Commission on University Support Minutes

Sept. 5, 1995

Present: Scott Casino, Robert Dunay, Joanne Eustis (for Earving Blythe), Jean Eversole (for Ray Smoot), Richard Lovegrove, Paul Metz, Bill Murphy, Charles Steger, Neal Vines, Roland Wheeler (for Landrum Cross)

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m.

Commission members introduced themselves.

Acting Chair Richard Lovegrove told commission members that he would not be able to serve as permanent chair. He asked for volunteers or nominations for chair. There were none at the meeting.

The chair asked members for ideas on topics or concerns that the commission should address or hear about during the year. Those ideas were:

- Charles Steger asked to give the commission a presentation on the capital campaign later in the year.
- Paul Metz wants members to discuss the role of the commission in university governance, including questions of why the commission exists and whether it should meet as needed instead of every month.
- Bill Murphy wants to know more about where the university is headed with its communications and information infrastructure.

The commission adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Richard Lovegrove Virginia Tech Publications lovegrov@vt.edu (703) 231-9468 Commission on University Support Minutes
Oct. 3, 1995

Present: Bob Bates, Joanne Eustis (for Earving Blythe), Cindy Harrison, Richard Lovegrove, Paul Metz, Bill Murphy, Ray Smoot, Ann Spencer, John Tombarge, Neal Vines, Roland Wheeler

John Tombarge was elected chair of the commission for 1995-96, replacing Richard Lovegrove, who had been serving as acting chair.

Tombarge passed out a sheet from Richard Alvarez and asked commission members for reactions to the statement of the Transporation and Parking Committee's purpose. Ann Spencer told the commission that the intent of the passage was to resolve matters that had not been reaching the parking manager but were not necessarily matters that needed to come before the Transportation and Parking Committee.

Commission members discussed on the role of the commission, noting that while numerous other commissions seem to address matters of considerable substance, the Commission on University Support, which focuses on areas involving infrastructure matters, has had useful informational briefings but nothing that needed action. The commission seems to be in search of a role. CUS seems to spend time reviewing what is happening in some of its assigned areas, and perhaps that is appropriate. Does the commission need to completely reconsider its charge?

One member pointed out that the university has undergone huge changes in such areas as computing and telecommunications, yet none of that has come through the commission. Is it even feasible for the commission to recommend policy on such matters as Project Enable? Many other areas are governed by state regulations.

Commission members decided to look at whether the charge or purpose statement for CUS needs to be rewritten. Bob Bates, John Tombarge, and Joanne Eustis volunteered to field suggestions and to attempt to resolve the dilemma. They will report back at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Dec. 5, 1995.

The commission also decided to meet every other month unless a pressing issue requires attention.

## Commission on University Support 5 December 1995

Present: Robert Dunay, Joanne Eustis (for Erv Blythe), Jean Eversole (for Ray Smoot), Laurie Martinson (for Minnis Ridenour), Paul Metz, Bill Murphy, Roland Wheeler, Larry Shumsky, John Tombarge-Commission Chair

Absent: Richard Lovegrove (excused), Tom Tillar, Spencer Hall, Bob Bates (excused), Hugh Munson, David Russell, Neal Vines, Cindy Harrison (excused)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

Minutes from the previous meeting were not approved because they are not yet available.

The election of a vice chair was postponed due to the lack of a willing candidate(s). J. Tombarge will work to resolve this matter.

The chair led a discussion concerning the role of the commission in university governance. Those people who participated in the discussion expressed the opinion that the commission has an important role to play perhaps not as defined by the charge which states that the Commission should "study, formulate, and recommend policy" but more an advisory, communicative, advocacy role. Suggested changes to the charge and commission guidelines (developed by B.Bates and J. Eustis)were presented as a point of departure for discussion.

Specific actions which will be taken by the chair to improve communication between the Commission and the areas within its purview include:

- \* seeking minutes from committees which report to the Commission;
- \* asking the Faculty Senate leadership for assistance in identifying issues for Commission consideration;
- \* inviting the relevant vice-presidents to meet with the Commission; and,
- \* requesting annual reports from appropriate support areas as a means of educating commission members.

In addition, the following topics were noted as possible agenda items for the next several months: the Advanced Communications & Information Technology Building; the Capital Campaign; and, the proposed Wide Area Network.

It was also noted that it will be helpful to identify an AY 96/97 agenda for the Commission during the spring semester.

Commission meetings scheduled for spring semester are as follows:

February 6 March 5 April 2

The Commission meets the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm.

Commission on University Support

February 6, 1996

Present: Robert Dunay, Jean Eversole (for Ray Smoot), Spencer Foster (for Ann Spencer), Spencer Hall, Cindy Harrison, Adeline Kirby (for Bob Bates), Richard Lovegrove, Larry Shumsky, Tom Tillar, John Tombarge-Commission Chair

Minutes from previous meeting approved electronically.

Gerry McLaughlin presented an overview of Institutional Research to the Commission.

John Tombarge announced that Charles Steger would make a presentation to the Commission on the Capital Campaign, and Ray Smoot and Spencer Hall would make a presentation to the Commission on Finance and Facilities at the March 5 meeting.

Cindy Harrison inquired about the closure of Spring Drive for the construction of the new athletic facilities. Spencer Hall responded of the studies to be conducted about the reopening of Spring Drive and the possible widening of Duckpond Road.

Being no further business to conduct, meeting adjourned.