

**COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT
MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2008
2:00 pm
325 Burruss Hall Room**

PRESENT:

Members: Bradley Scott, Interim Chair; Sherwood Wilson; Mike Coleman; Guy Sims (for Zenobia Hikes); Mike Martin, Pat Rodgers (for Erv Blythe); Leslie O'Brien; Sam Albimino (for Tom Tillar), Angela Hayes (for Betsy Flanagan); Brian Shabanowitz (for Sue Ott Rowlands)

Recorder: Vickie Chiocca, Administrative Assistant

Bradley Scott called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

1. ITEM

- a. Agenda was approved unanimously with no changes
- b. Members introduced themselves
- c. May 15 minutes were reviewed (previously approved electronically). Correction was noted to Item 4 c) to replace wording for election of CUS representative to Transportation and Parking (T&P) committee. It was noted incorrectly in the minutes that the new library representative would replace the former representative on the T&P committee. This procedural correction has been made to the minutes. B. Scott informed the membership that Vickie Chiocca will send the minutes out for electronic vote and that no response will be recorded as a positive response.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. B. Scott read the charge of the commission
- b. Election of Chair for 2008-2009 – B. Scott was nominated by S. Wilson for chair, motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Nominations requested for vice-chair; none proposed so election tabled until next meeting. It was noted that vice-chair needs to be elected by end of October [per University Council by-laws).
- c. Election of CUS representative to the Transportation and Parking committee. B. Scott asked for nominations. Discussion followed with S. Wilson describing the various activities that will be taking place this year before the committee, including parking garages, intermodal transportation, among others. Decision made to table to next meeting when additional members may be present.
- d. The proposed meeting dates/times for 2008-2009 were discussed. It was agreed to keep to the current proposed schedule, the third Thursday of every month at 2:00 pm. For now, the meeting schedule remains as:

- September 18, 2008
 - October 16, 2008
 - November 20, 2008
 - January 15, 2009 (?) classes start on 20th (will decide later)
 - February 19, 2009
 - March 19, 2009
 - April 16, 2009 (?) may need to move
- e. Resolution 2008-09A for Appointment of the Energy and Sustainability Coordinator as Ex Officio Member of the Energy and Sustainability committee was summarized by S. Wilson. S. Wilson gave background on the Energy and Sustainability committee, the work of the committee, the establishment of the Energy and Sustainability coordinator and reason for the resolution. The resolution establishes three changes to the committee: removes the position of Asst. VP for Admin. and Transitional Operations that no longer exists since the EVP was eliminated; replaces this position with the Energy & Sustainability Coordinator; adds the position of Director of Housing and Dining Services. First reading was made; resolution will come up for second reading and vote at the next meeting.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Draft resolutions from last year were presented for discussion. B. Scott noted that resolutions from last year needed to be brought up again this year since it is a new year with a whole new committee membership.
- The Ex-officio voting rights resolution was determined to be null and void, since it would require a change to the University Council Constitution. [Article IX, Section 2].
 - Smoking policy resolution-background and discussion of the proposed resolution took place. It originally came about from complaints about smoking at entryways, particularly around loading docks and air intakes (common around loading docks). The resolution put forth was reviewed by legal counsel last year and followed much work by the previous commission, including a survey of faculty and staff. Several members noted that it is a highly charged controversial issue. A member asked about enforceability of such a resolution. The resolution, if passed would be University Policy, just like an administrative policy and would require some infrastructure changes (such as movement/positioning of ash-urns). M. Coleman noted that members of the facilities managers development group are concerned about how to administer such a policy and looking for a set of guidelines. The policy would pertain to any and all properties owned by VT. B. Scott asked the members if they want to pursue the resolution. A member asked that a copy of

survey questions be sent to the commission members. G. Sims thought the commission should set a goal to work towards. A recommendation was made to reopen the survey. P. Rodgers made suggestion to have the survey set up so that the responses were divided into the two groups: non-smokers and smokers. B. Scott reported that he would check with Sue Ellen Crocker (who set up the survey) on doing this and opening the survey again.

- b. Update on newspaper distribution boxes-B. Scott and S. Wilson gave background on the uniform newspaper distribution boxes that were agreed upon in the previous commission. Currently the university architect is updating location plan for consideration but this may be put on hold due to funding priorities in the current budget climate. Discussion followed on litter created by newspapers and inserts falling out. G. Sims recommended requesting the CT to encourage recycling and returning papers to the boxes. The members agreed to continue to work towards uniform newspaper distribution boxes and suggested that we invite Scott Hurst and/or Hugh Latimer to attend a future meeting to present the plans to the new commission.
- B. Scott asked if there were any remaining items members would like to pursue during the year. M. Martin requested that they have someone give an update on purchasing limits with state contracts considering the new Higher Education restructuring. He would like to see more flexibility with vendors since that is often in impediment to work proceeding. B. Scott said he will check with Tom Kaloupek to see if can give an update at a future meeting.

Adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Chiocca