

# UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 4, 2013

3:00 p.m.

1045 Pamplin Hall

## AGENDA

1. **Adoption of Agenda** Dr. Mark McNamee
  
2. **Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 4, 2013** Dr. Mark McNamee  
These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web.
  
3. **Reports from Commission Chairs** Dr. Mark McNamee
  - Commission Chair Briefings
    - Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs Ms. Linda Bucy
    - Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity Dr. Yannis Stivachtis
    - Commission on Faculty Affairs Dr. Joe Merola
    - Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies Dr. Mayuresh Patil
    - Commission on Outreach and International Affairs Dr. Carlyle Brewster
    - Commission on Research Dr. Mike Akers
    - Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs Mr. Dan Cook
    - Commission on Student Affairs Mr. Chris Atkins
    - Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies Dr. Diane Zahm
    - Commission on University Support Ms. Maxine Lyons
  
4. **New Business** Dr. Mark McNamee
  - Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies** Dr. Diane Zahm
    - Resolution 2012-13F
    - Resolution to Discontinue the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies
  
5. **Announcement of acceptance and posting of Commission Minutes** Dr. Mark McNamee

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 Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs  
February 13, 2013

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity  
December 17, 2012  
February 4, 2013

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies  
December 5, 2012

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs  
December 13, 2012

Commission on Research  
May 9, 2012  
September 12, 2012  
October 10, 2012  
November 14, 2012  
December 12, 2012

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs  
January 22, 2013

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies  
February 11, 2013

6. For Information Only

Dr. Mark McNamee

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning  
September 27, 2012  
January 24, 2013

7. Adjournment

Dr. Mark McNamee

**University Council Minutes**  
**March 4, 2013**  
**3:00 PM**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**

**Present:** Mark McNamee (presiding), Richard Benson, Lay Nam Chang, Jack Davis, Karen DePauw, Elizabeth Flanagan, Edwin Jones for Alan Grant, Perry Martin for William Lewis, Jeb Stewart for Scott Midkiff, Jerry Niles, Kim O'Rourke, Sue Ott Rowlands, Cynthia Bonner for Patricia Perillo, Gerhardt Schurig, Dwight Shelton, Kay Hunnings for Richard Sorensen, Tom Tillar, Martin Daniel for Robert Walters, Tyler Walters, Sherwood Wilson, Paul Winistorfer, Jill Sible for Daniel Wubah, Mike Akers, Linda Bucy, Dan Cook, Carlyle Brewster for Christine Fiori, Maxine Lyons, Joe Merola, Mayuresh Patil, Yannis Stivachtis, Diane Zahm, Scott Nelson, Bruce Pencek, Helene Renard, Susanna Rinehart, Dave Dugas, William Huckle, Sam Riley, Jane Robertson, Debra Salvador, Darla Chudzik, Wyatt Sasser, Karen Poff, Hannah Grissom for Patricia Smith, Patrick Tomlin, Elaine Mathis, Lester Schonberger for Dustin Dorph, Paige Waltz, Robyn Jones, Sarah Karpanty, Nicholas Onopa

**Absent** Charles Steger (with notice), Laura Rugless, Christopher Atkins, Charlene Eska (with notice), Deborah Smith (with notice), Eugene Brown, Mike Denbow, Eric Wiseman, Judy Alford (with notice), Teresa Lyons, Melissa Means (with notice), Jen Mirabella, Amy Tunison, Nicole DaDamio, Lauren Heming, Karisa Moore, Jacqueline Nottingham, Shaimaa Abdallah, Leighton Vila, Luke Hodge, Austin Larrowe (with notice), Adam Smith, Anjelica Smith (with notice), Sue Teel (with notice)

**Guests:** Jack Finney, Natalie Hart, April Myers, Ellen Plummer

Dr. McNamee 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 4, 2013**

Dr. McNamee 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 February 18, 2013, was cancelled.)

**3. Commission Chair Reports**

Dr. McNamee asked the Commission chairs to present briefly their goals for the academic year.

1. Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs – Ms. Linda Bucy, Chair
  - a. Discussions on the revised IP Policy put forth by the Commission on Research and voting on a potential endorsement of those changes
  - b. Spring Speaker Series will be held in April

2. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity – Dr. Yannis Stivachtis, Chair
  - a. Review the New Diversity Strategic Plan and provide feedback
  - b. Assist the Office of the Vice-President for Diversity and Inclusion in the implementation of the Diversity Strategic Plan
  - c. Provide the university administration with reports or suggestions on issues regarding diversity and inclusion
  - d. Continue to deal with any issues pertaining to campus climate that are brought to the Commission's attention
  - e. Continue to work closely with various campus constituencies and groups in order to assist them with the challenges they face as well as sponsor and promote their activities
3. Commission on Faculty Affairs – Dr. Joe Merola, Chair
  - a. Continue to work with the Provost's office on revisions to the *Faculty Handbook*
    - Professors of Practice and whether or not they are permitted to chair graduate student committees
    - Policy to reenergize the Academy of Service Excellence to parallel Teaching and Outreach Excellence
  - b. In conjunction with the Commission on Research, CFA is reviewing and discussing the revised Policy 13000 on Intellectual Property
  - c. Working with the SGA to discuss and help shape the new campaign for better awareness of the VT Honor Codes
  - d. Ongoing discussions regarding the general issue of the role of research faculty in university governance
4. Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies – Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Chair
  - a. Looking to help Dean DePauw outline the details for implementing the graduate studies strategic plan
  - b. Upcoming PhD program proposals:
    - Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health
    - Ocean Engineering
  - c. Recently passed a resolution on ethics and integrity training requirements for graduate students
5. Commission on Outreach and International Affairs – Dr. Carlyle Brewster, Vice Chair
  - a. Revise the awards process for the Alumni Award for Outreach to encourage more participation
  - b. Develop a survey to measure the scholarship of Engagement and Outreach on campus
    - Survey under development and will be launched in May
6. Commission on Research – Dr. Mike Akers, Chair
  - a. Continuing work to address issues of governance and mentoring of Research Faculty that derived from Taskforce recommendations
  - b. Specific focus for the remainder of this year and into the next is on post docs
    - a. An ad hoc committee is currently at work to gather data and assist with the survey to determine needs and approaches for successful mentoring

7. Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs – Mr. Dan Cook, Chair
  - a. Discussing ways to promote staff awards due to a lack of input for nominations
8. Commission on Student Affairs – Mr. Nick Onopa, Vice Chair
  - a. Fall semester had discussion on how the CSA can better serve both undergraduate and graduate students
  - b. Reviewing the *Hokie Handbook* guidelines
  - c. Focus on diversity
  - d. Budget Board revisions
  - e. Academic Integrity Campaign
9. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies– Dr. Diane Zahm, Chair
  - a. The Commission has already accomplished two very important items for this year:
    - Creation of an Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
    - First implementation of Presidential Policy Memorandum 273 – removal of courses not taught in the last five years which has resulted in the elimination of 124 courses.
  - b. Presently the Commission is updating the undergraduate academic policies
    - Some are technical updates, necessary to make language consistent with current conditions
    - Other updates require more substantive changes
      - i. Policies related to residency
      - ii. Progress toward the degree
      - iii. Retaking courses for credit
      - iv. Late withdrawal from course
      - v. Date of entry versus date of graduation
10. Commission on University Support – Ms. Maxine Lyons, Chair
  - a. Due to the realigning of departments on campus, the Commission on University Support will bring forward three resolutions regarding the realignment of its membership and reporting committees to accurately reflect the members of the Commission
  - b. The Commission is also looking at ways to organize campus distribution of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals

#### 4. New Business

##### **Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**

Resolution 2012-13F

Resolution to Discontinue the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies

Dr. Diane Zahm presented the resolution for first reading. The Interdisciplinary Studies program underwent reorganization and realignment in 2008-2009. This resulted in several majors encompassed by this degree program being moved to various existing departments and the creation of a new Department of Religion and Culture. The B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies no longer serves the needs of students in the Department of Religion and Culture or any existing department on campus.

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

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Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning  
September 27, 2012  
January 24, 2013

## **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m.