

VCU University Council

MINUTES

Thursday, November 1, 2018

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

VCU Student Commons, Virginia Rooms

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, November 1, 2018, at 3 p.m. at the VCU Student Commons.

The following members and alternates were present:

Officers: Gail Hackett

Administration: Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, Montse Fuentes, and Constance Relihan

Faculty: Sherif Abdelwahad, Brian Brown, Ann Marie Gardinier Halstead, Hope Ginsburg, Mary Lou Hall, Les Harrison, Courtney Holmes, Sterling Hundley, Andrea Kohashi, Susan Kornstein, John Leonard, Pam Lepley, Katie Logan, Thomas Mayhew, Donna McClish, Edward Millner, Nitai Mukhopadhyay, Joan Pellegrini, Scott Ramsey, Elizabeth Ripley, Mary Secret, Carlos Smith, Adai Tefera, Melissa Tyler, Niraj Verma, Brian Verrelli, David Webber, Christine Wynd, Shijun Zhang, and Kristin Zimmerman

Postdoctoral Scholars: Sean Koebley

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

Students: Mekdes Charles, Jad Elahmad, Ryan Kotrch, Brandon LaReau, Michele Olson Pancoast, and Keith Zirkle

Ex-Officio: Gypsy Denzine, Kevin Harris, Deborah Noble-Triplett, and John Ulmschneider

Guests: Linda Birtley, Susan Carkeek, Al Copolillo, Sera Erikson, Katherine Given, Jacqueline Kniska, Aashir Nasim, Reuban Rodriguez, Cathy Rudisill, and Erin Stanforth

1. President's Report

Provost Hackett welcomed everyone. She also recognized Bill Cole as he retires from VCU at the end of the year, noting that VCU is grateful for his leadership and making sure we operate transparently and with integrity.

Provost Hackett provided a brief report that included the following highlights:
Working with Carly Katz, Assistant Director of Federal Relations to amplify VCU's

mission on Capitol Hill by meeting with key members to educate and bring attention to the university;

- VCU Health briefing with Governor Northam's cabinet and legislators;
- Changes to May 2019 Commencement; and
- State of the University-scheduled for January 31, 2019.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the University Council meeting on October 4, 2018 were approved.

3. Committee Reports

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

New Bicycle Parking and Removal Policy;

New Expectations of Ethical Conduct Policy;

Proposal to Close the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT); and

Proposal to Close the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MS) Degree Program in Occupational Therapy

A general discussion followed. Motions were made, seconded and approved to accept the aforementioned policies and proposals and move them forward for review and approval by the VCU Board of Visitors.

Jad Elahmad provided a (SGA) Student Government Association Report, focusing on upcoming activities, to include RamSafe rides to the polls on election day and the April 20, 2019 Day of Service.

Susan Kornstein provided a Faculty Senate Report.

Nick Fetzer provided a Staff Senate Report.

4. Other Matters

Aashir Nasim provided a report on Diversity Driving Excellence-From Concept to Measurement to Impact. His power point presentation included: 1) What are the problems with the Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Action Plan, 2017-2022?; 2) How have we/will we address these problems in Quest 2025: Together We Transform?; 3) Why will these proposed solutions make VCU better?; and 4) When will these solutions be implemented at scale?

Jacqueline Kniska provided a report on New VCU Integrity and Compliance Data.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.