

University Council Minutes
December 7, 2009
3:00 – 5:00 PM
1045 Pamplin Hall

Present: Charles Steger (Presiding), Richard Benson, Jeb Stewart for Earving Blythe, Lay Nam Chang, Jack Davis, Janet Rankin for Karen DePauw, John Dooley, Elizabeth Flanagan, Susan Sumner for Alan Grant, Eileen Hitchingham, Mark McNamee, Heidi McCoy for Kim O'Rourke, Sue Ott Rowlands, Gerhardt Schurig, Melinda West for Dwight Shelton, Maggie Sloane, Richard Sorensen, Ed Spencer, Tom Tillar, Sherwood Wilson, Thomas Olson for Paul Winistorfer, Terry Clements, Mike Ellerbrock, Carla Finkielstein, Pat Hyer for Frances Keene, Maxine Lyons, Michelle McLeese, Patrick Miller, Leslie O'Brien, Guy Sims, Sam Easterling, Jim Kuypers, Sheila Carter-Tod, Gene Seago, Bob Sturges, Judy Alford, Jean Brickey, Stacey Poertner, Wyatt Sasser, Dave Shuster, Annette Bailey, Kim Beisecker, Keisha Riley, Laura Freeman, Lindsay Moss, Alyson Boyce, Alex Funk for Angella De Soto, Steven Murphy, Gary Long, Tom Tucker

Absent: Kevin McDonald, Robert Walters, Daniel Wubah (with notice), William Huckle, Heather Boyd (with notice), Susanna Rinehart, Joyce Rothschild, Lewis Wasserman, Danny Axsom, Dave Dugas, Dean Stauffer, David Vaughan (with notice), Travis Hundley, Lori Anne Kirk (with notice), Craig Keys, Mike Parrish, Chris Ramos, Wayne Scales, Amy Reed, Jeff Chuang, Ally Hammond, Shane McCarty, Rebecca French, Kristina Hartman

Guests: Alvin Bryant, Bethany Flora, Kay Heidbreder, April Myers, Ellen Plummer, Jill Sible, Bev Watford.

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 November 2, 2009

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>). (Note that the meeting scheduled for November 16, 2009, was cancelled)

3. New Business

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution 2009-10B

Resolution for Accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate Degree Programs

Dr. Patrick Miller presented the resolution for first reading. Dr. Miller informed the Council that there are three ways an undergraduate student can currently begin working on their master's degree:

- a. Dual status during the final semester (graduate course can only count toward graduate degree).
- b. Open program (six credits can be double counted)
- c. Honors program (twelve credits can be double counted)

The proposed resolution will replace the open program and the honors program.

Dr. Sam Easterling suggested that the third "Resolved," which addresses Dual Student Status, be changed such that students are allowed to be enrolled in both the accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate program and be enrolled as a Dual Student during their last semester. Otherwise, the Accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate degree program students will be penalized by the new policy.

A request was made from the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies to lower the minimum grade point average (GPA) to 3.3 from 3.5. The Commission on Faculty Affairs suggested a minimum GPA of 3.5 for junior and senior level classes and a 3.3 overall GPA. It was determined that the minimum GPA will be a requirement for admission only, and the departments will have the final say on what students are accepted into the program. The Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies indicated that they would be willing to lower the GPA to 3.3.

4. Old Business

Commission on Student Affairs

Resolution 2009-10B

Resolution for Change in Membership of the Commission on Student Affairs
(Change to University Council By-laws)

Ms. Michelle McLeese presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded, and the resolution was approved unanimously.

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
October 14, 2009
- Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
October 19, 2009
November 2, 2009
- Commission on Faculty Affairs
September 25, 2009
October 16, 2009
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
October 21, 2009
November 4, 2009
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
October 8, 2009
- Commission on Research

September 30, 2009

- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
September 22, 2009
- Commission on Student Affairs
October 15, 2009
November 5, 2009
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
October 26, 2009
November 9, 2009
- Commission on University Support
October 15, 2009

6. For Information Only

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
September 24, 2009

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 p.m.