

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
September 10, 1997
206 Sandy Hall
3:30 PM

Members Present: E. Brown, C. Finch, R. Gandour, T. Herdman,
D. Jones, T. Kennelly, M. McGilliard; M. McPherson,
S. Burlingame (for K. Reifsnider), R. Simpson, M.
Smith, S. Tolin, M. Uysal, R. Wokutch

Members Absent: S. DeDatta, J. Johnson, A. McNabb, J. Muffo, L.
Peters, R. Schubert, L. Zelazny

1. Introductions and Announcements: Dr. Herdman welcomed everyone to the new year on the Commission on Research. He thanked Dr. Smith for his leadership during the 1996-97 year. He encouraged the membership to look over the report on activities for the 1996-97 year. Dr. Herdman stated there were changes on the Biotechnology Oversight Committee. The changes follow: Drs. Sue Tolin and Brenda Shirley both agreed to be reappointed for a 3-year term. Dr. Thomas Inzana has been replaced by Dr. Nammalwar Sriranganathan and Mr. Robert Miller has been replaced by Mr. Virgil Cauley. After some discussion of the reporting line for the Biotechnology Oversight Committee, Dr. Herdman stated he would speak with Dr. Peters. By virtue of Ms. Burlingame's position as Director of Operations for University Centers and Institutes, Dr. Herdman granted the request that she be a permanently invited guest of the Commission. Dr. Herdman announced that a draft of the University Self Study Strategic report is out. He encouraged the membership to review the report and pass along their comments to the self-study group. Dr. Herdman mentioned election of the vice chair should occur at the October 8 meeting. Dr. Herdman stated the centers to be reviewed this year are: 1) the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics; 2) the Center for Adhesive and Sealant Science; and 3) Virginia Water Resources Research Center. Ms. Burlingame mentioned two centers were deferred from last year. They are: 1) the Center for Gerontology; and 2) the Systems Research Center.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Brown motioned approval of the agenda; Mr. Jones seconded. Agenda was approved.

3. Library Report: Ms. Kennelly stated the University Libraries canceled a total of 777 serial titles with a cumulative annual cost of over \$620,000. She said this is the third major serials cancellation in this decade. Vice President for Information Systems Erv Blythe has appointed a task force to be chaired by the Dean of Libraries Eileen Hitchingham to study the problem of scientific and scholarly communication of which these cuts are symptomatic. Ms. Kennelly reported University Council unanimously approved a resolution concerning fines for faculty and staff failing to respond to recall requests - Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 176. She also reported there are three new book drops on campus which appear to be working very well. Ms. Kennelly asked the membership to e-mail Dean Hitchingham or Paul Metz if they had concerns on the serials issue. Dr. Brown motioned that a member from the Commission on Research be appointed to this newly-formed task force chaired by Dean Hitchingham. Dr. Tolin seconded. Ms. Kennelly agreed to present this to the task force. Dr. Herdman called for a vote. The vote passed unanimously. Dr. Uysal asked about new serials subscriptions. Ms. Kennelly responded there are very few new subscriptions. She said \$25,000 has been allocated for new serials this year. Dr. Tolin asked about feedback to faculty on cancellations. Ms. Kennelly said she would check on it.

4. Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Review Report: By virtue of his

role as Director of the Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research, Dr. McPherson offered to step outside while the review report was being discussed. After much discussion it was agreed that Dr. McPherson would stay. Ms. Burlingame reported the review was conducted during the 1996-97 academic year and the previous review was in 1993. This is a state-mandated center with a review cycle of three years. There have been cuts in overall funding since 1988. The directorship has changed twice since the review in 1993; Dr. Karmis was appointed interim director in 1995, and Dr. McPherson was appointed director in July 1996. Ms. Burlingame reported that Dr. McPherson and Dr. Zipper, Associate Director, are developing a strategic plan for the next two years with significant input from the Advisory Board into the service and research directions for the Center. Ms. Burlingame also stated the Advisory Board is strongly supportive of the Center and its' continuance. The Advisory Board suggests that the Center: 1) have a clearly defined role and identity; 2) be responsive to the State Coal and Energy Commission and its' requests; 3) seek sponsors from government agencies and industry for particular studies; and 4) encourage research interactions in matters of technological and economic significance. The duties of the Center as described in ss 23-135.7:6 of the Act creating the Center will be discussed with the Advisory Board to determine if they should be modified. The review recommendations are: 1) to carry out the mandate from the State and the recommendations of the Advisory Board. The committee recommends returning to the staffing level that existed prior to 1993 with the addition of an Information/Publications Officer and a 50% Research Associate; and 2) to return the funding to the 1988 level with an allowance for inflation (\$240,000). Ms. Burlingame noted that despite this recommendation funding for FY98 increased only \$2,655 to \$126,365. Dr. Herdman opened the floor for questions and comments. Funding for the Center was discussed. Ms. Kennelly mentioned typographical errors on pages 2 and 7. The date of creation of the VCCER should be 1977 and not 1997. Dr. Gandour also noted within the document there is reference to the University of West Virginia. It should be West Virginia University. With those changes, Dr. Brown motioned acceptance of the report. Dr. Smith seconded. The report was accepted with Dr. McPherson abstaining.

5. Integrating Research and Teaching Ad Hoc Committee: Dr. Brown formed this committee in response to reviewers' comments on an unsuccessful pre-proposal to an NSF program which he wrote on behalf of the university. The program was intended to recognize universities which had demonstrated a commitment to the integration of research and teaching. The reviewers found that there was insufficient evidence of the university's commitment to this activity to merit Virginia Tech's submitting a full proposal. He said that it was his intention that this committee change the circumstances which had produced this state of affairs. He said that his committee was discussing how it could serve as a focus for the dissemination of "best practices" involving the integration of teaching and research and for the generation of a strategy to secure university funding for the projects. Its activities so far have involved a workshop devoted to providing information on NSF's new Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training program to prospective applicants and the organization of a lecture series on integrating research and teaching, which will be co-sponsored by RGS and CEUT. Some discussion followed in which Dr. Jack Dudley's challenges in finding sufficient research opportunities for his undergraduate honors students was mentioned. Dr. Brown suggested that we invite Dr. Dudley to a future meeting. Dr. Herdman asked the membership to continue to talk to Dr. Brown on this topic.

6. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
September 24, 1997
206 Sandy Hall
3:30 PM

Members Present: E. Brown, R. Gandour, T. Herdman, J. Johnson,
D. Jones, M. McGilliard, A. McNabb, M. McPherson,
J. Muffo, L. Peters, G. Robinett, R. Schubert, M.
Smith, S. Tolin, M. Uysal, R. Wokutch, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: S. DeDatta, C. Finch, T. Kennelly, K. Reifsnider, R. Simpson

Invited Guests: S. Burlingame, T. Hurd, L. McCoy

1. Announcements: Dr. Herdman stated that the Biotechnology Oversight Committee is a committee that may periodically report to the Commission on Research. Members of the vice chair nominating committee are: Drs. Zelazny, Schubert, McNabb, and Wokutch. Election of the vice chair will be at the October 8 meeting. Review committees for those centers to be reviewed this year have been set up. They are: Center for Adhesive and Sealant Science - D. Dillard, R. Gandour, K. Brewer, B. Conger, E. Henneke, & G. Crofts; Center for Gerontology - T. Calasanti, J. Bohland, R. Blieszner, J. Niles, & M. Sporakowski; Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics - M. Boisen, G. Crofts, B. Olin, M. McPherson, & H. Robertshaw; Systems Research Center - O. Balci, D. Allison, G. Crofts, L. Taylor, W. Barfield, & J. Carroll; and Virginia Water Resources Research Center - F. Benfield, B. Cannell, J. Novak, L. Myers, D. Berry, & S. Mostaghimi.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Brown motioned adoption of the agenda; Dr. Smith seconded. Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of September 10, 1997: Dr. Brown motioned approval of the minutes; Dr. McNabb seconded. Minutes were approved.

4. Impact of New Cost Accounting Standards: Lenwood McCoy provided the membership with an overview of the process on cost accounting standards as well as handouts on the issue. Mr. McCoy stated four policies have been identified to include provisions that are required under these cost standards: 1) cost sharing on sponsored projects; 2) consistency in charging administrative and clerical costs; 3) cost transfers; and 4) service centers. Some discussion followed on solutions for charging admin. and clerical staff in the centers. Dr. Peters said the staff in centers are essential to the function of the centers. He summarized the issue is a matter of trying to determine the manner in which their salary will be paid. Mr. McCoy asked for comments by the middle of October. Mr. Hurd stated that the next year will be hard trying to find a way to charge classified staff to sponsored activity. Dr. Brown asked that this issue be distributed to the faculty as soon as possible, and Dr. Gandour asked for a few examples of what the faculty should not do. Dr. Herdman encouraged the membership to continue this discussion.

5. Update on New Intellectual Property Policy: Dr. Brown reviewed the activities of the Subcommittee on Non-Traditional Scholarship, which he chairs. Meeting regularly over the fall and spring semesters of last year, the committee now has in hand a rough draft of a new intellectual property policy. The most substantial change is the division of traditional works into two categories - those which are owned by the creator and those which are owned by the university. The need for this distinction results from the utilization of new technologies in the production of course ware such as multimedia-enhanced textbooks and computer-based instructional materials. Their production rivals in the level of use of university

resources, novel works such as processes, machines, inventions, and biological technology whose ownership has been traditionally ceded to the university. The area in which additional work remains to be done by the committee is to ensure the uniform application of the criteria by which it will be decided whether or not substantial university resources have been used. It was the committee's suggestion that this decision rest with the creator's department head. However, in a preliminary review of the new policy Dr. Peters pointed out the committee needed to devote some additional attention to the need to maintain a uniformity in making these decisions across campus and across time. In concluding the discussion, Dr. Peters stated that the committee did an excellent job at trying to look at the broad spectrum of scholarship that goes on at the university. Dr. Brown pointed out that due to the rapid changes which are taking place in instructional technology that even these revised guidelines will have to be looked at again in a matter of a few years. Dr. Peters said that he expected that debate on the new intellectual properties policy would consume a good deal of the commission's time in the months to come.

6. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Minutes

Joint Meeting of the
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH and the
COMMISSION ON GRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
November 12, 1997
1045 Pamplin Hall
3:30 PM

Members Present: J. Beamish, E. Brown, R. Brown, J. Burger, B. Chaloux, M. Day, S. DeDatta, J. Eaton, C. Finch, S. Fuhrman, R. Gandour, B. Heath-Camp, T. Herdman, M. Johnson, T. Kennelly, W. Ley, M. McGilliard, A. McNabb, M. McPherson, J. Pearson, L. Peters, S. Burlingame (for K. Reifsnider), H. Rott, G. Robinett, R. Schubert, R. Simpson, M. Uysal, R. Veilleux, P. Wagner, R. Wokutch, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: A. Armstrong, J. Bolen, R. Daniel, M. Foushee, E. Hitchingham, J. Johnson, D. Jones, P. Knox, J. Muffo, M. Smith, E. Sturgis, S. Tolin, U. Vandsburger

Invited Guests: J. Fulton, D. deWolf, P. Meszaros

1. Academic Agenda: Dr. Meszaros provided some background history on the academic agenda. She mentioned what really drives the university is the academic agenda and that the budget is derived from that document. Dr. Meszaros stated it is a working document subject to change and revisions. In relation to research competitiveness, the first recommendation Dr. Meszaros mentioned is to recruit and retain high quality faculty. She said the future of this academic agenda was to carve out seven cross-cutting initiatives, and she proceeded to state the progress of each of these groups. Dr. Meszaros mentioned incentive programs to stimulate research and scholarship. She talked about the success of the ASPIRES program. In regard to research competitiveness, Dr. Meszaros said we are vulnerable due to the faculty losses we have experienced as well as more fierce competition. Dr. Peters said awards this past year were up. He stated we feel confident about the future, but the competition is becoming more intense. Dr. Meszaros said due to our vulnerability, we need to make investments in faculty and in the infrastructure as well. She said one of the challenges of this academic agenda is to develop revenue budget plans to create new resources, and Mr. Ridenour is now working on these administrative support plans. She said we have a unique niche in the state of being a research university and that has guided the selection of our peer institutions which determine faculty salaries and has given us a status in the state that we cannot afford to lose. Dr. Gandour asked that the motto be changed to be "University Creating Knowledge and Putting it to Work". He also requested that the names of members on the cross-cutting committees be publicized. Dr. Meszaros said she would ask the deans to make this information available.

2. Self-Study: Dr. Peters announced the SACS team will visit on March 15, 1998. He said the document is meant to hit some of the high points relative to the needs of the current environment. Dr. McNabb and Dr. Eaton provided an overview of the process. After much discussion, Dr. McNabb reminded the group this was to be an issues-oriented discussion. Dr. Peters summarized that the flow of the excellence of graduate education is from the quality of the faculty. Dr. Eaton mentioned the document would be used as a source for future planning. Dr. Peters said the issue he wants to pursue is the importance of the quality of faculty.

3. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
January 14, 1998
206 Sandy

Members Present: S. K. DeDatta, R. Gandour, T. Herdman, J. Johnson,
D. Jones, T. Kennelly, A. McNabb, J. Muffo, K.
Reifsnider, R. Schubert, S. Tolin, M. Uysal, P. Wagner,
R. Wokutch, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: E. Brown, J. Burger, C. Finch, M. McGilliard, L. Peters,
G. Robinett, R. Simpson, M. Smith

Invited Guests: S. Burlingame

1. Announcements: Dr. Herdman asked Ms. Burlingame to report on the status of the five center reviews being conducted this year. Ms. Burlingame reported the five review committees are underway and going well.

Dr. Herdman mentioned a future item for the Commission will be revising the intellectual property policy. Dr. Gandour reported on the Library electronic materials committee. He stated the committee has asked for an extra million for the Library. Dr. Gandour said it was not clear how they want to spend this money, and he will report back when they have defined goals.

2. Minutes of November 12, 1997: Dr. Reifsnider motioned approval of the Minutes; Dr. McNabb seconded. Minutes were approved.

3. Research Professor Appointments in Centers: Dr. Herdman summarized the background history on these appointments. Dr. Peters asked that the membership view these appointments in the area of teaching as well as what units in the university have these positions. Dr. Herdman stated initially teaching was not part of the responsibilities of these faculty and that research centers have not been allowed to hire these research faculty. After some discussion, Dr. Johnson suggested that the membership look at the minutes of the Commission during the creation of the policy. Dr. Gandour suggested that there be a position between visiting professor and research professor. He summarized how you balance the mission of a center and that of a department. Dr. McNabb asked Dr. Reifsnider what the advantages would be of centers holding these positions. Dr. Reifsnider responded that centers do now and will depend more on these individuals than we know. He mentioned the need at the university for professional personnel for our research mission. After much discussion Dr. Reifsnider said that the university's prevailing opinion has been that there should not be centers that don't have some relationship with a department. Dr. Herdman summarized that he did not hear any opposition to having research positions in centers and that each position could or should be associated with a department. Ms. Burlingame suggested getting input from a couple of center directors. Dr. Herdman agreed. Dr. Reifsnider suggested some wording changes in Dr. Peters' 1995 letter. Dr. Herdman said this would be an agenda item next time. He stated a possible outcome would be that the membership sees no problem with appointments in centers as long as there is a department/departments that are in agreement to this and would accept this person into their evaluation/promotion criteria.

4. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
February 25, 1998
206 Sandy

Members Present: J. Burger, C. Finch, R. Gandour, T. Herdman, T. Kennelly, A. McNabb, M. McPherson, J. Muffo, K. Reifsnider, G. Robinett, R. Schubert, R. Simpson, M. Uysal, P. Wagner, R. Wokutch, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: E. Brown, S. DeDatta, J. Johnson, D. Jones, M. McGilliard, L. Peters, M. Smith, S. Tolin

Invited Guests: S. Burlingame, J. Eaton, L. Ferrari, T. Wilkins

1. Announcements: Dr. Herdman announced the next Commission meeting will be March 25. Dr. McPherson mentioned there would be a teleconference on the international space station, and there would be significant research opportunities for universities.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. McNabb motioned adoption of agenda; Dr. Reifsnider seconded. Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of February 11, 1998: Dr. Reifsnider motioned approval of the minutes; Dr. Burger seconded. Minutes were approved.

4. Scholarship in the Electronic World: Dr. Eaton mentioned guest seminar speakers, from both outside and inside the university, and their seminar topics in relation to scholarship in the electronic world. He also said there is a 5984 course, and about 25 students have regularly attended with a smaller number of faculty attending. Dr. Eaton announced electronic theses and dissertation submission in the fall went smoothly. He mentioned the Graduate School is hosting training workshops for students here and is planning on doing similar workshops in Northern Virginia. Dr. Eaton said we have 21 universities that have joined this project with 4 of those being outside the United States.

5. Research Positions for Centers: Dr. Herdman stated he had contacted several directors and department heads for their views on this item. He introduced Dr. Tracy Wilkins from the Biotechnology Center. Dr. Wilkins mentioned that his center is different in that it incorporates undergraduate teaching along with research and outreach. Dr. Wilkins said he has faculty from several colleges who are housed in the center but report to their respective departments/colleges. In regard to having research positions in centers, he said he felt it tilts the balance between departments and centers. Dr. Wilkins said that other centers have many different problems. He said he also felt that the professor title should have some teaching responsibilities. Dr. Ferrari said he felt faculty positions should be in departments and colleges rather than in centers. He said he felt that the idea of whether or not research faculty members should be teaching is another issue around campus.

6. Global Research Institute in Northern Virginia: Dr. Ferrari stated the goal of this institute is to create full-time Ph.D. and M.S. programs in the Northern Virginia region with some associated research programs and technical areas of global importance. He mentioned the plans for the facility, the faculty involved and the training program. The surplus of computer (information technology) positions versus available trained people was discussed. Dr. Ferrari said he would like the faculty in Northern Virginia to be closely tied with research centers in Blacksburg. Dr.

Reifsnider asked if industry is a viable partner for the education side. Dr. Ferrari responded that he thinks in certain selected areas industry would be useful in rounding out our programs.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
March 25, 1998
206 Sandy

Members Present: S. K. DeDatta, R. Gandour, T. Herdman, J. Johnson, D. Jones, T. Kennelly, A. McNabb, M. McPherson, J. Muffo, L. Peters, G. Robinett, R. Simpson, M. Smith, M. Uysal, P. Wagner, R. Wokutch, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: E. Brown, J. Burger, C. Finch, M. McGilliard, K. Reifsnider, R. Schubert, S. Tolin

Invited Guests: C. Frazier, B. Mondy, L. Moore

1. Announcements: Dr. Herdman asked for three faculty volunteers to judge the GSA's 14th annual research symposium. He announced the selection for the chair of the Commission on Research will be on April 22. Dr. Herdman asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. Those volunteering to serve were Dr. M. Smith, Dr. A. McNabb, and Dr. J. Muffo. Dr. Herdman stated that research appointments in research centers would be on the agenda on April 8.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Simpson motioned approval of the agenda; Dr. McNabb seconded. Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of February 25, 1998: Dr. McPherson motioned approval of the minutes; Dr. Zelazny seconded. Minutes were approved.

4. Lab Safety: Dr. Chip Frazier stated he was representing the University Laboratory and Hazardous Materials Safety Committee. He introduced the chair, Dr. Larry Moore and Ms. Bernadette Mondy, a member of the committee who represented Environmental Health and Safety Services. He stated their purpose was to enhance lab safety conditions on campus. Dr. Frazier asked for support from the membership for the proposed lab safety training program. He went over the current procedure, which is called the chemical hygiene plan. He said they would like to adopt a centralized laboratory safety training program to encourage more uniform knowledge of lab safety on campus. Dr. Frazier said the committee would like to have a new position created in Environmental Health and Safety Services to implement the centralized laboratory safety program. After much discussion, Dr. Herdman summarized that the Commission expressed support for a mandatory program of some kind and support for the program to be in a modular fashion. Dr. Johnson motioned that the Commission endorses the concept of the training, the concept of offering modular training and that the concept be mandatory. Dr. Simpson seconded. Dr. McNabb offered an amendment that it be an in-house program rather than contracting from the outside. The amendment was accepted. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Library Report: Dr. Gandour reported on the Library Task Force committee, which was established to review serials. He went over the budget items to be addressed. Dr. Gandour said the purpose of this report is to increase the library budget.

6. SACS Report: Dr. Peters reported that the university would be reaccredited. He stated the review committee was complimentary.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
May 7, 1998
1028 Pamplin

Members Present: E. Brown, R. Gandour, T. Herdman, J. Johnson, D. Jones, T. Kennelly, M. McGilliard, A. McNabb, J. Muffo, K. Reifsnider, R. Schubert, C. Hall for R. Simpson, S. Tolin, M. Uysal, L. Zelazny

Members Absent: J. Burger, S. DeDatta, C. Finch, M. McPherson, L. Peters, G. Robinett, M. Smith, P. Wagner, R. Wokutch

Invited Guests: S. Burlingame

1. Announcements: Dr. Herdman stated Dr. Hall would be representing Dr. Simpson.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Brown motioned approval of the agenda; Dr. Reifsnider seconded. Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of March 25, 1998: Dr. Reifsnider motioned approval of the Minutes; Dr. Brown seconded. Minutes were approved as written.

4. Election of Chair: Dr. McNabb reported that the nominating committee had one nomination, Dr. Muzzo Uysal. Dr. Herdman asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Dr. Reifsnider motioned nominations to be closed. Dr. Tolin seconded. Dr. Herdman called for the vote on Dr. Uysal's nomination. Dr. Uysal was unanimously voted chair for the 1998-1999 academic year.

5. Library Report: Ms. Kennelly reported that the University Library Committee's survey of faculty and staff on the renewal policy indicate that faculty and staff prefer to keep the current plan. She said a list of 1,800 titles, which have been nominated for possible cancellation, are available on the internet. Comments from the Tech community will weigh heavily in the final decisions. Ms. Kennelly reported a contest was recently held to name the libraries VTLS catalog. The new name is Addison in honor of Addison Caldwell, the first student to enroll at Tech. After much concern was expressed over the issue of cancellation of serials, it was suggested another letter be written to the administration expressing that concern. Dr. McNabb suggested inviting Paul Metz and Eileen Hitchingham to a Commission meeting next fall. Dr. Reifsnider stated that this Commission has an obligation to try to look at the issue of what we really need to sustain our university in the research area. Dr. Herdman mentioned having a subcommittee from the Commission to look at this issue. Dr. McNabb made a motion to review last year's letter and send a reiteration of the letter out to the administration. Dr. Brown seconded. Dr. Brown made an amendment to the motion that he, Dr. Herdman, and Dr. McNabb be empowered to write the letter and send it out on behalf of the Commission with copies to everyone. The amendment and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Research Professor Positions in University Centers: Dr. Herdman went over the procedures for research professor positions. He offered the membership options for action on this issue. Dr. Gandour suggested that we wait and see the outcome of the discussions of the College of Engineering before proceeding further. Drs. Reifsnider and McNabb mentioned there are related issues to be taken care of before determining further action. Dr. Herdman stated this would be an issue on next year's Commission. He said he would provide a summary report of what was discussed in this area for

next year. Dr. Reifsnider offered the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs to bring focused issues to the Commission agenda in the coming year.

7. VTIP Update: Dr. Brown mentioned a subcommittee of the Committee on Non-Traditional Scholarship has been meeting to discuss some concerns about the uniformity of the process expressed by Dr. Peters. The subcommittee put in place a number of checks and balances and appeals processes, which need simplification. Dr. Brown said he would work with the subcommittee over the summer and bring it to the Commission in the fall.

8. Center Reviews: The Systems Research Center: Ms. Burlingame provided background on the Systems Research Center. She reported the review committee has determined a need for increased advisory board activity and exposure to Tech's expertise. Another recommendation was that they extend funding from other sectors. Ms. Burlingame stated the review committee also recommended increased visibility on campus with faculty regarding the existence and function of the SRC. The review committee recommended that the overhead review policy be reviewed and drawn into line to reflect the recent memorandums between the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs and the eight colleges. The last recommendation was the downsizing of the computer facilities. Ms. Burlingame said the committee recommends continuation of the center and continuance of Dr. Nance as the chair. They request that Dr. Nance begin to identify and train a successor. Dr. Herdman said the language should be stronger in the recommendation concerning the overhead. Dr. Tolin motioned acceptance of the report. Dr. McNabb seconded. With encouragement from Dr. Reifsnider, Dr. McNabb made an amendment on recommendations 3, 4, and 7 to emphasize the need for them to act on these recommendations. She stated they should focus on improving interdisciplinary interactions to make the interdisciplinary aspect a strength of the program. Dr. McNabb summarized her recommendation to be to strengthen their interdisciplinary focus in light of their statement on page 4. Dr. Reifsnider seconded the amendment. A vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

The Center for Gerontology: Ms. Burlingame mentioned the review of the Center for Gerontology was tabled until this academic year to allow for the change in leadership. She stated the review committee has found that the center has maintained a strong presence regionally, nationally and on campus. Ms. Burlingame said the review committee found that the mission balances the research, education and outreach missions of the center and the university and that interdisciplinary activities are emphasized. The review committee recommends that the center be re-authorized. They recommend funding for the associate director position, which has been voluntary to this point. Ms. Burlingame reported the committee suggests continuance of the policy of expanding and clarifying role of affiliates in extending their interdisciplinary activities with faculty from across campus and that the college visit the possibility of reinvestment into the center for its continued support. Dr. Muffo stated our role should not be in making budget recommendations. Dr. Johnson stated this has major implications for the colleges. She mentioned she had not seen the report prior to receiving the meeting materials nor had she been included in any of the interviews for the center. Dr. Johnson said she was concerned about so many of the recommendations having strong implications for the college and the college resources. Dr. Gandour expressed concern that there was no budget sheet. Dr. Gandour suggested the report be sent back to the review committee for revisions. Dr. McNabb said the review committee should have a charge that they had to compartmentalize the review in some way that separates teaching missions that are funded by the college and others, research activity and how much of the activity is being supported that way, and the extension activities. Dr. McGilliard mentioned the inaccuracies should be corrected. It was mentioned there was insufficient data on the report, especially fiscal information. Dr. Reifsnider said he would go back to the committee and inform them that the report is not in acceptable form and that the Commission chose not to act. Dr. McNabb stated we should

always have a Commission member on the review committees. Dr. Gandour made a motion to send the report back to the review committee for revisions. Dr. Herdman called for the vote. The vote was unanimous to send the report back to the review committee.

9. Center Administrative Issues: Dr. Reifsnider said with the occurrence of four litigations in the past few years, the Board of Visitors has required that the university provide some additional guidance on the formation of centers. He mentioned that there are over 100 centers on campus. Dr. Reifsnider said this is a growth area of our university, and we do not want to inhibit that growth. He mentioned the requirement for a review of each center and the large volume of work that would entail. Dr. Reifsnider provided a two-page handout on recommendations for the management of centers and institutes. He asked for feedback from the membership.

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:20PM.