



# A SCHEV UPDATE

*From the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia*

## The Strategic Plan for Higher Education

January 2007

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### Developing a Strategic Plan

The *Code of Virginia* requires that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) develop a statewide strategic plan for higher education. In response to this charge, SCHEV marshals resources to help the agency create a comprehensive, integrated plan that

- articulates a vision for Virginia higher education;
- is based on academic priorities and education needs of the Commonwealth;
- is used to inform planning and resource decisions at a statewide, system wide, and campus level; and
- serves as the framework for six-year institutional plans.

In late 2006, SCHEV formed a Strategic Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) to provide crucial advice and guidance in developing a six-year strategic plan for higher education. The formation of an advisory committee will help to ensure that important stakeholders in Virginia's system of higher education have the opportunity to provide comprehensive input to shape the plan that is ultimately approved by SCHEV.

The committee as a whole convened for an initial organizational meeting hosted by Hunton & Williams on December 8, 2006. This meeting ended with members breaking into subcommittees, which will meet on their own in the coming months. A March session will involve both working-group meetings and a meeting of the full committee, with the subcommittees convening separately to adopt their tentative goal statements, followed by a meeting of the full committee to review and endorse the tentative goals. The State Council plans to consider these goals in March, and SCHEV staff will use the

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approved goals to prepare a draft of the plan. The final SPAC meeting will occur in April. The goal is to have the plan ready for adoption by the State Council in May, so that public colleges and universities may make full and effective use of it in updating their institutional strategic plans.

### Committee Membership

Nathan Alleman, College of William & Mary  
Elsie M. Barnes, Norfolk State University  
Michael Belefski, Designee of Del. Callahan  
Jennifer Braaten, Ferrum College  
Diana Cantor, Virginia College Savings Plan  
Patricia Cormier, Longwood University  
Jeffrey Cribbs, Richmond Memorial Health Found.  
Larry Dotolo, Tidewater Consortium  
Glenn DuBois, Virg. Community College System  
Jessica Eades, Designee of Sen. Potts  
Rachel Fowlkes, Southwest Virg. Higher Ed. Cent.  
Heywood Fralin, Virg. Business-Higher Ed. Coun.  
Tim Franklin, Instit. for Advanced Learning & Res.  
Toney Gates, John Tyler Community College  
Ivelaw L. Griffith, Radford University  
Hon. William Howell, Virginia House of Delegates  
April Kees, Designee of Sen. Chichester  
Robert Lambeth, Council of Ind. Colleges in Virg.  
James Lollar, Radford University  
Tony Maggio, House Appropriations Committee  
Virginia McLaughlin, College of William & Mary  
Hon. Harvey Morgan, Virginia House of Delegates  
Hon. Thomas R. Morris, Secretary of Education  
Kent Murphy, Luna Innovations  
Paul Nardo, Chief of Staff, Virg. House of Delegates  
John B. Noftsinger, James Madison University  
Larry Olanrewaju, Rappahannock Comm. College  
William E. Pearson, Virginia College Fund  
Kerry Redican, Virginia Tech University  
Maurice Scherrens, George Mason University  
Colette Sheehy, University of Virginia  
Mark Singer, Virginia Career College Association  
Hon. Robert Tata, Virginia House of Delegates  
Eugene Trani, Virginia Commonwealth University  
James E. Ukrop, First Market Bank  
Linda Wallinger, Virginia Dept. of Education



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## SPAC Subcommittee Structure

In order to guide the SPAC's formulation of goals for the strategic plan, SCHEV has created 6 subcommittees with specific charges related to higher education needs and goals in Virginia. The committee charges and chairs are listed below.

1. The Access Subcommittee, chaired by Patricia Cormier of Longwood University, was asked to:
  - Consider demographic, geographic and institutional factors that impact Virginia citizens' ability to access higher education in the Commonwealth
  - Identify the most pertinent factors to formulate recommendations and goals that will enhance access on a system-wide basis
2. The Accountability and Academic Quality Subcommittee, chaired by Ivelaw Griffith of Radford University, was asked to:
  - Consider the performance of Virginia higher education according to indicators of academic and institutional quality such as, but not necessarily limited to, retention and graduation rates, faculty scholarship, institutional and program rankings
  - Identify the most pertinent indicators to formulate recommendations and goals that will enhance academic and institutional quality
3. The Research Subcommittee, chaired by Eugene Trani of Virginia Commonwealth University, was asked to:
  - Review the research productivity of Virginia higher education in areas such as research expenditures, technology transfer (e.g., patents and licenses issued), and ranked graduate programs.
  - Formulate recommendations that will enhance Virginia's capability in conducting sponsored research, and in transferring the results of research to applications that will be of benefit to the state
4. The Affordability Subcommittee, chaired by Diana Cantor of the Virginia College Savings Plan, was asked to:
  - Review the SCHEV study of affordability of Virginia higher education by taking into account such factors as the impact of tuition and fee levels, state and institutional student aid programs, student success, and earnings potential
  - Formulate goals that will enhance higher-education affordability in the Commonwealth
5. The Economic Development Subcommittee, chaired by Heywood Fralin of the Virg. Business-Higher Ed. Council, was asked to:
  - Consider the role of Virginia higher education in the advancement of economic development, whether it is in creating new jobs and opportunities or providing graduates for the Commonwealth, or through other means
  - Identify and recommend the most effective means for institutions to drive economic development, and formulate meaningful measures of such
6. The P-16 Integration Subcommittee, chaired by Secretary of Education Thomas R. Morris, was asked to:
  - Review the final report of the P-16 Council with respect to Goal 9 of the Restructuring Act
  - Formulate recommendations and goals that will create a better-connected system of education

## State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

SCHEV is the Commonwealth's coordinating body for Virginia's system of higher education. The agency provides policy guidance and budget recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly, and is a resource for information on Virginia colleges and universities on higher education issues.

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