Jan Helge Bohn called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

AGENDA:
The chair proposed that New Business be moved to the first item on the agenda after approval so that there would be adequate time for the speakers. This motion carried and the agenda was then approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:
Information Technology Overview Presentation. Pat Rodgers, Director of Business Technologies, introduced the five leaders in the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology who each gave a presentation on their areas of responsibility.

Anne Moore, Associate Vice President for Learning Technologies (ahmoore@vt.edu; Phone: 231-7108). This office administers the Faculty Development Institute (FDI). Faculty can attend every 4 years and 96% have attended in the first two cycles. Graduate Education Development Institute (GEDI), a similar program, was begun for graduate students in 2004, and is currently serving 120 graduate students per semester. The Professional Development Institute (PDI) will be an equivalent program for staff.

Other programs and services of this office include the new Media Center, open to all on a walk-in basis; the Digital Imaging Center which has moved away from low end tasks that can now be done on a desk top, to high end (including 3-dimensional) imaging; Assistive Technologies which works to improve accessibility for those with various disabilities; Online Course Support which manages Blackboard; VT Electronic Portfolio for which a new version will be available in the fall; Virginia Tech Summer Training Academy for Rising Students (VT STARS), an outreach program started 6 years ago, which is directed to students who are least likely to have access to technology, introducing them to technology and giving them the skills to succeed in high school and college.

Mike Naff, Director of Administrative Information Systems (naffm@vt.edu, Phone: 231-6652). This office is responsible for the acquisition, maintenance, and enhancement of administrative systems. Some current activities include the state-mandated transition from use of Social Security numbers as University identification numbers which is almost complete; the transition of the Bursar’s office to electronic billing; the use of SciQuest for searching science catalogs and its integration with EVA, the state procurement system; monitoring of NCAA compliance for the Athletic Department; the integration of myVT and Hokie Spa to give students a greater number of services such as reminders of needed academic requirements, Hokie Passport balances, etc. In response to a question about the Banner system, he acknowledged that although it does many
things well, there are many complaints and that they are trying to enhance its capability as well as move some things into Hokie Spa and myVT. Also, they are working on a data warehouse going back to the beginning of computer records, so that information would be available from one source.

Mary Dunker, Director of Secure Enterprise Technology Initiatives (SETI) (dunker@vt.edu, Phone: 231-9327). This program develops secure applications, interfaces, middleware in cooperation with the University IT Security office in order to balance privacy with accessibility. It supports VT Search and is looking to enhance VT directory so that it will be able to talk to other institutions. They are working on developing personal certificates to enable digital signatures, as on leave reports. SETI applications are evaluated by a testing group for reliability and ease of use.

Carl Harris, Director of Network Engineering and Operations, (ceharris@vt.edu, Phone: 231-4319). This office is responsible for telephone, cable, internet access, managing servers, distance learning, mail, printing, and the Blacksburg Electronic Village. Challenges they are currently facing include an aging infrastructure, and the need for systems to be available 24 x 7, and data storage capacity. The need for storage is growing at a rate that exceeds resources.

Betsy Blythe, Director of General Enterprise Applications, (bblythe@vt.edu, Phone: 231-9504). This office has responsibilities for managing databases and data warehousing in areas including finance, human resources, admissions, and sponsored programs. Data is being moved out of the Banner system for easier access. Support is provided 24 x 7.

Each presenter encouraged the members to contact them with any questions they may have in the future.

MINUTES:
The Minutes of the February 16, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved by the Commission.

CONTINUATION OF NEW BUSINESS:

Election of a Chair of the Commission on University Support for Academic Year 2006-2007 (One year term). Jan Helge Bohn was nominated and unanimously elected as Chair for Academic Year 2006-2007.

Election of a Commission on University Support Faculty Representative to the Transportation and Parking Committee for Academic Year 2006-2007 (One year term). Due to the late hour it was decided to postpone this election until the next meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS:
The next meeting is Thursday April 20, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:20 p.m.