

**University Council Minutes**  
**November 1, 2004**  
**3:00 – 5:00 PM**  
**1045 Pamplin Hall**

**Present:** Charles Steger (Presiding), Erv Blythe, Ben Dixon, John Dooley, Brad Fenwick, Elizabeth Flanagan, David Ford, Donald Kenney for Eileen Hitchingham, Lisa Wilkes for James Hyatt, Paul Knox, Denny Cochrane for Kurt Krause, Mark McNamee, Jerry Niles, Kim O'Rourke, Pat Sobrero for Sharron Quisenberry, Gerhardt Schurig, Dwight Shelton, Richard Sorensen, Tom Tillar, David Travis, Jean Brickey, Virginia Fowler, Scott Case for Klaus Elgert, Grant Otto, Ray Plaza, Susanna Rinehart, Judith Shrum, Susan Anderson, Jack Cranford, JoAnn Emmel, Richard Goff, Don Orth, Imad Al-Qadi, Mark Anderson, Marion Ehrich, Bernice Hausman, Peter Kennelly, Hans Rott, Sue Ellen Crocker, Edward Lener, Delbert Jones for Maxine Lyons, Scott McGee, Kimberly Philpott, Brandon Bull, Melinda Cep, Maya Newhagen, Matt Vepraskas, Devin Weller

**Absent:** Hassan Aref, Lay Nam Chang, Landrum Cross, Karen DePauw, Michael Kelly, Dawn Barnes, Jim B. Weaver, Richard Ashley, Kathleen Jones, James Berkson, Muzzo Uysal, John Jay Carter, Donna Hamm (with notice), Terry Kershaw, Pankaj Gupta, Yvette Quintela, Antoinette Stroter, Sumeet Bagai

**Guests:** Randy Marchany, Information Technology; Jeb Stewart, Information Technology; Clark Gaylord, Information Technology; Phil Benchoff, Information Technology; Teresa Wright, April Myers

Dr. Steger called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

**2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of September 20, 2004.**

Dr. Steger noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the WEB (<http://intra.vt.edu/govern/>). (Note: The University Council meetings scheduled for October 4 and 18, 2004 were cancelled.)

**3. New Business**

No new business.

**4. Old Business**

**Commission on Student Affairs**

Resolution CSA 2004-05A

Resolution Requesting National Pan-Hellenic Council Membership  
on the Commission on Student Affairs

Mr. Grant Otto presented the resolution for second reading. Concerns were raised about women's groups not being represented. In response to this concern, Grant offered to submit a report on groups that are represented on the Commission on Student Affairs.

Grant made a motion for approval of the resolution. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **5. Announcement of approval and posting of Commission minutes**

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web. Note that the purpose of voting on Commission minutes is to accept them for filing. University Council By-laws require that policy items be brought forward in resolution form for University Council action.

- Commission on Academic and Professional Faculty Affairs  
October 7, 2004
- Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity  
September 13, 2004  
September 27, 2004  
October 11, 2004
- Commission on Faculty Affairs  
September 24, 2004
- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies  
April 21, 2004  
September 15, 2004
- Commission on Student Affairs  
September 16, 2004
- Commission on Research  
April 14, 2004
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies  
September 13, 2004

#### **6. For Information Only**

Minutes of University Advisory Council on Strategic Budgeting and Planning  
September 1, 2004

#### **7. Discussion**

Dr. Steger reported that he and Provost McNamee had met that morning with a number of representatives of the minority student community to discuss the recent hate crime incident involving the NAACP offices. The incident is still under investigation and if the perpetrator is identified, the individual will be fully prosecuted. The university will not tolerate even one incident. There was helpful discussion and useful information shared during the student meeting. Further discussions of this group will be scheduled. Individuals are encouraged to share concerns of this nature to work through the

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity. This Commission will then forward issues to the University Council, and then the Board of Visitors if necessary. The institutions are in place to deal with various issues and concerns effectively and should not be bypassed.

## 8. **Presentation**

Dr. Steger introduced Randy Marchany, Director, Information Technology Security Lab, to discuss the security of wireless communications.

Randy explained that any e-mail received or sent by [userpid@vt.edu](mailto:userpid@vt.edu) is automatically filtered by the central mail server for known viruses to protect the university system from external viruses, and to act responsibly to protect the rest of the Internet from anything that may originate from our servers.

Approximately 85% or more of all Virginia Tech offices, labs and classroom facilities have wireless systems available to them. Wireless capability enhances mobility and supplements the wired Ethernet. The disadvantage is that it is not as fast as the wired Ethernet, and also individuals must pay more attention to security issues. Users must act responsibly for the data that is being transmitting and be aware of security issues. Wireless data can easily be intercepted and users must avoid disclosure of any sensitive information. When visiting websites, at a minimum, the user should look at bottom right screen to make sure the key icon is in a locked position if he/she intends to transmit private or sensitive information. The locked position indicates that information being transmitted is being encrypted and only those that have the knowledge to unscramble the message can interpret it. If it is not encrypted, anyone *could* potentially read data being transmitted.

Information Technology provides a CD that can be obtained at no cost from Software Distribution Group entitled "VTNet," which installs encryption tools as well as sets up e-mail accounts for you. The wireless network provides accessibility to the Internet and provides convenience to the user as the wireless user travels from one building to another. With this mobility comes responsibility of the user to discern which information is sensitive and should not be transmitted.

## 9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. Steger adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim T. O'Rourke  
Chief of Staff, President's Office

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