

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL**

April 5, 2018

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Monroe Park Campus, University Student Commons  
Virginia Rooms

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A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 3 p.m. at the University Student Commons.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** Gail Hackett

**Administration:** Cathleen Burke, Doug Boudinot, Andrew Daire, Joe DiPiro, Chuck Klink, John Leonard, Elizabeth Ripley

**Faculty:** Jose Alcaine, Holly Alford, Gloria Bazzoli, Amanda Echterling, Joshua Galligan, Miriam Kuttikat, Hope Ginsburg, Les Harrison, Courtney Holmes, Emily Hurst, Chris Jackson, Myung Jin, Milos Manic, Abigale Matulewicz, Donna McClish, Victoria Menzies, Nitai Mukhopadhyay, Joan Pellegrini, Ravi Perry, Scott Ramsey, Mary Secret, Carlos Smith, Scott Street, Heinz Roland Weistroffer, Blue Wooldridge, Kristin Zimmerman

**Classified Staff:** Lauren Katchuk, Connie Peyton, JaBari Scott, Felita Tucker-Battle, Margaret Edwards

**Students:** Alexandra Martelli, Jad Elahmad, Hassan Hafiz, Christopher Oltorik, Keith Zirkle, Julian Bobb

**Ex-Officio:** Kevin Harris, John Ulmschneider

**Guests:** Elizabeth Brooks, Susan Carkeek, Bill Cole, Donna Gibson, Jacqueline Kniska, Justin Mattingly, Carter Modestine, Lauren Mortensen, Justin Moses, Scott Oates, Reuban Rodriguez, Patricia Shazer, Colleen Thoma,

**Provost's Report**

Dr. Gail Hackett, provost and vice president for academic affairs, called the meeting to order and provided updates on various university initiatives, including recent administrative searches. The open vice provost positions in the divisions of Strategic Enrollment Management and Inclusive Excellence have been filled, effective April 1 and June 1. The dean for the School of Social Work has also been hired, effective July 1. The search for the vice president for research and innovation is ongoing, with candidates scheduled to visit campus early next week. Other vice provost and assistant vice provost searches are ongoing and we will provide updates accordingly. The provost also provided an update on the strategic planning effort, including two town halls held in March and a steering committee meeting earlier that day. All events mentioned were successful, providing necessary feedback for the planning effort, which is now in the drafting phase. Further information regarding the plan can be found at [quest.vcu.edu](http://quest.vcu.edu),

where feedback can also be provided. The plan will be presented to the Board of Visitors in May. Finally, the provost reported on the new budget model and tuition.

### **Approval of minutes**

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

### **Academic Affairs University Policy Committee Report**

- **New Programs/Programmatic Changes**
  - **Proposal to create a new graduate certificate in Special Education K-12 Teaching**—*Dr. LaRon Scott, Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling and Special Education and Dr. Colleen Thoma, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Education* – **Approved (unanimous)**
  
- **Policy Proposals**
  - **Revised Student Code of Conduct Policy (Board of Visitors)**—*Ms. Karen Belanger, Director, Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, Division of Student Affairs and Mr. Justin Moses, Associate Vice Provost, Division of Student Affairs*  
Note: Council member asks if students are expected to alert someone if they observe cheating. This is addressed in the Honor policy. – **Approved (with 1 abstention)**
  
  - **Revised Reimbursable Business Expenses Policy (Administrative)**—*Ms. Patricia Shazer, Assistant Director of Payment* – **Approved (unanimous)**

### **For Information**

#### **Commemorations and Memorials at VCU**

John Kneebone, Chair of the History department, presented to the University Council on behalf of a committee dedicated to investigating the commemorations and memorials at VCU. The presentation provides an inventory of the subject, as well as solicits feedback from the VCU community. There are plans to share this information with the entire VCU community in the next academic year. A list of questions and answers from the presentation are provided below.

- Who regulates the statue found in the Grove/Harrison Park?
  - Park and statue are owned by VCU but still regulated by state.
- Is there intent to share this information with the general public?
  - We do plan to share with the larger VCU community, and if we do engage with the broader community, we will not allow anonymous comments
- What is the time frame of this discussion?
  - A presentation will be made to the BOV in May, and the VCU community around September. It is important to note that VCU's work on commemorations will not move ahead of Mayor Stoney's initiative addressing the same.

- Has an inventory of scholarships created in the name of confederates been established?
  - No, but it should be included
- Was the type of labor considered in this investigation?
  - We do recognize that this work was done by slaves, but did not focus on that aspect
- Is it clear who commissioned the various commemorations? VCU/MCV/outside organizations?
  - There are outside organizations that have worked on the various commemorations
- Other universities, such as Georgetown, have offered slave descendants the opportunity to engage with the school. Will VCU consider this type of relationship?
  - We do not have the resources to do so at this time.

### **Faculty Bylaws**

Faculty Senate president Scott Street shared the revised faculty bylaws with the Council, ensuring that the new bylaws reflect the university's move forward and the desires of leadership.

### **Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, May 3, 2018**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

MCV Campus, VA BioTechnology Center

Founder's Conference Room