

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
MARCH 28, 2022
VIA ZOOM, 3:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT: S. Corcoran (Chair); P. Deck; A. Dubner; M. Pleimling for R. Fricker; S. Sumner for A. Grant; K. Goyne; H. Gumbert; R. Holloway; M. Kimbrell; G. Novack; K. Redican; J. Sible; K. Swaby; K. Thompson; K. Tran; C. Wood

ABSENT: K. Albright; A. Council; K. Edgar; D. Givens; A. Johnson; L. Khansa; L. Learman; L. McClaskey; D. Stauffer; S. Tatum; A. Villar

VISITORS: B. Armstrong; G. Costello; R. Pitcher; B. Smith; R. Sparks

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

S. Corcoran announced that the March 14, 2022 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/2021-2022/3-14/cusp_minutes_3_14_22.pdf

OLD BUSINESS:

Resolution 2021-22N *Resolution to Establish Non-Class Holiday Status for Juneteenth*, **Second Reading**

S. Corcoran presented for second reading Resolution 2021-22N *Resolution to Establish Non-Class Holiday Status for Juneteenth*.

S. Corcoran opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2021-22N.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2021-22N. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2021-22O *Resolution to Establish an Academic Relief Policy, Second Reading*

S. Corcoran presented for second reading Resolution 2021-22O *Resolution to Establish an Academic Relief Policy*.

S. Corcoran opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2021-22O.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Feedback from Faculty Senate which included acknowledgement that the proposed policy is an improvement over existing policy, discussion on how academic relief will be recorded on transcripts, concern for the potential overuse of the policy by students, and a request for minor editorial changes to the Resolution.
- Additional discussion included how the proposed policy will impact the 125% rule.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2021-22O. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Support Committee

P. Deck presented the March 7, 2022 minutes of the Academic Support Committee. A motion was made and seconded to accept the March 7, 2022 minutes of the Academic Support Committee.

Academic Policies Committee

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Review of current W policy to discuss ways for improvement and eliminate barriers for student success.

K. Goyne presented the February 16, 2022 minutes of the Academic Policies Committee. A motion was made and seconded to accept the February 16, 2022 minutes of the Academic Policies Committee.

Athletics Committee

H. Gumbert presented the March 17, 2022 minutes of the Athletics Committee. A motion was made and seconded to accept the March 17, 2022 minutes of the Athletics Committee.

Commencement Committee

No report.

Honor 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 and Professional Faculty Affairs

K. Swaby informed Commission members that elections have been completed for the upcoming year and the Commission has established a working group to review and revise Chapter 7 in the Faculty Handbook regarding the grievance policy.

Staff Senate

No report.

Faculty Senate

G. Novack informed Commission members that J. Espinoza and R. Sparks presented on test optional admissions at a recent meeting.

Undergraduate Student Senate

No report.

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Request for Posthumous Degree:

S. Sumner, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, moved approval of the posthumous awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise, Magna Cum Laude, to Alexander Wright Buchanan, effective Spring 2022. S. Sumner indicated that the request was based on the recommendation and support of the faculty of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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 Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, Major in Aerospace Engineering, Cum Laude, to Christopher James Guthrie, effective Spring 2022. K. Thompson indicated that the request was based on the recommendation and support of the faculty of the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering and the College of Engineering.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid Report

B. Armstrong presented a report from the Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid which included updates regarding the awarding of stimulus funds, student loan borrowing trends, administrative disenrollment, FAFSA simplification and upcoming changes to the Federal Methodology formula.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Becki Smith
Office of the University Registrar