

MINUTES

Virginia Tech University Council: Commission on Student Affairs (CSA) Minutes

November 30, 2017

The meeting was called to order by chair Chris Saunders at 3:31 p.m.

In attendance

Byron Hughes, Jeremy Hall, Billy Lin, Spencer Jones, Lauren Surface, Alex Hyler, Jake Gaddis, Mallory Foutch, Adwoa Baah-Dwomoh, Emily Brents, Megan Crouch, Susan Anderson, Kisha Greer, Andrew Peck, Isaiah Johnson, Brett Netto, Seyi Oulsina, Ennis McCrery, Rex Willis, Chris Saunders, Angela Simmons, Jake Gaddis, Claire Oliveros, Patty Perillo

Attending guests

Dr. Cyril Clarke, Amber Koch

Absent

Jaclyn Marmol, Sebastian Andrade, Andrew Peck, Sarah Lim, Chelsea Corkins,

Approval of Agenda and Past Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried. A motion was also made to approve the minutes for the November 9, 2017 electronically. The motion was seconded and approved with edits.

Presentation

Mr. Chris Saunders introduced Dr. Cyril Clarke Interim Provost to discuss his view on what a Provost is supposed to do and be to the University. He was excited about Virginia Tech as an institution growing in the areas of health science, engineering, and a full spectrum of it being a liberal education institution. Virginia Tech follows the path of working within partnerships and Dr. Clarke placed the university in high regards for this venturing.

Dr. Clarke also stated that as the Provost he is a University leader that is responsible for the academic supporting and supervising of the deans of all of the colleges. He has 24 or 25 director that report directly to him. Dr. Clarke expressed that everyone that he has meet around campus and in all of the committee have been absolutely wonderful and he looks forward to the outstanding work that will be accomplished at Virginia Tech.

The questions was asked "Are there initiatives from the previous provost that you are not continuing?" The idea of partnership is extremely important which will continue to help expanding VT's venture in Roanoke. VT will also be continuing with beyond boundaries and destination areas, just with different time expectations.

Another question was asked: "As the Provost what will you do to support and expand the underrepresented population with faculty, staff and students?"

- It is a necessity to be an inclusive and diverse institution and we cannot operate without being so.
- You cannot service with arrogance and also humility- as I have learned that over the years coming from South Africa.
- He started a search advocate program dedicated to recognizing diversity when looking for new administrators in the vet med school. This advocate is there to ensure diversity is essential from the beginning of the search.
- VT Shaped Student: The basic principles have been shaped over three to four decades ago

Division of Student Affairs Update – Dr. Angela Simmons -

Student Affairs does a calendar of events and study spots for exams that will come out next week.

Constituency Updates:

Student Government Association update by Rex Willis –

- “You want me to pay what?”: textbook price education event
- Duck pound clean up day
- Reading day with SGA, 13, 14, 15
- Hosting and open education event and he will keep us update on those events.

Graduate Student Assembly update by Alex Hyler –

- Working on tax reform and working with Senator Warner’s office

Board of Visitors Representatives updated by Seyi Olusina and Brett Netto –

- The board applications are out and if you want to apply/know someone that should apply.

University Council and Commission Updates:

University Council – Safety presentation from the rescue squid and VTPD. They will demonstrate a presentation tailored to your organization.

GSA, SGA, Facility and Staff Senate have received one

New Business

- The Big Event Constitution Review presented by Monica Ricci – Review constitution:
- There were multiple suggestions and adjustments were suggested by member of the committee regarding gender-specific terminology and the voting system in exec.

Unfinished Business

Chris want’s CSA to me more proactive and to create a subcommittee and more of an exploratory committee. Chris will send out a notation to see who’s interested in this subcommittee and spearheading it.

Announcements:

Winter Life Festival in Blacksburg tomorrow night 5:45 Tree Lighting by the Mayor 3:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CSA meeting will be held on December 7, 2017 in the Brush Mountain Room at Squires Student Center.

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made at 4:45 p.m. and was passed unanimously.

Recorder: Tracy Newton