UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 17, 2012
3:00 p.m.
1045 Pamplin Hall
AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda
   Dr. Charles Steger

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of May 7, 2012
   Dr. Charles Steger
   These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web.

3. Reports from Commission Chairs
   Dr. Charles Steger
   - Commission Chair Briefings
     - Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
       Ms. Linda Bucy
     - Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
       Dr. Yannis Stivachtis
     - Commission on Faculty Affairs
       Dr. Joe Merola
     - Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
       Dr. Mayuresh Patil
     - Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
       Dr. Christine Fiori
     - Commission on Research
       Dr. Mike Akers
     - Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
       Mr. Dan Cook
     - Commission on Student Affairs
       Mr. Chris Atkins
     - Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
       Dr. Diane Zahm
     - Commission on University Support
       Ms. Maxine Lyons

4. New Business
   Dr. Charles Steger
   Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
   Resolution 2012-13A
   Resolution to Change Membership

5. Announcement of acceptance and posting of Commission Minutes
   Dr. Charles Steger
   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 9, 2012

   Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
   April 2, 2012
   April 23, 2012

   Commission on Faculty Affairs
   March 16, 2012
   March 30, 2012
   April 13, 2012

   Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
   April 18, 2012

   Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
   April 19, 2012
   May 3, 2012

   Commission on Research
   April 11, 2012
Commission on University Support
April 19, 2012

6. **For Information Only**

Minutes of the University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning
April 26, 2012
May 24, 2012

7. **Adjournment**
Dr. Steger called the meeting to order at 3:02 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 7, 2012

Dr. Steger 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. New Business

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
Resolution 2012-13A
Resolution to Change Membership

Dr. Christine Fiori presented the resolution for first reading. This resolution is changing the membership to be consistent with current positions within the university.

3. Introduction

Dr. Steger introduced Mr. Michael Quillen, the Rector of the Board of Visitors. Dr. Steger stated that members of the Board of Visitors are appointed by the Governor of Virginia and are volunteers who are deeply committed to the university. Mr. Quillen previously served as chair of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Board of Visitors. Mr. Quillen indicated that it is important to establish good communication between the Board of Visitors and various groups within the university. Mr. Quillen has met with several groups and is planning to meet with other groups at the university in order to relay information back to the other board members.

4. Commission Chair Reports

Dr. Steger 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. Review of University Climate Survey data results and determined areas to concentrate on:
      - Communication
      - AP Faculty Evaluation Process
   b. Fall and Spring Speaker Series (usually held in November and March)
   c. Continue to provide assistance in the grievance process structure and management for AP Faculty

2. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity – Dr. Yannis Stivachtis, Chair
   a. Revive members' interest in Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
   b. Improve the Commission’s effectiveness
   c. Strengthen the Commission’s role in the governance process
   d. Contribute towards the preparation of the University’s Diversity Strategic Plan
   e. Reinforce the Commission’s relations with the university administration
   f. Strengthen the Commission’s relations with the various campus constituencies
   g. Intensify the Commission’s visibility

3. Commission on Faculty Affairs – Dr. Joe Merola, Chair
   a. Improving communication among faculty and between faculty and administration.
   b. Policy on internal removal of a Principal Investigator from a project (Commission on Faculty Affairs expects to be the lead commission on this issue)
   c. A discussion on the role of the concept of “collegiality” in promotion and tenure decisions.
   d. A discussion on broadening the basis for consideration of promotion to full professor
      - Types of activities that may be considered in addition to the traditional ones for consideration to full professor
      - Discussion of the metrics and standards that would apply to those non-traditional activities
   e. Information dissemination on the Electronic Faculty Activity Reports system
   f. Information dissemination on the Faculty Research Incentive Program

4. Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies – Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Chair
   a. Long-range planning Graduate Education
      - Increase graduate enrollment
      - Establish new, innovative, globally-relevant programs
      - Effectively use distance-learning/digitally-enhanced technologies
      - Build strong, diverse, globally-inclusive communities
   b. Foreign language competency
   c. Data management and digital literacy
   d. UMI dissertation requirements
   e. Graduate Education by numbers

5. Commission on Outreach and International Affairs – Dr. Christine Fiori, Chair
   a. Support international student recruiting and study abroad
   b. Continuing dialog on scholarship of engagement
   c. Promotion to full professor
   d. Engagement Academy
   e. Alumni Award for Outreach – clarify qualifications

6. Commission on Research – Dr. Mike Akers, Chair
   a. Improve communication with research faculty members
   b. Improve governance for research faculty members
   c. Update Faculty Handbook to remove the term “Special” when referring to Research Faculty
7. Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs – Mr. Dan Cook, Chair
   a. Leave reform issues as carried over from last year
   b. Finding new ways to highlight staff (currently have the McComas Award selection and the Staff Career Achievement Award selection)
   c. Investigate ways to include off-site staff (Video conference is already taking place within Staff Senate)

8. Commission on Student Affairs – Mr. Nicholas Onopa, Vice Chair
   a. Had first meeting with reduced membership from thirty-eight members to twenty-four members
   b. Review of internal structure and make-up of Commission on Student Affairs (CSA) and the commission itself
   c. Four members of the CSA met with the Rector of the Board of Visitors

9. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – Dr. Diane Zahm, Chair
   a. Items related to the work of committees that report to the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
      - The Committee on Undergraduate Curricula (CUC) is presently a subcommittee of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP) while the Graduate Curriculum Committee is a University Committee that reports to the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies. CUSP will consider the advantages and disadvantages of each approach to governance.
      - CUSP/CUC’s process for course approval is always a work-in-progress, and that work will continue
      - The university, through the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education is considering changes to the Curriculum for Liberal Education, and CUSP will be engaged in discussions on this topic
   b. Will address several academic policies
      - Repeating courses for credit, which is addressed in University Policy 6800 Section 2.5, University Policy 6815 Section 2.1.1, and Policy Memorandum No. 11B
      - Residency requirements for the undergraduate degree, which may be in conflict with study abroad, distance learning, or other university-related activities
      - Continued enrollment and satisfactory progress toward the degree (Policy 6305)
   c. Other topics for discussion
      - Undergraduate enrollments and retention
      - University Strategic Plan
      - Academic advising

10. Commission on University Support – Ms. Maxine Lyons, Chair

The Commission on University Support has not met this academic year, and there is no business items carried over from last year.

5. Announcement

Dr. Mark McNamee gave a brief update on the University’s long-range plan. September 30, 2012, is the target date for colleges and administrative units to submit their strategic plans in response to the university’s long-range plan. Plans are being evaluated in order to determine strategies for a more comprehensive plan. A financial analysis of the plans will help identify what items can be addressed using existing resources and which items will require additional resources.
6. **Announcement of Approval and Posting of Commission Minutes**

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7. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.