MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
September 6, 2001
Room 219
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:30 p.m.


Absent: Kim Beisecker, James Disney, Grant Hill, Scott Hustis, Gunnar Lucko, Peter Norsky, Kerry Redican

I. Call to Order
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Mr. Hartman called the meeting to order and welcomed the commission to the first regular meeting of the year.

II. Approval of Agenda
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The agenda was approved as written.

III. Guest Presentation: The University's Strategic Plan
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Dr. Rosemary Blieszner, who served as Director of Strategic Planning, gave a presentation on the updated University Strategic Plan, which was approved by the Board of Visitors at their August meeting. In January 2001 President Steger appointed a 52-member Strategic Planning Steering Committee and gave them the charge of updating the university's strategic plan in response to the goal of becoming a top 30 research university. The strategic planning process involved obtaining university-wide input; giving periodic updates to the Board of Visitors; benchmarking with top 30 universities; reviewing key factors and policy implications; setting trends and projections for the next five to ten years; and developing a new mission statement, core values, and vision statement. Highlights of the strategic plan include: 1) enhancing the stature of Virginia Tech as an internationally recognized university for research and scholarship; 2) increasing quality of graduate programs and the number of students completing graduate degrees with a research component; 3) ensuring that the content and quality of undergraduate educational experiences prepare our students to lead fulfilling, productive lives; and 4) strengthening roles in outreach to society. Dr. Blieszner opened the floor for a question and answer period and instructed the commission to see the following web page for up-to-date information: http://www.unirel.vt.edu/stratplan/.
IV. Old Business

A. Discussion of Issues and Concerns

Mr. Ryan Hartman reminded the commission to send him their ranking forms for issues and concerns to be addressed this year. He will group people together according to interest and form subcommittees to study the issues.

V. New Business

A. Discussion of Vacancies on Student Budget Board

Ms. Kim Mitchell, Chair of the Student Budget Board, announced that the Student Budget Board is seeking one undergraduate and one graduate to serve on the 2001-2002 Board. The nominees must be sponsored by an organization represented on the Commission for Student Affairs (CSA). Nominations are due by 3:00 p.m. on September 16 in 225K or 319 Squires. Elections of these two individuals will take place at the September 20 CSA meeting.

B. Election of CSA Vice Chair

Mr. Ryan Hartman opened the floor for nominations for CSA Vice Chair. Dr. Ed Spencer nominated Ms. Alison Sharp, who distributed a letter detailing her qualifications and spoke briefly about her credentials. There being no further nominations, Mr. Hartman called for a vote by acclamation, which passed.

VI. Announcements

Ms. Marquea King announced that Graduate Professional Day would be held at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on September 25 in Commonwealth Ballroom of Squires, with 120 universities represented.

Ms. Christina Coukos announced that the first meeting of the Student Diversity Community would be held on September 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 104 of Johnston Student Center.

Ms. Alison Sharp announced that Residence Hall Federation elections were taking place on September 6. Students who live on campus could vote at www.rhf.edu <http://www.rhf.edu/>.

Mr. Justin Wienckowski announced that LGBTA has temporarily suspended support groups due to funding cuts.

Ms. Susan Anderson announced that a reception for the new Virginia Tech police chief would be taking place until 5:00 p.m. on September 6 at the Women’s Center.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:26.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary