MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
March 14, 2002
Room 341/345
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:30 p.m.


Absent: Susan Anderson, Kim Beisecker, Nicki Cantrell, Kimberlee Fulcher, Grant Hill, Janet Johnson, Kerry Redican, Jennie Reilly, Linda Sikhammountry, Melissa Slovinsky,

Visitors: Jennifer Calhoun, Stacie Crain, Elizabeth Embree, Larry Hincker, Tim Hodge, Christian Rieser, Dwight Shelton

I. Call to Order
Mr. Ryan Hartman, Chair, called the meeting to order.

II. Adoption of Agenda
The agenda was adopted as written.

III. Committee Reports
Mr. Hartman reported that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee would be discussed under New Business as CSA Resolution 2001-2002C.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business
A. Brief Introduction of the Finalists for Graduate Student Rep to the BOV

Mr. Gunnar Lucko announced that the search process for the Graduate Student Representative to the Board of Visitors had been completed. The three finalists who were chosen to interview with the BOV Selection Committee on Sunday, March 17, are: Ms. Stacey Crain, Ms. Elizabeth Embree, and Mr. Christian Rieser.

B. University Policies for Student Life - Changes for CSA Approval

Jennifer Calhoun, Director of Judicial Affairs
Ms. Jennifer Calhoun, Director of Judicial Affairs, discussed the process they undertake each year to update University Policies for Student Life. Ms. Calhoun distributed for first reading three proposed changes for 2002-2003. The proposed changes are:

1) Under Section III.F - Student Code of Conduct, University Judicial Records, revise to read: A copy of judicial case materials will stay on file in the Office of Judicial Affairs for a period of five years from the date of the incident, at
which time it will be destroyed. (Previously, judicial case materials were kept on file for one year after graduation.)

2) Change Section II - Student Code of Conduct, 16. Misuse of Identification Cards, to read: The possession or manufacture of any false or altered form of identification, the improper use of any identification card, including knowingly altering or mutilating a university student identification card, or using the identification card of another, or allowing one's own card to be used by another is prohibited.

3) Change Section V.B - Student Code of Conduct, Advertising on Campus, under the heading of Distribution, to read: Permission must be obtained in writing from the Office of Residential and Dining Programs for distribution inside the residence halls. The collection of literature, when necessary, will be collected at designated central locations. Slipping literature under doors inside residence halls is not permitted. The commission pointed out a redundancy in the second sentence, and suggested the wording be changed to: The collection of literature, when necessary, will be limited to designated central locations.

Following a brief discussion of these changes, there was a motion to waive the first reading and make this the second reading due to the limited number of questions and comments. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. There was a second motion to approve the changes to the UPSL. The motion was seconded and approved.

C. CSA Resolution 2001-2002C: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Susan Anderson, Faculty Senate
Ryan Hartman, Student Government Association
Myron McClees, Black Organizations Council
Vashonta Roach, Black Student Alliance

Mr. Ryan Hartman presented Resolution 2001-2002C: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday for first reading and discussed the background of the resolution. Their committee has surveyed our SCHEV peer institutions and found that the majority do not hold class on MLK day. Due to the large number of programming events on this holiday, the resolution proposes that MLK day become a Virginia Tech holiday with no classes so that students may participate in these events. The commission discussed the resolution and made the following suggestions: 1) In the second premise, the reference to "the world" should be removed. 2) Insert a reference to Virginia Tech being one of three schools in its SCHEV peer group that does not celebrate the holiday. 3) Remove the section of the conclusion that would change which Monday the holiday was celebrated based on when classes start. 4) Remove the section of the conclusion that would change the number of class days in each semester. 5) Add a second conclusion that directs the Committee on Academic Support to review the existing calendar criteria and recommend changes to alleviate conflicts that would be caused by subtracting a day in the spring semester.

There was a motion for the committee to make the suggested revisions and bring it back to the commission for second reading on March 28. The motion was
seconded and approved.

D. Tuition and Fees, and Budget Reductions

*Larry Hincker, Associate Vice President, University Relations*
*Dwight Shelton, Vice President for Budget & Financial Management*

Mr. Dwight Shelton, Mr. Larry Hincker, and Mr. Tim Hodge, Director of Budget Operations, discussed proposed increases to tuition and fees for 2002-2003. These increases are a result of the budget reductions taking place at the state level. The state expects a general fund shortfall of $3.790 billion for the 2002-04 biennium. To offset these shortfalls, the state is reducing funding to higher education institutions across the state. As a result, for the 2002-2004 biennium, Virginia Tech will incur a general fund reduction of $43.1 million; revenue offsets will be $18.0 million; giving us a net general fund reduction of $25.1 million. The state has now lifted the freeze on tuition increases to help offset the budget reduction losses. Pending approval by the Board of Visitors, Virginia Tech will raise tuition and fees in the range of five to nine percent. This increase will generate approximately $9.1 million in the University Division (teaching agency) for 2002-2003, but will still leave a shortfall of $15.2 million for this division. Mr. Shelton and Mr. Hodge concluded their discussion by reviewing a summary of tuition and fees, comparing this year’s annual charges to last year’s, and comparing Virginia Tech’s charges to our peer institutions. The speakers thanked the commission for the opportunity to discuss these matters with them, and reminded the commission members that the information they were discussing would not be approved by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors until Monday, March 18, and should remain confidential until approved.

VI. Announcements

Mr. Brian Montgomery announced that SGA has three events coming up: SGA elections would be taking place on March 25 and 26. Voting will be done on-line at [www.sga.vt.edu/elections](http://www.sga.vt.edu/elections). The Big Event will be taking place on April 6, with several events taking place throughout the day. More information is available at [www.sga.vt.edu/bigevent](http://www.sga.vt.edu/bigevent). Relay for Life will be held on April 12 and 13 on the Johnson Miller Track and Field. More information is available for this event at [www.sga.vt.edu/relayforlife](http://www.sga.vt.edu/relayforlife).

Mr. Thanh Doan announced that Take Back the Night would be taking place at 7:30 p.m. on March 21 on the Drillfield.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recorder