

**COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT
MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2015
325 Burruss Hall**

MEMBERS

Members Present: Richard Ashley, Cynthia Bonner, Mary Christian, William Dougherty (for Scott Midkiff), Felicia Etzkorn, Betsy Flanagan, Chris Kiwus, Kathy Hosig, Joseph Jajonie, Ed Lener, Nancy Meacham (for Dwight Shelton), Henry Murray, John Seiler, Ken Smith, Ryan Speer, Sherwood Wilson

Members Absent: Lay Nam Chang (with notice), Christina Lapel, Maxine Lyons (with notice), Tom Tillar (with notice)

Guests: Isaac Barber, Steve Mouras, Linda Woodard

Recorder: Vickie Chiocca

1. Approval of agenda

Ed Lener, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Dougherty moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jajonie and approved unanimously.

2. Announcement of approval of November 20, 2014 minutes

These minutes were approved electronically by the 2014-15 Commission membership.

3. Old Business

2014 Virginia Tech Sustainability Plan Update – Second Reading and Approval

Steve Mouras summarized the proposed 2014 Sustainability Plan Update prior to discussion and vote by the Commission members.

- The “Virginia Tech Sustainability Plan” is the implementation component of the university’s Climate Action Commitment.
- The VT Climate Action Commitment (VTCAC) was updated in 2013 and this document updates the Sustainability Plan accordingly.
- This 2014 Sustainability Plan Update designates the “Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System” (STARS) evaluation and assessment rating system as the university’s official sustainability management tool. This tool is very comprehensive and used by over 300 universities.

Mr. Jajonie motioned for a vote of approval on the 2014 VT Sustainability Plan Update. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wilson. Mr. Lener presented the plan for approval by the Commission and the motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

Mr. Lener asked for suggestions for topics to be taken up by the Commission for the remaining semester. The following topics for presentations were proposed:

- William Dougherty and/or designee: *"IT initiatives"* such as the eduroam access service, wireless network upgrades, listserv replacement, and unified communications mobility.
- John Seiler and/or Jason Soileau: *"Forest Management Plan"* for the area commonly known as Stadium Woods.
- Yohna Chambers and the e-cig subcommittee: *"Update on potential e-cig policy issues"* – A member suggested that Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) also be involved in this work.
- Chris Kiwus and/or Jason Soileau: Progress report on the work of the *"Drillfield Paths"* interdisciplinary team, when warranted.

Other topics of discussion included the Parking and Transportation Master Plan, to be completed this summer, and the next Campus Master Plan process that will begin soon, with completion expected in approximately two years. The Campus Development Committee will be heavily involved in this process.

5. Reports from Committee Chairs/Representatives

Mr. Seiler and Mr. Mouras gave further updates on the most recent meetings of their respective Committees, since they were limited for time at the November Commission meeting.

The Transportation & Parking Committee last met October 21 and November 18, 2014. Mr. Seiler reported that lengthy discussions took place regarding parking privileges for Corporate Research Center (CRC) employees, particularly those who enroll as VT students. Administrators are in the process of reviewing current parking agreements between VT and CRC to address these concerns. Other topics discussed included bikes on sidewalks and the recent Parking and Transportation survey, which had a high response rate.

The Energy & Sustainability Committee last met October 27 and November 17, 2014. Mr. Mouras reported on main topics of discussion including the Green RFP Student Initiative, the STARS Gold Rating received by VT, and Energy Initiatives.

Discussion followed regarding energy initiatives such as 'Lights out!/Power down!', long term energy plans, energy audits, metering, decentralized utility budgets, reward systems and methods to give feedback and raise awareness of energy usage. Mr. Lener requested that Dr. Kiwus periodically update the Commission on implementation of the energy plan.

6. Acceptance of Committee Minutes

The following minutes were accepted electronically in advance of the meeting:

- **Energy & Sustainability Committee Minutes**
October 27, 2014
- **Transportation & Parking Committee**
October 21, 2014

7. Next meeting date

February 19, 2015

Adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Chiocca