

MINUTES

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

April 13th, 2026

3:00 PM

Via Zoom

Present – J. Tokuhisa (presiding), A. Ball, J. Bedore, M. Caddick, S. Clements, K. Goynes, M. Kimbrell, H. Lexer, M. Pleimling, S. Over, R. Poff, L. Ricci, J. Russell, S. Rinehart, M. Seref, J. Sible, S. Sumner, K. Thompson, D. Thorp

Absent with Notice: N. Akers, E. Austin, M. Eick, J. Russell, R. Sparks

Absent: M. Acosta, S. Dip, K. Edgar, C. Middleton, C. Ruktanonchai

Guests: B. Armstrong, E. Moon, K. Nichols, V. Nguyen, R. Pitcher, N. Smith, K. Tran, Z. Tucker, K. Wells

J. Tokuhisa called the meeting to order at 3:02. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

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

2. Approval or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of March 23rd, 2026.

J. Tokuhisa noted that the March 23rd, 2026 minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the [Office of the University Registrar's website](#).

3. New Business

Financial Aid Presentation

Due to technical issues, the Financial Aid presentation was not completed. B. Armstrong will send materials ahead of the next meeting to share with the commission and send a representative to answer questions if needed.

Admissions Presentation

K. Nicholas provided an update on Fall 2026 first-time-in-college (FTIC) and transfer enrollment, including application trends, census targets, offers, acceptances, and outreach activity.

The Fall 2026 FTIC census target is 7,251 students, representing a net increase of 166 seats, with additional capacity allocated primarily to in-state and out-of-state enrollment and a planned reduction in international enrollment.

Overall FTIC applications increased 1% compared to Fall 2025, with modest growth among in-state and out-of-state applicants despite a decline in international applications.

Several colleges experienced notable FTIC application growth, including CALS, CLAHS, CNRE, and Veterinary Medicine, while some units saw slight declines.

FTIC offers for Fall 2026 increased across all residency categories, including continued growth in offers to first-generation students and cadets.

As of April 12, 2026, 5,267 FTIC students had accepted offers, exceeding acceptance counts at the same point in prior cycles and representing more than 72% of the enrollment goal.

The Fall 2026 transfer census target increased to 1,175 students, a net gain of 150 seats, driven largely by expanded out-of-state and international transfer enrollment capacity.

Admissions outreach and yield efforts expanded significantly, including increased high school visits, campus visits, college fair participation, and record attendance at Hokie Focus and Hokie Welcome events.

TLOS Proposal Changes to Policy 6000 Undergraduate Honor Code Presentation

Two representatives from the Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence Work Group, including Tiffany Willis and Aaron Bond, presented recommendations addressing the rapid increase in reported AI-related academic integrity cases.

The group emphasized the importance of clear educational guidance for both students and faculty regarding appropriate and inappropriate uses of generative AI.

Proposed updates to Policy 6000 would clarify expectations for AI use, require disclosure when permitted, and define unauthorized AI use as cheating and nondisclosure as plagiarism.

The presentation highlighted significant concerns with AI detection tools, including inaccuracy, bias, and equity issues, and advised against their use as evidence in misconduct cases.

Faculty were encouraged to focus on clear syllabus statements, process-based assessment design, and direct engagement with students rather than technological detection.

New faculty and student resources were introduced, including an AI faculty toolkit, disclosure forms, and student guidance on responsible AI use.

The group recommended ongoing review of AI-related academic integrity practices through continued working group oversight.

Undergraduate Untaught Course FYI and Approval

R. Pitcher presented the 5 Year Undergraduate Untaught Course Report. 80 courses will be discontinued effective Fall 2026 while 14 courses will be kept with the intention of being taught over the next academic year.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 5 Year Undergraduate Untaught Course Report.

BOV LLC Resolution

A discussion was held regarding a resolution proposing the elimination of Living-Learning Communities (LLCs).

It was noted that eliminating LLCs would likely result in a significant decrease in upper-class students living in on-campus housing, thereby opening a substantial number of residence hall beds for incoming first-year students. This is likely the intention of the Board of Visitors after additional residence halls have not been established.

Members emphasized that LLCs provide meaningful benefits to students, including a sense of belonging, peer support, and enhanced academic and social engagement.

Concern was expressed about the timing and process by which the resolution was introduced, as it was shared only a few days prior to the meeting, limiting the opportunity for review and preparation.

Several governance bodies expressed frustration with the manner in which the resolution was brought forward, citing concerns about shared governance and consultation.

Questions were raised regarding the assertion that eliminating LLCs would return approximately \$1 million in revenue, including requests for clarification on how those funds would be used.

4. Reports

- Academic Support Committee – Sherwood Clements: A draft resolution has been sent out to Associate deans for comments. The draft resolution will be voted on during the next meeting on April 26th.
- Academic Policies Committee – Michel Pleimling: No report
- Athletics Committee – Dan Thorp: No report.
- Commencement Committee – Monica Kimbrell: The committee met last week and they are currently planning for spring commencement.
- Honor Council – Hannah Lexer: H. Lexer provided a summary of the Associate Dean letter that was sent out on April 8th.
- Library Committee – Sarah Over: No report.
- University Curriculum Committee for General Education – Khanh Ngoc Tran: No report.

5. Constituent Reports

- Constituent Reports – Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate – Nicole Akers: No report.
- Constituent Reports – Staff Senate – Misti Acosta: No report.
- Constituent Reports – Faculty Senate – S. Clements, M. Eick: Both the Pathways 7 and Foreign Language resolutions passed.
- Constituent Reports – Undergraduate Student Senate – L. Ricci; C. Middleton: L. Ricci reported that students have been upset with the LLC resolution. A petition has been created and has already accumulated 1000 signatures.
- Constituent Reports: Graduate and Professional Student Senate – S. Dip: No report.

6. Other Business – Posthumous Degrees

K Thompson, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for the College of Engineering, moved for approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Major:

Computer Science, to Samuel Kwang-Yeung Diamond, effective Spring 2026. K. Thompson indicated that the request was based on the recommendation of the Computer Science department and support of the College of Science.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

M. Pleimling, Associate Dean for Academic Programs for the College of Science, moved for approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, Major:

Clinical Neuroscience, to Pavithra Sundaresh, effective Spring 2026. M. Pleimling indicated that the request was based on the recommendation of the faculty from the School of Neuroscience and the support from the College of Science.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously

K. Wells, representative for M. Seref, Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the Pamplin College of Business, moved for approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Business in Business Information Technology, Major: Cybersecurity Management and Analytics, to Nicholas Kuehn, effective Spring 2026. K. Wells indicated that the request was based on the recommendation from the faculty in the Business Information Technology department and the support of the Pamplin College of Business.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. Other Business – Nominations for 2026-2027 Academic Year Appointment Vacancies

J. Tokuhisa notified the commission that the following appointments will be opening for the 2026-2027 academic year. Votes for these positions may take place at the next meeting.

- Chair of Academic Support Committee – (1 Year Appointment – Appointee should be selected from College Faculty Representatives) Current Chair: Sherwood Clements
- Chair of Academic Policies Committee (Ad-Hoc) – (1 Year Appointment) Current Chair: Michel Pleimling
- Representative for Library Committee – (3 Year Appointment) Current Representative: Sara Over
- Representative for University Athletics Committee – (1 Year Appointment) Current Representative: Dan Thorp
- Representative for University Commencement Committee – (1 Year Appointment) Current Representative: Monica Kimbrell
- Representative for University Curriculum Committee for General Education – (1 Year Appointment – Appointee should be selected from College Faculty Representatives) Current Representative: Khanh Ngoc Tran (If not selected from Faculty Representatives, ineligible to vote.)

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:37.