

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 3, 2011

3:00 p.m.

1045 Pamplin Hall

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda Dr. Mark McNamee

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of May 2, 2011 Dr. Mark McNamee

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web.

3. Reports from Commission Chairs

- Commission Chairs Briefings

- Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
- Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
- Commission on Faculty Affairs
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
- Commission on Research
- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
- Commission on Student Affairs
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
- Commission on University Support

Ms. Amy Hogan
Ms. Meghan Kuhn
Dr. Sarah Karpanty
Dr. Victoria Soghomonian
Dr. Gary Long
Dr. Randolph Wynne
Ms. Sue Teel
Mr. Sandy Bass
Dr. Robin Panneton
Dr. James Tokuhisa

4. New Business Dr. Mark McNamee

Commission on Graduate Studies and Polices

Resolution 2011-12A

Resolution to Approve the Master of Science Degree/Master of Engineering Degree in Nuclear Engineering

Dr. Victoria Soghomonian

Commission on Graduate Studies and Polices

Resolution 2011-12A

Resolution to Approve the Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering

Dr. Victoria Soghomonian

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

May 11, 2011

September 14, 2011

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

April 25, 2011

May 9, 2011

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

April 20, 2011

September 7, 2011

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs

March 17, 2011

April 14, 2011

May 5, 2011

Commission on Research
April 6, 2011
May 11, 2011

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
May 24, 2011
August 23, 2011

Commission on Student Affairs
April 21, 2011
April 28, 2011
September 15, 2011

Commission on University Support
April 21, 2011

6. **For Information Only**

Dr. Mark McNamee

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
March 24, 2011

7. **Adjournment**

Dr. Mark McNamee

University Council Minutes
October 3, 2011
3:00 PM
1045 Pamplin Hall

Present: Mark McNamee (presiding), Richard Benson, Jeb Stewart for Earving Blythe, Lay Nam Chang, Jack Davis, Karen DePauw, John Dooley, Elizabeth Flanagan, Saied Mostaghimi for Alan Grant, Jennifer Hodgson, Karen Jones, William Lewis, Kim O'Rourke, Rachel Holloway for Sue Ott Rowlands, Dwight Shelton, Richard Sorensen, Ed Spencer, Tom Tillar, Bill Knocke for Robert Walters, Tyler Walters, Sherwood Wilson, Paul Winistorfer, Daniel Wubah, Sandy Bass, Amy Hogan, Sarah Karpanty, Meghan Kuhn, Gary Long, Robin Panneton, Victoria Soghomonian, Sue Teel, James Tokuhisa, Randolph Wynne, Bryan Cloyd, Jim Kuypers, Helene Renard, Yannis Stivachtis, Eric Vance, Eugene Brown, Dave Dugas, Sam Riley, Leigh Williams, Eric Wiseman, Dan Cook, Teresa Lyons, Stacey Poertner, Allison Rubio, Dave Shuster, Amy Tunison, Mark Cartwright, Justin Graves, Lauren Heming, Patricia Smith, Tonya Smith-Jackson, Swetha Kumar, Shree Nair, Tyler Campbell, Caroline Gimenez, Emily Schaefer, Adam Smith, Matt Banfield, Bruce Pencek

Absent Charles Steger (with notice), Joe Merola (with notice), Susanna Rinehart, Mike Denbow, Marion Ehrich (with notice), Debra Salvador (with notice), Jen Mirabella (with notice), Karen Poff, Thomas Carl Long, Corbin Dimeglio, Maxine Lyons, Michelle McLeese

Guests: Lindy Cranwell, Jack Finney, Natalie Hart, Jordan King, April Myers, Mark Pierson, 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 May 2, 2011

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 September 19, 2011, 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. Amy Hogan, Chair
 - a. Conviction check requirements and processes
 - b. Performance management tools
 - c. Position description updates
 - d. Administrative and Professional (A/P) Faculty compensation analysis project
 - e. Handbook topics/updates
 - Conflict of Interest and Consulting policies
 - Clarification on A/P Faculty grievance process
 - f. Extension reorganization updates
 - g. Library – faculty levels
 - h. Auxiliary tuition funding
 - i. Restricted faculty short-term disability insurance
 - j. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force

2. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity – Ms. Meghan Kuhn, Chair
 - a. Diversity Progress Summit
 - b. Continued dialogue regarding university holiday recognition
 - c. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force
 - d. Discussions about changes to reporting procedures of sexual assault cases
3. Commission on Faculty Affairs – Dr. Sarah Karpanty, Chair
 - a. Faculty Handbook revisions
 - Clarification of Library Faculty promotion and rank issues
 - How to deal with collegiality in the tenure process
 - b. Conviction check policy review
 - c. Discussion of the general idea of a Faculty of Health Sciences
 - d. Provide feedback to the Task Force on Evaluation of Teaching
 - e. Considering edits of the Conflict of Interest and Consulting policies
 - f. Contacted by Northern Virginia faculty seeking clarification on annual review procedures and promotion practices
 - g. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force
 - h. Interfacing with other Commission on issues of relevance to faculty
4. Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies – Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Chair
 - a. Review and approval of new and extended graduate degrees, in light of the Institutional Plan for Graduate Degrees
 - b. Review and update the University's Conflict of Interest policy if and when it applies to graduate students
 - c. Refine the role of graduate education in the University's Strategic Plan
 - d. Revise previous documentation regarding the integration of ethics and scholarly integrity into graduate education
 - e. Review of distance delivery of graduate coursework and degrees
 - f. Ph.D. yearbook concept
 - g. Review policy and procedure changes including:
 - Assessment of graduate education
 - Electronic process for additional work reporting
 - GSA resolution regarding tuition for Optional Practical Training and Curricular Practical Training for graduate students
 - h. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force
5. Commission on Outreach and International Affairs – Dr. Gary Long, Chair
 - a. Study Abroad Program
 - Discussions on the appropriateness of student decorum and international competence as a factor in the course grade for study abroad courses
 - Mandatory insurance for Virginia Tech students participating in study abroad programs
 - b. Strategic Planning
 - Discussions on the recruitment of international students, per the forthcoming planning document
 - c. Engagement Academy
 - Review of past Engagement Academy proposals
 - Discussion on the College of Science's proposal (2011)
 - Facilitate interactions between academy members
 - d. Discussions with Dr. Susan Short, the new Associate VP for Engagement, on issues of engagement, especially as they pertain to past and present Engagement Academy initiatives and strategic planning

- e. Discussion with teams currently leading PK-12STEM outreach initiatives in order to learn of program assessments
 - f. Academy of Outreach Excellence
 - Call on members to have a more active part in advising COIA on issues relating to outreach
6. Commission on Research – Dr. Randolph Wynne, Chair
 - a. Ensure adequate representation of research faculty in governance
 - b. Revise policy 13010, Faculty Conflicts of Interest and Commitment Policy
 7. Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs – Ms. Sue Teel, Chair
 - a. Enhance staff recognition/spotlight on staff
 - b. Develop procedures for Staff Career Achievement Award (nomination and selection process)
 - c. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force
 8. Commission on Student Affairs – Mr. Sandy Bass, Chair
 - a. Dean Tom Brown spoke to the Commission on the President’s Task Force
 - b. Dr. Kim Brown spoke to the Commission on academic advising
 - c. Resolve Collegiate Times issues
 - d. Review CSA membership (try to narrow down the membership)
 - e. Review the Student Budget Board funding process
 - f. Discuss mediation
 - g. Discuss compensation for student leaders
 - h. Review University Climate
 - i. Discuss the points of view of undergraduate students versus graduate students
 9. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies– Dr. Robin Panneton, Chair
 - a. Revision to policy on academic eligibility: provides a means for intervention when an academically successful student shows signs of sudden challenge (GPA < 2.0); creates the option of an academic warning that will not appear on transcript, and triggers proactive meeting with academic deans, CARE team
 - b. Discussion of revision of the W-grade policy versus the freshman rule (after final grade is received)
 - c. Discussion of repeated course policy
 - d. Five-year review of academic restrictions (justifications for major/minor restrictions)
 - e. Discussion of possible standardization/digitization of the major check sheet to promote degree transparency/accuracy
 - f. Discussion of final exam policy and whether this is being routinely violated in undergraduate courses
 - g. Discussion about ways to standardize the chain of notification to deans, associate deans, college curriculum committees, departments, and faculty regarding items on 15-day review
 10. Commission on University Support – Dr. James Tokuhisa, Chair
 - a. The Transportation and Parking Committee will focus on a review of the Second Appeals Committee (parking ticket review) regulations and look into mixed use of campus walkways
 - b. The Energy and Sustainability Committee reviewed the Sustainability Week activities and discussed the request for proposals for Student Orientation Sustainability Initiatives on campus
 - c. The Energy and Sustainability Committee will have general discussion about how to take the networking opportunities of the committee to do roll-up-the-sleeves activities beyond the charge of the committee
 - d. Update on Long Range Plan from Strategic Planning Task Force

4. New Business

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies

Resolution CGSP 2011-12A

Resolution to Approve the Master of Science Degree/Master of Engineering Degree in Nuclear Engineering

Resolution CGSP 2011-12B

Resolution to Approve the Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering

Dr. Victoria Soghomonian presented the two resolutions for first reading. Dr. Soghomonian indicated that the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies approved both resolutions at the September 21, 2011, meeting. The two proposals address the need to educate and train personnel in the broad area of Nuclear Science and Engineering. Collaboration with a number of regional nuclear generation facilities will allow students to get hands-on experience through various internships. This program will also offer hybrid courses with Science and Technology Studies. The program generally addresses the aspect of highly training students in the technical aspect as well as how the students will interact with society as a whole when they have completed the program.

Mark Pierson stated that the Nuclear Engineering Program is being developed by Mechanical Engineering Department. Nuclear Engineering classes have been taught for the past three years, and there are already four faculty members teaching Nuclear Engineering classes. There is also a search for one more faculty member. Many of the resources are already in place for this program. Pierson indicated that there are thirty-nine universities that offer Nuclear Engineering degrees. Virginia Tech currently offers a graduate certificate in Nuclear Engineering. The goal for this program is to be in the top five of Nuclear Engineering programs within ten years.

There was a concern that many of the courses may be completed online. Pierson indicated that there is an online component, but the primary component is on campus. The online component is for students who are off-campus. Eventually there is intent to offer a Master's degree entirely online for off-campus students. However, there are no plans to offer an on-line Ph.D.

A question was raised as to how this proposal fits with the upcoming discussions about standards for graduate online courses. It was stated that we do not yet have university-wide guidelines about developing and approving online graduate programs, and that until such a discussion occurs and such guidelines are in place, asking for a graduate program that can be completed online would seem premature. Pierson indicated that they are working through the Institute of Distance and Distributive Learning using a quality control process to meet standards for online courses. Online classes must be the equivalent of on-campus classes. Dean Benson indicated that the online courses will be the same high quality as the courses offered on campus.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has already established \$400,000 in funding for this program. There is fluctuation in the federal budget that may not allow this funding to continue. The alternative is to look at private company sponsorship for graduate student fellowships.

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Minutes of the University Advisory council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
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6. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:36 p.m.