

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
October 10, 2016
230 Student Services Building, 3:00 PM

PRESENT: D. Stauffer (Chair); K. Albright; J. Baker; J. Brozovsky; G. Chandler-Smith; J. Clevenger for R. Sumichrast; M. Finn; L. Geyer; K. Gresham; M. Hajj; R. Holloway; T. Hammett; M. Kasarda; G. Long for S. Morton; A. Pope; K. Rawlings; C. Rittenhouse; J. Sible; R. Stephens for E. Spiller; S. Sumner for A. Grant; B. Watford for D. Taylor; L. Zietsman; A. Zink-Sharp

ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: R. Jacks; A.M. Knoblauch

ABSENT WITHOUT NOTIFICATION: K. Redican for C. Clarke

VISITORS: K. Ausman; C. Minford; R. Sparks; A. Wade; G. Costello; G. Kinder; J. Sanders

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Dean Stauffer, Chair.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES

D. Stauffer announced the September 26, 2016 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website:
http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/20162017/Minutes_CUSP_Sept_26_2016.pdf

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2016-17.C, *Resolution for the Establishment of a School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2016-17.C, *Resolution for the Establishment of a School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech*.

D. Stauffer opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2016-17.C.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following items:

- Background/discussions within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences on the merger of the respective departments into the proposed School

- Current department enrollments and administrative roles
- Potential benefits of creation of the School
 - Increased ability to market and increase enrollment in programs within the School
 - Streamlining administrative functions
 - Creating synergism among faculty and students working across disciplines
- Proposed name of the School
 - Background/discussions within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences on the choice of name for the School
 - Use of the phrase “Environmental Sciences”
 - Is this too broad of a category for the proposed work of the School?
 - Should the name be more specified to the proposed work of the School?
 - Does the phrase duplicate and create confusion with the work done in other Colleges and entities within the University?
- Connection of the proposed School to the Beyond Boundaries and Destination Area initiatives

Resolution 2016-17.C has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2016-17.C will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2016-17.D, *Resolution to Establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical Engineering*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2016-17.D, *Resolution to Establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical Engineering*.

D. Stauffer opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2016-17.D.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following items:

- Clarification of Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics as Home Department of the proposed degree
- Discussion of approval process through SCHEV; whether the degree will be effective for the Fall 2017 Academic Term
- Existence of a similar degree at other peer institutions
- Connection between adding the new degree and increasing institutional ranking

Resolution 2016-17.D has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2016-17.D will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Support Committee

R. Stephens reported that the Academic Support Committee will meet on October 26, 2016.

Academic Policies Committee

No Report.

Athletic Committee

No Report.

Commencement Committee

No Report.

Honor System Review Board

C. Rittenhouse reported that the Honor System Review Board has recently completed a training for members of the review panel, including holding a mock hearing.

The Review Board has also recently facilitated a panel discussion with faculty members regarding the Honor System, including a presentation by a faculty member on way to detect and report academic misconduct and academic integrity concerns.

C. Rittenhouse also reported that the Academic Integrity Education Module, designed by the Honor System, had already been taken by over 3000 students.

Lastly, she reported that the Review Board is planning a series of activities for Global Ethics Day on October 19, 2016. Activities will include informational booths in Newman Library and on the Drillfield. Among the various topics which will be addressed is the issue of “contract cheating.”

Library Committee

No Report.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

M. Kasarda announced that the report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting of September 23, 2016 was approved electronically on September 30, 2016. The motion was made and seconded to approve the September 23, 2016 Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

UCC REPORT—SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

FOR “FIRST READING” NON-UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

COURSES

New:

Spring 2017

University Honors

UH 2504 Topics in Discourse and Global Citizenship (CM-2924)

UH 2524 Topics in Natural Sciences and Global Citizenship (CM-2925)

UH 2534 Topics in Design, Arts, and Global Citizenship (CM-2926)

UH 2544 Topics in Social Science and Global Citizenship (CM-2927)

UH 2554 Topics in Humanities and Global Citizenship (CM-2928)

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine

PHS 4064 Modeling Infectious Diseases (CM-2848)

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

COURSES

New:

Spring 2017

College of Engineering

BMES 3024 Cell Engineering Laboratory and Design (CM-2895)

BMES 3184 Problem Solving in BME (CM-2867)

College of Science

COS 2015-2016 Professional Leadership in the Sciences: Curie & Da Vinci
Living Learning Community Leadership Course (CM-2839)

University Honors

UH 1504 PGS Study Abroad Pre-Departure Seminar (CM-2916)

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine

PHS 4074 Practicum in Public Health (CM-2849)

Revised:

Spring 2017

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

FA 2004 Creativity and the Artistic Experience (CM-2914)

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

DEGREES, MAJORS, MINORS, OPTIONS

Degrees

New:

Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2020

College of Engineering

Establishment of New Degree: Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering (BSBME) Major: Biomedical Engineering (BMES). First effective date to declare major: Spring 2017; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2020 (CM-2899)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering (BSBME)
Major: Biomedical Engineering (BMES) (CM-2899)

Minors

New:

Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2017

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Establishment of New Minor: Minor in War and Society (WAS). First effective date to declare minor: Fall 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2017 (CM-2915)

Checksheet: Minor in War and Society (WAS) (CM-2915)

Undergraduate Studies and Policies

No Report.

University Curriculum Committee for General Education

L. Zietsman reported that the next meeting of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education is October 19, 2016.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs

No Report.

Staff Senate

No Report.

Faculty Senate

No Report.

Student Government Association

A Pope reported that the Student Government Association is currently drafting legislation to provide printers in the academic areas of campus for use by the undergraduate student body. Currently, students' access to printers is limited to Newman Library or on-campus computer labs. K. Gresham, Graduate Student Assembly Representative, verified that most existing printers located in the academic areas of campus are restricted to use by graduate students.

Graduate Student Assembly

No Report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Report of the Academic Appeals Committee

S. Sumner provided the Annual Report of the Academic Appeals Committee for AY 2015-16.

Discussion and clarification topics on the report included the following items:

- Reduced number of students being suspended from the University

- Several Commission members credited the early warning system, strengthened major requirements, and efforts of the Academic Deans and Colleges for this decrease.
- Demographic trends in those being suspended
 - S. Sumner reported that there did not seem to be any direct demographic connections between those who were being suspended.
 - B. Watford commented that any correlations were based on demographic makeup of the respective colleges (i.e., a higher percentage of males suspended from the College of Engineering, relates to that college's higher enrollment of male students).

College of Engineering Request for Posthumous Degree

B. Watford, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, of the College of Engineering, moved approval of the posthumous awarding of the degree *Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering to Philip Dale Shutters Farley, effective Fall 2016*.

Dr. Watford indicated that the request was based on the recommendation of the faculty of the Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering, and supported by the College of Engineering.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin D. Sanders, Office of the University Registrar