

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**December 3, 2012**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**  
**AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Agenda Dr. Charles Steger
  
2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of November 26, 2012 Dr. Charles Steger  

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web.
  
3. New Business Dr. Charles Steger  

Commission on Student Affairs Mr. Chris Atkins  
Resolution 2012-13A  
Resolution to Increase Use of Evergreen Plants in University Landscaping

Commission on Student Affairs Mr. Chris Atkins  
Resolution 2012-13B  
Resolution Requesting Electrical Outlet Expansion
  
4. Old Business Dr. Charles Steger  

Commission on Research Dr. Mike Akers  
Resolution 2012-13A  
Resolution to Change the Name of "Special Research Faculty" to "Research Faculty"
  
5. Announcement of acceptance and posting of Commission Minutes Dr. Charles Steger  

These minutes have been accepted for filing by electronic vote and will be posted on the University web. 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 Equal Opportunity and Diversity  
October 15, 2012  
November 12, 2012

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies  
October 17, 2012

Commission on Student Affairs  
November 15, 2012

Commission on University Support  
September 20, 2012  
October 18, 2012
  
6. Adjournment Dr. Charles Steger

**University Council Minutes**  
**December 3, 2012**  
**3:00 PM**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**

**Present:** Charles Steger (presiding), Glenda Scales for Richard Benson, Lay Nam Chang, Jack Davis, Karen DePauw, Susan Sumner for Alan Grant, William Lewis, Mark McNamee, Scott Midkiff, Jerry Niles, Kim O'Rourke, Sue Ott Rowlands, Jamie Joslin for Patricia Perillo, Laura Rugless, Gerhardt Schurig, Savita Sharma for Dwight Shelton, Richard Sorensen, Tom Tillar, Martin Daniel for Robert Walters, Tyler Walters, Sherwood Wilson, Thomas Olson for Paul Winistorfer, Daniel Wubah, Mike Akers, Christopher Atkins, Linda Bucy, Dan Cook, Christine Fiori, Maxine Lyons, Joe Merola, Yannis Stivachtis, Diane Zahm, Charlene Eska, Gary Long, Scott Nelson, Bruce Pencek, Helene Renard, Susanna Rinehart, Deborah Smith, Eugene Brown, Dave Dugas, William Huckle, Sam Riley, Jane Robertson, Eric Wiseman, Judy Alford, Darla Chudzik, Melissa Means, Jen Mirabella, Wyatt Sasser, Nicole DaDamio, Karisa Moore, Dustin Dorph, Adam Smith, Anjelica Smith, Paige Waltz, Robyn Jones, Sarah Karpanty, Nicholas Onopa, Sue Teel

**Absent** Elizabeth Flanagan, Mayuresh Patil, Mike Denbow, Debra Salbador (with notice), Teresa Lyons, Amy Tunison (with notice), Lauren Heming, Jacqueline Nottingham, Karen Poff, Patricia Smith, Patrick Tomlin, Shaimaa Abdallah, Elaine Mathis, Leighton Vila, Luke Hodge, Austin Larrowe,

**Guests:** Adrien DeLoach, Sandra Muse, April Myers, Ellen Plummer

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 26, 2012**

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 Student Affairs**

Resolution 2012-13A

Resolution to Increase Use of Evergreen Plants in University Landscaping

Mr. Chris Atkins presented the resolution for first reading. A question was raised as to whether University Council is the appropriate avenue for this resolution since it addresses an operational matter and not a policy matter. A suggestion was made to present this request to the Landscape Architect instead of University Council. Dr. Sherwood Wilson, Vice President for Administrative Services, replied that evergreens are being used as much as possible. Dr. Wilson indicated that the resolution will be taken as a recommendation that can be incorporated into long-term planning for the landscape environment as an operational request.

**Post Meeting Update:** Mr. Chris Atkins consulted Mr. Dustin Dorph (Student Government Association President) after the meeting on how to move forward with this resolution, and they decided to withdraw the resolution from the University Council agenda.

## **Commission on Student Affairs**

Resolution 2012-13B

Resolution to Requesting Electrical Outlet Expansion

Mr. Chris Atkins presented the resolution for first reading. Again, the concern was raised that this resolution also addresses an operational rather than a policy matter and a more appropriate avenue should be used to pursue this request.

**Post Meeting Update:** Mr. Chris Atkins consulted Mr. Dustin Dorph (Student Government Association President) after the meeting on how to move forward with this resolution, and they decided to withdraw the resolution from the University Council agenda.

## **4. Old Business**

### **Commission on Research**

Resolution 2012-13A

Resolution to Change the name of "Special Research Faculty" to "Research Faculty"

Dr. Mike Akers 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 Equal Opportunity and Diversity  
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## **6. Announcements**

1. Dr. Steger indicated that the State's revenues appear to be improving. Last year, the governor put \$100 million in the budget for additions to higher education. Virginia Tech received approximately \$3.1 million, but there was also a shift of \$9 million in costs from the state to the university.
2. Dr. Steger indicated the university/college presidents will be meeting with Senator Warner to discuss concerns about the impact of the federal budget decisions on higher education. Two-thirds of Virginia Tech's research dollars come from the federal government. Also, there is a concern about the discussion of putting a cap on charitable deductions.

3. In response to a question, Dr. Steger indicated that the Stadium Woods will not be the site for the athletic practice facility. However, the woods will not be put into conservation easement.

## **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:19 p.m.