Office of Policy and Governance



319 Burruss Hall (0125) 800 Drillfield Drive Blacksburg, Virginia 24061 540/231-6232 www.governance.vt.edu

Memorandum

TO: Commission Chairs

FROM: Sam Easterling on behalf of the University Governance Task Force

DATE: November 15, 2017

SUBJECT: Advance Notice and Invitation for Comment - UC Resolution 2017-18A

During spring semester 2016, University Council passed a resolution requesting that the President create a University Governance Task Force "tasked with analyzing the consultative role of the respective constituent groups and collecting data on the impacts of the CFA Resolution 2015-16B," which required CFA, COR, CUS&P and CGS&P to refer their resolutions to Faculty Senate for review and comment. The Task Force concluded that CFA Resolution 2015-16B achieved its intent of increasing the consultative role of Faculty Senate without causing any delays in the approval process for resolutions, and concluded that the other three constituent groups (represented by Staff Senate, the Student Government Association, and the Graduate Student Assembly) would each benefit from having a parallel consultative process.

Accordingly, the attached proposed resolution would amend the University Council By-laws further such that <u>any</u> resolution under consideration by <u>any</u> commission would be sent to the four constituent groups. Importantly, the resolution also contains a provision that would prevent this new step from delaying the progress of a resolution through the governance system.

Because the attached resolution is being brought forward to University Council by the Task Force, there is not an approval path through the commissions. Nevertheless, the Task Force very much wants the commissions to have the opportunity to review the resolution carefully and provide comment. The resolution will be brought to University Council for first reading on December 4. The second reading and vote would occur on February 5.

Following are the names of the Task Force members. You are encouraged to share this memo and attached resolution with your commission members and invited to discuss your thoughts or pose any questions you might have to members of the Task Force:

Sam Easterling (Task Force Chair)
Rami Dalloul or Monty Abbas (Faculty Senate)
Sue Teel or Robert Sebeck (Staff Senate)
Joe Merola (CFA)
Andrew Neilson (Commission on Research)
Gary Long (CUS&P)

Rex Willis or Alexa Parsley (SGA)
Alex Hyler or Matt Chan (GSA)
Ellen Plummer (Provost's Office)
Kim O'Rourke (Secretary of University
Council)

Thank you for your consideration.

Invent the Future

Scott Salom (CGS&P)