

University Council Minutes
April 7, 2025
3:30 p.m.
2420 North End Center and Zoom

Present: Tim Sands (presiding), April Myers, Bryan Garey, James Bridgeforth for Frances Keene, Kim O'Rourke, Guru Ghosh, Aimée Surprenant, Rachel Holloway, Mario Feruzzi, Daniel Givens, Laura Belmonte, Saonee Sarker, Justin Lemkul, Janice Austin, Marlena Lester, Enrique Noyola, Amber Hagan, Kari Evans, Chloe Ebert, Aarav Parikh, Leslie Orellana, Ronnie Mondal, Quiyana Murphy, Gary Long, Nicole Pitterson, Jason Malone, Rodney Gaines, Kim Loeffert, Rebecca Hester, Renée LeClair, Holli Gardner Drewry, Serena Young, Amber Robinson, Sally Shupe, Donna Westfall-Rudd, Kelly Oaks, Larry Cox, II, and Rachel Maizel

Absent with Notice: Cyril Clarke, Amy Sebring, Rachel Miles, and Evan Lavender-Smith

Absent: Daniel Sui, Menah Pratt, Tsai Lu Liu, Kevin Pitts, Paul Winistorfer, Julia Ross, Lee Learman, Tyler Walters, Paul Knox, Amanda Morris, Natalia Guerrero, LaTawnya Burleson, Alex Efird, William Poland, David He, Vincent Wang, Francisco Carvallo, and Jim Tokuhisa

Guests: Monique Logan, Kat Nelson, Lori Rose, Demetria Somervell, Lauren Surface, and Debbie Greer

Dr. Sands called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Announcement of Order of the Day

Dr. Sands announced the order of the day for the meeting. Items to be placed on the agenda must be submitted to the secretary at least ten days prior to the meeting date. Follow the procedures in Section 2(2) – University Council Bylaws, Article IX, Section 2(2-3).

2. Announcement of review and approval of minutes of March 17, 2025

Dr. Sands noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. Unfinished Business

Commission on Faculty Affairs
CFA Resolution 2024-25G
Resolution to Amend Articles V, VI, and IX of the Faculty Senate Constitution

Justin Lemkul presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

4. New Business

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
CGPSP Resolution 2024-25B
Resolution to Revise the Graduate Honor System Constitution

Renée LeClair presented the resolution for first reading. This resolution proposes updates to the Graduate Honor System Constitution. The changes include:

1. Assigning research misconduct allegations to the Research and Integrity Office.
2. Updating language to reflect the new name of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate.
3. Clarifying procedures for handling cases in which a single incident or infraction is referred to the Graduate Honor System by multiple referrers.
4. Automatically granting preliminary review panel waivers for students who have pled guilty.

These revisions aim to align with updated terminology and streamline processes within the Graduate Honor System.

Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs

CUSA Resolution 2024-25A

Resolution to Update CUSA Membership to Enhance Undergraduate Student Representation

Aarav Parikh presented the resolution for first reading. This resolution proposes changes to the Undergraduate Student Senate Constitution and University Council bylaws, specifically regarding the membership structure of the Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs. The current requirement mandates an equal number of specific senator types (four at-large, four college, and four senators from University Chartered Student Organizations-UCSO), which has made it difficult to fill all 12 seats. Additionally, a new type of senator was recently introduced and is currently ineligible to serve on the commission under existing rules. The proposed change would require at least one senator of each type, with the remaining eight seats to be appointed by the commission chair and the Undergraduate Student Senate president, pending Senate approval.

5. Announcement of approval and posting of UC Cabinet, Commission, and Committee Minutes

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>). Note that the purpose of voting on minutes of the University Council Cabinet, Commissions, and Committees reporting to University Council Cabinet is to accept them for filing. University Council Bylaws require that policy items be brought forward in resolution form for University Council action.

- Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
February 14, 2025
- Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
October 15, 2024
November 11, 2024
December 9, 2024
- Commission on Faculty Affairs
February 14, 2025

- Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
February 19, 2025
March 5, 2025
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
February 20, 2025
- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
October 22, 2024
- Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs
October 24, 2024
November 21, 2024
December 5, 2024
February 19, 2025
March 5, 2025
- Campus Development Committee
October 1, 2024
November 5, 2024
- Transportation and Parking Committee
March 11, 2025

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

First name	Last name	Do you approve CFA Resolution 2024-25G?
Janice	Austin	Yes
James	Bridgeforth	Yes
LA	Cox II	Yes
Holli	Drewry	Yes
Chloe	Ebert	Abstain
Kari	Evans	Yes
Mario	Ferruzzi	Yes
Bryan	Garey	Yes
Guru	Ghosh	Yes
Dan	Givens	Yes
Amber	Hagan	Yes
Rebecca	Hester	Yes
Renee	LeClair	Yes
Justin	Lemkul	Yes
Kimberly	Loeffert	Yes
Gary	Long	Yes
Jason	Malone	Yes
Marlena	McGlothlin Lester	Yes
Ronnie	Mondal	Yes
Enrique	Noyola	Yes
Kelly	Oaks	Yes
Leslie	Orellana	Yes
Aarav	Parikh	Yes
Nicole	Pitterson	Yes
Amber	Robinson	Yes
Saonee	Sarker	Yes
Sally	Shupe	Yes
Donna	Westfall-Rudd	Yes
Serena	Young	Yes
Rodney	Gaines	Yes
Rachel	Holloway	Yes
Kim	O'Rourke	Yes