

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
VIA ZOOM, 3:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by P. Deck, Chair. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

PRESENT: P. Deck (Chair); K. Albright; S. Corcoran; K. Edgar; D. Givens; K. Goyne; S. Sumner for A. Grant; H. Gumbert; R. Holloway; S. Johnson; L. Khansa; R. Panneton for S. Morton; J. Paul; K. Redican; J. Sible; S. Tatum; K. Thompson; D. Thorp; C. Treanor; S. Vicente; A. Villar; E. Wiseman; C. Wood

ABSENT: A. Council; H. Hahn; A. Johnson; L. Learman

VISITORS: N. Akers; G. Costello; B. Smith; R. Sparks

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to modify the voting process to only ask for opposed votes and abstentions. The motion to modify the voting process to only ask for opposed votes and abstentions passed unanimously.

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

P. Deck outlined the charge and goals of the Commission for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.

- Charge/Goals of the Commission for 2020-2021 Academic Year

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to University Council policies and procedures concerning on- and off-campus undergraduate academic matters. Areas for consideration include: library resources, admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, Honor Systems and study environment; In-Honors programs, curricula, courses, advising, and instruction; student honors and awards; financial aid, scheduling, registration and other matters affecting the undergraduate student academic environment.

Goals:

- Academic Relief – Based on the work of the Academic Affairs sub-committee, CUSP will hear an updated Academic Relief policy that includes student re-admission/re-enrollment, current W grade policy, retroactive timeline, and appearance of coursework on the transcript.
- Policy on Re-enrollment – In order to support overall enrollment management of students, CUSP will consider creating a definition of an “active student” for undergraduates designed to encourage continuous enrollment.

- Academic Policy Clean-up – In support of the Office of Policy and Governance’s university-wide effort to clean up policy overlap, CUSP will review academic policies in need of discontinuance and/or merger.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES

P. Deck announced the April 27, 2020 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar’s website:

https://www.registrar.vt.edu/content/dam/registrar_vt_edu/documents/Updates/governance/2019-2020/4-27-20/minutes_cusp_4_27_20.pdf

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2020-2021.A *Resolution to Approve New Major, Automotive Engineering, in Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, First Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2020-2021.A *Resolution to Approve New Major, Automotive Engineering, in Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.*

P. Deck opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2020-2021.A.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- K. Thompson provided background regarding the need for the major due to new technology areas in Mechanical Engineering such as automation and control and autonomy.

Resolution 2020-2021.A will be forwarded to Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government Association, and Graduate Student Assembly for comment. The second reading of Resolution 2020-2021.A will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2020-2021.B *Resolution to Approve New Major, Robotics and Mechatronics, in Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, First Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2020-2021.B *Resolution to Approve New Major, Robotics and Mechatronics, in Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.*

P. Deck opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2020-2021.B.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- K. Thompson provided background regarding the need for the major due to new technology areas in Mechanical Engineering such as automation and control and autonomy.

Resolution 2020-2021.B will be forwarded to Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government Association, and Graduate Student Assembly for comment. The second reading of Resolution 2020-2021.B will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

REPORT AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION AND COMMITTEES/SUB-COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Support Committee

No report.

Academic Policies Committee

No report.

Athletics Committee

No report.

Commencement Committee

J. Paul reported that Fall commencement will be held virtually.

Honors Council

No report.

Library Committee

No report.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

No report.

University Curriculum Committee for General Education

No report.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

Commission on Administrative & Professional Faculty Affairs

No report.

Staff Senate

No report.

Faculty Senate

No report.

Student Government Association

No report.

Graduate Student Assembly

S. Vicente reported on several initiatives regarding graduate student advocacy that GSA will focus on during this academic year.

OTHER BUSINESS

For Information Purposes: CUSP Resolution 2019-2020E *Resolution for the Establishment of the School of Communication (was School of Communication and Digital Media)*

P. Deck opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020E.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- R. Sparks provided background and explanation regarding the change in name at the request of SCHEV.

Request for Posthumous Degree:

K. Thompson, Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, moved approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering to Isabel Grace Hendrix, Magna Cum Laude, effective Fall 2020. K. Thompson indicated that the request was based on the recommendation of the faculty of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics and the support of the College of Engineering.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Request for Posthumous Degree:

R. Panneton, Associate Dean of the College of Science, moved approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Statistics to Christiana Naomi Le, effective Fall 2020. R. Panneton indicated that the request was based on the recommendation of the faculty of the Department of Statistics and the support of the College of Science.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Nominations/Review of CUSP Sub-Committee Chairs and Representatives
For Academic Year 2020-2021**

The following individuals accepted nominations to serve as Chairs and Representatives of CUSP Sub-Committees for Academic Year 2020-2021:

- University Athletics Committee – Eric Wiseman (Fall)/Paul Deck (Spring)
- University Curriculum Committee for General Education –
 - Commission will revisit at the September 28 CUSP meeting

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:48 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Becki Smith, Office of the University Registrar*