

**MINUTES**  
**COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES**  
**FEBRUARY 10, 2020**  
**230 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, 3:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by K. Redican, Chair. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

**PRESENT:** K. Redican (Chair); P. Deck; K. Edgar; V. Fowler; K. Goyne; R. Holloway; L. Hoyns; A. Johnson; L. Khansa; C. Leeth; R. Panneton for S. Morton; J. Sible; S. Sumner for A. Grant; D. Thorp; B. Watford for J. Ross; E. Wiseman; M. Wolfe

**ABSENT:** K. Albright; S. Corcoran; G. Daniel; J. Falls; L. Learman; S. Metko; M. Byers; J. Paul; C. Touzel; A. Villar; D. Wodak

**VISITORS:** G. Costello; M. Ellerbrock; M. Holt; N. Sinno; B. Smith; R. Sparks; K. White

**CHAIR DISCUSSION TOPIC:**

Per the President's office in response to the absence of a quorum at the December 9, 2019 meeting, a motion was made and seconded to ratify Resolution 2019-2020.F Resolution to Approve New Major, Data-Centric Computing, in Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Resolution 2019-2020.G Resolution to Approve New Major, Secure Computing, in Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda, amended to allow ratification of Resolution 2019-2020.F and 2019-2020.G. The motion to approve the amended agenda passed unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES**

K. Redican announced the December 9, 2019 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website:

[https://www.registrar.vt.edu/content/dam/registrar\\_vt\\_edu/documents/Updates/governance/2019-2020/12-9-19/minutes\\_cusp\\_12\\_9\\_19\\_rev1.pdf](https://www.registrar.vt.edu/content/dam/registrar_vt_edu/documents/Updates/governance/2019-2020/12-9-19/minutes_cusp_12_9_19_rev1.pdf)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Resolution 2019-2020.H** *Resolution to Change Membership to the Athletics Committee, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.H *Resolution to Change Membership to the Athletics Committee.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.H.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.H. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Resolution 2019-2020.I** *Resolution to Approve New Major, Community Economic Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.I *Resolution to Approve New Major, Community Economic Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.I.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.I. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Resolution 2019-2020.J** *Resolution to Approve New Major, Food and Health Systems Economics, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.J *Resolution to Approve New Major, Food and Health Systems Economics, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.J.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.J. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Resolution 2019-2020.K** *Resolution to Approve New Major, Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.K *Resolution to Approve New Major, Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.K.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- E. Wiseman, Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, presented prepared statement “Opposition to Resolution 2019-2020.K, Resolution to approve new major, Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management” to CUSP. Document posted under February 10, 2020 CUSP Resources. Topics discussed further with the Commission:
  - Perception that major name is too broad and misleading
  - Concern that broad area of study encroaches on other academic units
  - Expectation that the elevation of this major concentration/option to a major would incorporate additional management and policy course offerings
- M. Ellerbrock and other guests representing the Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics offered background and clarification:
  - Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy (EEMP) is an established program taught by faculty recognized in the field
  - Management and policy content is taught in program courses
  - Most land-grant programs evolved from Agricultural Economics programs
  - Through good advising, there is confidence that students will gravitate to the right program
- Commission members offered the following for discussion:
  - Common practice for successful major/concentration option to be elevated to major
  - Recognition of benefits related to marketing and recruitment of majors
  - Concerns related to restricting the use of key words (e.g., environment, biomaterial, management, policy) to a college

A motion was made and seconded to AMEND Resolution 2019-2020.K from “Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy” to “Environmental Economics: Management and Policy.”

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.K, as amended. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Resolution 2019-2020.L** *Resolution to Approve New Major, International Trade and Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.L *Resolution to Approve New Major, International Trade and Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.L.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.L. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Resolution 2019-2020.M** *Resolution to Approve New Major, Arabic, in Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages, Second Reading*

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2019-2020.M *Resolution to Approve New Major, Arabic, in Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages.*

K. Redican opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2019-2020.M.

Hearing no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to APPROVE Resolution 2019-2020.M. This Resolution will be forwarded for review at University Council.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Academic Support Committee**

No report.

#### **Academic Policies Committee**

No report.

#### **Athletics Committee**

S. Sumner presented the December 5, 2019 minutes of the University Athletics Committee. A motion was made and seconded to accept the December 5, 2019 minutes of the University Athletics Committee.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Commencement Committee**

Commission members raised questions about the potential restructuring of commencement ceremonies and requested an update at the next meeting.

#### **Honor Council**

L. Hoyns shared that over 500 students attended a recent session of “Understanding the Code.”

#### **Library Committee**

No report.

#### **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

No report.

#### **University Curriculum Committee for General Education**

On behalf of K. Hodges, K. Redican presented the minutes of the December 4, 2019 University Curriculum Committee for General Education. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the December 4, 2019 University Curriculum Committee for General Education.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **CONSTITUENT REPORTS**

### **Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs**

No report.

### **Staff Senate**

No report.

### **Faculty Senate**

No report.

### **Student Government Association**

No report.

### **Graduate Student Assembly**

No report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:54 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Becki Smith, Office of the University Registrar*