

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL**  
March 2, 2017  
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
MCV Campus  
VA BioTechnology Center  
800 E. Leigh St.  
Ball Conference Room

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 3 p.m. at the VA BioTechnology Center.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** Gail Hackett

**Administration:** Cathleen Burke, Jean Giddens, Sybil Halloran, Kevin Harris, Marti Heil, Alex Henson, Karol Kain Gray, Charles Klink, Francis Macrina, Deborah Noble-Triplett, Melissa Tyler (representing Doug Boudinot), John Ulmschneider

**Faculty:** Jose Alcaine, Holly Alford, Alisa Brewer, Rachel Flurie, Chris Jackson, Allen Lee, Susan Lindner, Donna McClish, Libby McDaniel, Victoria Menzies, Joan Pellegrini, Faye Prichard, Carmen Rodriguez, Heinz Roland Weistroffer, Patricia Sobczak, Fernando Tenjo-Fernandez, Jennifer Wayne, Blue Wooldridge, Shijun Zhang, Wei Zhang, Salvatore Agosta, Joe Walsh

**Classified Staff:** Christine Costello, Sania Marcoccia, Eileen Truax, Felita Tucker-Battle

**Students:** Connor Jarrendt, Jenna Pham, Chris Richardson

**Postdoctoral Scholar:** Becca Martin

**Guests:** Elizabeth Brooks, Susan Carkeek, Bill Cole, Jacqueline Kniska, Reuban Rodriguez

1. **President's/Provost's Report:** *Gail Hackett*- Dr. Hackett began the meeting by recapping several recent items:
  - a. President Rao and Va. Governor Terry McAuliffe have reaffirmed both the university's and the Commonwealth's commitment to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.
  - b. Dr. John Accordino has been named dean of the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs. Mr. Ed Grier will be leading the Division of Development and Alumni Relations while a search is in progress for a permanent vice president.
  - c. Two executive leadership searches are nearing final stages – Executive Director of Online@VCU, chaired by Ed Grier; and Dean, School of the Arts, chaired by John Ulmschneider.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. February 2, 2017-**Approved**
3. **Committee Reports and Approval of Action Items - All items approved**
  - a. Academic Affairs University Policy Committee Report - *Deborah Noble-Triplett*

- i. Proposal for Substantial Modifications to Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Nursing Program  
– *Jean Giddens and Beth Rodgers*
  - The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program in Nursing has been in existence since 1986 and is in need of modifications to bring the program in line with national trends and standards for excellence in Ph.D. Nursing programs. The program modifications are designed to ensure a high quality academic experience that builds on the expertise of faculty, reflects current trends and criteria, and maximizes student learning. For post-baccalaureate students, the modifications also significantly streamline time to degree resulting in decreased burden on these students and more timely entry into the workforce where there are significant shortages of Ph.D. prepared nurses. This streamlined approach is consistent with other Ph.D. Nursing programs in the U.S.
- ii. VCU Investment Policy – *Karol Gray and Timothy Graf*
  - The purpose of this policy is to define the financial goals, objectives, and legal limitations for the investment and management of Virginia Commonwealth University's funds and to articulate the responsibilities of the university, its investment managers, and its investment advisors, including performance measures and reporting requirements.

#### **4. Information Items**

- a. Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTE)
  - i. This discussion was moved to the April agenda.
- b. Welcome Week – *Jenna Pham*
  - i. VCU's Welcome Week began in fall 2004 to provide programming, activities and events for students after move-in and prior to the newly implemented start date for classes on the Monroe Park Campus (the third Thursday in August effective fall 2003). Ms. Pham suggested that the start date for classes be moved back to Monday and to spread Welcome Week activities more liberally throughout the first few weeks of classes.
  - ii. Dr. Noble-Triplett noted that this an academic calendar issue and should be discussed in more detail through the academic calendar committee in the Office of Academic Affairs. Any resulting policy changes would be vetted through the UCAAUP then UC.
- c. Demonstration Policy – *Reuban Rodriguez*
  - i. The university's current Demonstration Policy needs a revision. Dr. Rodriguez brought forward considerations but the review was tabled as additional work needs to be done and other groups engaged before it comes before the University Council.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, April 6, 2017, 3 to 5 p.m.

Monroe Park Campus, University Student Commons, Virginia Rooms