

**University Council Minutes**  
**May 1, 2017**  
**3:00 PM**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**

**Present:** Tim Sands (presiding), Dan Thorp for Rosemary Blieszner, Jenifer Hogdson for Cyril Clarke, Karen DePauw, Susan Short for Guru Ghosh, Saied Mostaghimi for Alan Grant, Theresa Mayer, Scott Midkiff, Gary Long for Sally Morton, Nikeshia Arthur for Kelly Oaks, Kim O'Rourke, Julie Shumaker for Charles Phlegar, Menah Pratt-Clarke, Thanassis Rikakis, Angela Simmons for Patricia Perillo, Savita Sharma for Dwight Shelton, Robert Sumichrast, Don Taylor, Michael Kucsak for Tyler Walters, Sherwood Wilson, Paul Winistorfer, Matthew Chan, Dave Close, Benjamin Corl, Mary Beth Dunkenberger, Sally Paulson, Hans Robinson, Robert Sebek, Ross Verbrugge, Diane Agud, Susan Anderson, Rami Dalloul, Joe Merola, David Tegarden for Corinne Noirot, Anita Puckett, David Dillard, Tom Inzana, Christopher Zobel, Albert Moore, Annette Bailey, Sandra Muse, Adrienne Young for Glenda Scales, Michele Waters, Samantha Fried for Alexandra Hyler, Tristan Jilson, Alexa Parsley, Warren Nooger, Montasir Abbas, Gabe Cohen, Alex Parrish, & Tara Reel

**Absent:** Jack Davis, Michael Friedlander, Steve McKnight, Richard Ashley, Dean Stauffer (with notice), Bryan Brown, Robert Bush (with notice), Christopher Beattie, Jennifer Brill, Kathrine Carter, Paul Herr, Lisa Kennedy, Nathan King, Judy Alford (with notice), Tracey Drowne, Robin Lawson, Teresa Lyons, Sue Teel (with notice), John Benner, John Massey (with notice), Miram Nure, Preston Huennekens, Brett Netto, & Julia Billingsley (with notice)

**Guests:** Denny Cochrane, Jack Finney, Rachel Holloway, Brian Lee, April Myers, Ellen Plummer, Karlee Siepierski, & Diane Zahm

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 April 17, 2017**

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. Presentation**

Mr. Denny Cochran gave a presentation on sustainability (Attached).

**4. Old Business**

**Commission on Faculty Affairs**

Resolution CFA 2016-17E

Resolution Supporting the Establishment of a University Ombuds Function at Virginia Tech

Dr. Hans Robinson presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed with one vote in opposition.

### **Commission on Faculty Affairs**

Resolution CFA 2016-17H

Resolution Clarifying Standards of Appeals Language in Faculty Handbook

Dr. Hans Robinson presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

### **Commission on Student Affairs**

Resolution CSA 2016-17A

Resolution on the Commission on Student Affairs Membership

Mr. Matthew Chan presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. After a brief discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed.

### **Commission on Student Affairs**

Resolution CSA 2016-17B

Resolution to Include the President of the Muslim Student Union of Virginia Tech to the Commission on Student Affairs Membership

Mr. Matthew Chan 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 Faculty Affairs  
April 7, 2017
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies  
April 5, 2017
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs  
March 16, 2017
- Commission on Student Affairs  
February 23, 2017  
March 2, 2017
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies  
April 10, 2017

## **6. Announcement**

Ms. Mary Beth Dunkenberger announced that the Women's Alliance will be sending the President a request to establish a Council on Gender Equity.

## **6. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Division of Administrative Services

**FACILITIES DEPARTMENT**

# Office of Sustainability



LIVE ◀ LEARN ▶ WORK

- ▶ Brian Lee, Assistant to the Associate VP & CFO
- ▶ Denny Cochrane, Sustainability Program Manager
- ▶ Karlee Siepierski, Campus Sustainability Planner
- ▶ Katy Shepard, Graduate Assistant



## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

- ▶ AY 2006-2007 students approach University to make sustainability a priority
- ▶ April 2007 Energy and Sustainability Committee (E&SC) established
- ▶ October 2007 Sustainability Week Program (VT, Town and local citizens)
- ▶ April 2008 E&SC charged to develop a climate commitment and sustainability plan for Virginia Tech and seek approval using the University governance system
- ▶ April 22, 2009 (Earth Day) University Council recommended approval of the VT Climate Action Commitment (VTCAC) and accepted the Sustainability Plan
- ▶ June 1, 2009 Virginia Tech Board of Visitors approved the VTCAC
- ▶ May 9, 2013 VTCAC revised (Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 262 Rev 1)



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## OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY'S ROLE

- ▶ VTCAC Point #5: Virginia Tech will maintain a sustainability office to:
  - ▶ Coordinate campus sustainability programs
  - ▶ Oversee implementation of Climate Action Commitment & Sustainability Plan
  - ▶ Manage a campus-wide student internship program
  - ▶ Coordinate communication efforts regarding campus sustainability initiatives to the university community and external audiences
  - ▶ Track and report sustainability progress

## CAMPUS PROGRAMS, ENGAGEMENT, & OUTREACH

- ▶ Energy & Sustainability Committee
  - ▶ Provide leadership and administrative support
- ▶ LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Program
  - ▶ 15 certified buildings containing 1,235,598 Gross Square Feet
- ▶ Student Green RFP Program
  - ▶ 43 proposals approved with funds totaling over \$450,000
- ▶ Single Stream Recycling
  - ▶ Bottles & cans, paper, and cardboard collected in single container
  - ▶ VTCAC point 8 goal is 50% recycle rate by 2020
- ▶ Sustainability Week
  - ▶ Flagship outreach program with the Town of Blacksburg and community

McBryde Hall



## SUSTAINABILITY WEEK 2016 CELEBRATION CEREMONY

Henderson Lawn September 22, 2016



VirginiaTech. Facilities Department

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## 2017 GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Sustainability Program Category

Received Silver award for demonstrating sustainability culture for the past 10 years



Presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Environment Virginia Symposium on April 4, 2017

VirginiaTech. Facilities Department

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## STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- ▶ Full academic year internship focused on sustainable behavior change through education, outreach, events, & campaigns
  - ▶ 20 students serving on 4 teams: Recycling, Resident, Energy, Communications
  - ▶ 10 hour per week commitment

### Earth Week 2017 Events

Tree Planting at Hillcrest Hall



Spring Game Green Tailgate



Pop-Up Farmers Market on Drillfield



## STARS SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

- ▶ The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) is a voluntary, transparent self-reporting framework for helping colleges and universities track and measure their sustainability progress
- ▶ STARS measures performance in the following categories:
  - ▶ Academics
  - ▶ Engagement
  - ▶ Operations
  - ▶ Planning & Administration
  - ▶ Innovation & Leadership

## STARS SUB-CATEGORIES

- Academics (29%)
  - Curriculum, research
- Engagement (20%)
  - Campus engagement, public engagement
- Operations (35%)
  - Air & climate, buildings, energy, food & dining, grounds, purchasing, transportation, waste, water
- Planning & Administration (16%)
  - Coordination & planning, diversity & affordability, investment & finance, well-being & work
- Innovation & Leadership
  - Up to 4 bonus points available

## STARS RATINGS

STARS Rating	Minimum Score Required
Bronze	25
Silver	45
Gold	65
Platinum	85



Similar to LEED Certification

- Virginia Tech has participated in STARS since 2011 and earned a Gold Rating in October 2014 (ratings valid for up to 3 years)
- STARS is a team effort, you are our partners and our Sustainability Champions!
- Virginia Tech is committed to being a “Leader in Campus Sustainability”



## CONTACT INFORMATION

- ▶ Brian Lee, Assistant to the Associate VP & CFO
  - ▶ [bleeo91@vt.edu](mailto:bleeo91@vt.edu) 540-231-6455
  
- ▶ Denny Cochrane, Sustainability Program Manager
  - ▶ [denniscc@vt.edu](mailto:denniscc@vt.edu) 540-231-5184
  
- ▶ Karlee Siepierski, Campus Sustainability Planner
  - ▶ [skarlee3@vt.edu](mailto:skarlee3@vt.edu) 540-231-7358
  
- ▶ [www.facilities.vt.edu/sustainability](http://www.facilities.vt.edu/sustainability)