

**Commission on Faculty Affairs
Minutes
February 8, 2013**

Members Attending: Joe Merola (Chair), Brad Klein, Velva Groover, Paul Hover (Rep. Connie Stoval), Erik Vance, Wornie Reed, and Kay Hunnings (Rep. Rich Sorensen).

Guests: Tom Thompson (Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences), Steve Capaldo (Office of the University Legal Counsel), Nick Anopa (Undergraduate representative to the Board of Visitors), and Bill Knocke (Associate Vice President for Research)

The Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) meeting was called to order by Joe Merola, Chair, who distributed the agenda with three items.

1. Academic Integrity Initiative by Nick Anopa
2. Changes to University Policy 13000 on Intellectual Property by Bill Knocke
3. Items for future meetings

Review of Minutes from Past Two Meetings

The minutes of the past two CFA meetings (November 2 and 30, 2012) were approved by members and will be forwarded to University Council.

1. Academic Integrity Initiative

Nick Anopa briefed members on the new Academic Integrity Initiative to have the undergraduate honor code made more visible to students. The plan is to post the honor code in every classroom and request that faculty ask students to acknowledge the honor code when taking exams. A draft document titled “Hokie Honor” was distributed to CFA members for discussion.

Nick informed CFA Members that nine students from all the colleges were chosen to lead the initiative. They sent out a survey and conducted interviews in order to obtain students views on the current honor system and academic integrity expectations. The results of the survey resulted in the proposed “Hokie Honor” document, which has five highlighted Hokie values (Honesty, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, and Trust). The committee also drew from documents from the Center for Academic Integrity.

CFA members discussed the possibility of having the draft Hokie Honor values as part of Virginia Tech Principles of Community document. Members noted that the draft document will be sponsored by the Commission on Students Affairs, and this commission will forward it to CFA for further discussion and approval.

CFA members provided suggestions and agreed to have more discussions on the proposed Hokie Honor document and await its further review after receiving the document from the Commission on Student Affairs.

2. Changes to University Policy 13000 on Intellectual Property

Bill Knocke made a presentation to CFA members on the proposed changes to University Policy 13000 on Intellectual Property. He presented a draft proposal with changes to the language and additions to policy 13000 that had been suggested by a sub-committee of the Commission on Research. He informed

members that the current policy was outdated and needed review with the backdrop of the Supreme Court decision on the Stanford v. Roche case. Of particular interest was the redundant and ambiguous wording of the current policy, making it confusing for faculty and his office to make decisions.

The major areas that had new language and additions included:

- a) Updates to Section 2.1- Organization
- b) Updates to Section 2.2 Authority and Responsibility of IP Committee
- c) Updates to Section 2.3 IPC Working Group
- d) Updates to Section 2.4 Policy Guidelines (Now Section 2.3 in proposed policy)
- e) Updated to statements related to students ownership of Intellectual Property
- f) New Section 2.3.A.6 added related to “Commissioned Works”
- g) Section 2.3.B. Obligation to Disclose – Modification of the language to reflect obligations as required by all employees under Common wealth of VA Code
- h) Proposes policy 13000 statement: students, visiting scholars, and volunteers are required to assign IP rights to the university

Bill further informed members that the draft policy will be presented to the Commission on Research for approval and thereafter go through university governance system and to the Board of Visitors.

3. Items for future meetings

Joe Merola informed members that Jack Finney, Sarah Karpanty, and himself are working on other policy documents in order to update the language and the will bring them up for discussion in future meetings.

Joe further requested members to continue informing CFA members of any matter being discussed in other commissions or committees where they are members. This is to keep CFA members aware of policy changes before they are presented at University Council for approval

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder, Maxwell Awando