

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 14, 2005  
MINUTES**

Mr. Wurtzel called the Council meeting to order at 11: 05 a.m. in the main conference room in the SCHEV offices, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Daniel Abramson, Whittington Clement, Jean Cunningham, Mimi Elrod, Eva Hardy, Margaret Lewis, Christine Milliken, Bittle Porterfield, and Alan Wurtzel. Staff members present: Lee Andes, Nancy Cooley, Tom Daley, Dan Hix, Daniel LaVista, Lee Ann Rung, and Elizabeth Wallace.

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Restructuring Act - Dr. LaVista provided updates on the Restructuring Act, including the cycle for the 6-year plan review and the schedule for the benchmarks and targets.

Outstanding Faculty Awards (OFA) - Dominion has agreed to sponsor three additional OFA awards, bringing the total number of awards to 15.

Studies – Dr. LaVista informed the Council that they would receive a copy of the completed Affordability Study by December 22 for review prior to the January 10 Council meeting.

He also reported that the Textbook Study was in its final editing and will be sent to Council members early next week.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ms. Wallace distributed a list of legislation that has been filed dealing with higher education issues. She reviewed the list of items and indicated that after a presentation to the FOIA Council by Mr. Wurtzel and Dr. LaVista, Mr. Wurtzel was appointed to the sub committee of the FOIA Council to study the issue of electronic meetings.

Ms. Milliken requested that a meeting between the Student Advisory Council (SAC) and Council be scheduled next year. Mr. Wurtzel suggested that if possible, a meeting could be scheduled while the legislature is in session. The SAC could be asked to choose three top priorities that they would like to work on with the Council and have them present it to the Academic Affairs Committee and bring it to the full Council.

**CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE**

Mr. Daley followed up on a question that was raised at the October Resources Committee meeting on maintenance reserve as a percentage of replacement value.

He indicated that the calculation represents 3.5% of the replacement value of the higher education buildings and is consistent with recommendations from the Auditor of Public Accounts. Mr. Wurtzel suggested that as a policy matter, we should consider ways to maintain uniformity when doing on-campus inspections of the buildings.

## **FINANCE UPDATES**

Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) – Mr. Hix informed the Council that there will be a surplus of \$1.2 million in TAG funds for this year. A decision will need to be made as to how to handle the surplus and Mr. Hix indicated that if students who missed the deadline were included, an additional 200-300 students could receive TAG funds.

Budget addendum language and budget recommendations – Mr. Hix thanked the Council for their input on Dr. Trani's presentation on base adequacy in the October meeting and said the concern about the funding shortfall was discussed with the institutions and the institutions felt that SCHEV should proceed with the recommendation as submitted.

Ms. Hardy felt that in order to compete successfully with other states, Virginia's higher education system needs to react quickly to meet community and national needs as they emerge.

It was decided that the Council should work with the community colleges to learn what barriers exist and how we can work together to receive necessary funding. Dr. LaVista agreed to ask Dr. DuBois to speak with SCHEV about the issues at the January meeting.

Mr. Hix reviewed the charts that were distributed and on motion by Clement and seconded by Ms. Cunningham, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the following addendum to its 2006-08 budget recommendations. This language was produced by SCHEV staff in consultation with the Council of Presidents. The policies and goals contained herein are critical to the quality and affordability of our system of higher education.**

### **Budget Addendum Language**

- 1) Affirm the State Council's FY06-08 base budget adequacy recommendation for the system as an expression of financial need to attain base adequacy.
- 2) The State Council affirms base adequacy based on 67 percent general fund support for in-state students.
- 3) The State Council affirms that it will recommend that the Commonwealth seek to extend the 67/33 percent fund share ratio policy developed by the Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies to the current base

appropriation just as it is already being applied to incremental funds. Further, the State Council recommends that the Commonwealth establish a goal of completing this extension of achieving full general fund and nongeneral fund base adequacy funding by 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Alan Wurtzel  
Chairman

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Lee Ann Rung  
Council Secretary