

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
FEBRUARY 10TH, 2025
3:00 PM
VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: J. Tokuhisa (presiding); N. Akers; E. Austin; K. Goyne; K. Heiderscheid; R. Holloway; S. Huxtable; M. Kimbrell; S. Over; M. Pleimling; L. Ricci; S. Rinehart; J. Russell; S. Shupe; R. Sparks; N. Staley; D. Thorp; N. Tran; K. Thompson

ABSENT: K. Edgar; Z. Fu; V. Nguyen; A. Phan; R. Poff; C. Ruktanonchai; M. Seref; S. Sumner; N. Tasnim; J. Walker

GUESTS: E. Anderson; J. Espinoza; J. Leech; R. Pitcher; L. Rose; N. Smith; Z. Tucker

J. Tokuhisa called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda with an amendment. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OR ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES

J. Tokuhisa noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>) and the Office of the University Registrar webpage (registrar.vt.edu/governance).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Tokuhisa shared that **Resolution 2024-25A** *Resolution to Revise Policy 6305, Satisfactory Academic Progress for Associate and Undergraduates* was approved at the University Council last week.

D. Thorp voiced to the Commission that some ex-staff emails had been purged. M. Pleimling stated that a new university policy has been enacted to remove former employees' emails after a set period of time.

Foreign Language Requirements

J. Espinoza presented on the university Foreign Language Requirements policy and answered outstanding questions from the Commission's previous discussion including:

- D. Thorp voiced concern that VT would not be eligible to have a Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) chapter without a foreign language requirement. R. Sparks and J. Espinoza stated there are some schools that do not have a foreign language admission requirement, but degree-specific language requirements satisfy the PBK chapter requirements.
- S. Rinehart asked about the potential reaction of funding for foreign language in high schools if this requirement is removed. J. Espinoza responded that so many other institutions do not have

this requirement that he did not think our decision would impact decisions for foreign language in high schools. Also, most applicants already have the required foreign language requirements with the Advance Diploma they receive upon graduating from high school.

- S. Over asked if they may affect our Global Distinction in comparison to other AAU schools.
- Upon request from the Commission, J. Espinoza said he would prepare a list of AAU schools' foreign language admission requirements to compare with Virginia Tech.

Continuous Enrollment Policy Update

N. Smith and R. Sparks provided an update on their research into the Continuous Enrollment policy. N. Smith and R. Sparks will reach out to Enrollment Management leadership for more information on graduated students who then return for another degree and how potential changes would impact that population.

NEW BUSINESS

Several Commission members voiced faculty concerns surrounding the May 7th Metallica concert. R. Holloway and J. Tokuhisa encouraged Faculty to reach out to their Faculty Senate representatives.

L. Ricci shared a student's request for improvements to be made to the Korean Language Studies program. M. Kimbrell offered to follow up with L. Ricci representing CLAHS.

ACCEPTANCE AND POSTING OF COMMISSION/COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES REPORTS AND/OR MINUTES

Academic Support Committee

No report.

Academic Policies Committee

No report.

Athletics Committee

No report.

Commencement Committee

No report.

Honor Council

No report.

Library Committee

No report.

University Curriculum Committee for General Education

No report.

Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

No report.

Staff Senate

No report.

Faculty Senate

No report.

Undergraduate Student Senate

No report.

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Zach Tucker & Rachel Pitcher, Office of the University Registrar*