

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MARCH 14, 2006
MINUTES NO. 69**

Mr. Wurtzel called the Executive Committee to order at 8:40 a.m. in the Seminar Room, Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale, Virginia. Council members present: Whittington Clement, Jim Dyke, Mimi Elrod, Christine Milliken, Bittle Porterfield, Alan Wurtzel. Staff members present: Ellie Boyd, Tom Daley, Daniel LaVista, Tod Massa, Lee Ann Rung, and Elizabeth Wallace. Anthony Meredith from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

LIAISON REPORT

Dr. LaVista provided a brief report and distributed the draft agenda for the April 24 Rectors' meeting.

UPDATE ON SCHEV BUDGET

Ms. Boyd distributed a copy of the FY 2006 appropriation and actual expenditures, which included the additional information requested by Council at the last meeting. She reported that the Teacher Education and Licensure (TEAL) project money was covered by the Department of Education and paid in January. After answering questions from Council members, she reported that the agency's budget is on track for the remainder of the year.

ACTION ON ADDENDUM TO COUNCIL POLICY ON EXPENDITURES

Mr. Daley discussed the addition to the policy on expenditures over \$10,000 and answered questions from members. Mr. Wurtzel felt it might be helpful in the future

for Council to have an opportunity to serve as a resource to staff in negotiating future contracts. The following resolution was unanimously approved to be forwarded to the full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia adds the following language to its budget policy:

For purposes of this policy, the term “non-budgeted expenditures” refers to expenditures which occur outside of the normal course of business and for which no specific appropriation exists. Although not itemized in the budget, payments related to pass-through programs, (e.g., TAG, GEAR UP, etc.) expenditures related to ongoing operational activities, (e.g., payment for rent, payroll services, etc.) and contracts or expenditures related to authorized projects in excess of \$10,000, shall be considered “budgeted.”

Included in its periodic budget updates, Council staff shall present a fiscal year-to-date itemized list of all payments in excess of \$10,000.00 made under contracts for specifically authorized projects.

DISCUSSION OF RECTOR MEETING AGENDA

Dr. LaVista distributed a draft agenda for the April 24 meeting with Rectors, and requested the Committee’s input.

There was some discussion about accountability. Dr. Elrod informed the Committee about an article by Derek Bok in the March 5 issue of The Washington Post dealing with standardized tests, and agreed to forward a copy to staff.

It was suggested that if the Rector is unable to attend or is approaching the end of his/her term, the Vice Rector should be invited.

The final agenda will be refined by Dr. LaVista and Mr. Wurtzel based on the comments received, and will be sent to the Rectors prior to the April 24 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MAY 9, 2006 AGENDA

The agenda for the May 9 meeting was reviewed and discussed. Dr. LaVista reminded the committee that the Private College Advisory Board (PCAB) meeting will be held the afternoon of May 8 at Shenandoah University. Council members were encouraged to attend. The following agenda was unanimously approved, with the stipulation that changes could be made by the Chairman and Executive Director:

Executive Committee

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes (March 14, 2006)
3. Liaison Report
4. Update on SCHEV Budget
5. Update on Boards of Visitors Meeting
6. Selection of Nominating Committee for Council Elections
7. Approval of July 11, 2006 Agenda

Academic Affairs Committee

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes (March 14, 2006)
3. Liaison Report
4. Action on Programs at Public Institutions
5. Action on Permanent Regulations for Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Institutions
6. Update on Committee Priorities
 - Persistence
 - Technology
 - Program Approvals
7. Presentation by Assessment of Student Learning Task Force

Resources Committee

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes (March 14, 2006)
3. Liaison Report
4. Action on Annual Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program
5. Action on Eminent Scholars
6. Update on 2006-08 Appropriation Summary
7. Discussion of Resources Committee Issues/ Agenda for Next Meeting

Council Meeting

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
(estimated)

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes (March 14, 2006)
3. Remarks by President
4. Executive Director's Report
5. Delegated Items by Director/Staff
6. Public Comment Period
7. Report from Executive Committee
8. Report from Resources Committee
9. Report from Academic Affairs Committee
10. New Business

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Alan L. Wurtzel
Chairman

Lee Ann Rung
Council Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MARCH 14, 2006
MINUTES NO. 30**

Ms. Milliken called the Academic Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:43 a.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center, President's Dining Room, Annandale, Virginia.

Council members present: Daniel Abramson, Mimi Elrod, Christine Milliken (Chair). Staff present: Darlene Derricott, Alan Edwards, Daniel LaVista, Monica Osei, Stephen Scott, Linda Woodley, Tod Massa. Other: Anthony Meredith, Office of the Attorney General.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the agenda as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the minutes of January 10, 2006 as submitted.

LIAISON REPORT

Dr. Alan Edwards reported the following Academic Affairs activities:

Response from Academic Affairs to VCCS Chancellor's Suggestions

Dr. Edwards reminded the Committee that the two suggestions offered by Virginia Community College System (VCCS) Chancellor Glenn DuBois in his January 10, 2006, remarks to the Council were referred to the Committee and its staff by Chairman Wurtzel.

- Regarding Dr. DuBois's first suggestion – that the Council delegate to the State Board for Community Colleges (SBCC) approval authority for community-college degree programs, Dr. Edwards advised the Committee that, while staff were willing to discuss the matter further with the Chancellor, staff could not find sufficient justification to warrant Council granting Dr. DuBois's suggestion at the present time, as explained below.

The Code of Virginia assigns to the State Council the duty to approve new degree programs for all public institutions; it also assigns to the Council the duty to periodically review the productivity and viability of existing degree

programs at public institutions. In its 2003 policy document on program productivity/viability, the Council delegated to the SBCC the authority to review and discontinue any community-college programs that the Board finds to be non-productive (according to criteria determined jointly by VCCS and SCHEV staff); these reviews must be reported to Council at least once every four years. Dr. Edwards reported that, because Council had already delegated program-review authority to the SBCC on the “back end” (outputs), SCHEV staff had concluded that to do so on the “front end” (inputs) as well would remove the State Council from any and all review of VCCS programs, which he did not believe would be consistent with Council’s desires, with the Code, or with the best interests of higher education in Virginia.

- Regarding Dr. DuBois’s second suggestion – that the Council assist the VCCS and the Commonwealth in understanding the transfer experience by better using SCHEV data to analyze and provide information on persistence and graduation, Dr. Edwards advised that SCHEV staff were very open to the Chancellor’s suggestion, but would prefer to wait and see whether the legislative session would result in SCHEV receiving its requested transfer coordinator position (which was included in the Governor’s proposed budget). He indicated that the type of analyses proposed by Dr. DuBois and others (e.g., NVCC provost John Dever) would constitute the ideal preliminary work of a new transfer coordinator at SCHEV. Dr. Edwards concluded that, if the agency did not receive such a position, then, given staff’s existing assignments, the type and scope of any analyses done by SCHEV staff would have to be scaled back.

New Transfer Analysis Tool

Dr. Edwards transitioned from the requested transfer analyses to a highlighting of the agency’s new transfer analysis tool. He reported that on March 10, 2006, SCHEV’s Policy Research and Data Warehousing (PR&DW) section released a new transfer analysis tool to the community colleges. Residing in the secure home pages for data submission and reporting through SCHEV’s website, this new tool will allow individual colleges, and the VCCS system office, to study community college transfer success at both public and private four-year institutions. Using SCHEV’s student-level data warehouse, community colleges are now able to study students who either graduated with an associate’s degree or were enrolled in one year and were reported the following fall as a new transfer student at a four-year institution. The new reporting tool also describes the numbers of students who graduated -- and in what years -- from the receiving institution, as well as those who transferred yet again and graduated from some other four-year institution. Finally, the report provides basic percentages of the students graduating two, three and four years after initial transfer. PR&DW director Tod Massa answered questions and provided details to the Committee.

Response to Chair’s Question on Formula used to Determine Degree Targets

Dr. Edwards followed up on Ms. Milliken’s question from the January 2006, meeting regarding how the Warner administration had arrived at its target of 10,000

additional degrees in the Commonwealth by the year 2010; he responded that it was a combination of science and art (with a little marketing thrown in). Dr. Edwards indicated that annual growth estimates had been derived from past-year trends for each type of degree and that these conservative growth estimates had then been used project degree totals into the future; a total for 2010 was derived, and this total was then rounded off to 10,000 as a discrete, easy-to-remember target number. He also reiterated SCHEV's projections from fall 2005, which also forecast an increase in degree awards of over 10,000 by the end of the decade.

Response to Chair's Question on Connections between the Restructuring Act and the Council's Program-approval Process

In response to Ms. Milliken's January 2006 question, Dr. Edwards responded that SCHEV staff had found the goals of the Restructuring Act to be consistent with Council's program approval process such that significant alteration of Council's process was not warranted, in his opinion. He noted that the Act requires a public institution to offer "a broad range" of degree programs "consistent with its mission" and that these programs must have "high academic standards." He reminded the Committee that fit-with-mission and academic quality have always been two of the Council's criteria for assessing program proposals and that, in recent years, the Council has tended to favor institutions' attempts to broaden their curricular offerings over more restrictive limitations on allowable system-wide duplication. Dr. Edwards posited that this openness to allow some redundancy of degree programs across institutions is highly consistent with the Act's requirement that institutions provide "sufficient" programs and graduates in curricular and/or geographic shortage areas. He pledged that in the future SCHEV staff would endeavor to ensure that public institutions pay at least as much attention to the Act's "shortage area" academic goal as to its "broad range" goal.

Regarding the Act's requirement of six-year academic plans from the public institutions, Dr. Edwards reported that staff had found no compelling reasons to expect – or to desire – significant connections between these plans and Council's program-approval process. Institutions' plans are not approved by SCHEV or any other entity. He concluded that requiring institutions to submit proposals for only those programs that were included in their plans (even when these plans may be updated annually) would be to restrict unnecessarily these institutions' abilities to be responsive to the Commonwealth's needs, as required in the Act's goals.

GEAR UP

Dr. Edwards reported that the future of GEAR UP funding remains unclear and that SCHEV's GEAR UP staff had recently submitted two grant proposals -- one to the U.S. Department of Education and the other to NCCEP -- totaling over \$18M. He also reported strong preliminary evidence that the GEAR UP program is working in Virginia. State-wide, the percentage of students who were enrolled in 9th grade in 2002-03 and who were enrolled in 12th grade in 2005-06 was 78%. In GEAR UP school districts, the percentage was only 54%. But, in the GEAR UP districts, the percentage of GEAR UP students who maintained enrollment from 9th to 12th grade

was 71%. He reiterated that SCHEV staff takes these numbers as strong evidence that GEAR UP is having a positive impact on middle and high school student persistence and retention.

Outstanding Faculty Awards

Dr. Edwards noted for the Committee that Dr. Stephen Scott had discussed with the chief academic officers' group – IPAC – possible modifications to the OFA criteria and guidelines and that Dr. Scott would be presenting these suggestions to the Outreach Committee later that morning. He reminded the Committee that, after Academic Affairs staff coordinates the OFA nomination and selection process, SCHEV's Communications and Government Relations staff coordinates the actual awards ceremony and publicity; he then acknowledged Ms. Elizabeth Wallace and her staff for a great event this year. He also noted that one of the 2006 recipients was Dr. Patricia Daron, a biology professor from meeting-host Northern Virginia Community College.

POPE Section

Regarding SCHEV's efforts with private and out-of-state postsecondary institutions and schools, Dr. Edwards advised the Committee that the proposed permanent regulations were approved by the Governor's office and were published in the March 6th Virginia Register. The public-comment period for the regulations had already begun and would end on May 8th; a public hearing was slated for April 10, 2006, at SCHEV's Richmond office. He also informed the Committee that, on January 30, 2006, SCHEV staff had submitted a "cease and desist" letter to Americare School of Nursing, which had been operating in the Alexandria area. The school's *Certificate to Operate* had expired, and communications with the head of the school yielded promises but no action toward recertification. He added that Ms. Linda Woodley and her staff were attempting to arrange teach-outs for the school's 35 or so students, but that attaining the students' records from the school's head was proving difficult. He reported that SCHEV staff were also working the Office of the Attorney General and the Commonwealth's Attorney for Alexandria concerning this school.

Transfer

Dr. Edwards reported that, following extensive review by the State Committee on Transfer and recommendations from the VCCS, SCHEV staff had approved the General Studies associate degrees of Virginia Highlands Community College and Southwest Virginia Community College as recognized transfer degrees, bringing the number of community colleges whose General Studies degree programs have been so recognized to 12.

Improving Teacher Quality State Grant (No Child Left Behind Act)

Dr. Edwards reported that, on March 2, 2006, he and Ms. Darlene Derricott – along with staff from the Virginia Department of Education – met with representatives of the U.S. Department of Education and Westat for the monitoring visit and audit of the NCLB Improving Teacher Quality State Grant. He reported that SCHEV and VDOE were commended for the level and quality of cooperation and collaboration

that the auditors found in the grants process. Only two potential “findings” were noted for SCHEV’s portion; the final written auditors’ report (with any findings, as determined by the USDOE’s legal staff) was to be submitted to SCHEV by early April.

ACTION ON PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

George Mason University -- Master of Arts (M.A.) in Art History

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview of the program and welcomed George Mason University representative, Dr. Michelle Greet, Assistant Professor of History and Art History. Dr. Greet explained this degree can be considered a terminal degree and that students who wish to pursue a doctorate after this program have options at at least two other four-year public institutions in Virginia. In addition she responded to committee members’ inquiries regarding market and employee demand; she indicated that no new state funding would be required because two new positions would be created at the undergraduate level, and faculty would be rotating the teaching load.

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to George Mason University to initiate a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree program in Art History (CIP: 50.0703), effective fall 2006.

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise -- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Software Engineering

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview of the program and welcomed representatives of the institution. Dr. David Prior, Chancellor, introduced members of his staff and collaborative partners. Chancellor Prior explained the origin of this proposed program and its potential impact on the economic development of the Southwest region of the state. He noted that funding had been included in former Governor Warner’s budget and that private donors and the Wise County Board of Supervisors were also significant contributors.

Committee members commended Dr. Prior on this initiative and the strong support received from the community. The members also suggested that this grounding in liberal arts with emphasis in science and technology could become a model for programs at other colleges and high schools.

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to The University of Virginia's College at Wise to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Software Engineering (CIP: 14.0903), effective fall 2006.

Virginia State University -- Master of Science (M.S.) in Plant Science

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview and welcomed institutional representatives. Dr. W. Eric Thomas, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, was commended on the university's effort for seeking alternative resources.

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Virginia State University to initiate a Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Plant Science (CIP 01.1101), effective fall 2006.

Northern Virginia Community College -- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in American Sign Language – English Interpretation

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview of the program and the action required. Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Northern Virginia Community College to initiate an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in American Sign Language – English Interpretation (CIP 16.1603), effective fall 2006.

Wytheville Community College -- Associate in Applied Science in Radiography

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview of the program. Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Wytheville Community College to initiate an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Radiography with a major in Radiologic Technology (CIP 51.0907), effective spring 2006.

Members of the committee expressed their appreciation to institutional representatives not only for their presence but for sharing information about the programs and other related academic issues and concerns.

ACTION ON THE CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE OF WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview and informed the committee this agenda item was a continuation of a discussion and action from the October 25, 2005, meeting.

Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia lifts its suspension of the *Certificate to Operate* of Washington University School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, effective March 14, 2006.

ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROMULGATION OF 8 VAC 40-31

Ms. Milliken provided a brief overview of the action required. Motion made and seconded, the committee unanimously approved the following resolution and forwarded to full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia directs and designates the Executive Director, or his assigned designee, to conduct a public hearing on the proposed promulgation of permanent regulations in 8 VAC 40-31 on April 10, 2006. The Executive Director shall, as may be required by law, afford interested persons the opportunity to submit data, views, and arguments, either orally or in writing. The Executive Director shall provide a summary of the public comment received and any action taken at the meeting.

UPDATE ON COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

Persistence

Dr. Monica Osei introduced Mr. Geoffrey Kamau and Ms. Cinthya Elliot, two NVCC students. Each student discussed his/her experiences as a nontraditional student, as well as some of the obstacles to continued enrollment and timely graduation that each had encountered (including financial aid, child care, public transportation, commuting, library hours and refresher courses). The students commented that the NVCC student body is very diverse and that the college provides excellent counseling and student advising services. One suggestion offered by the students was that NVCC could become even more attractive to potential students if it offered more distance learning courses. The committee thanked the students for their presentations.

Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) dean of student services Lori Baker addressed some of key factors in persistence at VWCC via a handout entitled “*Insights to Understanding Virginia’s Community College Students.*” Ms. Baker informed the Committee that approximately 46 percent of VWCC students work more than 30 hours per week; that 60 percent provide care for dependents; and that 55 percent will earn an Associate degree, while 47 percent will transfer to a four-year college or university. Approximately 83 percent of the students have a specific goal in mind.

Dr. Susan Shumate, Executive Director of the McLean campus of National-Louis University, provided a presentation entitled “*Factors Impacting Student Persistence.*” She addressed various relevant programs on her campus and the impacts that institutional policies and operations can have in both promoting and hindering student performance and success. Dr. Shumate also touched on articulation agreements, adult learning and assessment, and the wealth of knowledge that adults bring with experience.

Ms Milliken reminded members that student persistence is one of the Committee’s three 2006 priorities and that the Committee’s plan is to generate relevant recommendations by the summer. She provided an overview of the student number identifier tool that SCHEV’s Policy Research and Data Warehousing section has been developing and plans to implement by 2007. Ms. Milliken asked members to revisit information from presentations on persistence at past meetings in order to focus the discussion at the Committee’s May 9, 2006, meeting at Shenandoah University.

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Christine T. Milliken
Chair

Darlene Derricott
Committee Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MARCH 14, 2006
MINUTES NO. 61**

Mr. Porterfield called the Resources Committee to order at 9:45 a.m. in the Seminar Room in the Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale, Virginia. Council members present: Whittington Clement, Jean Cunningham, Eva Hardy, Bittle Porterfield, and Alan Wurtzel. Staff present: Lee Andes, Tom Daley, Dan Hix, Lee Ann Rung, and Elizabeth Wallace.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Hix informed the committee that staff met with the Finance Advisory Committee on March 8.

UPDATE ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUDGET ACTIONS

Mr. Hix reviewed the charts of the recommended two-year increased funding, including financial aid. Upon Mr. Wurtzel's request, Mr. Hix agreed to make any necessary corrections to the percentages in order to make it more understandable.

Ms. Hardy requested that at the next meeting a briefing be provided to include a 10-year look at where we are with regard to funding. It was suggested that information about affordability could also be extracted from discussions at the April 24 Rectors' meeting.

UPDATE ON TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANT (TAG)

Mr. Andes said the current budget was based on the number of students for 2006. The base is less than anticipated, leaving approximately \$1 million in surplus this

year, which equates to approximately \$56 per student. SCHEV has the authority to spend the surplus in the current year. It was mentioned that a discussion with the private institutions should take place to see if it is worthwhile, at this point in the academic year, to spend the surplus or if the funds should be carried forward to increase next year's grant amount. SCHEV staff will check with the Secretary of Education's office, the Department of Planning and Budget, to determine if there is any perceived risk to the remaining balance, should a decision be made to carry the surplus forward to the next fiscal year.

DISCUSSION OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE ISSUES/AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Hix briefly discussed the May Resources Committee agenda items that will be brought for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Bittle Porterfield
Acting Chairman

Lee Ann Rung
Council Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 14, 2006
MINUTES NO. 18**

Mimi Elrod called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. in the Seminar Room in the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center at the Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. Council members present: Daniel Abramson, Whittington Clement, Jean Cunningham, Mimi Elrod, Eva Hardy, Christine Milliken, Bittle Porterfield and Alan Wurtzel. Staff members present: Alan Edwards, Kathleen Kincheloe, Daniel LaVista, Stephen Scott and Elizabeth Wallace.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted.

LIAISON REPORT

UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARDS (OFA)

Mimi Elrod stated that the Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony was held on February 23, and the event went well. She also thanked Dominion for the resources that were provided.

Stephen Scott gave a brief presentation on the report that was submitted to IPAC. Mr. Scott made a recommendation to include the following categories:

- research/doctoral institution
- masters/comprehensive/baccalaureate institution
- two-year institution
- rising star
- Teaching with Technology
- At-Large

Ms. Elrod recommended a small committee to review the process and make changes to the application and the selection committee. A committee will be formed and a report will be made at the May council meeting.

UPDATE ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES

Mimi Elrod stated that the 50th anniversary was a good event. She thanked the staff for all of the hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Mimi Elrod
Chair

Kathy Robinson
Committee Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2006
MINUTES NO. 505**

Mr. Wurtzel called the Council meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. in the President's Dining Room, Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Virginia. Council members present: Daniel Abramson, Whittington Clement, Jean Cunningham, Mimi Elrod, Eva Hardy, Christine Milliken, Bittle Porterfield, and Alan Wurtzel. Staff members present: Lee Andes, Tom Daley, Alan Edwards, Dan Hix, Daniel LaVista, Tod Massa, Lee Ann Rung, and Elizabeth Wallace.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as amended. As there were no requests for public comment, this item was stricken from the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 10, 2006 were unanimously approved as submitted.

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TEMPLIN

Dr. Templin expressed his appreciation to the Council for meeting with the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) Board members. He said it is important to have SCHEV serve as the agency that oversees the system at a macro level, and to work across boundaries to address challenges in higher education to help improve student access and learning. While SCHEV's tradition is to oversee the four-year colleges, he suggested that the community colleges are also fundamental to the system and need SCHEV's involvement when change is needed, and also need SCHEV to be an advocate when circumstances arise. He was pleased to hear that barriers to access and accountability are an important focus for the Council. Mr. Wurtzel thanked Dr. Templin for hosting the Council and for the important work that is being done at NVCC.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. LaVista thanked the Council members for their assistance during the General Assembly session. He discussed some of the bills affecting higher education, as well as other SCHEV-related matters from the General Assembly. Dr. LaVista reported on several pieces of legislation at the federal level. He also informed the Council of the

Rectors' meeting scheduled for April 24 at the Richmond Omni and encouraged them to attend.

In answer to a question raised by a Council member, Dr. LaVista provided an update on the illegal immigration legislation that was discussed at the January Council meeting. Dr. LaVista reported that he represented the Council's perspectives to the legislative committee when he was asked to speak on this issue. He felt that good discussions took place about this issue and while no action was taken during this General Assembly session, he felt the issue could possibly resurface during the next session.

DELEGATED ITEMS BY DIRECTOR/STAFF

Dr. LaVista reported on two delegated items. As required, information regarding this item is included as part of the minutes.

ACTION ON DOMICILE GUIDELINES

Mr. Andes presented information about the domicile guidelines and explained that SCHEV staff has identified individuals to serve on the review committee. Ms. Milliken suggested that the list be amended to include legal counsel. As a result, the Council authorized the Executive Director to poll the Council or faculty to find one or two lawyers, preferably with an immigration law background, to add to the list. The following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the recommendations to the Domicile Guidelines Review committee with any resulting recommendations of the Committee subject to further council review and approval. The council further approves delegation of the committee selection process to staff.

PRESENTATION BY VIRGINIA TIDEWATER CONSORTIUM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. LaVista introduced Dr. Larry Dotolo, President of the Virginia Tidewater Consortium (VTC) for Higher Education. Dr. Dotolo informed the Council that the VTC was established by the Virginia State Legislature in 1973 as one of six regional consortia in the state. The purpose of the Consortium is to coordinate and facilitate higher education services in the Tidewater region to serve the educational needs of the citizens. He listed the member institutions and distributed information about VTC's areas of cooperation and partnerships.

UPDATE ON 2006 LEGISLATION

Ms. Wallace distributed a list of SCHEV initiated bills as well as general higher education bills and briefly reviewed each.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Wurtzel reported that the Executive Committee approved a revised addendum to the Council Policy on Expenditures over \$10,000. The following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia adds the following language to its budget policy:

For purposes of this policy, the term “non-budgeted expenditures” refers to expenditures which occur outside of the normal course of business and for which no specific appropriation exists. Although not itemized in the budget, payments related to pass-through programs, (e.g., TAG, GEAR UP, etc.), expenditures related to ongoing operational activities (e.g., payment for rent, payroll services, etc.) and contracts or expenditures related to authorized projects in excess of \$10,000 shall be considered “budgeted.”

Included in its periodic budget updates, Council staff shall present a fiscal year-to-date itemized list of all payments in excess of \$10,000.00 made under contracts for specifically authorized projects.

Mr. Wurtzel also informed the Council that the Executive Committee approved the May 9 agenda. He also reminded the Council that the annual Private College Advisory Board (PCAB) meeting will be held from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on May 8 at Shenandoah University.

Mr. Wurtzel reported that the Executive Committee also received a report on the SCHEV budget from Ms. Boyd.

A copy of the draft agenda for the April 24 Rector meeting was discussed by the Executive Committee, and a copy was distributed to the Council. Ms. Hardy requested that access and diversity be combined in order to facilitate discussion of barriers for immigrants trying to access educational opportunities. Dr. LaVista and Mr. Wurtzel will finalize the agenda to include comments received from the Council. A copy of the final agenda will be sent to the Rectors and to the Council before the meeting.

REPORT FROM RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Mr. Porterfield chaired the Resources Committee meeting in Mr. Dyke's absence. He indicated that the Committee was briefed on the 2006-08 budget and will further discuss the budget when the final budget is approved by the Governor and General Assembly. The Committee had no action items because the state budget has not yet been adopted.

REPORT FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Action on Programs at Public Institutions

Ms. Milliken informed the Council that the Committee reviewed several programs, and she briefly reviewed each. The Chancellor from UVA-Wise was present to discuss this institution's program. Ms. Milliken applauded UVA-Wise for its innovative approach to working in a cooperative manner. The following resolutions were unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to George Mason University to initiate a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree program in Art History (CIP: 50.0703), effective fall 2006.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to The University of Virginia's College at Wise to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Software Engineering (CIP: 14.0903), effective fall 2006.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Virginia State University to initiate a Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Plant Science (CIP 01.1101), effective fall 2006.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Northern Virginia Community College to initiate an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in American Sign Language – English Interpretation (CIP 16.1603), effective fall 2006.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Wytheville Community College to initiate an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Radiography with a major in Radiologic Technology (CIP 51.0907), effective spring 2006.

Action on Washington University School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine's Certification

Ms. Milliken reported that the Committee approved lifting the suspension on Washington University School of Acupuncture. The following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia lifts its suspension of the *Certificate to Operate* of Washington University School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, effective March 14, 2006.

Action on Public Hearing for Promulgation of 8 VAC 40-31

The following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia directs and designates the Executive Director, or his assigned designee, to conduct a public hearing on the proposed promulgation of permanent regulations in 8 VAC 40-31 on April 10, 2006. The Executive Director shall, as may be required by law, afford interested persons the opportunity to submit data, views, and arguments, either orally or in writing. The Executive Director shall provide a summary of the public comment received and any action taken at the meeting.

Ms. Milliken also reported that the Committee received a presentation by Dr. Edwards about enhancing the relationship between the Commonwealth's community colleges and 4-year institutions, as a result of a discussion by Chancellor DuBois at the January meeting. Mr. Massa indicated that a new tool is currently available for institutions to better manage and understand the various articulation and transfer of students. This tool is a precursor to other deliverables that will lead to a mechanism that should be available in 2007 that will allow institutions to track graduating Virginia high school students by I.D. number in order to track their progress through the higher education system.

Ms. Milliken reported that the Academic Affairs Committee declined to relinquish delegation of new degree programs to the State Board for Community Colleges (SBCC) due to the fact that in 2003, the Council delegated to the SBCC the authority to review and discontinue any community college programs found to be non-productive and report these findings to the Council at least once every four years. The Committee did not believe that relinquishing the entire process would be consistent with the Council's objectives, with the Code of Virginia, or with the best interests of higher education in Virginia.

The Academic Affairs Committee received a presentation by the Virginia Out-of-State Non-Profit Colleges and Universities, and Virginia Western Community College regarding factors impacting student persistence. Two non-traditional students also

spoke to the Committee about their experience at Northern Virginia Community College. Ms. Milliken requested that copies of the presentation be sent to all Council members.

REPORT FROM OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Dr. Elrod informed the Council that the Outreach Committee discussed SCHEV's 50th anniversary event, held on January 30 at the Old City Hall. The event was very successful, and included remarks made by Governor Kaine.

The Outstanding Faculty Awards (OFA) recipients were honored at a reception held on February 23 at the Library of Virginia. The Governor was also in attendance, and he thanked the recipients for their contributions to higher education. Dr. Elrod expressed thanks to Dominion for sponsoring the OFA reception, which was the 20th anniversary of the award. The Outreach Committee discussed the criteria to be used in the OFA selection process in the future. It was decided that a smaller committee would be formed to discuss the selection process. This group will present its findings to the Committee at a future meeting. Mr. Wurtzel also read a thank you note that he received from Dr. Joann Bodurtha indicating her appreciation for the OFA award and saying that she donated her award check to Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Elrod thanked Ms. Wallace and the SCHEV staff for their work in organizing both events.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Alan L. Wurtzel
Chairman

Lee Ann Rung
Council Secretary

**Items Delegated to Director/Staff
Reported to Council
March 14, 2006**

Pursuant to the Council's request, the following items were approved as delegated to staff:

**Organizational Changes / Off-campus Instructional Sites
January – March 2006**

Institution	Change / Site	Effective Date
Virginia Commonwealth U.	Renaming of the Department of Marketing and Business Law to become the Department of Marketing	Fall 2006
George Mason U.	Reorganization of the College of Nursing and Health Science to create the College of Health and Human Services . The Department of Social Work has been moved from the College of Arts and Sciences to the new College of Health and Human Services	July 1, 2006