UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 4, 2013
3:00 p.m.
1045 Pamplin Hall
AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 4, 2013
These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web.

3. Reports from Commission Chairs

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

4. New Business

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
Resolution 2012-13F
Resolution to Discontinue the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies

5. Announcement of acceptance and posting of Commission Minutes
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
6. For Information Only

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

7. Adjournment

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
        - Policies related to residency
        - Progress toward the degree
        - Retaking courses for credit
        - Late withdrawal from course
        - 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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- 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**

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning  
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7. **Adjournment**

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