

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
September 28, 2015
230 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, 3:00PM.

Present: G. Chandler-Smith (Chair); R. Ashton; C. Boone for R. Benson; J. Brozovsky; C. Clemenz for R. Sumichrast; M. Finn; L. Geyer; M. Hajj; B. Hausman for J. Baker; B. Hila; S. Hirt; R. Holloway; G. Jones; A. M. Knoblauch; G. Long for Lay Nam Chang; C. Mitchell; K. Rawlings; J. Sible; D. Smith; R. Stephens for E. Spiller; S. Sumner for Alan Grant; H. Thomas; I. Van Pelt for A. Myers-Burton; G. Yee; A. Zink-Sharp.

Absent with Notification: S. Martin; Z. Montgomery

Absent without Notification: C. Clarke; E. Wiseman

Visitors: J. Orr; R. Sparks; G. Costello; G. Kinder

Call to Order and Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 3:00PM by Gena Chandler-Smith, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

Announcement of Approval and Posting of Minutes

Gena Chandler-Smith announced the Sept. 14, 2015 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website:

<http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/2015-2016/CUSP-MINUTES-9-14-15.pdf>

Old Business

Resolution 2015-16A, *Resolution to Adopt a New Undergraduate Honor Code*, Second Reading

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading *Resolution 2015-16A, Resolution to Adopt a New Undergraduate Honor Code*. Effective date: Fall 2016.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-16A.

Discussion and clarification topics included:

OVERVIEW-

- Separate Honor Code processes exist for Graduate Students and members of The Corps of Cadets. This resolution applies only to Undergraduate students.
- New definitions of offenses, including self-plagiarism.

- Roles of Justice, Associate Justices, and Student Facilitators in the new structure – roles are designed to ensure all parties are aware of options.
- New policy and manual, replace previous constitution, and can evolve as implementation/refinement takes place, over time.
- Presented that training for panel and justice staff –40 have already been trained, with target of 60 more in the coming months.
- Ian VanPelt was recognized and commended, for his effective presentation of the information, and answering CUSP questions.

PROCEDURES-

- Pre-meditation issue – new process is more holistic and addresses balance between offense and sanction, to also include option to allow student to fully accept responsibility.
- "F*" as starting point, but each case will be considered with individual latitude. Second offense latitude (case-by-case basis), with faculty input to determine appropriate sanctions.
- Need for clarification of steps, outlined in Honor Code Manual, for faculty reporting and what reporting form(s) will be used and student meeting procedures.

STUDENT ROLE-

- Explanation of the changing role of the student, in the new structure.

FACULTY ROLE-

- Concerns that faculty previously viewed process as cumbersome. Sharing procedures with faculty will aid with implementation of new process.
- Presented that Faculty Senate would appreciate the opportunity to have similar meeting, to share explanations presented to CUSP. Orr confirmed willingness to have conversation, and confirmed presence at upcoming Faculty Senate meeting, Wed. Sept. 30, 2015.

Hearing no further questions/discussion, Chair G. Chandler-Smith asked if the commission was ready to call the question.

Motion was moved and seconded, to **DEFER** Resolution 2015-16.A, *Resolution to Adopt a New Undergraduate Honor Code*, for a period of two weeks, to be reconsidered at CUSP meeting, Monday, Oct. 12, 2015. Motion to DEFER was raised to allow time for further discussion and explanation between Honor System and Faculty Senate and Commission on Student Affairs.

Motion to DEFER passed: Yes: (21), No: (2), Abstain: (1).

The Resolution 2015-16.A will be reconsidered at the next CUSP meeting, scheduled for Monday, October 12, 2015.

New Business

Resolution **2015-16.D**, Resolution for the *Establishment of a School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech*, First Reading

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution **2015-16.D**, Resolution for the *Establishment of a School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech*.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015- 16.D.

Discussion occurred, regarding Resolution 2015-16.D. Topic included clarification related to letters of support from involved colleges and departments

Motion passed unanimously.

The second reading will take place at the next CUSP meeting, scheduled for Monday, Oct. 12, 2015.

Reports and Minutes from Commission Committees/Sub-Committees

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Support Committee

Susan Sumner reported that this committee held first meeting Sept. 24, 2015. Issues being considered for the AY 2015-2016 will include University Calendar and software implementation supporting classroom scheduling.

- Academic Policies Committee

Christie Boone, for Bevelle Watford, reported that the committee has not yet met.

- Athletic Committee

Susan Sumner presented the minutes of the University Athletic Committee meeting of April 21, 2015. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Athletic Committee minutes of April 21, 2015. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- Commencement Committee

Candice Clemenz reported that the committee has not yet met.

- Honors System Review Board

No report, beyond overview presented earlier, in support of Resolution 2015-16.A.

- Library Committee

No report.

- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Gary Costello, for Stephen Martin, announced the report of the University Curriculum Committee meeting of September 11, 2015 was approved electronically Sept. 18, 2015.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report of Sept. 11, 2015. **The motion passed unanimously.**

UCC Report- Sept. 11,2015

**For “First and Second Reading”
Unanimous Approval**

Courses

New:

Spring 2016

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

AT 0734 Risk Management in Agriculture (CM-2297)

College of Architecture and Urban Studies

ART 4575-4576 Advanced Visual Communication Design (CM-1871)

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

COMM 3014 Public Relations Cases (CM-2280)

ENGL 1704 The Harry Potter Phenomenon (CM-2274)

ENGL 4314 (STS 4314) Narrative Medicine (CM-2275)

PSCI 2074 Law and Politics (CM-2258)

PSCI 3004 (IS 3004) Professionalism and Careers in Political Science and International Studies (CM-2276)

Pamplin College of Business

FIN 3174 Finance Career Strategies (CM-2270)

Revised:

Spring 2016

College of Engineering

ECE 4550 Real-Time Systems (CM-2271)

MSE 4614 Nanomaterials (CM-2279)

College of Natural Resources and Environment

GEOG 4524 Physical Meteorology (CM-2222)

Discontinue:

Spring 2016

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

COMM 4054 Public Relations Case Studies (CM-2280)

- Undergraduate Studies and Policies

No report.

- University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education

John Brozovsky presented the minutes of the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education dated Sept. 2, 2015 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education minutes of Sept. 2, 2015. **The motion passed unanimously.**

John Brozovsky presented the minutes of the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education dated Nov. 6, 2013 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education minutes of Nov. 6, 2013. **The motion passed unanimously.**

John Brozovsky presented the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report dated Nov. 6, 2013 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to approve the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report of Nov. 6, 2013. Brozovsky clarified that minutes and report were being presented before CUSP, at this time, to address an oversight resulting from the meeting minutes and report, following the Nov. 6, 2013 UCCLE meeting, having not been approved by CUSP, at that time (2013/2014). **The motion passed unanimously.**

Report

**University Curriculum Committee for Liberal
Education Nov. 6, 2013**

For Approval:

PSCI 2894 (cross listed with ECON 2894 and **PHIL** 2894): Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (Areas 2 and 3): Effective as of Fall 2015.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

- Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs

Kelly Rawlings reported that no meeting, since last report, had been held.

- **Staff Senate**

No Report.

- **Faculty Senate**

Bernice Hausman for Joseph Baker reported that Faculty Senate is reviewing resolution in support of Faculty Senate's role within governance.

Discussion occurred, regarding Faculty Senate resolution. Topics included:

- Review of Faculty Senate's vision of the governance process and proposed Resolution of Shared Governance (Sept. 15, 2015). Copies of resolution were distributed to CUSP members.
- Concerns over possible delay of items and impact on timeline of proposals' movement through governance.

- **Student Government Association**

Representatives reported that the University Majors Fair will be held Wed. Sept. 30, 2015, in Squires Commonwealth Ballroom-open to all students.

- **Graduate Student Assembly**

No report of GSA. Muhammad Hajj reported that the Virginia Council for Graduate Schools will be holding an event for undergraduate students, in the coming weeks. Hajj will share information with Registrar's Office for circulation to CUSP members.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary S. Kinder

Office of the University Registrar