

April 2, 2015

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 3 p.m. in the Ballroom of the University Student Commons.

The following members and alternates were present:

Officers: Michael Rao, Gail Hackett

Administration: Quincy Byrdsong, Cecil Drain, Marti Heil, Alex Henson, Charles Klink, Pamela Lepley, Francis Macrina, Wanda Mitchell, Luke Schultheis, John Ulmschneider, Niraj Verma

Faculty: Jose Alcaine, Holly Alford, Kyungeh An, Bob Andrews, Lisa Brown, Nita Bryant, John Cyrus, Brendan Dwyer, Josh Galligan, Stephanie Goldberg, Chris Jackson, Paula Kupstas, Allen Lee, Michael McVoy, Nancy Morris, June Nicholson, Faye Prichard, Kurt Stenhagen, Scott Street, Jeremy Stultz, Brian Verrelli, Wei Zhang, Shijun Zhang

Classified staff: Valerie Carter, Christine Costello, Sania Marcoccia, Pamela Mason, Katherine Poarch, Eileen Truax, Valarie Tucker-Battle

Students: Carley Langley, Sagar Shah, Suraj Telhan, Will Thompson

Guests: Tim Bigdeli, Cathy Bradley, Jan Chlebowski, Krys Cios, Stephen Fong, Alpha Fowler, Melissa Johnson, Alison Jones, Kenneth Kahn, Amy Kelley, Jacqueline Kniska, Tim Reed, Reuban Rodriguez, Laura Rugless, Mark Schaefermeyer, Juanita Sharpe, Brian Shaw, Jaime Stillman, Daniel Woodward

Items for Action

Previous meeting minutes

Minutes of a meeting held February 5, 2015: **Approved.**

President's Report

President Rao welcomed Dr. Gail Hackett, the university's newly appointed Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, at her first University Council meeting. Dr. Rao thanked Dr. Hackett for leading the Council meeting in his brief absence.

Dr. Rao stated he presented budget options to the VCU Board of Visitors earlier in the week. Final decisions on the university's budget will be made at the Board of Visitors May 8, 2015 meeting. Dr. Rao discussed the administration's focus on resourcing Quest for Distinction, the university's strategic plan, and compensation, which he noted as his number one priority during the legislative session this year.

In addition, Dr. Rao noted other priorities related to Quest and student success as: financial assistance for students, the Quality Enhancement Plan, curriculum innovation, online course development, faculty training, and building renovations. One important initiative for the university is to create a new human resource infrastructure to promote equity in compensation.

Lastly, Dr. Rao spoke about creating a new budget model that better addresses the university's unique needs and priorities, which are different from other state agencies and in line with peer institutions.

For Approval (Consent Items) – All items approved

Minutes of a meeting held February 5, 2015: *Dr. Hackett*: **Approved**

For Review

Proposal to create the VCU Johnson Center for Critical Care and Pulmonary Research: Frank Macrina and Berry Fowler

Frank Macrina and Berry Fowler were there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were no questions on the floor.

Proposal to merge the Department of Behavioral Health and the Department of Healthcare Policy and Research to create the Department of Health Behavior and Policy, School of Medicine: Cathy Bradley

Cathy Bradley was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There was one question on the floor regarding the operational history of the two separate departments.

Proposal to rename the Social and Behavioral Health Doctoral Program to the Social and Behavioral Sciences Doctoral Program, School of Medicine: Cathy Bradley

Cathy Bradley was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were no questions on the floor.

Proposal to create the Department of Focused Inquiry in the University College: Gardner Campbell

Representing Gardner Campbell, Melissa Johnson was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were no questions on the floor.

Proposal to create a graduate Certificate in Medical Physics, School of Medicine: Jan Chlebowski and Geoff Hugo

Jan Chlebowski was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were no questions on the floor.

Proposal to create a Certificate of Completion in Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Kenneth Kahn

Kenneth Kahn was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were no questions on the floor.

Proposal to create a Certificate of Completion in Leadership Studies: Timothy Reed and Stephen Fong

Timothy Reed and Stephen Fong were there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There was one question on the floor regarding student participation in the program.

Proposal to transition the MS in Rehabilitation Counseling (48 credits) into a (60 credits) MS in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, School of Allied Health Professions: Juanita Sharpe

Juanita Sharpe was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. The group is asking for approval for the transition as a new degree program. There was one question on the floor regarding next steps in approving the proposal.

Proposal to establish a Dual Ph.D. Degree between the University of Cordoba and VCU's Computer Science Program, School of Engineering: Krys Cios

Krys Cios was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There were four questions on the floor to clarify details about the dual degree program.

Proposal to revise the University Council Bylaws: Bob Andrews

Bob Andrews was there to present and answer any questions regarding the proposal. There was one question on the floor to request a copy of the revisions.

Items For Information

Honor System Update: Reuban Rodriguez

Reuban Rodriguez spoke to the Council about the updated Honor System, which applies to all university students. Dr. Rodriguez stated that the updated policy is open for review and public comment for 30 days on the Integrity and Compliance Office website.

Report from the China Initiative Implementation Team: Luke Schultheis

Luke Schultheis spoke to the Council about the China Initiative, which is managed by the Global Education Office and will promote collaboration with select colleges in China. The goals of the initiative are to increase VCU student engagement in China, increase visibility of and engagement with China at VCU, and increase enrollment of Chinese students at VCU.

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m..