

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MAY 16, 2016  
MINUTES**

Mr. Minor called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in Elwood Commons, Chavis Board Room, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. Committee members present: Gil Bland, Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Gene Lockhart, and G. Gilmer Minor, III.

Other Council members present: Henry Light, William Murray, Carlyle Ramsey, Minnis Ridenour, and Katharine Webb.

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Alan Edwards, Wendy Kang, Lee Ann Rung, and Greg Weatherford.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mr. Bland and seconded by Ms. Connelly, the minutes from the March 21, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.

**PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF CALENDAR YEAR 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS**

Mr. Blake reviewed the proposed schedule and distributed a copy of the campuses Council has visited over the last ten years. Members decided to stay with the one-day format for meetings in January and July. Committee members requested that staff contact Norfolk State University about the possibility of hosting the September 2017 meeting. Members also inquired about the possibility of visiting John Tyler Community College in July and staff agreed to explore that option.

**ACTION ON DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY: AUTHORIZATION OF STAFF TO UPDATE STATUTE CITATIONS IN COUNCIL DOCUMENTS**

Mr. Blake explained the recodification process and indicated that the legislation that will affect all Code reference numbers will take effect October 1. Staff is requesting a delegation of authority to make all necessary changes to SCHEV's policies and documents to streamline the process without the need to bring each change to Council for approval. On a motion by Ms. Web and seconded by Dr. Ramsey, the following resolution was approved unanimously (10-0):

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia delegates to the agency director authority to amend Council-approved policies, regulations, guidelines and all other agency documents to conform with and reflect the changes that will be enacted by Chapter 588 of the 2016 Acts of**

***Assembly to the current language and numbering of statutes in Title 23 of the Code of Virginia. These revisions shall be completed by September 1, 2016, and shall be communicated via the reporting process for delegated items no later than Council's meeting on September 20, 2016.***

### **UPDATE ON RESULTS OF BOARD SOFTWARE RESEARCH**

Ms. Rung provided an update on the results of the Council poll about members' preferred board software features and indicated that staff and a few Council members are currently using three different products on a trial basis. She will provide a report of the results at the July meeting.

### **UPDATE ON THE VIRGINIA PLAN INITIATIVES**

Ms. Kang provided an update and noted that staff is in the process of planning a facilitated meeting following the June 8 summit on access, completion and success that will include representatives from VEDP, the college communication staff and K12. Because they attended the meetings, Ms. Webb and Mr. Minor provided feedback on the first college communicators meeting. Both indicated that the meeting was very helpful and an excellent start to the process. Ms. Kang also informed the Committee of Mr. Weatherford's ongoing efforts to meet informally with communications staff at the institutions. In addition, Mr. Weatherford has reached out to staff at the Department of Education, the Governor's office, and is networking with various stakeholders.

Ms. Kang answered questions from members. Mr. Minor said staff is creating support for and ongoing confidence in SCHEV but stressed that there is always room for improvement.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 12:40 p.m., Mr. Minor asked that Mr. Lockhart read the attached motion which stated that in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), the Executive Committee would convene in closed session for the purpose of addressing personnel issues related to the performance of the Director. The motion stated that Al Wilson, legal counsel to SCHEV, should be present in the closed meeting and that Peter Blake would be present in a portion of the closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fralin and approved unanimously (10-0).

The Committee resumed in open session at 1:20 p.m. Mr. Fralin read the Freedom of Information Act Certification which was seconded by Dr. Ramsey, approved unanimously, and signed by all members. A copy of the certification is attached to these minutes.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

---

G. Gilmer Minor, III  
Council Chair

---

Lee Ann Rung  
Director, Executive & Board Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MAY 16, 2016  
MINUTES**

Mr. Gene Lockhart (Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. at Washington and Lee University, Leyburn Library, Northern Auditorium, in Lexington, Virginia. Committee members present: Gil Minor, Gene Lockhart, Heywood Fralin, Dan Gundersen, Bill Murray, Carlyle Ramsey and Katie Webb.

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Joseph G. DeFilippo, Sylvia Rosa-Casanova, Greg Weatherford.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Ms. Webb and seconded by Mr. Ramsey, minutes from the March 21, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.

**ACTION ON PRIVATE AND OUT-OF-STATE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION (POPE) INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

In attendance from Southeastern University  
Derek Holser, J.D., Site Director

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the agenda item. Southeastern University is a private, out-of-state non-profit that already has a presence in Virginia. Regulations require that each branch campus be certified separately. The facility would offer a B.S. in ministerial leadership and is located in Virginia Beach. Staff reviewed the application and determined that the institution has satisfied all requirements, including provision of a surety instrument and faculty qualifications.

On motion by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Webb, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Southeastern University to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.**

In attendance from Ivy Christian College  
John Yoo, Advisory Board Member  
Youn Sik Lee, Dean of Biblical Studies

Ivy Christian College is a for-profit institution in Fairfax which is already operating under religious/theological institution exemption. It is allowed to operate without certification as long as it is only offering religious/theological degrees. However, once an institution intends to offer programs in non-religious subjects, it must apply for certification. The institution has proposed to offer an A.A. and a B.A. in Business

Administration. Staff has reviewed the application and found it meets all requirements, including financial stability, and provision of a surety instrument.

On motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Webb, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Ivy Christian College to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.**

In attendance from Clarewood University

Dr. Kingsley Haynes, President

Mr. Patrick Baker, CEO

Dr. Mark Zhong, Administrative Dean

Ms. Mimi Tekle, Compliance Director

Clarewood University is a new, private, in-state institution. Staff has reviewed its application and found it has met all requirements.

On motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Ramsey, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Clarewood University to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.**

In attendance from Virginia University of Science and Technology

Dr. Martin Ma, President

Mr. James Wilson, Vice President

Virginia University of Science and Technology is a new institution in McLean, Virginia. It will offer a Master of Science in cybersecurity. Staff has reviewed its application for financial stability and submission of a security instrument.

On motion by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Webb, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Virginia University of Science & Technology to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.**

### **ACTION ON ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

In attendance from George Mason University (GMU)

Angel Cabrera, President

Robin Parker, Director of Compliance

Henry Butler, Dean, George Mason University Law School

David Wu, Provost  
Renell Wynn, Vice President of Communications & Marketing  
Mark Smith, Executive Director of State Government Relations, Government and  
Community Relations  
Alison Price, Admissions Associate Dean & Director, George Mason University Law  
School

Under consideration is a proposal from GMU to rename the law school as *The Antonin Scalia School of Law at George Mason University*. The staff analysis employed the same terms as would apply to any name change of an organizational unit under SCHEV's authority. Partly because of the intense public interest, SCHEV also solicited a review by the Office of the Attorney General and received advisement late last week that the particular circumstances of the name change render SCHEV approval unnecessary. According to regular SCHEV practice, when an instructional unit's name is changed, the renaming is interpreted as a change in identity of the unit, thus requiring SCHEV approval. SCHEV staff had not previously distinguished between "honorific" name changes, such as the one under consideration, and changes that alter the name in a way that is related to the *academic* content of the unit. Counsel has advised, however, that honorific name changes, insofar as they do not affect the academic identity of the unit, should not be construed as falling under Council's approval authority, as nothing different is being "created and established" as a result of the change. Accordingly, staff has now prepared a different resolution, which (i) acknowledges that the name change under consideration does not involve any other SCHEV approval authority, and (ii) affirms that the name change is enacted without need for SCHEV approval.

Dr. DeFilippo answered questions from members.

Mr. Lockhart asked President Cabrera whether, at the time of SCHEV's review, the Board of Visitors had met. He answered that the board approved all the conditions surrounding the name change and voted for it.

In explaining the SCHEV review, Dr. DeFilippo indicated that substantial moneys would be coming in and spent out for scholarships, which would boost enrollment, which would in turn increase revenue. Staff concluded that the totality of those plans seemed academically and fiscally sound and actually meritorious if they come to fruition as planned.

Mr. Lockhart asked if Dr. DeFilippo could clarify information provided by counsel. Dr. DeFilippo explained that counsel advised, essentially, that since SCHEV's authority in Code applies to the "creation and establishment" of instructional units, the mere honorific attaching of a name to the front of the school's existing name would not require SCHEV approval. SCHEV approval *would* be required if the honorific name change also involved a substantial change requiring SCHEV approval; but this is not the case under this proposal.

Dr. Murray asked if the advice was received in writing and Dr. DeFilippo answered that it was, by email.

Public comment was provided by the following individuals:

- Thomas Raneiri—student at George Mason University school of law.
- Marcus Simon—Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates.
- Angel Cabrera—President, George Mason University.
- Henry Butler—Dean, George Mason University school of law.
- J.W. Verret—Associate professor of law at George Mason University school of law.
- David Kuebrich—English professor at George Mason University.
- Thomas Rucker—student at George Mason University school of law

Mr. Fralin reminded attendees that the resolution is a recommendation for the Council's meeting the next day.

On motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Ramsey, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) endorses the staff analysis of George Mason University's proposed name change of the Law School to *The Antonin Scalia School of Law at George Mason University* as not entailing any mission, programming, or enrollment changes that require SCHEV approval at this time; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SCHEV affirms that, according to advice of counsel, the proposed name change is enacted without need of SCHEV's approval.**

### **UPDATE ON VIRGINIA PLAN INITIATIVES**

Dr. DeFilippo acknowledged Wendy Kang as the primary staff member for the Virginia Plan, and then briefed the committee on the two initiatives assigned to the Academic Affairs Committee.

Related to the coordination of the development of affordable pathways, the forum on access and student success will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup>. It has a rich agenda with many institutions and students involved.

Mr. Fralin asked about specific measures for the time for securing jobs for graduates and something that would show the range of compensation for graduates. Dr. DeFilippo answered that this particular forum is more about getting students into higher education, although there may be some comments regarding advisers' interactions with students. Mr. Lockhart suggested that the forum could include that as a topic. Dr. Ramsey said that one initiative has been having career coaches who tend to focus on students from underrepresented populations.

Related to collaborations with institutions on measuring the quality of undergraduate education, a task force has been created to study how to better measure post-

graduate outcomes. Wendy Kang is working with Georgetown Center on Workforce on this initiative.

**LIAISON REPORT**

Dr. DeFilippo informed members the report is available on page 30 of the agenda book.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Lockhart adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

---

Gene Lockhart  
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

---

Beverly Covington  
Staff, Academic Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MAY 16, 2016  
MINUTES**

Ms. Connelly called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m. in the Chavis Board Room, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. Committee members present: Gil Bland, Marge Connelly, Henry Light, and Minnis Ridenour.

Committee members absent: Pamela Moran and Gary Nakamoto.

Staff members present: Lee Andes, Alan Edwards, Dan Hix, Wendy Kang, Tod Massa, Jean Mottley, and Lee Ann Rung.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Bland and seconded by Mr. Light, the minutes from the March 21, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.

**DISCUSSION OF INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

Dr. Mottley provided an overview and reminded members that the biennial assessment is done every other year. The results for the six general education performance measures and the Level II measures will be discussed at the Committee meeting in July. The report from the Department of Planning and Budget on the six Financial and Administrative Measures will be discussed at the September Council meeting, along with an action item regarding certification.

An interim review of the results for 2013-14 was performed in late 2015. The results for 2014-15 were recently sent to the institutions. Some of the institutions have deficiencies, and they have been asked to provide feedback by June 15.

There was some discussion about the projections and performance measures needing to tie into the goals of the Virginia Plan for Higher Education. Mr. Massa will be asked to supply information related to this topic that he had presented at a prior Council meeting. There was a suggestion made that the September Council meeting may be a good time to discuss with the presidents what is needed from the institutions to meet the goals of the Plan.

**DISCUSSION OF FUND FOR EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION**

Ms. Kang provided a history of this item and informed members that the final funding amount from the General Assembly resulted in a combined fund that would focus on both affordable pathways and greater efficiencies. She indicated that staff has met with several Council members and although details regarding amounts and criteria for awarding the funds are yet to be determined, staff proposed that the fund be split into

two categories: affordable pathways and shared services/other efficiencies. Mr. Hix reported that the Finance Advisory Committee reviewed the shared services program and has a group of volunteers to study the possibility of creating a pilot program or programs that will include Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, and the Virginia Community College System (with Norfolk State University consulting). A volunteer from Old Dominion University was added subsequently. Student health insurance could be a possible area of focus. Ms. Connelly applauded the involvement of the advisory committee and suggested that the initial focus be small and concrete.

### **DISCUSSION OF DRAFT REGULATIONS FOR WORKFORCE CREDENTIALS**

Ms. Kang reviewed the legislation which established the New Economy Workforce Grant Program. This first of its kind program will provide a pay-for-performance model for funding noncredit workforce training that leads to a credential in a high-demand field. Ms. Kang answered questions from members and indicated that staff will continue to seek input on the draft regulations and prepare a final version for the Council's approval in July.

### **DISCUSSION OF CYBERSECURITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Mr. Andes explained the background of the Governor's initiative and explained that SCHEV will have the responsibility to develop eligibility criteria and administrative processes for this new program, which will begin July 1. Staff will provide final program guidelines to Council at its July meeting.

### **UPDATE ON THE VIRGINIA PLAN INITIATIVES**

Due to the lateness of the hour, this item was tabled.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

---

Marge Connelly  
Committee Chair

---

Lee Ann Rung  
Director, Executive & Board Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 17, 2016  
MINUTES**

Mr. Minor called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Northern Auditorium, Leyburn Library, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. Council members present: Gilbert Bland, Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Dan Gundersen, Henry Light, Gene Lockhart, G. Gilmer Minor, III, William Murray, Gary Nakamoto, Carlyle Ramsey, Minnis Ridenour, and Katharine Webb.

Council member absent: Pamela Moran.

Staff members present: Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Joseph DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Dan Hix, Wendy Kang, Jean Mottley, Lee Ann Rung, and Greg Weatherford. Al Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

**INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Minor introduced Mr. Gundersen as the newest member of the Council. Mr. Gundersen replaced Martin Briley as the Ex officio member from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

**REMARKS BY KENNETH RUSCIO, PRESIDENT, WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY (W&L)**

Mr. Minor changed the order of the agenda to allow President Ruscio to address the Council before the public comment period.

Mr. Minor read Mr. Ruscio's bio and thanked him for hosting the Council meetings and the Private College Advisory Board meeting.

President Ruscio welcomed the Council and spoke about accessibility, affordability, college completion, and innovation. He provided information about W&L's capital campaign and strategic planning process and reported that a record 77% of undergraduate alumnae contributed to the campaign. He shared W&L's endowment ranking from 2007-2015 and reported that the institution now ranks 22<sup>nd</sup> in the country in endowments per student. Although he shared the institutional rankings, Dr. Ruscio indicated that the goal of impacting rankings is never a consideration at the university. W&L's commitment to access and affordability is evidenced by the W&L Promise. The Promise guarantees that students with a combined family income below \$75,000 will not have to take out loans.

Dr. Ruscio said W&L has a high rate of completion for low income students. President Ruscio reviewed W&L's retention and graduation rates from 2013-2017.

He noted that with the exception of the housing village, all buildings and capital improvements are paid from external funds.

Dr. Ruscio mentioned that the current challenge for W&L is understanding the complexity of its history. He answered questions from members.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Minor reported that staff received requests from a number of people to make public comment about the renaming of the George Mason School of Law. He encouraged speakers to keep their comments to three minutes and requested that speakers consider deferring to other speakers unless they could add something significant to prior comments.

A total of 16 speakers provided comments, both pro and con, about the proposed name change.

Mr. Minor asked if there were others who wished to speak, even if they had not signed up in advance. No one came forward. He related the chronology of the process and explained that it is within Council's role to review name changes, curriculum changes, mission changes, and financial considerations at the institutions. Staff reviewed the matter and received additional input from the university about the plan for future funding of the law school. At that time, staff concluded that Council action was warranted and included the resolution in the agenda book that was made public on May 11. On the morning of May 12, SCHEV staff received information from legal counsel indicating that the name change under consideration did not entail changes to George Mason's mission, programming, or enrollment that would require SCHEV's approval. As a result of legal counsel's determination, a revised resolution was developed and was approved at the May 16 Academic Affairs Committee meeting. The Committee's recommendation will be reviewed by Council as part of the Academic Affairs Committee report.

The chairman called for a break at 10:55 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:10 a.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Ramsey, the minutes from the April 20 and March 22, 2016, meetings were approved unanimously.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Blake briefly reviewed the items in the written report which was included in the agenda book. He highlighted the following areas:

Tuition reporting – SCHEV has received reports from 13 institutions providing in-state undergraduate tuition and mandatory E&G fees for the 2016-17 academic year. The average increase is 2.7% over the 2015-16 charge.

Cybersecurity scholarship program - In the reconvened legislative session SCHEV was tasked to administer this new program that includes \$500,000 per year for cybersecurity public service scholarships. Staff is currently working on guidelines for the program.

Research investment committee – The first meeting of the five ex-officio members is scheduled for May 23. The remaining four members are to be designated from the yet-appointed roster of the GO Virginia board.

Lumina “Stronger Nation” report – Virginia ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation in overall attainment rate (including high-value certificates). Mr. Lockhart suggested that Lumina’s report be highlighted in The Virginia Plan.

June 8 summit – The program will focus on student access, success, and completion. This event will be partially underwritten by Lumina.

Boards of Visitors orientation – The planning committee will meet on May 25 to plan the October orientation. Council members Henry Light and Katie Webb will join the committee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Academic Affairs Committee**

Mr. Lockhart reported on the following items from the Academic Affairs Committee meeting:

#### *Antonin Scalia School of Law at George Mason University*

Mr. Lockhart emphasized that SCHEV staff had done an extensive amount of work to understand the parameters of the proposal. After many active discussions, staff believed that George Mason’s Board of Visitors upheld its fiduciary responsibilities. He stressed that this matter involved a complex set of legal analyses but nothing changes the fact that institutional governance is the purview of the Board of Visitors. Mr. Lockhart reported that the Academic Affairs Committee heard public comment from several speakers. The following revised resolution from the Committee was seconded by Ms. Webb. Hearing no request for discussion Mr. Minor called for a vote. The following resolution was approved unanimously (12-0):

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) endorses the staff analysis of George Mason University’s proposed name change of the Law School to The Antonin Scalia School of Law at George Mason University as not entailing any mission, programming, or enrollment changes that require SCHEV approval at this time; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCHEV affirms that, according to advice of counsel, the proposed name change is enacted without need of SCHEV's approval.

*Action on Private and Out-of-State Post-secondary Education (POPE) Institutional Certifications*

Dr. DeFilippo reviewed the application summaries of the four institutions. Dr. Murray seconded the Committee's recommendations in block and the following resolutions were approved unanimously:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Southeastern University to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Ivy Christian College to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Clarewood University to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Virginia University of Science & Technology to operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 17, 2016.

Mr. Lockhart indicated that the Committee had a robust discussion about The Virginia Plan and will be tackling some issues over the next few months.

Executive Committee

*Preliminary Discussion of Calendar Year 2017 Meeting Schedule and Locations*

Mr. Minor reported that the Committee reviewed a proposed list of meeting dates and possible locations. The Committee recommended that staff contact Norfolk State University about hosting the September 2017 meeting. The Council will take action on the schedule in July.

*Action on Delegating Authority to Staff for Changes to the Code of Virginia*

Mr. Blake explained that legislation that resulted from the Virginia Code Commission's work has resulted in a renumbering of certain sections of the *Code of Virginia*. The Committee's recommendation was seconded by Dr. Murray and the following resolution was approved unanimously:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia delegates to the agency director authority to amend Council-approved policies, regulations, guidelines and all other agency documents to conform with and reflect the changes that will be enacted by Chapter 588 of the 2016 *Acts of Assembly* to the current language and numbering of statutes in Title 23 of the *Code of Virginia*. These revisions shall be completed by September 1, 2016, and shall be communicated via the reporting process for delegated items no later than Council's meeting on September 20, 2016.

*Update on Board Software Research*

Mr. Minor informed the Council that the Executive Committee received a progress report from staff on the board software process. In addition to staff participation, a few Council members are currently participating in a trial period testing three different products. A final report will be provided in July.

*Action from Closed Session*

Mr. Minor reported that the Committee met in closed session to discuss personnel matters related to the Director's performance over the last year. He read the following resolution which was seconded by Ms. Webb and approved unanimously (12-0):

**I move, pursuant to the terms of Council's Employment Agreement with the Director, that the Director be awarded a performance bonus of 5% to be paid as soon as practicable, which bonus is based on the Director's performance over the past year.**

Mr. Minor offered a second resolution requesting that the Council delegate its authority to him to work with the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Human Resources to examine the Director's contract and extend it for an additional four years. Mr. Minor indicated that the preliminary document is 99% complete but the delegated authority will allow him to work with above agencies to finalize the contract. On a motion by Mr. Ridenour and seconded by Ms. Webb, the following resolution was approved unanimously:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants authority to the Council Chair to work with the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Human Resources to finalize the terms of the Director's contract and to extend it for an additional four years.

Resources and Planning Committee

Ms. Connelly indicated that there were no action items brought before the Committee. She noted that the Committee suggested adding an item to the September agenda with the public college presidents regarding ways in which current trends could affect the goals of The Virginia Plan. Ms. Connelly informed the Council that the Committee received a report from staff on cybersecurity scholarship program that was approved in the 2016 legislative session. Mr. Lockhart suggested

that the Council consider hosting an event on this topic similar to the research summit hosted by SCHEV in 2014.

### **UPDATE ON THE VIRGINIA PLAN**

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

### **ITEMS DELEGATED TO STAFF**

Mr. Blake noted the categories of recent actions taken by staff as delegated by the Council. As required, a copy of these actions is attached to the minutes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Minor said after serving more than two full terms, Mr. Bland's term on the Council will end as of June 30. He thanked Mr. Bland for his nine years of service to the Council and presented him with a gift for having served as a past Council Chair. Mr. Minor read the following resolution, which was approved unanimously and presented to Mr. Bland:

**WHEREAS**, Gilbert T. Bland served as an exemplary member of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia from 2007 to 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland also provided strong leadership to the Council and advocacy for the agency in serving as Chair and Vice Chair as well as on various committees and subcommittees; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland has earned the respect of his fellow Council members for his diligent efforts and willingness to lead the Council's efforts in developing the statewide strategic plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland promoted the strength and prosperity of Virginia's public and private institutions, especially those that provide transformative opportunities to students who otherwise might not attend college, and passionately championed the value and tradition of historically black colleges and universities in Virginia, as well as nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland quietly and persistently advocated for excellence in institutional governance and leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland's vision and extensive business experience helped to advance the Council during a period of considerable change; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland has been tireless in his efforts to bring constituencies from across the Commonwealth together to promote and improve higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bland will continue to work to ensure that Virginia is advanced through higher education and will serve as a valued and knowledgeable advisor to the Council as it continues its important work; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia expresses its sincere gratitude and appreciation to **Gilbert T. Bland** for his commitment, distinguished service, and numerous contributions to higher education in Virginia, and extends to him best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

Mr. Bland said he was honored to serve the Commonwealth. He wished the Council well and asked that it continue its good work for the benefit of students and families in the Commonwealth.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

---

Marge Connelly  
Secretary

---

Lee Ann Rung  
Director, Executive and Board Affairs

### Items Delegated to Director/Staff

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "*Policies and Procedures for Program Approval and Changes*," the following items were approved/not approved as delegated to staff:

#### Program Actions

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
Virginia Commonwealth University	<b>Title Change Approved:</b> Change the title from a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education to a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Arts (13.1302) [Conferral Spring 2017]	Summer 2016
Virginia State University	<b>Title and CIP Code Change Not Approved:</b> Change the title and CIP code of the Bachelor of Science degree program in Management Information Systems (52.1201) to a Bachelor of Science degree program in Computer Information Systems (11.0401)	April 14, 2016

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "*Policies and Procedures for Program Approval and Changes*," the following items were reported:

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
George Mason University	Initiate Graduate Certificate program in Biodefense (26.0599) [Conferral: Summer 2016]	Spring 2016
George Mason University	Initiate Graduate Certificate program in Digital Public Humanities (54.0199) [Conferral: Summer 2017]	Fall 2016
Old Dominion University	Initiate Graduate Certificate program in Adapted Physical Education (13.1098) [Conferral: Fall 2016]	Spring 2016
Radford University	Initiate a Graduate Certificate program in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (51.3810) [Conferral: Fall 2018]	Fall 2016
University of Virginia	Discontinue the Graduate Certificate program in Technology Leadership (11.1099)	Summer 2017

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "*Policies and Procedures for Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes*," the following items were approved as delegated to staff:

Institution	Change / Site	Effective Date
Virginia Commonwealth University	Create the <b>Department of Counseling and Special Education</b> from the Department of Counselor Education and the Department of Special Education and Disability Policy. The merger of the two departments will allow for more efficient administration of programs and enhance opportunities for faculty collaboration and research.	June 1, 2016
Virginia Commonwealth University	Create the <b>Department of Political Science</b> . The Department will reside in the College of Humanities and Sciences and will provide infrastructure for the management of the BA degree program in Political Science and three Minor programs. The Department will have direct control over the program's budget and be better able to support faculty research activities.	June 1, 2016
Virginia Commonwealth University	Create the <b>Department of Sociology</b> . The Department will reside in the College of Humanities and Sciences and will provide infrastructure for the management of the BS and MS in Sociology. The Department will have direct control over the programs' budget and be better able to support faculty research activities.	June 1, 2016

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9.14:3 and Council's "*Commonwealth of Virginia Policy on the Reciprocal Authorization of Distance Education and Related Activities*", the following items were approved as delegated to staff:

**Virginia Institutions Approved to Participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)**

Institution	Effective Date
Eastern Virginia Medical School	April 26, 2016

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Lord Fairfax Community College	March 9, 2016*
New River Community College	April 18, 2016
Patrick Henry College	March 18, 2016