

**MINUTES**  
**COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES**  
**September 12, 2016**  
**230 Student Services Building, 3:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** D. Stauffer (Chair); J. Baker; C. Boone for D. Taylor; J. Brozovsky; C. Clemenz for R. Sumichrast; M. Finn; K. Gresham; R. Holloway; R. Jacks; M. Kasarda; A.M. Knoblauch; G. Long for S. Morton; K. Rawlings; C. Rittenhouse; J. Sible; R. Stephens for E. Spiller; S. Sumner for A. Grant; L. Zietsman; A. Zink-Sharp

**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** G. Chandler-Smith; T. Hammett; ; K. Redican for C. Clarke

**ABSENT WITHOUT NOTIFICATION:** K. Albright; L. Geyer; M. Hajj; A. Kaur;

**VISITORS:** K. Ausman; C. Minford; R. Sparks; A. Wade; G. Costello; G. Kinder; J. Sanders

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Dean Stauffer, Chair.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

**WELCOME AND REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

D. Stauffer welcomed new and returning members of the Commission. Commission members then performed self-introductions.

D. Stauffer then outlined the goals of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies for the 2016-2017 Academic Year:

- Review of CUSP charge and mission

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**  
**2016-2017 Members**

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to University Council policies and procedures concerning on- and off-campus undergraduate academic matters. Areas for consideration include: library resources, admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, Honor Systems and study environment; In-Honors programs, curricula, courses, advising, and instruction; student honors and awards; financial aid, scheduling, registration and other matters affecting the undergraduate student academic environment.

- Academic Support Committee –
  - In support of Labor Day off, review of 70 day Fall and Spring Terms, and
  - In support of the integration of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, review part of term.

- Academic Policy Committee – Review to establish guidelines for process to award credit for life experience
- Establish Ad Hoc Review Committee in support of Pathways Implementation Plan
- Reporting from stakeholders: e.g. Honors System, Financial Aid, Enrollment and Degree Management Office on undergraduate enrollment – strategic planning and effects on the colleges.

D. Stauffer and Associate Registrar for Classroom Scheduling and Governance, G. Costello, then encouraged the Commission to maintain open, two-way communication between the Commission’s members and the constituencies whom they represent throughout the coming year.

D. Stauffer also announced that Provost Rikakis would be in attendance at the October 24, 2016 Commission meeting to discuss developments in the Pathways and Destination Area programs.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES**

D. Stauffer announced the April 25, 2016 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-Apr-25-16.pdf>.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution 2016-17.B, *Resolution for the Renaming of the Department of Science and Technology in Society to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2016-17.B, *Resolution for the Renaming of the Department of Science and Technology in Society to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society*.

D. Stauffer opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2016-17.B.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following items:

- Emphasis/integration of science as a part of the current and future STS curriculum
- Similarities between Virginia Tech’s STS curriculum and those curricula of other institutions
- Current offerings of undergraduate and graduate degrees within the department
- Clarification of undergraduate and graduate program and degree titles within the department
- Recommendation to replace the word “major” with the word “degree” in the third paragraph of the resolution

Resolution 2016-17.B has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2016-17.B will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

## **REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Academic Support Committee**

No Report.

#### **Academic Policies Committee**

No Report.

#### **Athletic Committee**

No Report.

#### **Commencement Committee**

No Report.

#### **Honor System Review Board**

No Report.

#### **Library Committee**

No Report.

#### **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

D. Stauffer reported that the April 22 Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee was approved electronically by the Commission on May 3, 2016.

#### **Undergraduate Studies and Policies**

No Report.

#### **University Curriculum Committee for General Education**

No Report.

## **CONSTITUENT REPORTS**

### **Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs**

No Report.

### **Staff Senate**

No Report.

### **Faculty Senate**

J. Baker reported that the Faculty Senate has met twice this semester. At the Faculty Senate meeting on August 23, 2016, the Senators heard details regarding the integration of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine as a college within Virginia Tech. Also at this meeting, the Senators heard a presentation from Provost Rikakis on the new budget model. At the Faculty Senate meeting on September 5, 2016, Senators were briefed by Steven Culver on future updates to the SPOT Survey.

### **Student Government Association**

No Report.

### **Graduate Student Assembly**

No Report.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Nominations/Review of CUSP Sub-Committee Chairs and Representatives for AY 2016-17**

The following individuals accepted nominations to serve as Chair and Representative of CUSP Sub-Committees for Academic Year 2016-2017:

Chair, Academic Support Committee—Robert Stephens  
CUSP Faculty Representative, University Curriculum Committee for General Education—  
Lizette Zietsman.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:18 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
*Justin D. Sanders, Office of the University Registrar*