

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON**  
**STRATEGIC BUDGETING AND PLANNING**  
**November 21, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Sanskriti Neupane (substitute for Blake Barnhill), Maria Balota (via Zoom), Scott Case, Terry Clements, Sherrie Clark-Deener (via Zoom), William Dougherty (via Zoom), Donald Hatfield (via Zoom), Tim Hodge, Maruf Hoque, Edward Lener, Erin McCann, and Jeff Early (substitute for Ken Smith).

**ABSENT:** Angel Carter, Cyril Clarke, John Fike, Bob Hicok, Ken Miller, Liza Morris, Cayce Myers, John Richey and Michael Sorrice.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Tim Hodge, Associate Vice President for Budget and Financial Planning, called the meeting to order.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2019 MINUTES**

Mr. Hodge stated that the October 17, 2019 minutes have been approved and forwarded to the University Council for posting on the web.

**3. UPDATE ON UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN – FEEDBACK ON CRITICAL MILESTONES**

Erin McCann, Director for Strategic Planning, gave an update on the University Continuous Strategic Planning Process and the Continuous Strategic Planning Annual Milestones Report that was presented at the November VT Board of Visitors meeting. Through the presentation, Ms. McCann covered the Strategic Priority Milestones to the Council for their questions and feedback.

Ms. McCann clarified definitions related to sources of the data and answered questions as to why certain data sources were chosen. Ms. McCann explained there was much work done to understand information that is published about the University, and that consideration was given to data sources that more closely align with university goals.

Ms. McCann answered questions about feasibility and what is being done to achieve the goals. Ms. McCann indicated that ongoing efforts are being made toward achieving the goals and that feasibility studies and prioritization efforts are planned. It was suggested that it would be helpful to see how the university ranks against our peers for metrics that are particularly important and that we can control.

A question was raised if financial burden on students has been taken into consideration. Ms. McCann indicated that reducing student loan debt is currently reflected in the Continuous Strategic Planning Annual Milestones Report and that borrowing and the cost of education have been ongoing topics of discussion.

A PDF of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

**4. No further business was discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.**