COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT
MEETING MINUTES
February 16, 2012
President’s Board Room, 210 Burruss Hall

MEMBERS

Members Present: Robert Broadwater, Jack Davis, William Dougherty (for Erv Blythe), Angela Hayes for (Betsy Flanagan), Leigh LaClair (for Mike Coleman), Henry Quesada Pineda, Guy Sims, Ryan Smith, Sue Teel, Jim Tokuhisa (Chair), Tom Tillar, Tom Wertalik, Sherwood Wilson, Daniel Wubah

Members Absent: Karen Gehrt, Kelsey Heiter, Kathy Hosig (with notice), Ed Lener, Achla Marathe (with notice)

Recorder: Kayla Smith

Guests: Heidi McCoy, Kim O’Rourke

1. Approval of agenda

Dr. Tokuhisa called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and the meeting began with round-table introductions. Mr. Dougherty moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and passed unanimously.

2. Announcement of approval of January 19, 2012 minutes

The minutes were approved electronically in advance of the meeting.

3. Special Presentation: Governance Overview

Ms. Kim O’Rourke provided an overview of university Governance at Virginia Tech (Attachment A).

4. Old Business

a. Status Update on Multi-Modal Transit Facility

Dr. Wilson provided an update on the proposed Multimodal Transit Facility. The project is currently on hold pending finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Blacksburg and Virginia Tech for the construction and operation of the facility. Once the MOU is signed by both parties, the contractor leading the project for the Town of Blacksburg will engage a subcontractor to perform an environmental consultation. Facilities Services staff members are currently coordinating with the faculty members who have been designated by the Dean of the College of Science and these groups will continue to communicate as the environmental assessment is completed.
b. **Status Update on Athletics Practice Facility Site Evaluation Committee**

Dr. Wilson provided an update on the Committee that has been formed to study the concerns presented by community members in regards to the proposed siting of the new Indoor Athletics Practice Facility. John Randolph, Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning in the College of Architecture, has been named Chair of the Committee and can be contacted for specific information on the group’s activities. The Committee has been asked to provide Dr. Wilson with recommendations for how the university can resolve the need for a critical athletics facility in close proximity to existing facilities while also being good stewards of our natural resources by June 1.

5. **New Business**

No new business was presented.

6. **Reports from Committee Chairs/Representatives**

   a. **Building Committee**

   The Building Committee met on January 26. Ms. LaClair presented a brief overview of the Committee’s discussions, which included: the Multi-Modal Transit Facility, the Indoor Athletics Practice Facility, the potential Upper Quad renovation, and the university physical addressing initiative. Ms. LaClair also informed the Commission that a search has been initiated for the Associate Vice President for University Planning, a role which will oversee the areas formerly led by the University Architect and Director of Real Estate Management.

   b. **Energy and Sustainability Committee**

   The Energy and Sustainability Committee met on January 30. Ms. LaClair presented a brief overview of the Committee’s discussions, which included: the “Green RFP” process, the sustainability intern program, formation of a subcommittee to review the current progress on the Climate Action Commitment goals, and the Energy Savings Company (ESCo) program designed to improve sustainable operations and decrease operational costs in existing campus buildings. Ms. LaClair and Dr. Wilson elaborated on the scope and goals of ESCo program in response to Commission member’s questions.

   c. **Transportation and Parking Committee**

   The Transportation and Parking Committee met December 7, 2011 but an update was not available in time for presentation at the Commission meeting.

7. **Acceptance of Committee Minutes**

Dr. Sims moved that the Commission accept the following list of minutes:

*Energy and Sustainability Committee Minutes*

November 28, 2011
Transportation and Parking Committee Minutes
December 7, 2011

The motion was seconded by Mr. Dougherty and passed unanimously.

8. **Next meeting date**

   March 15, 2012

*Adjourned* at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Smith
OVERVIEW OF SHARED GOVERNANCE AT VIRGINIA TECH

Presentation to the Commission on University Support
February 16, 2012
PRESENTATION TOPICS

- Shared Governance at Virginia Tech

- Structure
  - Organizational chart
  - Board of Visitors
  - University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
  - University Council
  - Commissions
  - Committees

- Commission on University Support

- Policies

- Questions
SHARED GOVERNANCE

The philosophy of shared governance at Virginia Tech:
 Encompasses all major areas of the university
 Involves all major groups (i.e. undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, faculty, administrative and professional faculty, and administrators)
 Involves comprehensive and open communication (i.e. electronic publication of minutes, interlocking membership between committees and commissions, etc.)
 Key to success: communication
The Board of Visitors (BOV):

- Authority as the governing body for Virginia Tech is derived from the Code of Virginia.

- Is comprised of: 13 members appointed by the Governor (4-year terms) plus the president of the Board of the Virginia Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services.

- There are four non-voting representatives to the Board: faculty, staff, undergraduate student, graduate student.

- Meets quarterly

Additional information available at www.bov.vt.edu
BOV:

- Sets high-level policy for the university. Not involved with day-to-day operations.
- Is responsible for the continuing operation and development of the university. For example, the BOV:
  - Appoints the president of the university
  - Approves the appointments and salaries for faculty, staff, and other personnel
  - Approves the university’s budgets and financial management strategies
  - Establishes fees, tuition, and other charges imposed by the university on students
  - Reviews and approves the establishment of new colleges or departments
  - Reviews and approves physical plant development on campus.
- Delegates authority to the President.
STRUCTURE: UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

- Serves as an advisory group to the president
- Reviews and makes recommendations on policy matters of concern to faculty, staff, students, and administration
- Is comprised of members from all areas of the university
- Serves as the conduit through which all commissions, councils, and committees report to the president
- Governed by a Constitution and By-Laws
- Parliamentary Authority: Robert’s Rules of Order
- Meets the first and third Mondays of each month during the academic year

Additional information available at www.governance.vt.edu
STRUCTURE: COMMISSIONS (10)

- 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
STANDING COMMITTEES (14)

- Academic Support Committee
- Athletics Committee
- Building Committee
- Commencement Committee
- Computing and Communications Resources Committee
- Employee Benefits Committee
- Energy and Sustainability Committee
- Faculty Honorifics Committee
- Graduate Curriculum Committee
- Honor System Review Board
- Intellectual Property Committee
- Library Committee
- Transportation and Parking Committee
- University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education
COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

Charge:
To study, formulate, and recommend to University Council policies and procedures related to support of the three missions of the university.

Membership:
- Vice presidents of support areas (ex officio)
- Academic dean
- Faculty representatives
- Staff representatives
- Student representatives (GSA and SGA)

Significant Action:
Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment (BOV – June 2009)
POLICIES

See http://www.policies.vt.edu
President’s Policy Memoranda
Faculty Handbook
Hokie Handbook
1000 - General University Policies (#1000 – Policy on Policies)
3000 – Finance & Business Policies
4000 – Human Resources Policies
5000 – Facilities Policies
6000 – Academic Policies
7000 – Information Technology Policies
8000 – Student Affairs Policies
12000 – Development & University Relations Policies
13000 – Research Policies
QUESTIONS?