
Absent: Michael Friedlander (with notice), Steve McKnight, Kim O’Rourke (with notice), Menah Pratt-Clarke (with notice), Thanassiss Rikakis (with notice), Dave Close, Bryan Brown, Robert Bush, Anita Puckett, Jennifer Brill, Kathrine Carter (with notice), Paul Herr, Tracey Drowne, Robin Lawson, Lynn Short, Tom Tucker, Chelsea Corkins, Rex Willis,

Guests: Diane Agud, Janice Austin, Rosemary Blieszner, Shelia Collins, Rachel Gabriele, Saul Halfon, Rachel Holloway, Karen Hurt, Anne Khademian, April Myers, Scott Nelson

Dr. Sands 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 October 3, 2016

Dr. Sands 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. Old Business

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
Resolution CGSP 2016-17C
Resolution to Establish a Master of Arts Degree in Nonprofit and Nongovernmental Organization Management

Dr. Sally Paulson presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded and the motion passed.

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
Resolution CGSP 2016-17D
Resolution to Establish a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Security Governance
Dr. Sally Paulson presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded and the motion passed.

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**
Resolution CUSP 2016-17B
Resolution for the Renaming of the Department of Science and Technology in Society to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society.

Dr. Mary Kasarda presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded and the motion passed.

4. **New Business**

**Commission on Faculty Affairs**
Resolution CFA 2016-17A
Resolution to Review Faculty Handbook Language Regarding Alumni Distinguished Professors and University Distinguished Professors

Dr. Hans Robinson presented the resolution for first reading. This resolution will remove the limit on the number of Alumni Distinguished Professors (ADPs) and University Distinguished Professors (UDPs) permitted. This will allow faculty members who deserve this honor the opportunity to receive it. There were some concerns expressed within the commission that this change may diminish the distinction but there doesn’t appear to be any indication that this will happen. A question was raised as to funding for these distinctions. For UDPs, there is a salary increase and a small stipend, which are approved by the Board of Visitors. The Alumni Association controls funding for ADPs through an endowment.

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 Faculty Affairs
  September 16, 2016
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
  September 21, 2016
- Commission on Research
  May 11, 2016
- Commission on Student Affairs
  September 15, 2016
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
  September 26, 2016
- Commission on University Support
  September 15, 2016
6. Announcement

President Sands asked for any suggestions for presentation topics for future University Council meetings. Suggestions can be e-mailed to either Kim O'Rourke or April Myers. A suggestion was made to have a presentation on the new Parking and Transportation plan as well as the University Master Plan.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:18 p.m.