Mr. Fralin called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. in the SCHEV 9th floor conference room, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Ken Ampy, Rosa Atkins, Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Henry Light, Gene Lockhart, William Murray, Carlyle Ramsey, Minnis Ridenour, Thomas Slater, and Katharine Webb.

Council members absent: Stephen Moret.


Al Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General also was present.

RECEIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Webb and seconded by Dr. Ramsey the minutes from the September 18, 2017, Joint Meeting, the October 25, 2017, Boards of Visitors meeting, and the October 31, 2017, Council meeting were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION: THE HIDDEN STRENGTHS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. Blake introduced Dr. Ayers and read portions of his bio. A summary of his most recent book was distributed to members. Dr. Ayers said despite higher education's successes, many are antagonistic of colleges in general. He said that although there are criticisms of higher education, fundamental facts are missed and commonplace accomplishments of higher education are often ignored.

Dr. Ayers cited various statistics that reflect the positive impact of higher education that are often overlooked. He noted that higher education costs have risen because it is offering more for an increasing and diverse population. He suggested more of a focus on accomplishments and less on cliché criticisms.

Dr. Ayers answered questions from members and suggested that the system become more analytical, looking over time rather than every year, and consider where higher education fits into a larger story. Dr. Ayers’ view was that advocates and critics of higher have a short horizon and tend to look at what is needed next year. He felt higher
education leaders should recognize the larger picture and remember how far it has advanced and the doors it has opened for students. Following that, the case for more funding will be more compelling. Democratization comes with some cost but would be most effective. A longer view would mean a less crisis-driven system.

**REPORT OF THE AGENCY DIRECTOR**

Mr. Blake noted items from his written report and summarized the information that was included in the agenda book.

The Governor appointed Victoria Harker to replace Suzette Denslow, who is ineligible now that she has been appointed to Governor-elect Northam’s cabinet. Ms. Harker is Chief Financial Officer at TEGNA, Inc. and a former board member at the University of Virginia.

Mr. Blake distributed a list of legislation and reminded members that the bills SCHEV will track during session are on the SCHEV website and said staff would continue to find ways to improve communications on hot button issues.

Mr. Blake reminded members of the Chairman’s request at the last meeting to have Mr. Slater and Mr. Ampy represent the Council and work with staff to make data more focused for policy decision-makers. Mr. Fralin felt the matter deserved more attention and designated an ad hoc data committee that would hold regular meetings to advance the data agenda. In addition to Messrs. Slater and Ampy, Ms. Connelly and Dr. Moret will serve on the ad hoc committee. Mr. Slater will co-chair the ad hoc committee with Mr. Ampy. Once meeting dates are decided, all members will be encouraged to attend.

Mr. Blake reported that in the near term he will not permanently fill the position of Director of Finance Policy vacated by Dan Hix’s retirement. Ms. Kang will assume leadership of the Finance Policy staff on an interim basis. In addition, Ms. Pam Currey, will provide assistance during the General assembly session. Ms. Currey is well-respected in higher education finance. She has served as Deputy Secretary of Finance and has experience working with the Senate Finance Committee and Virginia Commonwealth University.

**REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEES**

*Report from Academic Affairs Committee*

Ms. Webb summarized the following items addressed by the Committee:

*Action on Programs at Public Institutions*

After providing a brief overview, the Committee’s recommendation was seconded by Mr. Light and approved unanimously (10-0). Dr. Murray was not present for the vote:
BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Northern Virginia Community College to initiate an Associate of Fine Arts degree program in Cinema (CIP: 50.0601), effective summer 2018.

Action on Mission Statement Policy Revisions

After providing a brief overview, the Committee’s recommendation was seconded by Mr. Slater and approved unanimously (10-0):


Action on Student Advisory Statement on “Certification”

Ms. Webb explained that this advisory statement better explains SCHEV’s authority with regard to certification. This information will be posted on SCHEV’s website. After providing a brief overview, the Committee’s recommendation was seconded by Mr. Slater and approved unanimously (10-0):

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia adopts the advisory statement, “Certification to Operate a Postsecondary Institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia,” effective immediately, and directs staff to make it publicly available.

Report from Resources and Planning Committee

Discussion of Governor’s Introduced Budget

Ms. Connelly provided the Committee’s report. She explained the information that Michael Maul provided to the Committee. Many items in the Governor’s introduced budget are consistent with SCHEV’s recommendations. She explained that certain events could negatively impact revenues, including a government shutdown or sequestration. The Governor’s budget included minimal funding for capital. It also included funding for a student loan ombudsman within SCHEV. The Governor’s budget recommendation for the Tuition Assistance Grant was less than SCHEV’s recommendation.

Discussion of Fall 2017 Enrollment at Public Four-Year Institutions

Ms. Connelly reported information provided by SCHEV staff and indicated that overall enrollment is slightly up from last year, but the Virginia Community College System has seen a decline in enrollment.

Discussion of 2016-17 Degree Completions and Other Awards
Degree completions were down slightly but overall Bachelor degrees were up slightly. Ms. Connelly noted an increase in degrees awarded to minority students. She suggested that SCHEV consider increasing institutions' latitude to accept additional out-of-state students in high-demand degrees that may not be possible through current in-state/out-of-state requirements.

**DISCUSSION OF UPDATES TO THE VIRGINIA PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

This matter was discussed in the educational session.

**PRESENTATION: THE VIRGINIA TECH CARILION PARTNERSHIP**

President Sands was unable to get to Richmond for the educational session so he made his presentation at the Council meeting. Mr. Blake introduced President Sands, who then provided a brief history of the partnership from its inception in 2007 through the planned expansion of the Virginia Tech Research Institute in 2017. He discussed its impact and success rate and reviewed the top ten research areas in which the partnership is involved. Dr. Sands also provided examples of collaborative research that is underway and highlighted lessons learned as well as next steps.

The medical school received more than 4,000 applicants to fill 42 medical student slots. There is an emphasis on research and every student has an extended project with faculty at Virginia Tech or Carilion built into the curriculum. The program is not a typical Ph.D. or M.D. program. Its purpose is to create a pool of physicians who understand and can interpret literature and keep current on latest medical trends. All M.D. students learn to work as part of a team. The program will integrate parts of the Blacksburg campus with Roanoke and every College at Virginia Tech has some connection.

Dr. Sands answered questions from members.

**RECEIPT OF ITEMS DELEGATED TO STAFF**

Mr. Blake informed members that the items Council delegated to staff were included in the agenda book. As required, a copy of these items is attached to the minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Highlights from the list of Council priorities were included in the agenda materials. In the interest of time there was no discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**
The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

________________________________________
Henry Light  
Council Secretary

________________________________________
Lee Ann Rung  
Director, Executive and Board Affairs
Items Delegated to Director/Staff

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 23.1-203 and Council’s “Policies and Procedures for Program Approval and Changes,” the following items were reported:

**Diploma, Certificate, Discontinued and Modified Programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Degree/Program/CIP</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Bland College of William and Mary</td>
<td><strong>Simple Program Modification:</strong> Add an online delivery format to the Associate of Science degree program (40.0101) [Conferral: Spring 2018]</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Bland College of William and Mary</td>
<td><strong>Simple Program Modification:</strong> Add an online delivery format to the Associate of Science in Business (52.0201) [Conferral: Spring 2018]</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University</td>
<td><strong>Academic Program Discontinued:</strong> Discontinue the Bachelor of Science in Business degree program in Economics (52.0601) [Council Approval: Unknown]</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 23.1-203 and Council’s “Policies and Procedures for Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes,” the following item was approved as delegated to staff:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Change/Site</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Newport University</td>
<td>Rename the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies to the <strong>Department of Philosophy and Religion</strong>. The Department has been renamed to provide clarity of identity and to have a more succinct name.</td>
<td>January 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 23.1-211 and Council’s “Commonwealth of Virginia Policy on the Reciprocal Authorization of Distance Education and Related Activities,” the following item was approved as delegated to staff:

**National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) Approval**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridgewater College</td>
<td>November 14, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pursuant to the [Code of Virginia § 23.1-213 to 230 and 8VAC-40-31-90 of the Virginia Administrative Code](https://wwwвл Crud items were approved as delegated to staff:

**Postsecondary, Non-Degree Institutions Certified to Operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sufia Institute of Science and Technology</td>
<td>Alexandria, VA</td>
<td>September 29, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valor Into Purpose Training Center</td>
<td>Sandston, VA</td>
<td>September 13, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Institute of Technology Services (Branch)</td>
<td>Fairfax, VA</td>
<td>November 15, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantum Studios Institute for Technology (2 locations)</td>
<td>Alexandria, VA</td>
<td>November 15, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arlington, VA</td>
<td>November 15, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Fralin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in the SCHEV 9th floor conference room, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Committee members present: Ken Ampy, Rosa Atkins, Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Henry Light, Gene Lockhart, Stephen Moret, William Murray, Carlyle Ramsey, Minnis Ridenour, Thomas Slater, and Katharine Webb.

Council members absent: None.


Al Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Slater and seconded by Mr. Lockhart, the minutes from the October 30, 2017, Educational Session were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION: HIGHER EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: A NEW STATE IMPERATIVE

Mr. Blake introduced Dr. Moret and Mr. Mitch Horowitz, managing director, TEConomy Partners, and each presented his perspective on economic development in the Commonwealth. Dr. Moret discussed Virginia’s slowing growth rate over a five-year period. Since 2009, Virginia has dropped six places in national business climate rankings. Important opportunities to strengthen Virginia’s standing include: developing human capital, providing internships, supporting university-based economic developers, surveying alumni, building stronger understanding of underemployment, and exploring further opportunities to integrate computer and data sciences across undergraduate curriculum. In general, Dr. Moret said there is an exciting future for Virginia as a leader but stressed the importance of improving that leadership position and addressing areas where Virginia is falling behind.

Mr. Horowitz presented information on research and development. He discussed situational assessment and strategic objectives and bridging the gap that exists between university research and Virginia-based company innovation.

Mr. Fralin stated that much coordination will be needed but stressed that SCHEV is the appropriate agency to coordinate the effort with colleges and universities on behalf of the Commonwealth. He said there is a need to find the right personnel and to better allocate funds for more student mentoring to make them aware of jobs and fields of study that will likely produce a job upon graduation. Members provided their suggestions for moving forward and Dr. Moret and Mr. Horowitz answered questions.
Mr. Fralin requested a change in the agenda order to accommodate Dr. Tim Sands, president, Virginia Tech, whose travel to Richmond was delayed due to weather. He called for a break at 10:35 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:50 a.m.

Mr. Fralin requested that staff provide an update on The Virginia Plan that was planned for the full Council agenda.

Ms. Kang reviewed the report and measures, including progress in moving toward the best-educated state goal. Currently, 51% of working age Virginians has a postsecondary credential. The percentage needed to attain the goal by 2030 is 70%. Virginia remains 6th in the nation; Massachusetts is first with 55%. She noted that while Virginia is doing well, there are reasons that could cause the state to slip in the rankings. She reviewed the initiatives, recommendations, and next steps, which include communicating findings to stakeholders; reviewing initiatives, identifying measures and confirming activities for the coming year.

Mr. Fralin congratulated Ms. Kang and the Council (under Gil Minor’s leadership) on progress to date on the Plan. He requested that Mr. Blake prepare a discussion on measurement of the six initiatives at the next meeting.

**REMARKS FROM GOVERNOR-ELECT RALPH NORTHAM**

Mr. Fralin introduced the Governor-elect and read his bio and noted his accomplishments in serving the citizens of Virginia over his long public service career.

Governor-elect Northam thanked SCHEV and noted the Council’s leadership in contributing to Virginia’s top standing in higher education. He said he looks forward to working over the next four years to continue to keep Virginia in the top states for higher education. A priority of the Administration will be to return Virginia’s ranking as the top state to do business. Ways to make this happen include offering the best educational opportunities and increasing workforce development to prepare for jobs of the 21st century. He informed the Council that he will provide support and assistance in expanding affordability and finding ways to bring skills to jobs. He referred to his Administration’s goal as G3 (Get skilled, Get a job, and Give back).

Governor-elect Northam introduced Marianne Radcliffe, Rector at Longwood University, who is a member of the transition team. He said he is appointing a diverse cabinet of talented individuals and noted that his is the first Cabinet in Virginia’s history with a majority of women. Other members of the Administration who were present and introduced: Secretary of Education Qarni and Deputy Secretary Bradford, and Workforce Development Secretary Healy. In closing, the Governor-elect encouraged members to bring forward ideas.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.
Henry Light
Council Secretary

Lee Ann Rung
Director, Executive & Board Affairs
Ms. Webb (Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in Richmond, Virginia. Committee members present: Ken Ampy, Rosa Atkins, Heywood Fralin, Gene Lockhart, and Carlyle Ramsey.

Committee members absent: None.

Staff members present: Joseph G. DeFilippo, Jodi Fisler, Ashley Lockhart, Paula Robinson, Sylvia Rosa-Casanova, Darlene Derricott, Sandra Freeman, and Paul Smith.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Lockhart, and seconded by Dr. Ramsey, minutes from the October 30, 2017, meeting were approved unanimously.

Ms. Webb introduced and invited staff to present information on the following topics:

ACTION ON PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

In attendance:
David Epstein, NVCC
Brian Brown, NVCC
Sharon Robertson, NVCC
Megan Healy, VCCS

Dr. DeFilippo described the proposed Associate of Fine Arts degree program in Cinema at Northern Virginia Community College. Dr. DeFilippo answered questions about the new degree’s transfer demand and explained that staff recommended that the committee approve the program, according to the resolution.

On motion by Mr. Ampy 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 grants approval to Northern Virginia Community College to initiate an Associate of Fine Arts degree program in Cinema (CIP: 50.0601), effective summer 2018.

ACTION ON MISSION STATEMENT POLICY REVISIONS

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the proposed action on Mission Statement change and explained the history and background which relates to Council’s duty in the Code of Virginia. There was some discussion about what constitutes a Mission Statement change and Dr. DeFilippo gave context to the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools report on curricular review, sound
fiscal policies, and processes that are useful to institutions to satisfying the regional accrediting guidelines.

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


ACTION ON STUDENT ADVISORY STATEMENT ON “CERTIFICATION”

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the regulatory compliance issue related to certification and answered questions about its function in relation to US Department of Education Title IV requirements. There was some discussion about school closures and SCHEV’s role in student complaints.

Dr. DeFilippo answered additional questions about student complaints with regard to the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. Committee members agreed that while the SCHEV statements on student complaints are explicit and publicly available, they could be clarified and made more public.

On motion by Dr. Ramsey and seconded by Dr. Atkins, 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 adopts the advisory statement, “Certification to Operate a Postsecondary Institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia,” effective immediately, and directs staff to make it publicly available.

STATUS REPORT ON THE PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TEACHER SHORTAGES

Ms. Lockhart presented the Preliminary Report from the Advisory Committee on Teacher Shortages (ACTS) and answered questions on the teacher shortage in Virginia. There was some discussion on teacher licensure and the state’s data systems for tracking students in teacher preparation programs.

There was additional discussion about career-switchers programs and the possibility of a program similar to the executive leadership program at UVA’s Darden School of Business. Ms. Webb suggested that the Council send a letter from the Chairman highlighting its support for the ongoing work of the ACTS.

REPORT OF THE STAFF LIAISON TO THE COMMITTEE

There was some discussion on SCHEV’s outreach effort to interact with school superintendents at regional meetings over the next year. Dr. DeFilippo provided an update on dual enrollment and transfer plans.
DISCUSSION OF WAGE DEBT TOOL REPORT

On recommendation by the chair, that item is deferred to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Webb adjourned the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

______________________________
Katharine Webb
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

______________________________
Ashley Lockhart
Staff, Academic Affairs
Ms. Connelly called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. in the SCHEV 9th floor conference room, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Committee members present: Marge Connelly, Henry Light, William Murray, Minnis Ridenour, and Thomas Slater.

Committee member absent: Stephen Moret.

Staff members present: Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Ellie Boyd, Russ Carmichael, Pamela Currey, Alan Edwards, Wendy Kang, Tod Massa, Jean Mottle, Lee Ann Rung and Greg Weatherford.

Also present: Michael Maul, Associate Director, Department of Planning and Budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Slater the minutes from the October 30, 2017, meeting were approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF GOVERNOR’S INTRODUCED BUDGET

Mr. Blake informed the members that he reassigned Mr. Kang to handle portion of the Finance Policy Section since Mr. Hix’s retirement. Ms. Pam Currey also will provide assistance during the General Assembly session. He provided information about Ms. Currey’s background and indicated that they both are just getting started with their new positions. He asked Mr. Maul to provide a broad overview and perspective of the introduced budget.

Mr. Maul explained the financial situation prior to the release of the Governor’s budget, saying that until November it was assumed that there would be cuts to higher education.

He reminded members that the current economy is good but is due for a downturn and noted the negative effects that could come from a federal government shutdown or sequestration. Mr. Maul noted that the Governor’s biennial budget assumes over $400 million in savings that would be received if Medicaid expansion is approved. He mentioned that very little funding was included in the budget for capital but noted that funding proposed for maintenance reserve is the highest in history and the majority of that funding has been for higher education. He reminded members that debt capacity must help maintain the Commonwealth’s bond ratings.

Mr. Maul reviewed the budget recommendation items and compared the Governor’s recommendations to SCHEV’s recommendations and reviewed language items in the budget that were included per SCHEV’s recommendation. He answered questions from members.
DISCUSSION OF FALL 2017 ENROLLMENT AT PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Mr. Massa provided an explanation of the report in the agenda book and answered questions from members. He discussed challenges in enrolling more students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields, including making students familiar with the possible options and what it’s like to do those jobs.

Mr. Massa informed the Committee that fall enrollment is up overall by 1,000 students but noted that the Virginia Community College System is still down by 4,000 students. Degrees awarded are down slightly. Awards of Bachelor degrees are down for in-state and up for out-of-state students, but overall, Bachelor degrees have increased. Mr. Massa reported that the population of white students has decreased while there has been significant growth in minority students over 26 years. This major change in student populations must be considered when setting policy to help this student population become successful.

Mr. Slater suggested that SCHEV emphasize the things that institutions are doing right to attract minority students. Mr. Massa answered questions from members.

DISCUSSION OF 2016-17 DEGREE COMPLETIONS AND OTHER AWARDS

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

________________________________________________________________________
Marge Connelly
Committee Chair

________________________________________________________________________
Lee Ann Rung
Director, Executive & Board Affairs