THEC 2010-15 Public Agenda for Higher Education, specifically the focus on strengthening Tennessee’s Knowledge Economy and increasing the number of graduate degrees awarded to the state’s citizens.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The proposed degree program will require completion of 33 semester credit hours, including a program core (15 hours) and elective courses (18 hours). Students will also be required to complete a capstone project that must demonstrate thorough understanding of relevant theories, sources, research methods and literature. The capstone project may take a

variety of forms – original research, critical case study, or an in-depth analysis of a topic supported by existing literature. Core and elective courses will be offered either completely online, face-to-face, and hybrid delivery as appropriate for the course material.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Program admission requires the following: bachelor’s degree, a minimum 2.5 overall undergraduate GPA, and satisfactory GRE test scores. Additionally, students must submit a current resume, a statement of purpose outlining career goals, and three letters of recommendations. Students must meet progression and graduation standards as published annually in the UTM Graduate Studies catalog.

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity**

Enrollment and productivity projections are based on ratio of approximately 20 percent full-time enrollment and 80 percent part-time enrollment. This ratio is consistent with other graduate programs at UT Martin. Full-time students should generally graduate in three or four semesters, taking 9-12 credit hours per semester. Part-time students should graduate in approximately six semesters, taking an average of six credit hours per semester.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Full-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Part-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Total Headcount</b>	<b>Graduates</b>
<b>2015</b>	2	8	10	--
<b>2016</b>	3	12	15	--
<b>2017</b>	4	16	20	5
<b>2018</b>	5	20	25	8
<b>2019</b>	5	20	25	10

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** MA in Strategic Communication program will be supported by the 10 faculty in the Department of Communication. All faculty involved have a wide range of professional expertise and academic backgrounds covering all the competencies recommended by the Commission on Public Relations Education.

The Department of Communication will require one new full-time, tenure-track faculty member to support the proposed program. The MASC Planning Committee conducted an extensive analysis of the impact of the proposed MASC coursework on the current faculty teaching load. The analysis indicated an additional faculty member is needed in order to maintain the department’s strong undergraduate program while developing an equally strong master’s degree program.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Students will have access to the holdings and resources of the Paul Meek Library, which houses numerous books, newspapers and periodicals related to strategic communication. However, the department has allocated \$6,000 annually to purchase the Communication and Mass Media Complete Database. In addition to library resources, students will also have access to the Department of Communication Reading Room. The departmental reading room also houses numerous trade magazines, journals, and newspapers for student research.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** This program will be offered through the Department of Communications in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. A departmental faculty member will receive course reassignment to serve as the graduate program director for the proposed Strategic Communication MA program. The department is requesting one additional administrative assistant to help with the increased clerical load.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** Students will have access to a wide range of support resources, including advising support from the Graduate Program Director.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:** Facilities and instructional equipment are adequate to support the program. In 2013-14, the department acquired and renovated additional space that added classrooms, studio space and faculty offices.

**1.1.20I NEED AND DEMAND:** The University of Tennessee, Martin has been actively seeking opportunities to expand the graduate program offerings and better serve the west Tennessee region. The Department of Communication conducted surveys with students and alumni to gauge their interest in the proposed Strategic Communication MA program. Both groups indicated a very high interest in a professional degree program that focused on job skills development and communications management.

National and regional workforce data indicate an increasing demand for jobs related to marketing communication and strategic communication. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated a strong need for public relations professionals in the future. Nationally, the need for public relations managers is expected to increase by 12 percent between 2012 and 2022. Additionally, the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development also project a favorable job outlook for the state for advertising and promotions managers and public relations managers with demand equaling or exceeding the supply of qualified candidates. The THEC Academic Program Supply and Occupational Demand Projections also support the national and state projections of job growth in the public relations industry. The results of the THEC supply and demand analysis indicated that the marketing career pathway, specifically the Public Relations, Advertising and Applied Communication field as a high-need field in Tennessee.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION:** The proposed MASC degree at UT Martin is different in curricular focus and course delivery method from the established communication master's degree programs at other public universities in Tennessee. UTM will be the only university in Tennessee with a master's degree program in strategic communication. UT Martin's program would also target a different geographic service area from the other public universities in Tennessee. The primary areas for student recruitment will include the west Tennessee region outside of Memphis, western Kentucky, the southeast region of Missouri and northeastern Arkansas.

**1.1.20K COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.120L DIVERSITY AND ACCESS:** UT Martin will address its diversity goals in recruitment and student support. The hybrid delivery of both online and on-campus opportunities is designed to provide broad access to the proposed MASC program.

**1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** MA in Strategic Communication program will be evaluated on student feedback and faculty evaluations to continually improve the program. Additionally, input on curriculum and program effectiveness from the department's Industry Advisory Board will be used to assure that the program is meeting the demands and needs of employers.

Two accreditation options are available for applied graduate programs in strategic communication: Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication or the Public Relations Society of America Certification in Education for Public Relations. The Department of Communications faculty will fully evaluate these options and decide which option is an appropriate fit for the proposed program.

**1.1.200 EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** External review of the MA in Strategic Communication program was conducted during an institution site visit on July 8, 2014. Dr. Margaret Duffy, Professor, School of Journalism at the University of Missouri served as the external reviewer. Dr. Duffy recommended approval of the program for the following reasons:

“The administration and faculty of the University of Tennessee at Martin have done an excellent job in analyzing the opportunity to develop a Strategic Communication master's degree. The proposal has demonstrated the need for this type of degree program and shown how it fits with the state of Tennessee's workforce development needs, addresses student demand, and responds to growing demand for strategic communications employees in the western Tennessee region and beyond. A regionally focused MA in Strategic Communication is a good option for UT-Martin and its students.”

**1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT:** The proposed Master's program will be funded through additional tuition revenues generated and institutional reallocation of funds to meet new personnel costs. The program is expected to be revenue neutral by the third year of implementation and will generate net revenue thereafter.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following program approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved proposal. At the end of this period, the campus, governing board and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation and other metrics set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. If benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. If additional time is needed and requested by the governing board, the Commission may choose to extend the monitoring period.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** IV.B.**DATE:** April 22, 2015**SUBJECT:** Middle Tennessee State University, Master of Arts – Liberal Arts**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Middle Tennessee State University proposes to offer a Master of Arts degree in Liberal Arts (MALA) that is an interdisciplinary program that will be located in the College of Liberal Arts. The program will draw from the nine departments and the School of Music and will offer a wide-ranging curriculum that will include cultural, historical, philosophical, geographical, linguistic, artistic, social and political perspectives. As a graduate program centered on interdisciplinary work, the MALA will build on this foundation through the variety of disciplines, skills and broadly-based learning opportunities offered to students in the program. The Liberal Arts MA program will be especially attractive to nontraditional, adult learners who have or have had careers, seek personal and/or professional development and who have an interest in liberal arts.

**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Fall 2015

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The proposed program supports Middle Tennessee State University's mission to "generate, preserve, and disseminate knowledge and innovation, and especially its efforts to foster life-long learning, personal development, and success." As a graduate program aimed for the most part at adult learners who have or have had careers, who seek personal and/or professional development, and who have an interest in liberal arts studies, the proposed Liberal Arts MA program aligns with the mission. The proposed program also contributes to the four key areas of the Tennessee Board of Regents' strategic plan (access, student success, quality, and resourcefulness).

The proposed degree also supports the state's efforts, as detailed in the THEC 2010-15 Public Agenda for Higher Education, to reach out "to populations previously underserved by Tennessee higher education, particularly adults." The proposed Liberal Arts MA program will be especially attractive to nontraditional, adult students who are not necessarily focused on gaining specific job skills but rather seek to increase the broad intellectual and social competencies that are at the heart of a liberal arts education.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The interdisciplinary degree program will require completion of 30 semester credit hours, including a 15-hour major field core, 12 hours in electives and a 3-hour capstone project or thesis option. Instruction for the MALA proposed program will be delivered on-ground, primarily in a seminar setting, which is ideal for bringing students together with the intent to discuss, question, analyze and learn from course materials.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Program admission requires the following: bachelor’s degree, a minimum 2.75 overall undergraduate GPA, and satisfactory test scores. Additionally, students must submit a current resume and a statement of purpose outlining academic interests and goals. Admission decisions are made after a holistic review of all admission materials and are based on the program’s judgment of the applicant’s capacity, suitability and preparation for graduate study. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to request references and/or an interview. Students must meet progression and graduation standards as published annually in the MTSU Graduate Studies catalog.

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity**

Enrollment projections are conservative with the majority of students regularly enrolling on a part-time basis. Full-time students are projected to enroll in nine credits per semester, and part-time students will average 4.5 credits per semester. Graduation rates are based on both full-time and part-time students with full-time students graduating at a faster pace.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Full-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Part-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Total Headcount</b>	<b>Graduates</b>
<b>2015</b>	1	6	7	--
<b>2016</b>	2	10	12	1
<b>2017</b>	2	14	16	6
<b>2018</b>	3	20	23	8
<b>2019</b>	4	22	26	12

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** The proposed program will be supported by graduate faculty in the College of Liberal Arts. Currently, 149 faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts hold graduate faculty status and could be instructors in the proposed program. Initially, close to 20 faculty will be involved in the beginning years of the proposed program. All faculty members represent each of the nine departments and the School of Music housed in the College of Liberal Arts.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** The University has significant library holdings for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program. Additionally, existing departmental budgets within the College of Liberal Arts are adequate to supplement any needed titles. The Walker Library move towards digital humanities will support the proposed interdisciplinary graduate degree program.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** This program will be offered through the College of Liberal Arts, Office of the Dean. A faculty member from the College of Liberal Arts will receive course reassignment to serve as the graduate program director for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program. The program director will be assisted by a steering committee comprised of members’ representative of the curricular diversity serving staggered two-year term appointments.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** Students will have access to a wide range of support resources, including advising support from the Graduate Program Director.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:** Facilities and instructional equipment are adequate to support the program. All departments within the College of Liberal Arts have access to both master and seminar/conference classrooms. Because most of the courses for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program will be taught in the late afternoon or evening, sufficient classroom space will be available.

**1.1.20I NEED AND DEMAND:** As a regional comprehensive university, MTSU strives to meet the demands of the citizens and economy of the middle Tennessee region. MTSU conducted a survey with potential MALA students and they indicated an interest in the proposed degree, especially those students who are seeking an economical master's degree to advance their life-long learning.

Unlike most other graduate programs, the proposed MALA is not designed to provide specific skills and knowledge as preparation for a particular workplace position. Yet, its prospective graduates will hold a strong attraction for prospective employers. In addition, the proposed MALA offers the opportunity for interested students not only to acquire a broad range of skills but also to increase their content knowledge of a subject or enhance their personal development. According to the 2010 THEC Supply Demand Study, almost 75 percent of master's degree graduates in Liberal Arts are employed in Tennessee soon after completing the degree.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION:** Results of a survey with potential MALA students indicate a broad interest in pursuing graduate studies in the Liberal Arts, especially for students who are place-bound and looking for a master's degree to advance their life-long learning.

Graduate programs in liberal arts are offered by the University of Memphis, East Tennessee State University, and Vanderbilt University. The proposed Liberal Arts MA program will provide both affordability as well as academic opportunity for prospective students. Both East Tennessee State University and the University of Memphis have offered programs similar to this currently proposed MALA program since the late 1990s. While these programs began with modest enrollments, over the years their enrollments and degrees have increased.

**1.1.20K COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.1.20L DIVERSITY AND ACCESS:** The proposed degree's flexibility in scheduling and a wide variety of course offerings will appeal to a diverse range of students with varied interests. The proposed Liberal Arts MA degree broadens the opportunity for traditionally under-represented groups to earn a graduate degree.

**1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** The Liberal Arts MA program will be evaluated on student success indicators such as their capstone presentations and theses, course and faculty evaluations. Additionally, the program will be evaluated externally every seven years in accordance with the Quality Assurance Funding Program. Assessment results from both internal and external evaluations will be used for program improvements.

**1.1.200 EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** External review of the proposed program was conducted during an institution site visit on November 6, 2014. Dr. Stuart Charme',

Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Rutgers University (Camden) served as the external reviewer. He stated that the proposed program represented a “positive and welcome addition to MTSU’s graduate programs.” Dr. Charne’ recommended approval of the proposed Liberal Arts MA program for the following reasons: “anticipate sufficient regional interest and enrollment in the program to warrant this new degree, as well as the necessary faculty and administrative buy-in to support and maintain it. Overall, the proposed model is well-designed and consistent with comparable programs at peer institutions.”

**1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT:** The proposed Master’s program will be funded through additional tuition revenue generated by the program and no institutional reallocation of funds is necessary for program implementation.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following program approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved proposal. At the end of this period, the campus, governing board and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation and other metrics set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. If benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. If additional time is needed and requested by the governing board, the Commission may choose to extend the monitoring period.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Adult Learner Initiatives Overview

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Tennessee Reconnect and Complete: Adult Learner Re-Engagement Initiative

There are over 85,000 adults aged 25-64 who have earned at least 50 percent of credits toward a degree but have never finished college. The purpose of Tennessee Reconnect and Complete is to locate these adults and provide some resources for Tennessee institutions to reach out to them and encourage them to complete their degree. Through an RFP process, a vendor has been selected and will commence work soon on locating contact information for these adults. In August 2015, THEC and the Governor’s office will host a meeting for institutional representatives to kick off the re-engagement efforts. Attendees will be provided a guidebook highlighting best practices, outreach resources, and the contact information for their former adult student non-completers. Institutions will then be able to reach out to the adults directly, offering information about their institution as well as the statewide Tennessee Reconnect and Complete effort.

Creation of an Adult Learner Portal

THEC is working with the University of Tennessee system and the Tennessee Board of Regents to develop a web portal focused on providing resources to adults returning to, or enrolling for the first time, in postsecondary education. Adults will be provided options that fit their needs, schedules and goals. The portal will also be designed to allow former students to enter transcript information and receive back a list of academic pathway options, institutions offering those options, and information about careers connected with those academic pathways. The web portal is anticipated to be completed by November 2015.

Ready to Reconnect: Institutional Mini-Grant Competition

In February, THEC released a call for proposals to public and private not-for-profit two- and four- year institutions and TCATs for the Ready to Reconnect mini-grants. These grants will be awarded for the purpose of providing services and support to adult learners to increase their success in postsecondary education. To be eligible for this grant, applicants must first complete the Adult Learning Focused Institution (ALFI) assessment through the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), and institutions will identify innovative solutions on the basis of the challenges revealed through the ALFI assessment results. The ALFI process provides a detailed report of strengths and challenges based on how the institution serves adults through 1) a self-assessment from

faculty and administration and 2) an inventory of adult learners at the institution.

Twenty-eight institutions submitted intents to participate, meaning that we anticipate 28 institutions will complete an ALFI assessment, work toward being designated as “adult-friendly” and become better equipped to meet the unique needs of adult learners. Institutions should complete the ALFI assessments by May 15th and proposals are due July 15th. THEC will award approximately 10 Ready to Reconnect grants to institutions in August.

#### Conducting Adult Learner Research & Building the Policy Framework

Beginning this fall, THEC will pursue a large scale research project which will include 1) a longitudinal quantitative data analysis on factors related to adult learners’ success using THEC’s Student Information System; 2) a request to Tennessee higher education faculty to conduct original research on the state of adult learners; and 3) a request to Tennessee higher education administrators and non-profit organizations to develop qualitative analyses of evidence-based practices in serving adult learners. This year-long research project will culminate in publication and a convening in Fall 2016.

#### Prior Learning Assessment Technical Assistance to Institutions

Through the support of a grant from the Ford Foundation, THEC provided technical assistance to six institutions to develop and strengthen their prior learning assessment programs and offerings. Six public institutions were selected through an application process, and each engaged in a comprehensive review of their PLA practices and policies. All participating institutions provided THEC with their PLA policies, procedures, and marketing documents; completed a policy questionnaire; and participated in surveys and interviews of current faculty, staff, and adult students. In December 2014, THEC compiled comprehensive reports from this data designed to assist institutions in understanding areas of strength and areas needing improvement in regards to PLA. In March 2015, each institution provided a detailed action plan to align with the recommended standards and best practices and currently is implementing the recommendations of this strategic action plan.

#### Completion Innovation Challenge Grant ending May 1, 2015

In 2011, Tennessee was one of 10 states that received a \$1 million Completion Innovation Challenge Grant from Complete College America. The grant initially supported the successful creation of the Prior Learning Assessment Task Force and the resulting statewide PLA standards; the expansion of the Degree Compass course and major recommendation tool from Austin Peay State University to five additional institutions; and institutional Completion Academies to provide a platform for public institutions to develop targeted completion strategies. With unspent funds, THEC was able to further support joint UT and TBR Co-Requisite Remediation Academies to expand this model statewide, and to support Default Guided Pathways convenings to allow institutions to agree on default sequencing of courses to guide students through the Tennessee Transfer Pathways in each academic discipline.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** College Access Programs Update

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

GEAR UP TN

GEAR UP TN provides Tennessee students with a clear path to college. Funded through a seven-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, GEAR UP TN works with Collaboratives in 15 Tennessee counties to promote college readiness and success. GEAR UP TN Collaboratives serve a cohort of students, the Class of 2018, starting in the seventh grade continuing through their first year of postsecondary education. The cohort students are currently in ninth grade. The program also provides services to high school seniors each year of the grant. GEAR UP TN is designed to promote student achievement and expand the college-going culture statewide.

Over the last year, GEAR UP TN provided services to 21,722 students. Staff will share grant outcomes across key metrics, including college-going, FAFSA completion, ACT scores, etc.

Tennessee Promise Forward Grants

In March, THEC released a call for proposals for small competitive grants, called Tennessee Promise Forward Grants, focused on increasing the matriculation and retention of Tennessee Promise students at public two-year institutions. Funded using College Access Challenge Grant funds, Tennessee Promise Forward aims to build institutions' capacity to serve Tennessee Promise students with particular emphasis placed on associate degree completion and, if applicable, transfer to a four-year institution. THEC will award grants to institutions that identify scalable, promising practices which support degree completion among Tennessee Promise students.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** VII.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** LEAP Program Update

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) is a state funded grant program for Community Colleges and Colleges of Applied Technology throughout the state. Administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, these grants are designed to provide resources to regional collaborations consisting of partners across education, economic development, and workforce sectors so that they may address skills gaps throughout the state.

Last fall, an RFP was issued to foster higher education’s collaboration with local workforce boards, employers, and high school career and technical education administrators to address workforce “skills gaps.” In December, the Workforce Subcabinet announced twelve awards to regional collaboratives from all across the state. Contracts for all twelve projects were finalized in January.

Funds for these proposals are eligible to be used to enhance, expand, or create new academic programs that fill a critical and demonstrable workforce need; to acquire equipment demonstrated to be crucial to the development of new workforce-essential competencies; and to build employer-driven career pathways bridging k-12/higher education.

Since January, grantees have commenced purchasing and hiring procedures for relevant activities throughout February, March, and April. Multiple groups have hosted or plan to host formal kick-off events to formally announce the LEAP projects and provide forums to showcase and strengthen partnerships between local industry partners and educational stakeholders.

Staff will update the Commission on recent developments in the LEAP Program.

**Worksession Agenda Item:** VIII.A.

**DATE:** April 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Amendment to the FY 2015-16 Disclosed Capital Projects List

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Disclosed capital projects are funded through non-state sources including campus funds, gifts or the Tennessee State School Bond Authority. Projects most often include dorms, athletics facilities, parking garages and other similar capital improvements. Since the original 2015-16 capital budget recommendations were made, the University of Tennessee (UT) and Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) have identified additional capital projects for the upcoming fiscal year to disclose. These additional projects are submitted to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) for approval as an amendment to the original list, before submission to the Department of Finance & Administration (F&A) for inclusion in the final budget. These lists act as an indicator of a campus's intention of bringing forward a project in the future.

In accordance with THEC Policy Number F4.0, subsection 4.0.30A, a total of 42 additional projects — 37 projects from TBR and five projects from UT — are being disclosed as part of the 2015-16 Additional Disclosed Capital Projects List. Additionally, UT has requested that one project described in the original 2015-16 Disclosed Capital Projects list be removed. In total, TBR has submitted \$114,770,000 in additional disclosed projects and UT has submitted \$93,760,000 in additional disclosed projects for a total of \$208,530,000.

Per a request from F&A, it was necessary to transmit the 2015-16 Additional Capital Projects Lists to the administration prior to the Commission's spring meeting in order to meet the timing requirements of the Governor's Budget Amendment. The amended list was approved by Dr. Deaton by interim action and transmitted to F&A Commissioner Larry Martin on March 16, 2015.

**Governing Board Disclosure List  
Revenue-Funded Projects FY 2015-16  
Additional Projects Submitted**

	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>New Sq. Ft.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>TSSBA</u>	<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>	<u>Operating</u>
<b>University of Tennessee</b>										
1	UTC	Arena Video Improvements	Gifts, Grants, Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 1,246,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 546,000
2	UTC	Founders Hall Window Replacement	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Facilities Fees), Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 159,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 59,000
3	UTK	Neyland Stadium Improvements	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Athletics)	-	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -
<b>Tennessee Board of Regents</b>										
1	APSU	Student Health & Counseling Center Renovations	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000
2	APSU	Kimbrough Trading Center Renovations	Gifts, Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Student Fees)	-	\$ 560,000	\$ -	\$ 290,000	\$ -	\$ 270,000	\$ -
3	ETSU	Pediatrics Renovation	Gifts	-	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4	MTSU	Bus Maintenance Facility	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Parking)	-	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -
5	MTSU	Chiller Replacement	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 650,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 650,000
6	MTSU	College Heights Renovation	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 850,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 850,000
7	MTSU	Corlew and Cummings Elevator Replacements	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Housing)	-	\$ 780,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 780,000	\$ -
8	MTSU	Facilities Storage Sheds	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	7,500	\$ 280,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 280,000
9	MTSU	Floyd Stadium Visitors Training Area	Gifts	1,600	\$ 530,000	\$ -	\$ 530,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10	MTSU	Natatorium Upgrades	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 680,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 680,000
11	MTSU	Womack Lane Housing Plumbing Upgrades	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Housing)	-	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -
12	TSU	Agriculture Facilities Upgrades	Grants	-	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
13	TSU	Food Services Facilities Improvements	Gifts (Vendor)	-	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
14	TTU	Athletics Facilities Improvements	Gifts, Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Athletics), Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 32,000,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	\$ -	\$ 11,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
15	TTU	Athletics Maintenance & Storage Facility	Gifts	-	\$ 370,000	\$ -	\$ 370,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
16	TTU	Capitol Quad Steam Line Replacement	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Housing)	-	\$ 1,890,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,890,000	\$ -
17	TTU	Derryberry Hall Upgrades	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 7,890,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,890,000
18	TTU	Hyder-Burks Equestrian Facility	Grants, Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Access Fees)	-	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$ -
19	TTU	International House	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 730,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 730,000
20	UM	Lambuth Academic Area Upgrades	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
21	UM	Soccer Field Improvements	Gifts	4,850	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
22	UM	Surface Parking Expansion	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Parking)	-	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -
23	UM	Wilder Upper Floor Completion	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000

**Governing Board Disclosure List  
Revenue-Funded Projects FY 2015-16  
Additional Projects Submitted**

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>New Sq. Ft.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>TSSBA</u>	<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>	<u>Operating</u>
<b>Tennessee Board of Regents (continued)</b>									
24	Nashville	Clarksville Campus Renovations	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 6,690,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,690,000
25	Nashville	Main Campus Improvements	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
26	Nashville	New Academic Building Parking	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	40,000	\$ 370,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 370,000
27	Nashville	Southeast Center Second Floor Renovations	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 8,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,200,000
28	Northeast	Regional Center for Advanced Manufacturing	Grants	14,000	\$ 3,300,000	\$ -	\$ 3,300,000	\$ -	\$ -
29	Pellissippi	Hardin Valley Space Utilization Renovations	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 320,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320,000
30	Pellissippi	Magnolia Office Renovations	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 90,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000
31	Pellissippi	Outdoor Classroom/Stage Replacement	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 210,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 210,000
32	Roane	Baseball and Softball Complex Improvements	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 590,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 590,000
33	Roane	Campus Paving	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	-	\$ 460,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 460,000
34	Roane	Maintenance Equipment Building	Plant Funds - Non-Auxiliary	2,000	\$ 110,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000

**UT Projects Proposed for TSSBA Funding**

1	UTHSC	Audiology and Speech Pathology	TSSBA	135,600	\$ 65,060,000	\$ 65,060,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	UTK	Lake Avenue Parking Garage	TSSBA, Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Parking)	-	\$ 22,300,000	\$ 21,300,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -

**TBR Projects Proposed for TSSBA Funding**

1	APSU	Sevier Hall HVAC Replacement	TSSBA (Rent)	-	\$ 2,410,000	\$ 2,410,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	TTU	Residence Hall Upgrades	TSSBA (Rent), Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Housing)	-	\$ 12,500,000	\$ 12,400,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -
3	UM	Energy Conservation	TSSBA (Energy Savings)	-	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Project Count**

5	<b>TOTAL UT - ADDITIONAL 2015-16 DISCLOSURE PROJECTS</b>			135,600	\$ 93,765,000	\$ 86,360,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 6,100,000	\$ 605,000
37	<b>TOTAL TBR - ADDITIONAL 2015-16 DISCLOSURE PROJECTS</b>			69,950	\$ 114,760,000	\$ 29,810,000	\$ 26,440,000	\$ 6,550,000	\$ 19,590,000	\$ 32,370,000
42	<b>GRAND TOTAL - ADDITIONAL 2015-16 DISCLOSURE PROJECTS</b>			205,550	\$ 208,525,000	\$ 116,170,000	\$ 26,740,000	\$ 6,950,000	\$ 25,690,000	\$ 32,975,000

**REMOVE THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS FROM THE FY 2015-16 DISCLOSURE PROJECTS LIST**

1	UTK	Neyland Stadium Improvements <sup>1</sup>	Plant Funds - Auxiliary (Athletics)	-	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -
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1 - This project is being replaced with the Neyland Stadium Improvements project of \$5 million disclosed above.

**AGENDA**  
**TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**  
**Commission Boardroom, Parkway Towers**  
**April 23, 2015**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes, January 29, 2015 Meeting**

**Chairman's Report**

**Executive Director's Report**

**Recognition of Institutional Excellence**

University of Memphis – Veterans Resource Center

**Systems' Reports**

Tennessee Board of Regents

University of Tennessee

**I. Action Items**

- A. Approval of New Academic Degree Programs
  - 1. University of Tennessee Martin, Strategic Communication, MA
  - 2. Middle Tennessee State University, Liberal Arts, MA
  
- B. Postsecondary Education Authorization
  - 1. Institutional Reauthorization (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)
  - 2. Authorization of New Institutions
  - 3. Approval of New Programs
  - 4. Recommendations for Appointments to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions
  - 5. Recommendation Concerning DPSA Complaint #13-0135 to Proceed with a Hearing on Concord School of Grooming

**II. Information Items**

- A. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members
- B. Summer Commission Meeting, July 23, 2015

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is pleased to announce the 2015 recipients of the Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award. On April 23, 2015, a reception will be held in their honor at Parkway Towers, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, 404 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN, at 11:00 a.m. Central time.

**MINUTES**  
**TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**  
**Winter Quarterly Meeting**  
**January 29, 2015, 1:00 p.m. CST**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Evan Cope at 1:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Mr. Evan Cope	Ms. Pam Koban
Mr. Robert Fisher	Treasurer David Lillard
Secretary of State Tre Hargett	Mr. Alex Martin
Ms. Sharon Hayes	Mr. Keith Wilson
Mr. Jon Kinsey	

Commission Members Absent:

Dr. Sara Heyburn	Mayor A C Wharton
Mr. Bill Lee	Comptroller Justin Wilson
Ms. Pam Martin	

**Opening Remarks**

Vice Chairman Evan Cope welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance. Mr. Cope announced since the Commission is currently without a chairman, the first item of business following the adoption of the agenda would be item I.A., selection of a new chairman, then follow the agenda, as presented.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Cope called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Keith Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Jon Kinsey seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

**Action Item I.A., Selection of New Chair**

Mr. Cope then recognized Dr. Russ Deaton to present the item. Dr. Deaton commented on the productive worksession earlier in the day. He then reviewed the current officers, noting Mr. Randy Boyd's position as chairman on the board is vacant due to Mr. Boyd becoming Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development. Ms. Pam Koban made a motion to select Mr. Evan Cope to serve as chair; noting the appointment to chair vacated a vice chair position, Ms. Koban also recommended Mr. Keith Wilson serve as vice chair. Treasurer David Lillard seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Cope then congratulated Dr. Deaton on his appointment as Interim Executive Director and commended Dr. Richard Rhoda on his past service. He also thanked the Commission for selecting him as chair and noted he looks forward to serving the Commission in this capacity. He then recognized Mr. Mike Krause, executive director of the Drive to 55 and Tennessee Promise initiatives, to provide an update on the Tennessee Promise program. Mr. Krause advised the Commission there have been over 58,000 applicants for the program. He then commented on the mandatory meetings each student must attend, thus far, 380 meetings have been held in the past few months with great participation. Mr. Krause then briefly discussed other initiatives including TN Reconnect, LEAP, SAILS, and the Veteran task force and commended THEC staff for the diligent work with each program.

### **Approval of Minutes, November 20, 2014, Meeting**

Chairman Cope then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2014, Commission meeting. Mr. Kinsey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Sharon Hayes seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Russ Deaton, Interim Executive Director, was recognized. Dr. Deaton began by introducing new staff members: Mr. Curt Johnston, LEAP Program Director, and Ms. Sam Lamere, Adult Initiatives Office, PPR division. He then recognized Mr. Tim Phelps and Ms. Diane LeJeune to brief the Commission on TSAC's role supporting the Drive to 55 Initiative. Mr. Phelps stated TSAC assisted with the development of the Tennessee Promise application, provided data, and assisted students with the application.

Ms. LeJeune then briefed the Commission on the communication staff activity relating to the TN Promise program. She stated that over 200,000 push cards had been delivered to students and parents. Ms. LeJeune also stated that staff made financial aid presentations at all Tennessee high school guidance counselor trainings, held TN Promise application workshops at high schools that requested workshops, participated in Scholarship Saturday and handled over 12,000 additional calls and 9,000 live chat sessions in regard to the TN Promise program. She then stated that over 200 College Goal Tennessee and FAFSA events are scheduled between January 1 and February 15 to ensure all applicants have the assistance needed to complete the FAFSA. Dr. Deaton commended TSAC staff for their work with the TN Promise program. He then recognized Mr. David Wright to provide an update on the Master Plan. Mr. Wright stated at the moment degree projections data were being run and confirmed for accuracy, working with the systems for program analysis, and future goals.

### **Systems' Reports**

#### **University of Tennessee**

Dr. Joe DiPietro, President, University of Tennessee System, was recognized. Dr. DiPietro began by commenting on the revision of the current UT business model. He stated the issue was passing tuition increases to cover additional costs due to the tough fiscal condition of the state and noted a Budget Advisory Group has been convened to assist developing a new two-year plan. Dr. DiPietro advised the Commission on the renewal of a partnership with Battell ORNL. He also advised that President Obama has selected UT to lead the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI) with a grant in the amount of \$259M from the US Department of Energy and IACMI's partners, the largest grant ever received by UTK.

He then commented on the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification of UTC, which received the classification for the first time in 2008 and again in 2015; UTK and the Institute of Agriculture also received this recognition for 2015. In closing, Dr. DiPietro commented on the final phase of the search for Vice President of Development and President of the UT Foundation; UTK being listed in the top 100 of Kiplinger report for cost; and the Summit for Prevention of Sexual Assault in partnership with TBR, TICUA, and local nonprofit organizations.

## **Tennessee Board of Regents**

Mr. John Morgan, Chancellor, Tennessee Board of Regents was recognized. Chancellor Morgan began his report by congratulating Mr. Cope on his appointment as chair. He then commented on the Sexual Assault Prevention Summit held on all campuses in partnership with UT, TICUA, and other local nonprofit organizations. Chancellor Morgan also commented on President Obama visiting Pellissippi State Community College to discuss the Tennessee Promise program and how it can serve as a national model for community college access across the country. He also commented on the second White House Summit on higher education and noted that Tennessee continues to be recognized on a national level for promoting higher education attainment and college completion.

Chancellor Morgan announced the groundbreaking of the Smyrna Nissan/TBR state of the art training center on December 8 and noted that TCAT Murfreesboro would utilize half of the facility and Nissan would utilize the other half but both would have access to all training and educational material. He then commented on the TBR retreat held to identify necessary changes in the system and provide feedback and strategies to resolve issues.

Chancellor Morgan announced the following changes at institutions: Dr. James Catanzaro, president, Chattanooga State Community College, retired on December 31, 2014; Dr. Nathan Essex, president of Southwest Tennessee Community College will retire on June 30, 2015 and Dr. Mary Lou Apple, president of Motlow State Community College will retire on June 30, 2015. He stated the first search committee meeting was held two weeks ago for Southwest; the Chattanooga search committee meeting will begin in the next two weeks, and the Motlow search committee meeting shortly thereafter. He noted that for the first time in a community college setting, a search firm was being used to fill Chattanooga and Southwest openings.

He advised the Commission that two faculty members at Roane State had recently set a world record for living under water, noting the purpose was to educate the public on ocean conservation and to inspire young people's interest in science. Professor Bruce Cantrell and adjunct Professor Jessica Fain spent 73 days, 2 hours, and 43 minutes living in the Jules Undersea Lodge off Key Largo.

He then commented on the development of an experimental breast cancer treatment with Dr. Venk Tiriveedhi, assistant professor of biological science at TSU, and a group of researchers from Washington University School of Medicine and noted the trials have proven to be successful and safe and after a year, fifty percent of patients showed no signs of the cancer returning.

In closing, Chancellor Morgan commented on the ratemyprofessors.com site, noting Vol State ranks 21 out of 8000 community colleges across the country for educational satisfaction, faculty, and campus environment. He noted that Tennessee Tech junior chemistry major Kelsey Richards, of Gallatin, was one of sixteen students across the country to receive the leadership award from the American Chemical Society. He then noted that at the University of Memphis, the RN to BSN program was named one of the best online class experiences by RNtoBSN.org which is based on a wide range of sources, and at ETSU, Melinda Gaines and Mark Stevens were recently selected by SREB to the Doctoral Scholars Program, a program to increase production of minority student Ph.D's having the intent to teach on a college campus.

### **Action Items (continued)**

#### **Approval of New Academic Degree Program, MTSU, Finance, MS**

Ms. Betty Dandridge Johnson, Associate Executive Director for Academic Affairs, presented the recommendation for the new academic program. Ms. Dandridge Johnson stated the program will provide students with instruction in financial theory and practice that will prepare them for careers as financial analysts, managers, planners and consultants. She also stated the Finance MS program is the only one in the State at a public university.

Ms. Dandridge Johnson noted the program is in full compliance with MTSU 2007-2017 Academic Master Plan, particularly the priority area of expanding programs with a focus on regional demand and financial viability and is in alignment with the goals outlined in the THEC *2010-15 Public Agenda for Higher Education*, specifically the focus on strengthening Tennessee's Knowledge Economy and increasing the number of graduate degrees awarded to the state's residents. Ms. Sharon Hayes made a motion to approve the Finance MS at MTSU. Ms. Koban seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

#### **Policy Revision: A1.0 – New Academic Programs: Approval Process**

Ms. Dandridge Johnson also presented the recommendation for policy revision A1.0. She stated the new academic program proposals follow the approval process outlined in Policy A1.0, which has minor updates to reflect current practices. Ms. Dandridge Johnson noted the minor changes include granting the Executive Director of THEC approval authority for proposals of new academic units (divisions, colleges and schools), and a name change from the "letter of intent" to the "letter of application" regarding the notification of an academic program proposal. Mr. Kinsey made a motion to approve staff recommendations for policy revision A1.0. Secretary Hargett seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

#### **Policy Revision: A1.1- New and Modified Academic Programs: Evaluation Criteria**

Ms. Dandridge Johnson then presented the recommendation for policy revisions A1.1. She stated the proposed policy revisions for Policy A1.1 consist of minor changes to the evaluation criteria that are to be included in the letter of application for new and modified academic programs. It also provides a more efficient approval process for modified academic program proposals by granting power of approval to the THEC Executive Director and stated that proposed language exists in Policy A1.1 for the THEC Executive Director to elevate a program modification to a new program so that it may be considered by the Commission for approval. Ms. Hayes made a motion to approve staff recommendations for policy revision A1.1. Ms. Koban seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

#### **Temporary Authorization of New Institutions and Approval of New Programs Under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act**

Dr. Stephanie Bellard Chase, Associate Executive Director for the Division of Postsecondary School Authorization, was recognized. Dr. Chase presented the recommendations of staff and the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions to grant temporary authorization to 11 new institutions and 43 new programs. A motion was made by Treasurer Lillard to adopt the recommendations, as presented. Secretary Tre Hargett seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

### **October 31 Revised Budgets, 2014-15**

Ms. Crystal Collins, Director of Fiscal Policy and Facilities Analysis, was recognized. Ms. Collins stated that the General Appropriations Act requires the operating budgets of all higher education units be submitted by the respective governing boards to the Higher Education Commission. She noted that each higher education system submits operating budget estimates twice a year and the proposed and revised estimates are referred to as the July 1 and October 31 operating budgets, respectively. She stated that campuses have again directed the majority of their resources to the teaching functions.

Ms. Collins stated that overall, 54.2 percent of all revenue was generated from tuition and fees compared to 35.9 percent ten years prior in 2004-05 and State appropriations accounted for 35.5 percent of revenue, compared to 52.1 percent in 2004-05. Ms. Hayes made a recommendation that the Commission approve the revised 2014-15 October 31 budgets, authorize the Executive Director to make technical adjustments to the budgets if necessary and transmit the approval of the referenced budgets, along with the appropriate commentary, to the Commissioner of Finance and Administration. Secretary Hargett seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted.

### **Information Items**

#### **Drive to 55 Support and Capacity Building**

Mr. Troy Grant, Director, College Access Initiatives, and Ms. Jessica Gibson, Assistant Executive Director of Policy, Planning, & Research, were recognized to provide a status report. Mr. Grant stated that as part of the Governor's Drive to 55 Initiative, the Tennessee Board of Regents, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, and the Tennessee College Access and Success Network collaborated to produce an online course designed to equip high school students with the skills and information needed to enroll and succeed in higher education. He noted that course content includes information on choosing a college, applying for admission and financial aid, taking steps to enroll in classes and successfully navigate the college campus, and strategies for college success. He also noted the course is being piloted out of the Office of P-16 Initiatives with 14 Tennessee high schools during the spring of 2015 and is scheduled to be available for statewide implementation in the fall of 2015.

Ms. Gibson commented that in the coming weeks, THEC will initiate a competitive grant program called Ready to Reconnect grants, that will be available to TCATs, public two- and four-year institutions, and TICUA institutions to improve practices, policies and internal operations that support adult learner success. She stated that in order to be eligible for this grant, institution must first complete the Adult Learning Focused Institution (ALFI) assessment through the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). Ready to Reconnect grants will be awarded for the purpose of providing services and support to adult learners to increase their success on the basis of the challenges revealed through the ALFI assessment results.

Ms. Gibson noted THEC will also release a call for proposals for small competitive grants focused on increasing the matriculation and retention of Tennessee Promise students at public two-year institutions. She noted the program will be funded using College Access Challenge Grant funds, and the grants aim to build institutions' capacity to serve Tennessee Promise students with particular emphasis placed on associate degree completion and, if applicable, transfer to a four-year institution.

THEC will award grants to institutions that identify scalable, promising practices that support degree completion among Tennessee Promise students.

### **LEAP Program Update**

Mr. Curt Johnston, Director of Education & Workforce Alignment, was recognized. Mr. Johnston stated the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) is a state funded grant program for community colleges and colleges of applied technology in the state. He noted the grants, administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, are designed to provide resources for regional collaborations consisting of partners across education, economic development, and workforce sectors so that they may address skills gaps throughout the state. Mr. Johnston then noted that in December, the Workforce Subcabinet announced twelve awards to regional collaboratives from all across the state. He also noted that funds for these proposals are eligible to be used to enhance, expand, or create new academic programs that fill a critical and demonstrable workforce need; to acquire equipment demonstrated to be crucial to the development of new workforce-essential competencies; and to build employer-driven career pathways bridging K-12 and higher education.

### **Academic Program Review**

Ms. Dandridge Johnson commented that as Tennessee's institutions of higher education continue to focus on the goals of completion and student success, there is a clear need for an ongoing evaluation of the state's academic programs. She stated that in recent years, higher education has seen a period of extensive growth in the current academic program inventory coupled with the concerns that a significant number of programs are failing to meet productivity thresholds. Ms. Dandridge Johnson also stated in January 2014, THEC notified the Tennessee Board of Regents and the University of Tennessee of a 12-month moratorium on new academic programs beginning July 2014, which allowed the governing boards to submit program proposals that were currently being developed by faculty and administrators to the THEC staff for evaluation.

She commented that the moratorium allowed THEC to work jointly with each system to assess the health of academic offerings, make necessary adjustments to academic program policy, and ensure that all programs are fully aligned for student success. Ms. Dandridge Johnson noted that as the state continues to move toward 55 percent of Tennesseans obtaining a college degree or certificate by 2025, it is vital that our institutions of higher education provide students with high quality academic programs.

She stated the academic program review provides a holistic view of the status of degree programs throughout the state, and includes these components: Program activity, which depicts new programs added to the state inventory in 2014, as well as programs that have been terminated; post approval monitoring, which assesses success of new programs approved within the last five years against projected enrollment and graduation benchmarks; performance funding qualitative reviews, showing results of accreditation reviews and program evaluation of established programs; and program productivity review, an on-going monitoring of all programs in operation for more than five years.

**Spring Commission Meeting**

Dr. Deaton advised the Commission that the next scheduled meeting would be April 23, 2015, in the THEC board room.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Evan Cope, Chair

**DATE:** April 23, 2015**SUBJECT:** University of Tennessee, Martin, Master of Arts – Strategic Communication**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The University of Tennessee, Martin proposes to offer a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Communication (MASC) that will meet the growing need for qualified candidates with strategic planning and advanced communication skills. Strategic communication refers to the purposeful planning and management of communication to achieve organizational goals. The MASC will be a professionally oriented, executive-style degree program designed to prepare communication professionals for communication management, planning, and production in a broad range of career tracks and organizations, including mass media, for-profit corporations, non-profit organizations, government, and advertising/public relations agencies.

The MASC degree will build upon the existing Communications BA/BS degree programs that are fully accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC). This graduate program is expected to be attractive to students who have begun their initial career in communications and will be delivered in online and hybrid methods that provide flexibility for working professionals to complete the program.

**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Fall 2015

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The University of Tennessee at Martin’s mission is to provide a “quality undergraduate education” and “meet lifelong educational needs by providing graduate programs, distance-learning opportunities, and other creative endeavors.” The proposed MA in Strategic Communication would further the University’s mission by providing a graduate program to prepare individuals for management jobs. The proposed program also contributes to the three system-wide areas of the University of Tennessee’s strategic plan student access and success, research and economic development and outreach and globalization.

Master of Arts degree in Strategic Communication program is in alignment with the goals outlined in the THEC 2010-15 Public Agenda for Higher Education, specifically the focus on strengthening Tennessee’s Knowledge Economy and increasing the number of graduate degrees awarded to the state’s citizens.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The proposed degree program will require completion of 33 semester credit hours, including a program core (15 hours) and elective courses (18 hours). Students will also be required to complete a capstone project that must demonstrate thorough understanding of relevant theories, sources, research methods and literature. The capstone project may take a

variety of forms – original research, critical case study, or an in-depth analysis of a topic supported by existing literature. Core and elective courses will be offered either completely online, face-to-face, and hybrid delivery as appropriate for the course material.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Program admission requires the following: bachelor’s degree, a minimum 2.5 overall undergraduate GPA, and satisfactory GRE test scores. Additionally, students must submit a current resume, a statement of purpose outlining career goals, and three letters of recommendations. Students must meet progression and graduation standards as published annually in the UTM Graduate Studies catalog.

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity**

Enrollment and productivity projections are based on ratio of approximately 20 percent full-time enrollment and 80 percent part-time enrollment. This ratio is consistent with other graduate programs at UT Martin. Full-time students should generally graduate in three or four semesters, taking 9-12 credit hours per semester. Part-time students should graduate in approximately six semesters, taking an average of six credit hours per semester.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Full-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Part-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Total Headcount</b>	<b>Graduates</b>
<b>2015</b>	2	8	10	--
<b>2016</b>	3	12	15	--
<b>2017</b>	4	16	20	5
<b>2018</b>	5	20	25	8
<b>2019</b>	5	20	25	10

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** MA in Strategic Communication program will be supported by the 10 faculty in the Department of Communication. All faculty involved have a wide range of professional expertise and academic backgrounds covering all the competencies recommended by the Commission on Public Relations Education.

The Department of Communication will require one new full-time, tenure-track faculty member to support the proposed program. The MASC Planning Committee conducted an extensive analysis of the impact of the proposed MASC coursework on the current faculty teaching load. The analysis indicated an additional faculty member is needed in order to maintain the department’s strong undergraduate program while developing an equally strong master’s degree program.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Students will have access to the holdings and resources of the Paul Meek Library, which houses numerous books, newspapers and periodicals related to strategic communication. However, the department has allocated \$6,000 annually to purchase the Communication and Mass Media Complete Database. In addition to library resources, students will also have access to the Department of Communication Reading Room. The departmental reading room also houses numerous trade magazines, journals, and newspapers for student research.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** This program will be offered through the Department of Communications in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. A departmental faculty member will receive course reassignment to serve as the graduate program director for the proposed Strategic Communication MA program. The department is requesting one additional administrative assistant to help with the increased clerical load.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** Students will have access to a wide range of support resources, including advising support from the Graduate Program Director.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:** Facilities and instructional equipment are adequate to support the program. In 2013-14, the department acquired and renovated additional space that added classrooms, studio space and faculty offices.

**1.1.20I NEED AND DEMAND:** The University of Tennessee, Martin has been actively seeking opportunities to expand the graduate program offerings and better serve the west Tennessee region. The Department of Communication conducted surveys with students and alumni to gauge their interest in the proposed Strategic Communication MA program. Both groups indicated a very high interest in a professional degree program that focused on job skills development and communications management.

National and regional workforce data indicate an increasing demand for jobs related to marketing communication and strategic communication. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated a strong need for public relations professionals in the future. Nationally, the need for public relations managers is expected to increase by 12 percent between 2012 and 2022. Additionally, the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development also project a favorable job outlook for the state for advertising and promotions managers and public relations managers with demand equaling or exceeding the supply of qualified candidates. The THEC Academic Program Supply and Occupational Demand Projections also support the national and state projections of job growth in the public relations industry. The results of the THEC supply and demand analysis indicated that the marketing career pathway, specifically the Public Relations, Advertising and Applied Communication field as a high-need field in Tennessee.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION:** The proposed MASC degree at UT Martin is different in curricular focus and course delivery method from the established communication master's degree programs at other public universities in Tennessee. UTM will be the only university in Tennessee with a master's degree program in strategic communication. UT Martin's program would also target a different geographic service area from the other public universities in Tennessee. The primary areas for student recruitment will include the west Tennessee region outside of Memphis, western Kentucky, the southeast region of Missouri and northeastern Arkansas.

**1.1.20K COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.120L DIVERSITY AND ACCESS:** UT Martin will address its diversity goals in recruitment and student support. The hybrid delivery of both online and on-campus opportunities is designed to provide broad access to the proposed MASC program.

**1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** MA in Strategic Communication program will be evaluated on student feedback and faculty evaluations to continually improve the program. Additionally, input on curriculum and program effectiveness from the department's Industry Advisory Board will be used to assure that the program is meeting the demands and needs of employers.

Two accreditation options are available for applied graduate programs in strategic communication: Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication or the Public Relations Society of America Certification in Education for Public Relations. The Department of Communications faculty will fully evaluate these options and decide which option is an appropriate fit for the proposed program.

**1.1.200 EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** External review of the MA in Strategic Communication program was conducted during an institution site visit on July 8, 2014. Dr. Margaret Duffy, Professor, School of Journalism at the University of Missouri served as the external reviewer. Dr. Duffy recommended approval of the program for the following reasons:

“The administration and faculty of the University of Tennessee at Martin have done an excellent job in analyzing the opportunity to develop a Strategic Communication master's degree. The proposal has demonstrated the need for this type of degree program and shown how it fits with the state of Tennessee's workforce development needs, addresses student demand, and responds to growing demand for strategic communications employees in the western Tennessee region and beyond. A regionally focused MA in Strategic Communication is a good option for UT-Martin and its students.”

**1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT:** The proposed Master's program will be funded through additional tuition revenues generated and institutional reallocation of funds to meet new personnel costs. The program is expected to be revenue neutral by the third year of implementation and will generate net revenue thereafter.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following program approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved proposal. At the end of this period, the campus, governing board and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation and other metrics set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. If benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. If additional time is needed and requested by the governing board, the Commission may choose to extend the monitoring period.

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Middle Tennessee State University, Master of Arts – Liberal Arts

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Middle Tennessee State University proposes to offer a Master of Arts degree in Liberal Arts (MALA) that is an interdisciplinary program that will be located in the College of Liberal Arts. The program will draw from the nine departments and the School of Music and will offer a wide-ranging curriculum that will include cultural, historical, philosophical, geographical, linguistic, artistic, social and political perspectives. As a graduate program centered on interdisciplinary work, the MALA will build on this foundation through the variety of disciplines, skills and broadly-based learning opportunities offered to students in the program. The Liberal Arts MA program will be especially attractive to nontraditional, adult learners who have or have had careers, seek personal and/or professional development and who have an interest in liberal arts.

**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Fall 2015

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The proposed program supports Middle Tennessee State University’s mission to “generate, preserve, and disseminate knowledge and innovation, and especially its efforts to foster life-long learning, personal development, and success.” As a graduate program aimed for the most part at adult learners who have or have had careers, who seek personal and/or professional development, and who have an interest in liberal arts studies, the proposed Liberal Arts MA program aligns with the mission. The proposed program also contributes to the four key areas of the Tennessee Board of Regents’ strategic plan (access, student success, quality, and resourcefulness).

The proposed degree also supports the state’s efforts, as detailed in the THEC 2010-15 Public Agenda for Higher Education, to reach out “to populations previously underserved by Tennessee higher education, particularly adults.” The proposed Liberal Arts MA program will be especially attractive to nontraditional, adult students who are not necessarily focused on gaining specific job skills but rather seek to increase the broad intellectual and social competencies that are at the heart of a liberal arts education.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The interdisciplinary degree program will require completion of 30 semester credit hours, including a 15-hour major field core, 12 hours in electives and a 3-hour capstone project or thesis option. Instruction for the MALA proposed program will be delivered on-ground, primarily in a seminar setting, which is ideal for bringing students together with the intent to discuss, question, analyze and learn from course materials.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Program admission requires the following: bachelor’s degree, a minimum 2.75 overall undergraduate GPA, and satisfactory test scores. Additionally, students must submit a current resume and a statement of purpose outlining academic interests and goals. Admission decisions are made after a holistic review of all admission materials and are based on the program’s judgment of the applicant’s capacity, suitability and preparation for graduate study. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to request references and/or an interview. Students must meet progression and graduation standards as published annually in the MTSU Graduate Studies catalog.

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity**

Enrollment projections are conservative with the majority of students regularly enrolling on a part-time basis. Full-time students are projected to enroll in nine credits per semester, and part-time students will average 4.5 credits per semester. Graduation rates are based on both full-time and part-time students with full-time students graduating at a faster pace.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Full-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Part-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>Total Headcount</b>	<b>Graduates</b>
<b>2015</b>	1	6	7	--
<b>2016</b>	2	10	12	1
<b>2017</b>	2	14	16	6
<b>2018</b>	3	20	23	8
<b>2019</b>	4	22	26	12

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** The proposed program will be supported by graduate faculty in the College of Liberal Arts. Currently, 149 faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts hold graduate faculty status and could be instructors in the proposed program. Initially, close to 20 faculty will be involved in the beginning years of the proposed program. All faculty members represent each of the nine departments and the School of Music housed in the College of Liberal Arts.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** The University has significant library holdings for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program. Additionally, existing departmental budgets within the College of Liberal Arts are adequate to supplement any needed titles. The Walker Library move towards digital humanities will support the proposed interdisciplinary graduate degree program.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** This program will be offered through the College of Liberal Arts, Office of the Dean. A faculty member from the College of Liberal Arts will receive course reassignment to serve as the graduate program director for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program. The program director will be assisted by a steering committee comprised of members’ representative of the curricular diversity serving staggered two-year term appointments.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** Students will have access to a wide range of support resources, including advising support from the Graduate Program Director.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:** Facilities and instructional equipment are adequate to support the program. All departments within the College of Liberal Arts have access to both master and seminar/conference classrooms. Because most of the courses for the proposed Liberal Arts MA program will be taught in the late afternoon or evening, sufficient classroom space will be available.

**1.1.20I NEED AND DEMAND:** As a regional comprehensive university, MTSU strives to meet the demands of the citizens and economy of the middle Tennessee region. MTSU conducted a survey with potential MALA students and they indicated an interest in the proposed degree, especially those students who are seeking an economical master's degree to advance their life-long learning.

Unlike most other graduate programs, the proposed MALA is not designed to provide specific skills and knowledge as preparation for a particular workplace position. Yet, its prospective graduates will hold a strong attraction for prospective employers. In addition, the proposed MALA offers the opportunity for interested students not only to acquire a broad range of skills but also to increase their content knowledge of a subject or enhance their personal development. According to the 2010 THEC Supply Demand Study, almost 75 percent of master's degree graduates in Liberal Arts are employed in Tennessee soon after completing the degree.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION:** Results of a survey with potential MALA students indicate a broad interest in pursuing graduate studies in the Liberal Arts, especially for students who are place-bound and looking for a master's degree to advance their life-long learning.

Graduate programs in liberal arts are offered by the University of Memphis, East Tennessee State University, and Vanderbilt University. The proposed Liberal Arts MA program will provide both affordability as well as academic opportunity for prospective students. Both East Tennessee State University and the University of Memphis have offered programs similar to this currently proposed MALA program since the late 1990s. While these programs began with modest enrollments, over the years their enrollments and degrees have increased.

**1.1.20K COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.120L DIVERSITY AND ACCESS:** The proposed degree's flexibility in scheduling and a wide variety of course offerings will appeal to a diverse range of students with varied interests. The proposed Liberal Arts MA degree broadens the opportunity for traditionally under-represented groups to earn a graduate degree.

**1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** The Liberal Arts MA program will be evaluated on student success indicators such as their capstone presentations and theses, course and faculty evaluations. Additionally, the program will be evaluated externally every seven years in accordance with the Quality Assurance Funding Program. Assessment results from both internal and external evaluations will be used for program improvements.

**1.1.200 EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** External review of the proposed program was conducted during an institution site visit on November 6, 2014. Dr. Stuart Charme',

Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Rutgers University (Camden) served as the external reviewer. He stated that the proposed program represented a “positive and welcome addition to MTSU’s graduate programs.” Dr. Charne’ recommended approval of the proposed Liberal Arts MA program for the following reasons: “anticipate sufficient regional interest and enrollment in the program to warrant this new degree, as well as the necessary faculty and administrative buy-in to support and maintain it. Overall, the proposed model is well-designed and consistent with comparable programs at peer institutions.”

**1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT:** The proposed Master’s program will be funded through additional tuition revenue generated by the program and no institutional reallocation of funds is necessary for program implementation.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following program approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved proposal. At the end of this period, the campus, governing board and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation and other metrics set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. If benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. If additional time is needed and requested by the governing board, the Commission may choose to extend the monitoring period.

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Institutional Reauthorization (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act (the Act), has the responsibility to act upon applications for reauthorization of postsecondary educational institutions.

**Authorized Locations With Regular Authorization (265)**

1. A+ Nurse Aide Training (Manchester, TN - Code: 1614)
2. Academy of Allied Health Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1206)
3. Academy of Make-Up Arts, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1558)
4. Advanced Nurse Assistant Training LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1577)
5. All Saints Bible College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1208)
6. Allied Health Careers Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1210)
7. American Home Inspectors Training Institute, LTD (Nashville, TN - Code: 1212)
8. American Red Cross (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1213)
9. Amridge University (Montgomery, AL - Code: 1218)
10. Appalachian Training Center for Healing Arts (Dandridge, TN - Code: 1221)
11. Arbor College - School of Massage (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1223)
12. Argosy University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1224)
13. Argosy University (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1225)
14. Arkansas State University (State University, AR - Code: 1226)
15. Art Instruction Schools (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1227)
16. Ashford University (San Diego, CA - Code: 1228)
17. At-Home Professions (Fort Collins, CO - Code: 1229)
18. Belhaven University (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1232)
19. Belhaven University (Jackson, MS - Code: 1616)
20. Belhaven University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1231)
21. Brown Mackie College (Hopkinsville, KY - Code: 1236)
22. Capella University (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1239)
23. Career Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1240)
24. Career Training Institute (Memphis, TN - Code: 1241)
25. CCS Truck Driving School, Inc. (Fall Branch, TN - Code: 1555)
26. Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1595)
27. Central Michigan University's Global Campus (Mount Pleasant, MI - Code: 1618)

28. Chattanooga College Medical, Dental and Technical Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1246)
29. Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, and Technical Careers (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1247)
30. Chattanooga Massage Institute (Hixson, TN - Code: 1248)
31. Church of God School of Ministry (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1249)
32. CNA Training Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1593)
33. Codes Unlimited Healthcare Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1251)
34. Commercial Driver Institute, Inc. (CDI) (Christiana, TN - Code: 1252)
35. Compassionate Care Technical Center, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1677)
36. Concorde Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1255)
37. Crown College of the Bible (Powell, TN - Code: 1256)
38. Cumberland Institute of Holistic Therapies, Inc. (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1257)
39. Dallas Theological Seminary (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1561)
40. Dark Horse Institute (Franklin, TN - Code: 1596)
41. Daymar College (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1259)
42. Daymar College (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1260)
43. Daymar College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1262)
44. Delta Technical College (Horn Lake, MS - Code: 1597)
45. Dental Staff School (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1655)
46. Dental Staff School of Tennessee (Franklin, TN - Code: 1263)
47. DeVry University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1267)
48. DeVry University (Naperville, IL - Code: 1265)
49. DeVry University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1268)
50. Drive-Train (Dyersburg, TN - Code: 1656)
51. Drive-Train (Jackson, TN - Code: 1270)
52. EduMed Partners, LLC (Goodlettsville, TN - Code: 1648)
53. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1272)
54. Emmanuel Bible College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1273)
55. Faith is the Victory Life Christian Bible Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1275)
56. Genesis Career College: Nashville Airport Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1278)
57. Genesis Career College: Nashville Downtown Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1279)
58. Georgia Career Institute (McMinnville, TN - Code: 1280)
59. Georgia Career Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1281)
60. Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee (Nashville, TN - Code: 1282)
61. Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc (Morristown, TN - Code: 1284)
62. Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1283)
63. Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1285)
64. Harding University (Memphis, TN - Code: 1286)
65. Health - Tech Institute of Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1288)
66. Health Careers Training Center (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1287)
67. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Alcoa, TN - Code: 1292)
68. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Arlington, TN - Code: 1329)
69. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Atoka, TN - Code: 1321)
70. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Bartlett, TN - Code: 1332)
71. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Celina, TN - Code: 1345)
72. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1298)
73. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1372)
74. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1301)

75. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1302)
76. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1303)
77. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1296)
78. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1297)
79. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Clinton, TN - Code: 1346)
80. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1623)
81. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Crossville, TN - Code: 1293)
82. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Farragut, TN - Code: 1318)
83. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Franklin, TN - Code: 1624)
84. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Gainesboro, TN - Code: 1621)
85. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Harriman, TN - Code: 1351)
86. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Hermitage, TN - Code: 1572)
87. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jacksboro, TN - Code: 1622)
88. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jackson, TN - Code: 1304)
89. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Jackson, TN - Code: 1305)
90. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1365)
91. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1310)
92. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1312)
93. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1565)
94. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1381)
95. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lenoir City, TN - Code: 1317)
96. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Lexington, TN - Code: 1379)
97. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1334)
98. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1335)
99. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madison, TN - Code: 1339)
100. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Madisonville, TN - Code: 1628)
101. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Maryville, TN - Code: 1294)
102. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (McMinnville, TN - Code: 1564)
103. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1322)
104. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1323)
105. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1324)
106. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Memphis, TN - Code: 1376)
107. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Millington, TN - Code: 1320)
108. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Morristown, TN - Code: 1315)
109. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Morristown, TN - Code: 1316)
110. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Mt. Juliet, TN - Code: 1566)
111. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1370)
112. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1568)
113. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1291)
114. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1336)
115. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1337)
116. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1338)
117. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1340)
118. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1343)
119. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1371)
120. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1570)
121. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1573)
122. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1575)
123. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Newport, TN - Code: 1355)
124. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Oliver Springs, TN - Code: 1356)

125. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Oneida, TN - Code: 1357)
126. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Paris, TN - Code: 1569)
127. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Ripley, TN - Code: 1625)
128. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Sevierville, TN - Code: 1361)
129. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1344)
130. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Tazewell, TN - Code: 1364)
131. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Tullahoma, TN - Code: 1620)
132. Huntington College of Health Sciences (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1382)
133. International Academy of Design & Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1387)
134. ITT Technical Institute (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1393)
135. ITT Technical Institute (Cordova, TN - Code: 1390)
136. ITT Technical Institute (Indianapolis, IN - Code: 1392)
137. ITT Technical Institute (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1395)
138. ITT Technical Institute (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1389)
139. ITT Technical Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1391)
140. Jones International University (Centennial, CO - Code: 1650)
141. Kaplan College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1400)
142. Kaplan University (Chicago, IL - Code: 1401)
143. Knoxville Area Urban League (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1402)
144. Lab Four Professional Development Center (Memphis, TN - Code: 1405)
145. Lab Four Professional Development Center (Nashville, TN - Code: 1556)
146. L'Ecole Culinaire Memphis (Cordova, TN - Code: 1404)
147. Lincoln College of Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1428)
148. Lindsey Wilson College (Gallatin, TN - Code: 1407)
149. Magic Valley CNA (Camden, TN - Code: 1410)
150. Massage Institute of Cleveland (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1411)
151. Massage Institute of Memphis, LLC (Memphis, TN - Code: 1412)
152. MaySept Healthcare Services (Memphis, TN - Code: 1613)
153. Medical Billing Academy (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1670)
154. Memphis Academy of National Nursing Assistants (Memphis, TN - Code: 1415)
155. Meridian Institute of Surgical Assisting, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1418)
156. Mid-South Christian College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1419)
157. Milan Express Truck Driving School (Jackson, TN - Code: 1420)
158. Miller-Motte Technical College (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1422)
159. Miller-Motte Technical College (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1421)
160. Miller-Motte Technical College (Madison, TN - Code: 1423)
161. Mind Body Institute, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1424)
162. NASCAR Technical Institute ( Mooresville, NC - Code: 1426)
163. Nashville Academy of Reflexology, LLC (Nashville, TN - Code: 1680)
164. Nashville College of Medical Careers (Madison, TN - Code: 1429)
165. Nashville Film Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1430)
166. National American University (Rapid City, SD - Code: 1431)
167. National College (Bartlett, TN - Code: 1437)
168. National College (Bristol, TN - Code: 1434)
169. National College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1433)
170. National College (Madison, TN - Code: 1436)
171. National College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1435)
172. National College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1432)
173. NATS, Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1438)
174. Nazarene Theological Seminary (Nashville, TN - Code: 1562)

175. New College Franklin (Franklin, TN - Code: 1440)
176. New Horizons Computer Learning Center (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1441)
177. New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1443)
178. New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Nashville (Nashville, TN - Code: 1444)
179. NHLA Inspector Training School (Memphis, TN - Code: 1445)
180. North Central Institute (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1447)
181. Nossi College of Art (Nashville, TN - Code: 1448)
182. Oak Ridge Regional Training Corporation (Oak Ridge, TN - Code: 1449)
183. Ohio Technical College (Cleveland, OH - Code: 1669)
184. Olympic Career Training Institute (Memphis, TN - Code: 1599)
185. Oxford Graduate School (Dayton, TN - Code: 1452)
186. Park University (Millington, TN - Code: 1453)
187. Prepare to Care Training Center, LLC (Cleveland, TN - Code: 1458)
188. Private First Class Driving Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1459)
189. Professional Bartending School (Nashville, TN - Code: 1460)
190. Reflections of Health School of Massage (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1463)
191. Reformed Theological Seminary (Memphis, TN - Code: 1464)
192. Remington College (Heathrow, FL - Code: 1617)
193. Remington College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1465)
194. Remington College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1466)
195. Richmond Graduate University (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1467)
196. SAE Institute of Technology (Nashville, TN - Code: 1472)
197. Sanford-Brown College Online (Tampa, FL - Code: 1388)
198. SASH Nursing Assistant Training (Nashville, TN - Code: 1473)
199. Seminary Extension (Nashville, TN - Code: 1475)
200. Smokey Mountain Trucking Institute (Sevierville, TN - Code: 1477)
201. South College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1478)
202. South College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1479)
203. Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1271)
204. Southeast Lineman Training Center (Trenton, GA - Code: 1480)
205. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Franklin, TN - Code: 1485)
206. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Jackson, TN - Code: 1483)
207. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Lenoir City, TN - Code: 1484)
208. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville, KY - Code: 1482)
209. Southern Illinois University (Millington, TN - Code: 1486)
210. Strayer University - Knoxville Campus (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1489)
211. Strayer University - Nashville Campus (Nashville, TN - Code: 1490)
212. Strayer University - Online (Salt Lake City, UT - Code: 1488)
213. Strayer University - Shelby (Memphis, TN - Code: 1491)
214. Strayer University - Thousand Oaks Campus (Memphis, TN - Code: 1492)
215. Sullivan University (Louisville, KY - Code: 1493)
216. Superior Drivers Institute (Columbia, TN - Code: 1494)
217. Swift Driving Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1495)
218. Tennessee Bible College, Inc. (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1497)
219. Tennessee Career Institute Inc. (Columbia, TN - Code: 1559)
220. Tennessee Health Careers, LLC (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1498)
221. Tennessee School of Massage (Memphis, TN - Code: 1499)
222. Tennessee School of Therapeutic Massage, Inc. (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1501)

223. Tennessee Truck Driving School (Louisville, TN - Code: 1502)
224. The Art Institute of Tennessee (Nashville, TN - Code: 1503)
225. The Institute for Global Outreach Developments International (Old Hickory, TN - Code: 1504)
226. TN Professional Training Institute (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1681)
227. Transport Training Group (White Pine, TN - Code: 1507)
228. Transportation Training Centers (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1508)
229. Tri Cities School of Preaching & Christian Development (Elizabethton, TN - Code: 1509)
230. Troy University (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1511)
231. Troy University - eTroy (Troy, AL - Code: 1512)
232. Truck Driver Institute, Inc. (Christiana, TN - Code: 1514)
233. Truck Driver Institute, Inc. (Tupelo, MS - Code: 1513)
234. Tulsa Welding School (Jacksonville, FL - Code: 1515)
235. Union College (Barbourville, KY - Code: 1673)
236. Union College (Greeneville, TN - Code: 1671)
237. Union College (Kingsport, TN - Code: 1672)
238. United Truck Driving School (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1517)
239. Universal Technical Institute Motorcycle & Marine Mechanics Institute & Automotive Divisions (Orlando, FL - Code: 1518)
240. Universal Technical Institute of Texas, Inc. (Houston, TX - Code: 1519)
241. University of Arkansas (Millington, TN - Code: 1520)
242. University of Northwestern Ohio (Lima, OH - Code: 1521)
243. University of Phoenix (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1525)
244. University of Phoenix (Clarksville, TN - Code: 1528)
245. University of Phoenix (Cordova, TN - Code: 1524)
246. University of Phoenix (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1526)
247. University of Phoenix (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1527)
248. University of Phoenix (Nashville, TN - Code: 1523)
249. University of Phoenix (Phoenix, AZ - Code: 1522)
250. University of St. Francis (Joliet, IL - Code: 1531)
251. University of the Cumberland (Williamsburg, KY - Code: 1659)
252. University of the Rockies (Colorado Springs, CO - Code: 1533)
253. Urban League of Greater Chattanooga (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1534)
254. Vatterott Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1536)
255. Vatterott Career College - Appling Farms Pkwy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1535)
256. Virginia College (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1538)
257. Virginia College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1611)
258. Visible Music College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1539)
259. Walden University (Minneapolis, MN - Code: 1540)
260. Webster University (Millington, TN - Code: 1541)
261. West Tennessee Business College (Jackson, TN - Code: 1543)
262. Western International University Inc. (Tempe, AZ - Code: 1546)
263. William and Johnson Career College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1258)
264. Yip Yap School of Grooming (Columbia, TN - Code: 1612)
265. YWCA of Greater Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1554)

### **Authorized Locations With Temporary Authorization (48)**

1. Asbury Theological Seminary - Memphis (Memphis, TN - Code: 1697)
2. At Home Prep (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1739)
3. Center Centre (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1705)
4. Concorde Career College (Kansas City, MO - Code: 1718)
5. Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus (Southaven, MS - Code: 1698)
6. Crown School of Trades and Technology (Powell, TN - Code: 1720)
7. Dark Horse Institute (Franklin, TN - Code: 1721)
8. Dental Assistant School of Nashville (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1726)
9. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Worldwide Online Campus (Daytona Beach, FL - Code: 1701)
10. Excel Dental Training Institute (Goodlettsville, TN - Code: 1690)
11. Franklin Institute of Wellness (Franklin, TN - Code: 1704)
12. Genesis Career College (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1732)
13. Genesis Career College (Lebanon, TN - Code: 1722)
14. Gould's Academy of Massage (Memphis, TN - Code: 1723)
15. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Athens, TN - Code: 1682)
16. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Dandridge, TN - Code: 1683)
17. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Gallatin, TN - Code: 1686)
18. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (Hendersonville, TN - Code: 1685)
19. HRB Tax Group, Inc. (White House, TN - Code: 1684)
20. Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care (Murfreesboro, TN - Code: 1750)
21. Kennis Institute of Health Care Services (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1738)
22. Lancaster Bible College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1731)
23. Life Academy Bible College (Nashville, TN - Code: 1729)
24. Marian University (Indianapolis, IN - Code: 1694)
25. Marian University (Nashville, TN - Code: 1706)
26. Medical Response Institute (Winchester, TN - Code: 1733)
27. Mesilla Valley Training Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1734)
28. Miller-Motte College (Wilmington, NC - Code: 1725)
29. Montessori Educational Institute, North America (Jackson, TN - Code: 1416)
30. Montessori Training Center of Brentwood at Montessori Academy (Brentwood, TN - Code: 1737)
31. Nashville School of Massage Therapy (Franklin, TN - Code: 1736)
32. New Horizons Computer Learning Center (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1442)
33. North Delta Technical Academy (Memphis, TN - Code: 1687)
34. OnePulse Inc. (Nashville, TN - Code: 1730)
35. Peak Technical Institute (Maryville, TN - Code: 1727)
36. Professional Bartending School of Knoxville (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1461)
37. Relay Graduate School of Education (Memphis, TN - Code: 1759)
38. Rivercity Technology (Memphis, TN - Code: 1728)
39. Roadmaster Drivers School of Chattanooga, Inc. (Chattanooga, TN - Code: 1470)
40. Roadmaster Drivers School of West Memphis, Inc. (West Memphis, AR - Code: 1471)
41. Ross Medical Education Center (Johnson City, TN - Code: 1702)
42. Ross Medical Education Center (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1744)
43. Smokey Mountain Trucking Institute (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1740)
44. Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology (Tulsa, OK - Code: 1487)

45. The Blackbird Academy (Nashville, TN - Code: 1703)
46. The Jubilee School (Nashville, TN - Code: 1700)
47. Total Tech, LLC (Smyrna, TN - Code: 1506)
48. Vatterott College - Sunset Hills (Sunset Hills, MO - Code: 1594)

**Authorized Locations With Conditional Authorization (12)**

1. Brightness-Massage School for the Blind (Memphis, TN - Code: 1235)
2. Cambridge College (Memphis, TN - Code: 1238)
3. Concord School of Grooming (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1254)
4. Fortis Institute (Cookeville, TN - Code: 1413)
5. Fortis Institute (Nashville, TN - Code: 1414)
6. Fountainhead College of Technology (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1277)
7. Knoxville College (Knoxville, TN - Code: 1403)
8. North American Lineman Training Center, LLC (McEwen, TN - Code: 1446)
9. Tennessee School of Religion (Memphis, TN - Code: 1500)
10. Wyoming Technical Institute (Blairsville, PA - Code: 1551)
11. Wyoming Technical Institute (Laramie, WY - Code: 1552)
12. WyoTech (Ormond Beach, FL - Code: 1553)

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Temporary Authorization of New Institutions under the Postsecondary Authorization Act

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Temporary Authorization

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act, has the “power and duty” to act upon applications for authorization to operate an educational institution in the state. For the institutions listed below, applications have been reviewed, site visits have been performed, and staff has determined that all necessary documentation and bonds have been secured. The Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions met on April 9, 2015 and endorsed staff recommendations for Temporary Authorization of these institutions.

**A. Affordable Dental Assisting Program of Nashville, Nashville, TN LLC**  
451 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37210

**Corporate Structure:** Limited Liability Company (LLC)  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No

Affordable Dental Assisting Program of Nashville, LLC is seeking approval for four new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Nashville, Tennessee.

**1. Program: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 184 Contact Hours**  
**3 Months**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**2. Program: Coronal Polishing**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate**  
**Length of Program: 14 Contact Hours**  
**2 Days**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Approval of New Programs under the Postsecondary Authorization Act

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Commission, under the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act, has the “power and duty” to act upon applications for authorization of educational programs in the state. Applications have been reviewed and staff has determined that all necessary documentation for the institutions submitting new program applications is in accordance with the Act and postsecondary rules. The Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions, which is a review and advisory committee to the Commission, met on April 9, 2015 and affirmed staff recommendations for approval.

**A. Belhaven University** **Chattanooga, TN**  
535 Chestnut Street, Suite 100, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

<b>Corporate Structure:</b>	Not-for-Profit Corporation
<b>Authorization Date:</b>	April 13, 1992
<b>Accreditation:</b>	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
<b>Title IV Funding:</b>	Yes
<b>Highest Credential Offered:</b>	Master Degree

Belhaven University is seeking approval for one new program that will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Chattanooga, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

Belhaven University is also seeking approval to revise two programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>1. Program:</b>         | <b>Health Administration</b>           |
| <b>Credential Awarded:</b> | <b>Graduate Certificate</b>            |
| <b>Length of Program:</b>  | <b>9 Semester Credit Hours</b>         |
|                            | <b>6 Months Full-Time</b>              |
|                            | <b>12 Months Part-Time</b>             |
| <b>2. Program:</b>         | <b>Health Administration (Revised)</b> |
| <b>Credential Awarded:</b> | <b>Bachelor</b>                        |
| <b>Length of Program:</b>  | <b>124 Semester Credit Hours</b>       |
|                            | <b>48 Months Full-Time</b>             |
|                            | <b>96 Months Part-Time</b>             |

- 3. Program: Social Services (Revised)**  
**Credential Awarded: Bachelor of Arts**  
**Length of Program: 124 Semester Credit Hours**  
**48 Months Full-Time**  
**96 Months Part-Time**

**B. Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus Southaven, MS**  
 7900 Airways, Suite 103, Southaven, Mississippi 38671

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 14, 2013  
**Accreditation:** Council on Occupational Education (COE)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Associate Degree

Concorde Career College - Southaven Campus is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. The institution is recruitment only and all instruction will be provided by faculty from their authorized site in Southaven, Mississippi.

- 1. Program: Massage Therapy**  
**Credential Awarded: Diploma**  
**Length of Program: 862 Contact Hours**  
**11 Months**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Licensed Massage Therapist**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Board of Massage Licensure**

**C. Dark Horse Institute Franklin, TN**  
 2465 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, Tennessee 37064

**Corporate Structure:** Limited Liability Company (LLC)  
**Authorization Date:** January 30, 2014  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Certificate

Dark Horse Institute is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Franklin, Tennessee.

- 1. Program: Entertainment Entrepreneurship**  
**Credential Awarded: Certificate of Completion**  
**Length of Program: 300 Contact Hours**  
**3 Months**

**D. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University** **Memphis, TN**  
3221 Players Club Parkway, Memphis, Tennessee 38125

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 1, 1976  
**Accreditation:** Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,  
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is seeking approval for five new programs. The programs will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Memphis, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

- 1. Program:** **Information Security and Assurance/Protecting Business Intelligence**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Master of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **36 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**
- 2. Program:** **Management Information Systems**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Master of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **36 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**
- 3. Program:** **Emergency Services - Aviation Emergency Management**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**48 Months Full-Time**  
**96 Months Part-Time**
- 4. Program:** **Emergency Services - Fire and Emergency Services Specialization**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**48 Months Full-Time**  
**96 Months Part-Time**
- 5. Program:** **Engineering Fundamentals**  
**Credential Awarded:** **Associate of Science**  
**Length of Program:** **65 Semester Credit Hours**  
**24 Months Full-Time**  
**48 Months Part-Time**

**E. Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care Murfreesboro, TN**

210 Robert Rose Drive, Suite 2, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 29, 2015  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Diploma

Interfaith Education Center for Community Dental Care is seeking approval for two new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

- 1. Program:** Coronal Polishing  
**Credential Awarded:** Certificate  
**Length of Program:** 14 Contact Hours  
2 Days

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

- 2. Program:** Sealant Application  
**Credential Awarded:** Certificate  
**Length of Program:** 6 Contact Hours  
1 Day

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Registered Dental Assistant**  
**Licensing Board/Agency: Tennessee Board of Dentistry**

**F. Total Tech, LLC Smyrna, TN**

131 Weakley Lane, Suite 160, Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 18, 2010  
**Accreditation:** None  
**Title IV Funding:** No  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Certificate

Total Tech, LLC is seeking approval for two new programs. The programs will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Smyrna, Tennessee.

- 1. Program:** Electrical Fundamentals  
**Credential Awarded:** Certificate  
**Length of Program:** 100 Contact Hours  
2 Weeks Full-Time  
1 Month Part-Time

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Limited Licensed Electrician (LLE)**

**Licensing Board/Agency: Board for Licensing Contractors**

- 2. Program: Plumbing Fundamentals**
- Credential Awarded: Certificate**
- Length of Program: 100 Contact Hours**
- 2 Weeks Full-Time**
- 1 Month Part-Time**

**License/Certification Required for Employment: Limited Licensed Plumber (LLP)**

**Licensing Board/Agency: Board for Licensing Contractors**

- G. Troy University - eTroy**  
100 University Park, Troy, Alabama 36082

**Troy, AL**

- Corporate Structure:** Government Agency
- Authorization Date:** November 16, 2006
- Accreditation:** Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,  
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- Title IV Funding:** Yes
- Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Troy University - eTroy is seeking approval for five new programs. The programs will be offered in a distance learning format. This institution is recruitment only and all instruction is provided on-line.

- 1. Program: Sports Management**
- Credential Awarded: Doctor of Philosophy**
- Length of Program: 75 Semester Credit Hours**
- 38 Months Full-Time**
- 76 Months Part-Time**
  
- 2. Program: History**
- Credential Awarded: Master of Arts**
- Length of Program: 36 Semester Credit Hours**
- 14 Months Full-Time**
- 28 Months Part-Time**
  
- 3. Program: Social Sciences**
- Credential Awarded: Master of Social Science**
- Length of Program: 36 Semester Credit Hours**
- 14 Months Full-Time**
- 28 Months Part-Time**

- 4. **Program:** Health Practice Management  
**Credential Awarded:** Graduate Certificate  
**Length of Program:** 12 Semester Credit Hours  
12 Months Full-Time  
14 Months Part-Time
- 5. **Program:** English  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours  
48 Months Full-Time  
96 Months Part-Time

**H. University of Phoenix** **Cordova, TN**  
65 Germantown Court, Suite 100, Cordova, Tennessee 38018

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** July 17, 2003  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Cordova, Tennessee.

- 1. **Program:** Business  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours  
51 Months

**I. University of Phoenix** **Nashville, TN**  
616 Marriott Drive, Suite 150, Nashville, Tennessee 37214

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** January 31, 2002  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Doctorate Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval to revise one program. The program will be offered in a residential format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Nashville, Tennessee.

- 1. **Program:** Business (Revised)  
**Credential Awarded:** Bachelor of Science  
**Length of Program:** 120 Semester Credit Hours

**51 Months**

**J. University of Phoenix**

**Phoenix, AZ**

3157 East Elwood Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85040

**Corporate Structure:** C-Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 15, 2001  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Doctorate Degree

University of Phoenix is seeking approval to revise two programs. The programs will be offered in a distance learning format. This institution is recruitment only and all instruction is provided on-line.

- 1. Program: Administration of Justice and Security (Revised)**  
**Credential Awarded: Master of Science**  
**Length of Program: 37 Semester Credit Hours**  
**19 Months**
  
- 2. Program: History (Revised)**  
**Credential Awarded: Bachelor of Science**  
**Length of Program: 120 Semester Credit Hours**  
**51 Months**

**K. Webster University**

**Millington, TN**

5750 Essex Street, Building S-239, Wing 7, Room 7144, Millington, Tennessee 38054

**Corporate Structure:** Not-for-Profit Corporation  
**Authorization Date:** November 15, 2001  
**Accreditation:** The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)  
**Title IV Funding:** Yes  
**Highest Credential Offered:** Master Degree

Webster University is seeking approval for one new program. The program will be offered in a blended format. Instruction will be provided by the faculty from their authorized site in Millington, Tennessee, as well as on-line.

- 1. Program: 1-Yr MBA**  
**Credential Awarded: Masters of Business Administration**  
**Length of Program: 37 Semester Credit Hours**  
**12 Months**

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Recommendations for Appointments to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In 1992, state law created under the auspices of the Commission an advisory committee for recommendations and the review of issues relative to institutions subject to the Postsecondary Education Authorization Act. Persons appointed shall be broadly representative of the geographical characteristics of Tennessee. Five (5) members of the Committee shall be employed by, hold an ownership in, or otherwise be affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight. Four (4) members shall be representative of the public interest and shall have no association or relationship with such institutions. Two (2) members shall be representative of community based organizations that have an interest in postsecondary occupational education. Of the thirteen (13) members, eleven (11) are appointed with the remaining two (2) serving by virtue of their position as Executive Director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and as Executive Director of the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

Commission staff is recommending three (3) committee members to be reappointed to the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

**1. Reappointment:** Mr. Bill Faour, Director/Owner, Chattanooga College Medical, Dental and Technical Careers

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**2. Reappointment:** Dr. Kittie Myatt, Chair of Psychology Department, Argosy University – Nashville

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**3. Reappointment:** Mr. John A. Keys, Former Commissioner of Veteran Affairs, State of Tennessee

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

Other members of the committee are:

**Dr. Russ Deaton, Chair**

Interim Executive Director, THEC/TSAC

**Ms. Denise Bentley, Esq., Youth Court Coordinator, Tennessee Bar Association**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**Ms. Vicki Burch, President/Owner, West Tennessee Business College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Mr. Miles Burdine, President and CEO, Kingsport Chamber of Commerce**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**Mr. Larry Griffin, President, Mid-South Christian College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Mr. Gaylon Hall, Director Emeritus, William R. Moore College of Technology**

Representative of a community based organization that has an interest in postsecondary occupational education.

**Mrs. Lethia Swett Mann, Vice President, The One Fund, Nashville Minority Business Center**

Representative of a community based organization that has an interest in postsecondary occupational education.

**Mr. Steve South, President/Owner, South College**

Representative that is employed by, holds an ownership interest in, or otherwise affiliated with an institution or other entity subject to the committee's supervision and oversight.

**Dr. Earlie Steele, Retired Assistant Professor of Education, Fisk University**

Representative of the public interest having no association or relationship with such institutions.

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** DPSA Complaint #13-0135

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Proceed to Appoint an Administrative Law Judge to Conduct an Administrative Hearing Sitting Alone

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Division of Postsecondary School Authorization (DPSA) received a complaint on behalf of a student of Concord School of Grooming in Knoxville, Tennessee. The only issue raised in the complaint is whether the student is due a refund after withdrawing from the institution's program.

DPSA investigated the complaint and notified the institution of its findings and determination that the student is owed a refund. DPSA provided the institution an opportunity to respond to the notification, and the institution responded and disagreed. Thereafter, the parties made a final attempt to resolve the complaint informally; however, the parties did not reach a resolution.

In this case, DPSA opines that it is appropriate to proceed to a hearing pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-7-2011(b) and (c). DPSA is of the opinion that the complainant has suffered a loss as a result of the institution's actions and is due a refund. Additionally, it may be appropriate to assess a fine or alter the institution's authorization status as a result of a rule violation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Given these facts, on April 9, 2015, the Committee on Postsecondary Educational Institutions voted unanimously to recommend to the Commission that it direct DPSA to discuss an agreement with the Secretary of State's office to allow this complaint (as well as any future cases, as necessary) to proceed to a hearing to be conducted by an Administrative Law Judge sitting alone.

This recommendation is now before the Commission. DPSA recommends that the Commission adopt the Committee's recommendation and allow the proceeding to move forward.

**Agenda Item:** II.A.

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** At the April 15, 2004 meeting of the Commission, Policy O5.01, Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members, was amended to require the annual conflict of interest disclosure statement be signed and filed within 30 days of the Commission's regular Spring meeting.

A copy of the policy and disclosure form is part of this agenda item for your review and signature.

**Section Title:** Other Policies

**Policy Title:** Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members

**Policy Number:** O5.1

### Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy for Commission Members

- 5.1.10
- (1) It shall be inappropriate for a Commission member to have a direct interest in any contract the Commission has entered into for goods or services as a result of a bid process or any other business transaction with the Commission.
  - (2) A Commission member shall disclose any of the following interests:
    - (a) Any indirect interest in any contract or other business transaction with the Commission;
    - (b) Any interest in any contract or other business transaction with any higher education institution which is coordinated by, contracted by, contracted with, or authorized by the Commission; and
    - (c) Any indirect interest created by a relative who has (to the extent the Commission member is aware) any contract or business transaction with the Commission or with any higher education institution which is coordinated by, contracted by, contracted with, or authorized by the Commission.
  - (3) “Direct interest” means any contract to provide goods or services to the Commission as a result of a bid process or any other business transaction with a:
    - (a) the Commission member;
    - (b) a relative of the Commission member; or
    - (c) a business in which the Commission member or the Commission member’s relative is:
      - (i) the sole proprietor;
      - (ii) a partner; or
      - (iii) the person having the controlling ownership or control of the largest numbers of outstanding shares owned by any single individual or corporation.
  - (4) “Indirect interest” means any contract in which the Commission member is interested but not directly so, but includes contracts where the Commission member is directly interested but is the sole supplier of goods or services.
  - (5) “Relative” includes spouse, parents, siblings, or children.
  - (6) In the event a member of the Commission has an indirect interest in a matter to be voted upon, a Commission member may abstain for cause by announcing such to the Chair of the Commission. Any Commission member who abstains from voting for cause on any issue coming to a

vote before the Commission shall not be counted for the purpose of determining a majority vote. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit any Commission member from voting on the higher education funding recommendation, or amendments thereto, unless the vote is on a specific amendment to the funding recommendation in which such person has a direct interest.

- (7) The basic underlying principle in conflict of interest is that Commission members should disclose any activity, investment, or interest that might reflect unfavorably upon the Commission, using the disclosure form. Because of the sensitive nature of the Commission's relationship with all of the postsecondary institutions, as well as the General Assembly, it is important that members resolve questions of conflict of interest by disclosure. Any activity which might constitute, or be perceived to constitute, a prohibited conflict should be fully reported. Full disclosure of any situation in doubt should be made.
- (8) The conflict of interest form must be filed within thirty (30) days after the Commission's regular Spring meeting, but in no case shall it be filed later than June 1. In the case of a member appointed to the Commission after the Spring meeting, the newly appointed member shall file a conflict of interest statement no later than thirty (30) days after the first Commission meeting following his/her appointment.
- (9) A Commission member shall amend his/her disclosure because of termination or acquisition of interests of which disclosure is required.

**Approved:** January 31, 1992

**Revised:** April 15, 2004

**TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**  
1900 Parkway Towers, 404 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0830  
(615) 741-3605

TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR INDIRECT INTERESTS  
OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

I, the undersigned member of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, in order to assure that any appearance of conflict of interest is avoided, and in order to assure that any indirect interests are publicly acknowledged, hereby make the following statements and assurances:

1. I am related to the following employees of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission or any official of any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, association, institution of higher education or other entities which do business with, are licensed by, or are otherwise involved with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission:

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2. I am employed or professionally affiliated with the following corporation, partnerships, sole proprietorships, associations, institutions of higher education or any other entities which are licensed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission:

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3. I have an ownership interest in or serve on the Board of the following corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships, associations, institutions of higher education or other entities which, to my knowledge, do business with postsecondary institutions coordinated or licensed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission:

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4. In my household and among my dependents, to my knowledge, the following individuals have an ownership interest as stated in Number 3 above:

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5. I am currently the recipient of the following grants administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission:

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6. I hereby certify that if, during my tenure this year on the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, I become directly or indirectly interested as an owner, employee or affiliated as described in Number 1-5 above, or if there is any change in the information provided in this statement, I shall immediately disclose such information to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The accuracy of this statement will be reviewed within thirty (30) days after the Commission's regular Spring meeting, but no later than June 1.

By my signature below, I affirm that all of the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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(Signature)

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(Date)

**Agenda Item:** II.B.

**DATE:** April 23, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Summer Quarterly Meeting

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Information

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The next scheduled quarterly Commission meeting is July 23, 2015, in the Commission's board room.