

University Council Minutes
May 3, 2010
3:00 – 5:00 PM
1045 Pamplin Hall

Present: Charles Steger (Presiding), Richard Benson, Jeb Stewart for Earving Blythe, Jack Finney for Lay Nam Chang, Karen DePauw, John Dooley, Karen Eley Sanders, Elizabeth Flanagan, Susan Sumner for Alan Grant, Eileen Hitchingham, Mark McNamee, Kim O'Rourke, Rachel Holloway for Sue Ott Rowlands, Gerhardt Schurig, Dwight Shelton, Maggie Sloane, Richard Sorensen, Ed Spencer, Tom Tillar, Tom Inzana for Robert Walters, Linda Woodard for Sherwood Wilson, Paul Winistorfer, Daniel Wubah, Terry Clements, Steve L. McMullin for Carla Finkielstein, William Huckle, Pat Hyer for Marilyn King, Maxine Lyons, Michelle McLeese, Patrick Miller, Leslie O'Brien, Guy Sims, Deborah Smith, Sam Easterling, Jim Kuypers, Susanna Rinehart, Danny Axsom, Sheila Carter-Tod, Gene Seago, Bob Sturges, Jean Brickey, Lori Anne Kirk, Stacey Poertner, Wyatt Sasser, Dave Shuster, Annette Bailey, Kim Beisecker, Keisha Riley, Laura Freeman, Lindsay Moss, Amy Reed, Rebecca French, Gary Long,

Absent Jack Davis, Joyce Rothschild, Lewis Wasserman, Dave Dugas, Dean Stauffer, David Vaughan, Judy Alford (with notice), Travis Hundley, Craig Keys, Mike Parrish, Chris Ramos, Wayne Scales, Alyson Boyce (with notice), Jeff Chuang, Nicki Field, Ally Hammond, Shane McCarty, Steven Murphy, Kristina Hartman, Tom Tucker (with notice)

Guests: Chema de la Garza, April Myers, Ellen Plummer, Rohsaan Settle, Frances Keene

Dr. Steger called the meeting to order at 3:01 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 April 19, 2010

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

Dr. Steger explained that the three items of new business require an affirmative vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the membership present in order to waive the first reading.

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10F

Discontinuance of M.S. and Ph.D. in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management

Dr. Patrick Miller made a motion to waive the first reading for this resolution, and the motion was seconded and passed. A motion was then made and seconded to adopt the resolution. The resolution passed.

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10G

Doctoral Residency

Dr. Patrick Miller made a motion to waive the first reading for this resolution, and the motion was seconded and passed. A motion was then made and seconded to adopt the resolution. This resolution is an affirmation of

current practices. It was confirmed that any conflicting information in the online graduate catalog will be made consistent. The motion passed.

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10D

Resolution to Approve Renaming of the Existing Bachelor of Arts Degree “Interdisciplinary Studies” to “Religion and Culture” in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Dr. Steve McMullin made a motion to waive the first reading for this resolution, and the motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution. The motion passed.

4. Old Business

Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs

Resolution 2009-10A

Outside Employment

Dr. Pat Hyer presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Faculty Affairs

Resolution 2009-10A

Federal Contract Compliance

Ms. Deborah Smith presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10D

Resolution Requesting an Additional Graduate Student Assembly Voting Seat on the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Dr. Patrick Miller presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. This additional graduate student member on the commission will allow graduate students better representation on the four subcommittees of the commission. Representatives from the National Capital Region will continue to be encouraged to serve on the commission. The motion passed.

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10E

Policy Related to Additional Employment by Graduate Students with Full-Time Assistantship Contract

Patrick Miller presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded. Dr. Gary Long moved to amend the resolution to change the language from “students seeking additional employment should consult with their academic advisor” to “students seeking additional employment must consult with their academic advisor.” The motion was seconded. Dr. Long informed the Council that the Faculty Senate unanimously voted to make this change. The purpose of the amendment is that it is important for faculty advisors to be consulted when a Graduate Assistant (GA) is working outside of the university so that the advisor can properly advise the student while maintaining the academic integrity of the program. Since the Graduate School must be advised of outside employment, he asserted that the academic advisor should also have this information in order to help each student. Dr. Miller indicated that the purpose of this resolution is to assure that graduate students can work outside of the university; the Graduate School has separate policies and procedures to evaluate the performance of graduate assistants. The Graduate School has to be informed about outside employment to ensure there is no conflict of interest. The university cannot enforce the

amendment, and it may not be legal. Ms. Laura Freeman indicated that graduate students who were polled were overwhelmingly opposed to any policy regulating outside employment. Graduate students feel it is insulting to be required to inform an advisor about any employment outside the university. Some graduate students may not have a good relationship with their advisor. It is important to give graduate students autonomy to get their jobs done. There are annual reviews that have been established for GAs to ensure performance standards are being met.

After extended discussion, a vote was taken on the amendment. The motion to approve the amendment did not pass.

A vote was then taken on the original motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Steger informed the Council that he will seek legal advice on the resolution to assure there are no issues with what is proposed. [Note: Legal Counsel subsequently reviewed the resolution and found that it is legally sufficient.]

Commission on Student Affairs

Resolution 2009-10F

Resolution Revising the Membership of the Commission on Student Affairs

Michelle McLeese presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

Commission on Student Affairs

Resolution 2009-10G

Resolution for Changes in the Hokie Handbook

Expansion of the Abusive Conduct Policy for Student Code of Conduct

Ms. Michelle McLeese presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. Ms. McLeese introduced Dr. Rohsaan Settle to answer any questions about the resolution. Dr. Settle informed the Council members that he confirmed with Chief Flinchum that this resolution does not conflict with Policy 5617, Safety and Security Camera Acceptable Use Policy. It was confirmed that the definition of "on campus" is any Virginia Tech property worldwide. The motion passed.

Commission on Student Affairs

Resolution 2009-10H

Resolution for Changes in the Hokie Handbook

Expansion of the Disorderly Conduct Policy for Student Code of Conduct

Ms. Michelle McLeese presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10C

Resolution to Update Membership of the University Curriculum

Committee for Liberal Education

Dr. Steve McMullin presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

5. 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 Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
March 29, 2010
- Commission Equal Opportunity and Diversity
March 29, 2010
- Commission on Faculty Affairs
April 9, 2010
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
April 7, 2010
- Commission Outreach and International Affairs
March 4, 2010
- Commission on Research
March 17, 2010
- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
March 23, 2010
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
February 22, 2010
March 22, 2010
April 12, 2010

6. For Information Only

Minutes of University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
March 25, 2010

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:46 p.m.