A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, October 3, 2019, at 3 p.m. at the BioTech Center.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** President Michael Rao and Holly Alford

**Administration:** Peter Buckley, Cathleen Burke, Jay Davenport, Jean Giddens, Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, Constance Relihan, Marsha Rappley, and Don Young

**Faculty:** Sherif Abdelwahad, Tamika Alexander, Brian Brown, Everett Carpenter, Vickie Conners, Patricia Cummins, Kim Curry-Lourenco, Muthoni Imungi, Melissa Jamerson, Cindy Kirkwood, Andrea Kohashi, Sharon Lanning, Katie Logan, Donna McClish, Brian McNeill, Karen Mullins, Lauren Pamulapati, Carrie Peterson, Christine Remmers, Valerie Robnolt, Mark Schaefermeyer, Carlos Smith, Jacqueline Smith-Mason, Nancy Stutts, Dong Sun, Christy Tyndall, Matt Wallin, Christine Wynd, and Kristin Zimmerman

**Postdoctural Scholar:** Sean Koebley

**Classified staff:** Valarie Carter, Holly Dean, Christopher Gardland, Stacy Metz, and Saher Randhawa

**Students:** Sombo Chunda, Alexia Guzman, Jordan James, Udhanth Mallasani, Taylor Maloney, Shay Miller, Michele Olson Pancoast, Sarah Saunders, April Wayne and Tyler Williams

**Ex-Officio and Guests:** Andrew Arroyo, Lori Dachille, Melanie Dempsey, Miles Gordon, Karen Helderman, Alison Jones, Jacqueline Kniska, David Litton, Susan Robb, Veronica Shuford, John Ulmschneider, and Garret Westlake

1. **President’s Report**
   - President Rao, provided a brief report that included the following highlights:
     - Recently traveled to Qatar to welcome Amir Berbic, new dean of VCUarts Qatar.
Recently updated VCU grads in Boston and Philadelphia on what we are doing to serve students and patients.

As part of the Make It Real Campaign for VCU, the Invest in Me Initiative was launched this week with a goal to raise $50 million by June 30, 2022. Funds raised will support scholarships in three areas: talent, opening doors to opportunity, and rewarding excellence. The initiative hopes to lower students’ debt load so that they can graduate with less financial stress.

We recently achieved a historic milestone in research. $310 million in sponsored research—a record by 13%

We will only grow—very active last month for research grants: $50 million from DOD & V.A. to research effects of TBI on service members and veterans; NIH grant to research, end addiction (called NIH HEAL); and Health Resources and Services Administration grant. Our students contribute so much to our research mission—including at the undergraduate level.

Hume-Lee performed a successful living donor liver transplant over the summer (first transplant of this type at Hume-Lee since 2014)

2. Approval of Minutes
Minutes from the University Council meeting on September 5, 2019 were approved.

3. Committee Reports
On behalf of the Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee, Marsha Rappley discussed the following new programs/programmatic changes and policy proposals:

1. Proposal to create a new Graduate Certificate in Health Care Innovation—Garret Westlake, Executive Director of the daVinci Center, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
2. Proposal requesting a name change for the Department of Radiation Sciences to the Department of Radiologic Sciences—Melanie Dempsey, Assistant Professor in the Radiologic Technology, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
3. New Substantive Change for Regional Accreditation Policy (Administrative) — Andrew Arroyo, Director of Academic Program and Policies, Office of the Provost, discussed the proposed policy and responded to questions.
4. New Business Continuity Management Policy (Administrative)—Lori Dachille, Director of Emergency Preparedness, VCU Police Department, discussed the proposed policy and responded to questions.
5. Revised Conduct of Animal Research Policy (Administrative)—Susan Robb, Senior Associate Vice President for Research Administration and
Compliance, Office of Research and Innovation, discussed the proposed policy and responded to questions.

A motion was made, seconded and approved (with one abstention) to accept the above proposals and new programs/programmatic changes and move them forward for review and approval by the VCU Board of Visitors.

Michele Olson Pancoast, Udhantha Mellasani, and Jordan James provided a Student Government Association report. A general discussion followed.

Valarie Carter provided a Faculty Senate Report. A general discussion followed.

Stacy Metz and Saher Randhawa provided a Staff Senate Report, to include: 1) March 12, 2020 career development conference (2 half day sessions); and 2) March 9-13, 2020 Staff Appreciation Week activities. It was noted that everyone is welcome to attend the staff senate meetings in person or via zoom. A general discussion followed.

4. **For Information**
   Karen Helderman, Executive Director of Audit and Compliance Services, provided an Audit and Compliance Services overview. A general discussion followed and Karen Helderman and Jacqueline Kniska responded to questions.

5. **Adjournment**
   The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.