

**University Council Cabinet  
Meeting Summary  
March 27, 2023  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
130 Burruss Hall and via Zoom Videoconference**

**Present:** Cyril Clarke (co-presiding) Robert Weiss (co-presiding), Menah Pratt, Kim O'Rourke, April Myers, Julie Ross, Dwayne Edwards, Rachel Miles, Robin Queen, Holli Gardner Drewry, Serena Young, and Ben Beiter

**Absent with Notice:** Amy Sebring

**Absent:** Shirin Mohammadian

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

1. **Adoption of Agenda** - A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adopt the agenda.

2. **Actions/Decisions**

1. The Cabinet voted to approve the April 3, 2023, University Council agenda.
2. The Cabinet voted to confirm that the following draft resolution proposals fall within each commission's charge.
  - a. Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies CGPSP  
Resolution 2022-23D – Resolution to Establish a Master of Professional Studies Degree in Climate Leadership
  - b. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – CUSP Resolution 2022-23C – Resolution to Approve New Major, Nutrition and Dietetics, in Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise
  - c. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – CUSP Resolution 2022-23D – Resolution to Approve New Major, Exercise and Health Sciences, in Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise
3. The Cabinet reviewed and suggested changes to the shorter draft assessment instrument for shared governance that will be sent out to the entire Virginia Tech community. The survey aims to aid in determining if shared governance is truly serving the needs of the community. Updates will be made to the shorter assessment and shared electronically with the Cabinet for final comments prior to distributing the survey. A separate, more detailed assessment intended for distribution to individuals currently involved in the shared governance system is being finalized and will be sent out to the Cabinet membership electronically for feedback before being distributed to the shared governance participants.

3. **Discussion Items**

1. The Office of Policy and Governance has kept a running list of suggestions for modifications to the new governance system now that the system is in the first year of implementation. Discussion was held on the process for reviewing and determining what changes are needed to be made to the current shared governance process and structure. The implementation of electronic voting on resolutions by UC Cabinet addresses the most urgent item, so remaining items will be prioritized after the assessment survey results are compiled.

2. Discussion was held on what the role of the Cabinet should be and how to ensure that the process for determining whether a resolution falls within a commission's charge does not delay the business of the commission. A suggestion was also made to revise the University Council Constitution to expand the scope of the UC Cabinet to grant Cabinet the authority to determine whether a resolution belongs in shared governance or another avenue would be better suited.
3. Discussion was held about the accountability of representatives and the need to keep constituent groups informed if their representatives are not attending meetings of governance bodies on which they have a seat. There is new software that is being purchased by the Vice President for Policy and Governance that will be used by the governance bodies to record attendance and votes. This software has a reporting capability that may help to track whether representatives attend meetings. Cabinet will be briefed on the software once testing and training are completed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.