
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 4, 2008
HH-113E 3:00-5:00PM



ATTENDANCE: Dr. Claire Robinson, presiding; Dr. Benita Brown, Ms. Clementine Cone, Ms. Malika Forbes, Dr. Murel Jones, Ms. Paula McCapes, Dr. Brian Nerrie, Dr. Jim Norman, and Dr. Maxine Sample. **Regrets:** Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, President Eddie N. Moore, Jr., Dr. Earl Newby, Dr. Ben Nwoke, Dr. Colleen Taylor, Dr. Robert Turner, and Dr. Elsie Weatherington.

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Claire Robinson, Vice-Chair. Because there was not a quorum, the minutes of the March 21 meeting were not considered for approval.
- II. **Report and Recommendations from the Chair:** No report
- III. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Strategic Planning Committee** (Dr. Nerrie and Ms. Cone reporting): The Committee met on March 28 and discussed the latest actions of the General Assembly. Everyone is waiting for the governor's signature on the budget and bond bills. The SPC also reviewed budget requests from the various departments. The Faculty Senate Strategic Planning Committee has requested that the SPC review a proposal for a baccalaureate degree in finance. The SPC is examining the proposal in the context of the *2020 In Focus* plan. The SPC also discussed the April visit of the SACS Onsite Committee.
 - B. **Communications Committee** (Dr. Sample reporting): The committee met on April 4, and discussed the implementation of the recommendations regarding university publications. The committee still needs to determine the best means for making the resource bank available to VSU employees. A question was raised about the status of the university calendar. The concern is that few events other than athletic events appear on the home page calendar; another concern is the uncertainty of whom to contact to add events. Dr. Sample agreed to share those concerns with the committee when it meets next month. Because of complaints about continued outdated contact information, Dr. Sample agreed to request a status report from the workgroup assigned earlier in the year to address that problem.
 - C. **Joint Committee on Student Academic Life:** No report
 - D. **Mediation Committee:** No report.
 - E. **Personnel Committee:** No report
 - F. **University Outreach Committee:** No report.
 - G. **Executive Committee of UC:** No report.
- IV. **Report and Recommendations from the Vice Presidents:**
 - A. **Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs:** No report
 - B. **Vice President for Administration and Finance** (Ms. Cone Reporting):
 1. **Tuition Increase:** Work is being done on the proposed fee structure for next year's tuition increase: a 4% increase in in-state undergraduate tuition, a 5% increase in fees, and a 5 ½% increase in graduate and out-of-state tuition. This increase will not jeopardize VSU's appropriation from the state's Tuition Moderation Incentive Fund, which rewards public colleges and universities that keep increases in their

undergraduate tuition and fees below an average of 5% during the biennial budget. Gateway occupancy rates will reflect an increase starting with fall semester 2009.

2. **Facilities Update:** An outside contractor is checking Gandy Hall. If everything passes, the fire marshals will be asked to return. Hunter McDaniel will be online this summer. Singleton Hall and Harris Hall will be off-line during this summer. Lockett Hall is officially off-line.

C. **Vice President for Development:** No report

V. **Reports and Recommendations from the Governing Bodies:**

- A. **Faculty Senate** (Dr. Nerrie reporting): President Moore attended the Faculty Senate meeting on March 28. In discussing the budget, he emphasized the need for increased student enrollment. Graduate school enrollment figures are particularly depressed. A Distance Education Policy Subcommittee was established. Faculty evaluation of deans is being considered. There will be a faculty assembly on April 16. The annual faculty senate retreat for new and existing representatives will be held at Randolph Farm the Monday after graduation (May 12). Elections for Faculty Senate and University Council representatives will be held on April 28; there will be a “Meet the Candidates” session on April 25.
- B. **Staff Senate** (Ms. McCapes reporting): The Staff Senate has not met. No report.
- C. **SGA:** No report
- D. **Graduate Student Council:** No report.

VI. **Other Business:** It was suggested that the Deans and Directors representative make a report to the University Council. The suggestion prompted no action at that time.

VII. **Announcements:**

- A. International Forum (Ms. McCapes): Members were reminded of the International Forum on Friday, April 11, and encouraged to attend the luncheon.
- B. Future Teachers of America (Dr. Robinson): VSU will host a meeting of the Future Teachers of America on April 11, 2008, from 9AM to 2PM in Colson Auditorium.
- C. Sankofa Dance Theatre (Dr. Brown): There will be an Open House for high school students on April 11, 6 to 8PM, and April 12, Noon to 4PM.
- D. Honors Convocation (Dr. Jones): Members were reminded to attend the reception at 5PM in Jones Hall and the Honors Convocation program at 7PM in Anderson Auditorium on April 7. The speaker will be Ms. Naomi Tutu.
- E. Residence Life Week (Ms. Forbes): Next week is Residence Life Week. Events include a Freshman Achievement Banquet on Tuesday, April 8, and an awards program for Resident Assistance on Wednesday, April 9, at 4PM in Virginia Hall.

VIII. **Adjournment:** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maxine Sample
Co-Chair, Communications Committee