**D R A F T**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, February 2, 2022**

**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 3 p.m. in the VCU Cabell Library, conference room 303 and via Zoom.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** President Michael Rao, Fotis Sotiropoulos and Scott Street

**Administration:** Scott Breuninger, Cathleen Burke, Matt Conrad, Jay Davenport, Aaron Hart, Grant Heston, Catherine Ingrassia, and Gary Tepper

Faculty:Stephen Alcorn**,** Brian Brown,Lisa Brown, Sarah Jane Brubaker, Paul Bukaveckas, Beth Bukosi, Kim Compton, Alexis Crawford, John Cyrus, Katherine Dabney, Kostadin Damevski, Marjolein Dewit, Rodney Dyer, Nancy Husson, Kanako Iwanaga, Susan Kornstein, Saltanat Liebert, Joyce Lloyd, Bettina Peacemaker, Peter Pidcoe, ViCora Rainey, Maria Rivera, Valerie Robholt, Oliver Speck, John Sztraicher, Christy Tyndall, Yi Wen Wei, Larry Williams, Jeff Wilson, Erin Zacholski, and Kim Zicafoose.

**Postdoctoral Scholar:** Apurva Tadimari Prabhakar

**Classified staff**: Delores Armstrong, Peyton Burgess, Melissa Burton, Teresa Dulaney-Dewald, Brogan King, Amie Knapp, Amanda Simmons, Chris Straus, Jennifer Tennison, and Katina Velentzas

**Students**: Mary Barazanchi, Pratyush Narayen, Chineme Onukwughara, and Anne Skelton

**Ex-Officio and Guests**: Chelyen Davis, Rob DiRenzo, Karen Helderman, Irene Herold, Carly Katz, Pam Lepley, Marlon Levy, Aashir Nasim, Reuban Rodriguez, John Ryan, Mangala Subramaniam, and Deborah Noble-Tripplett, John Venuti, and Suzanne Weaver.

1. **President’s Report**

President Rao welcomed Council members to the fifth UC meeting of the academic year. Dr. Rao focused his remarks on the January 27 death of VCU student Mahrokh Khan. Ms. Khan died of her injuries after being hit by a car while crossing the street near Laurel and West Main Streets. President Rao and the entire VCU community extend their sincerest condolences to Mahrokh’s family, friends and all who knew her.  This is a time of sorrow for the entire VCU community. As we grieve together, please know that University Counseling Services are available to students who need assistance in dealing with this tragic event. Students can also utilize available resources through our Dean of Students Office, Timely Care and You@VCU. VCU faculty members and staff can access a list of support resources on ramstrong.vcu.edu/.

Scott Street discussed the bylaws review of Article 8: Committees. Committee chairs will be assigned to review their respective committee responsibilities. A survey is forthcoming requesting review and comments. A general discussion followed and Mr. Street responded to questions.

1. **Minutes**

The minutes of the December 1, 2022 were approved.

1. **Committee Reports**

The Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee presented the following

programmatic changes, and new and revised policy proposals:

**Revised Postdoctoral Scholars Policy**—Dr. John Ryan, Associate Vice President, Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions. With 90% “yes” votes and 10% abstentions, a motion was made and seconded to accept and move the revised policy forward for review and approval by the VCU Board of Visitors.

1. **Constituent Reports**

Pratyush Narayan provided an SGA Report. A general discussion followed.

Valerie Robnholt provided a Faculty Senate Report. She discussed faculty senate highlights and a general discussion followed.

Brogan King provided a Staff Senate Report. She discussed staff senate highlights and a general discussion followed.

1. **Cabinet Report**.

John Venuti, Associate Vice President for Public Safety, and Suzanne Weaver, Director of Employee Health Operations and Well Being, provided a Safety and Well-Being Update. A general discussion followed and Chief Venuti and Ms. Weaver responded to questions.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.