

University Commencement Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 3, 2019
12:15 p.m.
Holtzman Alumni Center Boardroom

Present: Diane Zahm (chair), Hans Robinson, Lara Khansa, Billy Lin, Kim O'Rourke, Michael Stowe, Anthony Watson

Absent: Nicole Akers, Tanyel Turkaslan Bulbul, Jamie Cowell-Lucero, Jay Crone, Deborah Dickerson, Rebecca Funk, Wat Hopkins (with notice), Lance Jones, Marcella Kelly, Greg Klatt, Scotland Leman, Cheryl Peterson (on leave), Cara Spicer, Matt Winston

Guests: Jonathan Caldwell, Tom Gallemore, Clayton Kolb, Mike Kutnak, Stephen Lanier, Kelly McCann, Christina McIntyre, Margie Murray, Tara Nepper, Graham Smith

Dr. Zahm called the meeting to order at 12:19 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the February 6, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

Preparations for Spring Commencement

McCann indicated that there would be five alumni distinguished service honorees at the spring ceremony, the Class of 1969. That would include the main speaker, Frank Beamer, Joe Meredith, Ray Smoot, Charles Steger and Tom Tillar.

She also asked for the names of the student speakers so they could be included in the program.

Murray asked that if the dean of the VT Carilion School of Medicine were attending, would there also be students attending? Either way, it was necessary to know to determine the wording in the script.

Zahm indicated that the deadline to get volunteer names to Wat Hopkins was April 26.

Zahm provided the timeline and asked that updates be sent to her for addition.

The proposal to provide funding to the band for per diem meals after classes ended for the semester, and for practice and rehearsal time, the estimated cost would be \$7,750 for the spring ceremony. The committee approved the proposal.

Winston suggested that a new tradition begin by asking the chair of the old guard or president of the class to lead the student processional. This person would not be on stage, but perhaps they could have something to carry like a flag, and recognize them in the script. Also, invite this person's family to sit in the President's Suite to view the ceremony. There was no opposition noted during the meeting.

Future Meeting Dates – Holtzman Alumni Center Boardroom – 12:15 p.m.

May 1, 2019

Adjournment

With no further committee business, the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.