

VCU University Council

MINUTES

Thursday, October 4, 2018

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

MCV Campus, BioTech Center

Founders Room

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, October 4, 2018, at 3 p.m. at the BioTech Center.

The following members and alternates were present:

Officers: Michael Rao and Meredith Weiss

Administration: Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, Andrew Daire, Jay Davenport, Joe DiPiro, Montse Fuentes, and Constance Relihan

Faculty: Alisa Brink, Vickie Connors, Ann Marie Gardinier Halstead, Stephanie Goldberg, Mary Lou Hall, Jenny Inker, Nancy Jallo, Andrea Kohashi, Susan Kornstein, Katie Logan, Thomas Mayhew, Donna McClish, Meera Mehtaji, Victoria Menzies, Nitai Mukhopadhyay, Joan Pellegrini, Carrie Peterson, Scott Ramsey, Elizabeth Ripley, Mary Secret, Scott Street, Melissa Tyler, Niraj Verma, Sara Wilson McKay, Shijun Zhang, and Kristin Zimmerman

Postdoctoral Scholars: Sean Koebley

Classified staff: Valarie Carter, Nick Fetzer, Connie Peyton, JaBari Scott, Ashley Staton, Eileen Truax, and Felita Tucker-Battle

Students: Jad Elahmad, Hassen Hafiz, Ryan Kotrch, Brandon LaReau, Michele Olson Pancoast, Elenor Ritzman, and Keith Zirkle

Ex-Officio: Craig Brookins, Kevin Harris, and Alex Henson

Guests: Jacqueline Kniska, Susan Robb, Quinton Johnson, Laura Rugless and Reuban Rodriguez

1. President's Report

President Rao introduced Dr. Siriama Rao, the new Vice President for Research and Innovation. He also thanked Dr. Frank Macrina for his 44+ years of service to VCU.

President Rao provided a brief report that included the following highlights:

- Change throughout VCU
- Priorities in the context of our mission (i.e. refocus the undergraduate experience; enrollment strategies; faculty strategy; increase national prominence in research and innovation; continued success of capital campaign; and significantly strengthen patient experience and overall perceptions of provider care).

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the University Council meeting on September 6, 2018 were approved.

3. Committee Reports

On behalf of the Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee, Joan Pellegrini discussed the following policy proposals:

New Export Compliance and Research Security Policy;
Revised Identity Theft Prevention Policy; and
New Development and Alumni Relations Activities Policy

A general discussion followed. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept all three aforementioned policies and move them forward for review and approval by the VCU Board of Visitors.

Mary Secret provided a Faculty Affairs Committee Report, focusing on the status of the governance document. She was asked to define faculty representation in regards to the document, and responded that it includes committees where faculty serve/represent. A general discussion followed.

4. Other Matters

Joan Pellegrini asked what VCU has planned for the May 2019 commencement activities due to the upcoming closure of the Richmond Coliseum. President Rao responded that discussions are underway regarding plans for VCU's 2019 Commencement activities.

Niraj Verma suggested research into how employees rate VCU. President Rao was asked to give thought to student rankings. A general discussion followed.

President Rao asked Tomikia LeGrande to provide a 7-10 minute presentation at a future UC meeting focusing on dashboards that matter to VCU. He also noted that University Council members can expect 5-10 minute updates at future meetings from the faculty and staff senates, as well as the Student Government Associations.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.