

**University Council Minutes**  
**February 21, 2011**  
**3:00 PM**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**

**Present:** Charles Steger, (Presiding), Richard Benson, Jeb Stewart for Earving Blythe, Lay Nam Chang, Jack Davis, Karen DePauw, Elizabeth Flanagan, Martin Daniel for Alan Grant, Jennifer Hodgson, William Lewis, Kim O'Rourke, Fred Piercy for Sue Ott Rowlands, Dwight Shelton, Richard Sorensen, Ed Spencer, Sherwood Wilson, Paul Winistorfer, Daniel Wubah, Carolyn Copenheaver, Jesus de la Garza, Ross Edmonds, Jan Helge Bøhn, Amy Hogan, Nathan Lavinka, Leslie O'Brien, Deborah Smith, Sue Teel, Bryan Cloyd, Jim Kuypers, Joe Merola, Joyce Rothschild, Eric Vance, Danny Axsom, Marion Ehrich, Debra Salvador, Bob Sturges, Judy Alford, Jean Brickey, Teresa Lyons, Stacey Poertner, Dave Shuster, France Belanger, Justin Graves, Karen Poff, Patricia Smith, Patrick Tomlin, Amanda Cronin Rumore, Jonathan Moore for Michelle McLeese, Bo Hart, Charles Petty, Bruce Pencek for Mike Ellerbrock, Deepu George, Maxine Lyons

**Absent** John Dooley (with notice), Karen Jones, Mark McNamee, (with notice), Paul Metz, Tom Tillar, Robert Walters, Steve McMullin, Susanna Rinehart, Lewis Wasserman, Sheila Carter-Tod, Dave Dugas, Tom Hammett, David Vaughan, Dan Cook (with notice), Lori Anne Kirk (with notice), Christal Bacon, Wayne Scales, Mojtaba Taiebat, Scott Bennett, Jeff Chuang, Greer Kelly, Emily Wilkinson, Shane McCarty

**Guests:** Roger Avery, Brian Cook, Jack Finney, Natalie Hart, April Myers, Ellen Plummer, Stephen Skripak

Dr. Steger called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

**2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 7, 2011**

Dr. Steger noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

**3. New Business**

**Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies**

Resolution CGSP 2010-11C

Resolution for Change in academic Progress Standards as outlined in The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) Student Handbook for the Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VMRCVM)

Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver presented the resolution for first reading. The motion was seconded. Dr. Copenheaver introduced Dr. Jennifer Hodgson to give background for the resolution. Dr. Hodgson informed the council that this resolution is intended just for students enrolled in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The current system is not effective for identifying students who could potentially be at risk of being unsuccessful either in the clinical year or when sitting for the national licensing exam. It is not in the best interest of the students to accrue a large amount of debt for the program if they are not going to be successful at a later time. This resolution will allow better predictions of students at risk of academic non-progression in order to implement the appropriate assistance and remediation early in the program. There will be a system of academic warning, academic probation, and academic review so that students at risk can be identified and put into a mentoring program. This policy will put the burden on the college to be responsible for identifying at-risk students instead of on the student. These changes will be implemented for the students who entered the program in the fall of 2010 and later. The current first-year students have been informed both verbally and in writing. The students who are currently in their second, third, and fourth years will not be affected by this policy change.

## **Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies**

Resolution CGSP 2010-11D

Resolution on Establishing a Dual Degree Master's in Business

Administration Program in Cooperation with the Naval Postgraduate School

Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver presented the resolution for first reading. Dr. Copenheaver introduced Dr. Stephen Skripak to give background information on the resolution. Dr. Skripak informed the council members that the proposal is for a dual degree program between Virginia Tech and the Naval Postgraduate School. It is a defense-focused MBA program with two degrees, and Virginia Tech will teach the core MBA courses and the Naval Postgraduate School will teach the defense-focused courses. This resolution will combine two programs and create a defense-focused program in the Washington, DC area where there are adequate resources and faculty available.

There were discussions between the Pamplin College of Business and the Center for Public Administration and Policy about the proposed resolution. The following is an agreement that was made between the two:

1. The Pamplin College of Business (PCoB) and the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP) discussed concerns raised by CPAP about the dual degree proposal resulting in a fruitful exchange of views.
2. PCoB and CPAP have agreed to consult on any further developments in the dual degree program that have implications for public policy and public affairs graduate degree and course offerings at Virginia Tech, and that PCoB and the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA)/CPAP will seek to collaborate on developing further relationships with defense-related agencies and organizations that will yield benefits for the respective programs.
3. PCoB will explore with NPS whether slight changes to the titles of two courses of concern to CPAP can be made. For GJ 4013, CPAP suggests "Strategic Management and Innovation in Defense-related Organizations," and for GJ 4372 CPAP suggests "Defense Acquisition and Contracting for Senior Executives." CPAP understands that these are NPS courses, but as their partner in the dual degree, PCoB will work to persuade NPS to adopt these changes.

Dr. Copenheaver made a motion to waive the first reading for this resolution. The reason for waiving the first reading is that this resolution will go into effect in the fall of 2011 and it still has to be approved by the Board of Visitors, and then sent to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for notification. Dr. Steger explained that an item of new business requires an affirmative vote of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the membership present in order to waive the first reading. The motion to waive the first reading was seconded.

Dr. Richard Sorensen indicated that discussions have been ongoing with the Naval Postgraduate School for approximately four years and there have been serious negotiations for the last two years. The concern is that if this resolution does not go before the Board of Visitors at the March meeting, there may be difficulty going forward. Dr. Karen DePauw informed the council that she and the Graduate School are supportive of the request to waive the first reading in order to act on it for approval as soon as possible. Dr. Jack Davis indicated that the College of Architecture and Urban Studies is satisfied with resolution after the three points mentioned above.

A suggestion was made that the council should exercise caution when waiving first readings because there is not ample time to explore the resolution. Dr. DePauw indicated that this resolution was delayed for approximately a year and a half due to administrative reasons and has been in the hands of the curriculum committee to work through various logistical issues.

The motion to waive the first reading was passed. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution. The motion to adopt the resolution passed.

#### **4. Announcement of Approval and Posting of Commission Minutes**

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>). Note that the purpose of voting on Commission minutes is to accept them for filing. University Council By-laws require that policy items be brought forward in resolution form for University Council action.

- Commission on Faculty Affairs  
January 21, 2011
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies  
January 19, 2011
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs  
December 9, 2010
- Commission on Research  
December 8, 2010
- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs  
January 25, 2011

#### **5. For Information Only**

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning  
December 2, 2010

#### **6. Report**

##### **Update on General Assembly Session**

Dr. Steger asked Mr. Dwight Shelton to give a brief update on the legislature's deliberations about the VRS and ORP retirement contributions. The House introduced a change to the Governor's proposal to retirement and compensation. The House kept the element for VRS employees to pay 5 percent to the VRS, and the House increased the compensation adjustment to 5 percent for VRS employees in order to offset the payment to the VRS. The House proposed to restore the 1.9 percent contribution for the ORP employees with no compensation change; this means the state's contribution for ORP employees would remain 10.4 percent. The Senate reversed the Governor's action and proposes no changes to the VRS or the ORP. Normally, when the House and Senate are not in agreement some type of compromise will be made. Dr. Steger reminded University Council that any salary increase authorized by the state would be funded one-third from the state and two-thirds from the university.

#### **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:21 p.m.