

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
NOVEMBER 11TH, 2024
3:00 PM
VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: J. Tokuhisa (presiding); E. Austin; J. Bedore; K. Goynes; R. Holloway; S. Huxtable; M. Kimbrell; V. Nguyen; A. Phan; M. Pleimling; R. Poff; L. Ricci; S. Rinehart; C. Ruktanonchai; J. Russell; M. Seref; S. Shupe; R. Sparks; N. Staley; N. Tasnim; K. Thompson

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: N. Akers; S. Over

ABSENT: K. Edgar; Z. Fu; J. Lucas; S. Sumner; D. Thorp; N. Tran; J. Walker

GUESTS: E. Anderson; R. Pitcher; A. Rasor; N. Smith; Z. Tucker; K. Wells

J. Tokuhisa called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OR ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES

J. Tokuhisa noted that the minutes from the October 28th, 2024 meeting have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

R. Sparks presented on SCHEV Academic Policy as it relates to Virginia Tech Degree Structure. Topics and discussion included:

- SCHEV is focused on the Degree Core and total number of credit hours being the same for all Academic Subunits offered under the degree. This guarantees that all students who graduate with that degree have the same foundation. The breakdown for degree cores according to SCHEV Academic Policy is 25% Bachelor, 50% Master, and 25% Doctorate, respectively for each degree. For Bachelor degrees, this does not include General Education Hours in the calculation and for Doctorate degrees, this does not include the research hours in the calculation.
- Majors, major options, and minors are the current academic subunits that are officially recognized and used by Virginia Tech. SCHEV qualifies academic subunits as offered under the degree.

- Virginia Tech currently has 72 Undergraduate Degrees and 147 Undergraduate Majors. Undergraduate diplomas only list Degrees and Majors. The only place a major option or minor will be shown is on the official transcript. Tracks, focus areas, etc. are not officially recognized academic subunits and will not be shown anywhere on a diploma or transcript.
- The degree structure conversations with other colleges in the Commonwealth are not fully complete, but a large majority of the colleges have responded. These institutions' practices vary, and they base current structure off of historical data and SCHEV minimum requirements.
- In general, Commission Members discussed the value of majors and/or major options, the decisions that influence the creation of majors and/or major options, the reason to structure these academic subunits, and the potential double-counting between majors, major options, and minors.

ACCEPTANCE AND POSTING OF COMMISSION/COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES REPORTS AND/OR MINUTES

Academic Support Committee

No report.

Academic Policies Committee

No report.

Athletics Committee

No report.

Commencement Committee

The Commencement Committee Minutes from October 2nd, 2024 were revised and are available at registrar.vt.edu/governance for review.

Honor Council

No report.

Library Committee

No report.

University Curriculum Committee for General Education

No report.

Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

No report.

Staff Senate

No report.

Faculty Senate

No report.

Undergraduate Student Senate

No report.

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:06 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Evie Anderson & Rachel Pitcher, Office of the University Registrar*