

**University Council Cabinet  
Meeting Summary  
March 25, 2024  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
130 Burruss Hall & Zoom Videoconference**

**Present:** Cyril Clarke (co-chair), Joe Merola (co-chair), April Myers, Kim O'Rourke, Amy Sebring, Julie Ross, Dwayne Edwards, Evan Lavender-Smith, Rachel Miles, Janice Austin, LaTawnya Burleson, Kiera Schneiderman & Rachel Maizel

**Absent with notice:**

**Absent:** Menah Pratt

Dr. Clarke called the hybrid meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Provost Clarke suggested moving the second item under new business (resolution proposal for a new school) to the third item under discussion items. There were no objections to this change.

A motion was then made, seconded, and approved to adopt the agenda as amended above.

**2. Actions/Decisions**

1. The University Council meeting agenda for April 1, 2024, was approved.
2. The cabinet approved a change to University Council Resolution 2023-24B- Resolution to Revise the University Council Constitution after receiving comments from the Faculty Senate. The be it further resolved clause was changed as indicated below:

Original language:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the University or his designee will appoint a committee to make recommendations to the University Council Cabinet for revisions to the University Council Constitution, Article XII. University Mission Initiatives to include more guidance with sufficient specificity (i.e., specific criteria and examples) to enable the Cabinet to make a determination in the future as to whether a matter is appropriate for the UMI process. Any such revision to the University Council Constitution will follow the approval process prescribed in Article XIII, Section 2 of the University Council Constitution.

New language:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the University or the President's designee shall appoint a committee within 30 days of the start of the academic semester following this resolution's approval, ensuring broad representation from Virginia Tech's diverse constituencies. This committee will be charged with making recommendations to the University Council Cabinet for revisions to the University Council Constitution, Article XII. University Mission Initiatives. The committee will develop criteria and examples for UMIs with sufficient specificity, drawing on insights from various academic and administrative sectors to guide the Cabinet in future determinations about the appropriateness of UMIs. The committee's formation and deliberative process shall

embody inclusive and transparent decision-making, with a mandate to present its recommendations to the University Council Cabinet by the end of the academic semester in which it was formed, thereby preventing potential delays and ensuring timely progress in refining and enhancing the University Mission Initiative process. Any revisions to the University Council Constitution will follow the approval process prescribed in Article XIII, Section 2, of the University Council Constitution and embody the university's commitment to shared governance.

3. The cabinet approved a request from the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) to give a 20-minute presentation on the GPSS Climate and Culture survey results during the University Council meeting scheduled for April 22, 2024. A larger venue will be arranged to accommodate the expected increase in attendance.
4. Discussion was held on the review process and formal governance process concerning a proposal for the establishment of the new School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence at VT-Potomac Yard. A steering committee examined a variety of academic structures over a nine-month period before recommending the establishment of a school. The importance of faculty input will be essential to the process of establishing this new school.

**3. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.