

VCU University Council

MINUTES

Thursday, December 6, 2018

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

MCV Campus, BioTech Center

Founders Room

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 3 p.m. at the BioTech Center.

The following members and alternates were present:

Officers: Gail Hackett

Administration: Andrew Daire, Joe DiPiro, Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, and Constance Relihan

Faculty: Sherif Abdelwahad, Holly Alford, Alisa Brink, Brian Brown, Rachel Cloutier, Amanda Echterling, Hope Ginsburg, Les Harrison, Jenny Inker, Andrea Kohashi, Susan Kornstein, John Leonard, Katie Logan, Abigale Matulewicz, Thomas Mayhew, Donna McClish, Meera Mehtaji, Nitai Mukhopadhyay, Joan Pellegrini, Scott Ramsey, Joseph Schaub, Mary Secret, Scott Street, Brian Verrelli, David Webber, Christopher Woleben and Shijun Zhang

Postdoctoral Scholars:

Classified staff: Valarie Carter, Nick Fetzer, Connie Peyton, Ashley Staton, and Eileen Truax

Students: Ryan Kotrch, Brandon LaReau, Michele Olson Pancoast, Elenor Ritzman, and Keith Zirkle

Ex-Officio: Craig Brookins, Gypsy Denzine, Kevin Harris, Alex Henson, and Deborah Noble-Triplett.

Guests: Susan Carkeek, Susan Bodnar-Deren, Jacqueline Kniska, Udanth Mallasani, Monika Markowitz, Alison Miller, Patricia Perkins, and Srirama Rao

1. President's Report

On behalf of President Rao, Deborah Noble-Triplett provided a brief report that included the following highlights:

- December 8, 2018 Commencement (2,900 graduates; key note speaker-Christy Coleman, CEO of the American Civil War Museum)
- East Marshall Street Well (a pdf of the report from the Family Representative Council for memorialization and interment that was presented to President Rao and university leadership on Dec. 3, 2018, can be found at “emsw.vcu.edu/recommendations”)
- Diversity and Inclusion Forum (Monday’s forum was not about a single incident-it was about something much larger than our climate/culture or what people experience at VCU every day. We are members of the same community and need to have more difficult conversations for us to move forward and be a better community for our students, faculty and staff.)
- Quest 2025 (focused on student success, national prominence, urban impact and celebrating our diversity; continuing to focus on “ONE VCU”)
- National prominence in key areas: research and healthcare (neuroscience-including TBI, brain disease of addiction; cancer-proud of Massey’s national prominence; heart-just performed our 600th heart transplant; women & children’s health; access to healthcare; and academic (health professions-#1 ranked programs; pharmacy-#17 nationally; nursing-125th anniversary/top 50 graduate school; nationally ranked schools of Arts, Education, and Social Work that raise our entire mission as one VCU)
- Make It Real Campaign (\$653 million raised to date towards \$750 million goal)
- VCU and VCU Health Master Plan (substantial progress on the master plan-both campuses)

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the University Council meeting on November 1, 2018 were approved.

3. Committee Reports

On behalf of the Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee, Deborah Noble-Triplett discussed the following policy proposals:

Revised Institutional Conflicts of Interest in Research

Revised Fixed Assets Policy

A general discussion followed. Motions were made, seconded and approved to accept the two 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 collaborations with units in efforts to update and stay in compliance with governance documents. A general discussion followed.

Nick Fetzer provided a Staff Senate Report. He discussed highlights, to include: 1) Ramtree efforts; 2) website update; 3) March 4-8, 2019 Employee Appreciation Week; and 4) March 2020 professional development conference.

Scott Street provided a Faculty Senate Report which included a power point presentation highlighting his recent visit to VCU/Qatar. A general discussion followed.

4. Other Matters

There were no other matters.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.