

**University Council Minutes**  
**March 1, 2021**  
**3:30 PM**  
**Videoconference**

**Present:** Cyril Clarke (presiding), Dan Thorp for Laura Belmonte, Lance Collins, Karen DePauw, Ron Fricker, Michael Friedlander, Bryan Garey, Daniel Givens, Susan Sumner for Alan Grant, Chris Kiwus, Lee Learman, Scott Midkiff, Ken Miller, April Myers, Kelly Oaks, Kim O'Rourke, Kristie Caddick for Charles Phlegar, Dwayne Pinkney, Menah Pratt-Clarke, Julia Ross, Frank Shushok, Daniel Sui, Robert Sumichrast, Tyler Walters, Lisa Wilkes, Paul Winistorfer, John Benner, Rajaram Bhagavathula, Victoria Dashevsky, Paul Deck, Madlyn Frisard, Holli Gardner Drewry, Bob Hicok, Christa Miller, Serena Young, Diane Agud, Susan Anderson, James Hawdon, Cayce Myers, Robin Queen, David Bieri, Kevin Davy, Jia-Qiang He, Laszlo Horvath, Andre Meulenaer, Patricia Raun, David Tegarden, Megan Wawro, Judy Alford, Velva Groover, Bruce Harper, Jenny McCoy, Brandy Morse, Janice Austin, Karen Eley Sanders, Conaway Haskins, Inga Haugen, Sally Shupe, Jack Leff, Anthony Tran for Miles Guth, Eric Kaufman, Tamarah Smith, and Sabrina Sturgeon

**Absent with Notice:** Timothy Sands

**Absent:** Richard Blythe, Guru Ghosh, Steve McKnight, Nick Copeland, Masoud Agah, Eloise Coupey, Kathy Lu, Teresa Lyons, Sue Teel, Amanda Coleman, Awad Abdelhalim, Lia Kelinsky-Jones, Blake Barnhill, D'Arrin Calloway, Reena Medavarapu, Sharan Patnik, and Camellia Pastore

**Guests:** Lori Buchanan, Kevin Edgar, Kari Evans, Julie Farmer, Jack Finney, Tara Frank, Debbie Greer, Wendy Halsey, Dee Harris, Randy Heflin, Rachel Holloway, Joy Manning, Michael Mortimer, Ellen Plummer, Mary Potter, Karen Roberto, Jon Clark Teglas, Ben Tracy, Stacey Wilkerson, and Dough Witney

Dr. Clarke called the meeting to order at 3:30 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 February 15, 2021**

Dr. Clarke 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 Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies**  
**Resolution CGPSP 2020-21B**

Resolution to Establish the School of Environmental Security

Madlyn Frisard presented the resolution for first reading. Environmental security is a broad and diverse field of study that is not confined to one academic department. The proposed school will enhance the university's ability to educate and empower faculty, students, and partners to provide meaningful contributions to a more secure commonwealth, nation, and world as well as contribute a critical component to Virginia Tech's emerging emphasis in national security, cyber security, and related security initiatives.

A question was raised as to how this program centers the core value of justice as well as how it reflects the role the United States has had in contributing to environmental insecurities nationally. Dean Winistorfer indicated that environmental security is a broad topic and there are great aspirations for the body of work that

will unfold under the umbrella of the school as we move forward. There have also been discussions regarding environmental justice that may not be reflected in the resolution itself.

### **Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies**

#### **Resolution CGPSP 2020-21C**

Resolution to Discontinue Degree, Master of Science in Biomedical Technology Development and Management

Madlyn Frisard presented the resolution for first reading. This master's degree was a joint program with Georgetown University that was established and started but never gained traction. As a result of the low enrollment, diminished resources, and the removal of Georgetown University from the collaborative commitment, it was decided that the program needed to be discontinued.

### **Commission on Research**

#### **Resolution COR 2020-21B**

Resolution to Approve Revisions to Policy 13015 Ownership and Control of Research Data, Results and Related Materials

Raj Bhagavathula presented the resolution for first reading and introduced Mary Potter to answer questions. The revisions to this policy are to provide clarity as far as responsibilities and ownership as well as processes that need to be in place for sharing data.

### **Commission on Research**

#### **Resolution COR 2020-21C**

Resolution to Increase University Institute Representation on the Commission on Research

Raj Bhagavathula presented the resolution for first reading and introduced Karen Roberto to answer questions. This resolution is to increase the membership of the Commission on Research specifically as it relates to the university research institutes. The proposal is for each of the thematic institutes to have one representative, and the investment institutes will collectively add one representative. The research institutes are major players in research at Virginia Tech, and this will allow greater representation of those groups.

### **Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**

#### **Resolution CUSP 2020-21E**

Resolution to Approve New Major, Ecological Restoration, in Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

Paul Deck presented the resolution for first reading and introduced Ben Tracy to answer questions. This new major will not require any additional resources and is anticipated to attract 20-30 additional students per year.

### **Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**

#### **Resolution CUSP 2020-21F**

Resolution to Approve New Degree, Bachelor of Science in Plant Science with New Majors: Crop and Soil Sciences, Landscape Design and Turfgrass Science, Plant Science, and Environmental Horticulture, and to Discontinue Degrees: Bachelor of Science in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Horticulture

Paul Deck presented the resolution for first reading and introduced Ben Tracy to answer questions. This new degree and the new majors will not require any additional resources and are anticipated to attract 20-30 additional students per year interested in pursuing careers in the Plant and Soil Sciences. With the approval of the new degree, the Bachelor of Science in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences and the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture will be discontinued.

#### **4. Announcement of Approval and Posting of Commission Minutes**

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>). Note that the purpose of voting on Commission minutes is to accept them for filing. University Council Bylaws require that policy items be brought forward in resolution form for University Council action.

- Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs  
December 9, 2020
- Commission on Faculty Affairs  
January 22, 2021
- Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies  
January 20, 2021
- Commission on Research  
December 10, 2020
- Commission on University Support  
January 21, 2021

#### **5. Presentation**

Chris Kiwus, Vice President for Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities, and Wendy Halsey, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Operations, gave a presentation on non-capital facilities improvement planning and prioritization and efforts to improve the delivery of renovation services (attached).

#### **6. Adjournment-**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

VIRGINIA TECH.

# PLANNING AND PRIORITIZING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

WENDY HALSEY, PE  
AVP FACILITIES OPERATIONS



## *Two Budget Processes for Facility Improvements*





## Renovation Project Guidelines

- *Renovation projects are facility improvements with a total project cost below \$3M or involve less than 5,000 gross square feet of new space.*
- *The Renovations Team executes about \$16M - \$20M in projects each year; (576 total projects in 2020).*
- *Types of projects:*
  - *Accessibility projects*
  - *All gender restroom construction*
  - *Carpet and paint refresh*
  - *Lab, office, and classroom renovations*
  - *Mechanical heating and cooling addition or replacements*
  - *Roof replacements*
  - *Underground utility/infrastructure repairs*



## Current Project Management Model

- The majority of the university's renovations projects are outsourced via contract to a third-party project management firm.
  - This contract includes a 10.5% management fee for all direct costs.

## Known Challenges

- Since inception, the current model has presented many challenges.
  - The system does not incentivize cost control.
  - Staffing under this model has high rate of turnover.
  - The management fee is over and above the cost of the actual work.



## *New Project Management Model*

- *Project management will transition from an outsourced model to an in-house project management model.*

## *Benefits*

- *Incentivized cost savings for the customers.*
- *Increased responsiveness, consistency, transparency, and adaptability to all campus constituents.*
- *Incentivized to be customer centric (schedule, scope, etc.).*
- *Stabilized workforce and heighten ownership of the process.*
- *The 10.5% management fee for all direct costs should be eliminated over the next several years.*







QUESTIONS?