

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2022
FINAL MINUTES**

Ms. Connelly called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. in the Workforce Development Conference Center Gallery, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Ken Ampy, Alex Arriaga, Marge Connelly, Victoria Harker, Thaddeus Holloman, Henry Light, Stephen Moret, Jennie O'Holleran, Alvin J. Schexnider, Jeff Smith and Katharine Webb.

Council member absent: Mirza Baig and John Broderick.

Staff members present: Tom Allison, Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards Jodi Fisler, Wendy Kang, Tod Massa, Beverly Rebar, Emily Salmon, Paul Smith and Kristin Whelan.

REMARKS OF SECRETARY OF EDUCATION DESIGNEE, AIMEE ROGSTAD GUIDERA

Chair Connelly introduced Secretary Guidera and shared some of her background.

Secretary Guidera discussed the new administration's goals for education in the Commonwealth to invest in our people and teach them how to be active members of our communities and our democracy.

She shared that this is an opportunity to align education with our customers – families and employers. It's an opportunity for greater access, transparency and trust. The work in higher education must be collaborative, no one can do this work on their own.

Mr. Blake shared some of the history of SCHEV and introduced the Pathways to Opportunity and the SCHEV's goals for an equitable, affordable and transformative education.

Ms. Connelly shared our goal of being the best educated state in the country by 2030. She also spoke about some of the challenges we face in terms of attainment and she stresses how important data is to our work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Light and seconded by Ms. Webb the minutes from the October 26, 2021, meeting were approved unanimously.

REMARKS FROM HEATHER MCKAY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VIRGINIA OFFICE OF EDUCATION ECONOMICS

Chair Connelly introduced the Executive Director of the new Virginia Office of Education Economics (VOEE), Heather McKay. Ms. McKay shared the origins of the VOEE and she how her background has prepared her for this position. She also introduced the Council to the new VOEE Research Director, Todd Oldham.

Ms. McKay described the VOEE work over the next several months. They will operationalize the VOEE by developing an operational structure, identifying data needs and connecting partners and stakeholders. They will also begin research and helping with grant proposals.

VOEE will provide data for institutional change to promote workforce alignment. These include data to measure the following:

- Dislocated workers, the unemployed and underemployed.
- Military exits.
- Apprentices.
- K-12 pipeline.
- Incumbent workers.
- College graduates.

Ms. McKay described how the VOEE research will inform functional career pathways to equity.

DISCUSSION OF ACCESS INITIATIVE AND GEAR UP PROGRAM

SCHEV's Associate Director of College Access & PK-12 Outreach, Erin McGrath, joined the meeting to discuss the SCHEV and GEAR UP access initiatives.

The goal of SCHEV being the best educated state by 2030 could be challenged due to Virginia's current enrollment trends, inequities among disadvantaged groups, and low FAFSA completion rates are an obstacle to becoming the best state for education.

Current access initiatives that to address some of these challenges:

- The 1, 2, 3 Go! Virginia.
- Super FAFSA Project.
- Association of Student Financial Aid Officers professional development.
- VirginiaCAN direct student support.

Additional access projects that are new or in development:

- Increased SCHEV's partnership with VDOE (through GPS/state funding).
- Awarded a \$24.7 million GEAR UP Virginia grant with new statewide focus (2021–2028).
- Establish(ed) a new partnership with VA529.
- Develop and implement an Access Strategy Plan.

Council member Dr. Jeff Smith spoke from his perspective as superintendent of Hampton City schools. He stressed the importance of marketing the new initiatives and working with the superintendent study groups.

RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM THE AGENCY DIRECTOR

Mr. Blake highlighted the following items from the report.

2022 General Assembly session: The 2022 General Assembly session begins on January 12. Money committees will report out their budget amendments on February 20. The session is scheduled to end March 12. At the Council meeting, we will give an overview of the Governor's proposed budget, relevant legislation and related topics. In the lead-up to the session, we have been meeting with legislators, Governor's office staff and members of the Governor-elect's transition team. Delegate Glen Davis, new chair of the Education Committee spoke to GPAC.

Stranded credits: In October, we received a request from a Congressional oversight committee to provide information on institutional policies on withholding academic transcripts until students pay outstanding institutional debts. This is a common practice across higher education and is part of Virginia's debt collection efforts. Since then, the issue has gained national attention and is attracting legislative interest at the federal and state levels. In Virginia, we anticipate legislation that would place limits on the practice. Senate Bill 159 from Senator Hashmi has been introduced to address this.

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) partnership: Earlier this year, SCHEV and VDOE signed an agreement for the employment of a shared position. The purpose of the position is to improve transitions from secondary to postsecondary education. We recently completed the recruitment of the inaugural postsecondary access and success specialist, Brittany Everett. Ms. Everett previously served as the director of the Future Center, a college and career planning initiative of Richmond Public Schools. She holds undergraduate degrees in English and Sociology from the University of Virginia.

Annual Report for The Pathways to Opportunity Plan: In December, Council members received an electronic copy of the [first annual report](#) for The Pathways to Opportunity Plan. The report provides a baseline assessment of Virginia's standing relative to The Plan's three goals and five measures. The baseline assessment identifies gaps based on data disaggregation by race/ethnicity, region, income and gender. The annual report also highlights activities SCHEV engaged in over the past 12 months that directly support The Plan's three goals and 10 strategies. In December, we submitted the plan to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Other recent reports: In addition to the report on The Pathways to Opportunity Plan, we released reports related to the [cost and funding need study](#), [financial aid](#), [graduate outcomes](#) and an asset map to identify occupational shortages.

Fund for Excellence and Innovation (FFEI) grants: In December, staff issued a call for proposals to public institutions for a grant competition that seeks teams of institutions to investigate barriers to completion for students from populations targeted by the Pathways to Opportunity Plan, and then to design, implement and assess a pilot project to address a barrier. The effort is similar to one conducted nationally by the University Innovation Alliance. Staff will conduct an informational webinar for institutions later this month. Proposals are due March 21; awards of up to \$75,000 for a two-year grant period are available.

General Professional Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting: At the November meeting with public college and university presidents, we heard a presentation from Heather McKay, the new executive director of the Virginia Office of Education Economics; and from Virginia Tech President Tim Sands on the expansion of

employment-based opportunities for students. Presidents also received a preview of the [Virginia Transfer portal](#), a new tool to help students manage their college transfer pathway. The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Council of Presidents on January 10.

Virginia Military Institute: On December 14, Council Chair Marge Connelly, SCHEV's associate director for equity and engagement, Paula Robinson, and I met with VMI Superintendent Major General Cedric Wins and his senior staff. The visit included an update on VMI's "One Corps, One VMI" plan, which addresses many of the findings of last year's equity audit and investigation. We also toured the post and met with students, faculty and staff.

Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP) collaboration: In fall 2021, SCHEV and VMAP issued a joint survey to assess student access to mental health services on campus. Over the last several years, institutions and students have indicated a growing need to better support mental health needs. The pandemic further exacerbated this need. Among the highest priority of survey respondents included: 24/7 coverage for "urgent" needs--acute distress/suicidal thoughts that do not meet criteria for emergency mental health services or hospitalization; increased number of providers/offices and proper staffing levels; and access to additional community counseling, local support partnerships and psychiatrists for more serious mental health issues and medication management. In a November 30 meeting, on-campus health care and mental health professionals expressed interest in addressing immediate needs for additional training on the following topics: prescribing antipsychotic medications, and managing and prescribing multiple mental health medications for patients. SCHEV and VMAP are working to address this training need.

New full-time staff: In addition to Brittany Everett (noted above), we also have hired Anthony Allen as a data analyst, Abbie Handford as an associate for financial aid and Rebeccah Lystash as GEAR UP Virginia project director. Mr. Allen previously served as a business intelligence specialist at DSD Partners. He holds an associate degree from Southside Virginia Community College and a bachelor's in mathematical sciences and statistics from Virginia Commonwealth University. Ms. Handford previously worked part-time in SCHEV's financial aid office and in the financial aid offices at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond. She received a bachelor's degree and master's degree in public administration from VCU. Ms. Lystash most recently worked as the TRIO Upward Bound director at Central Carolina Community College. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and holds a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University.

Staff meeting: We held our annual holiday luncheon and staff meeting on January 9. Special thanks to Council members Katie Webb and Dr. Alvin Schexider for joining us and commending the staff on good work during a difficult year. We also recognized several staff members who had reached five-year milestones in state employment. The Virginia Community College System offered us space to hold the luncheon. VCCS Chancellor Glenn DuBois joined us briefly and brought greetings to the staff.

Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign: We recently completed the annual Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign, which is an annual program for state employees to raise funds for non-profit organizations. Under the leadership of staff member Tod

Massa, SCHEV staff contributed over \$9,000, the largest figure in recent history, with over half of the agency staff participating.

Out and about: Over the last two months, I attended the Governor's announcement of funding for private colleges at Virginia Union University; participated in higher education meetings of the Southern Regional Education Board and the State Higher Education Executive Officers; addressed the board of the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education; attended a legislative reception hosted by the Virginia Business Council; and met with the newest Council member, Jason El Koubi, the interim president of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. I also met with Council member Mirza Baig. JLARC met yesterday and ask their staff to conduct a study of financial aid, specifically award policies.

DISCUSSION OF DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS

SCHEV's Director of Academic Affairs, Joe DeFilippo, introduced Sharon Morrissey from the Virginia Community College System. Dr. DeFilippo reminded the Council members of SCHEV's policy responsibilities regarding dual enrollment programs. The community college are the default resource of dual enrollment classes for Virginia high schools.

Dr. Morrissey described the current state of dual enrollment programs in Virginia. A qualified high school student takes a college course and earns college and high school credit. The student earns a college grade and a transcript. The number of students taking dual enrollment classes is growing. These students are more likely to graduate high school, go to college and finish a degree. They typically have higher earnings after five years. Dual enrollment also saves students time and money.

Dr. Morrissey shared an overview of the dual enrollment legislation. The legislation directed the state board of the community colleges to adopt policies to ensure quality and rigor. Classes are required to be taught by qualified high school teachers who have the same qualifications as the instructors at the college level.

The participation rates in dual enrollment is very uneven. This wide variation has equity implications. Black and Hispanic students are underrepresented, while white and Asian students are overrepresented.

The state board allows the colleges to discount the tuition rate if the class is taught by a qualified teacher at a high school (not using the college campus facilities). In some cases, the school division passes the cost along to the parents and sometimes they cover it. VCCS continues to work to create a uniform tuition rate.

Dr. Morrissey concluded with the following recommendations:

- Colleges should target market the high school graduates who did not enroll in a Virginia college or university.
- Colleges and school divisions should set equity goals for dual enrollment and form agreements that communicate an explicit commitment to increasing equity in access to and success in dual enrollment.

- Colleges and school divisions should partner to increase dual enrollment participation rates.
- State policy leaders should consider providing resources to school divisions to support credential attainment to qualify more high school teachers to teach college courses.
- VCCS and VDOE should negotiate a Uniform Tuition Rate that acknowledges costs to both the community college and the high school.

Council members thanked Dr. Morrissey for her presentation. Members discussed ways in which Council could address the issues she raised. They said many of the issues cannot be resolved without further study and attention and that Council should look further into some of them, notably funding and tuition.

Council member Thaddeus Holloman asked if Council could explore options to increase consistency, address financial impediments and assist with teacher credentialing. Chair Connelly and other members concurred and asked staff to develop options to improve and expand dual enrollment.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEES

Report from Academic Affairs Committee

Mr. Light summarized the following items addressed by the Committee:

Programs public institutions.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to the University of Virginia to initiate a Bachelor of Arts (B.S.) degree program in Computer Science (CIP code: 11.0701), effective spring 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants provisional approval to James Madison University (JMU) to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Information Technology (CIP code: 11.0103), effective fall 2022.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JMU shall report to SCHEV on the outcome of the funding request for this program from the 2022 General Assembly, including how the program will be funded if the request is not appropriated in whole or in part. The Director of SCHEV shall confer final approval upon his determination that the program is sufficiently funded.

The committee's recommendation was approved unanimously (11-0) on motion from Ms. Harker and seconded by Mr. Ampy.

The new University of Virginia's proposed new Bachelor of Science degree in behavioral neuroscience requires more specific information on employment demand. The committee recommended revisiting the program at the March meeting.

Action on Revocation of Certificate to Operate – Medical Learning Center.

After working through the steps to investigate the Medical Learning Center. SCHEV has determined that the certification for Medical Learning Center should be revoked. They are no longer regulated by SCHEV and will not be able to continue to operate their practical nursing program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with § 23.1-221 of the Code of Virginia, and with the regulations set forth in Part VII of 8VAC40-31 of the Virginia Administrative Code,

(i) that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) hereby revokes Medical Learning Center's (MLC) Certificate to Operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective immediately; and

(ii) that the proprietors of MLC shall take appropriate steps to ensure an orderly transition including, but not limited to, teaching out currently enrolled students; and

(iii) that the proprietors of MLC shall make arrangements for the transfer of student records to SCHEV or another institution of postsecondary education approved by SCHEV within thirty days of the date of revocation, in accordance with subsection D of 8VAC40-31-280.

After providing a brief overview, the Committee's recommendation was seconded by Dr. Schexnider and approved unanimously (11-0).

OFA discussion

Mr. Light provided a brief overview of the Outstanding Faculty Awards program. He shared that over the program's history, the amount awarded has increased to \$7500. This past year, there were about 75 applications from well qualified applicants.

Report from Resources and Planning Committee

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

Discussion of Governor's Introduced Budget and the General Assembly Session There was a historic high investment in higher education in the biennium budget. The budget provides full support for SCHEV's budget recommendation for financial aid. One area of concern is the split in funding for faculty salary increases which could impact tuition. Two studies were funded in support of the nursing shortage and student support services. The internship cost study and mental health pilot program were not supported in the budget.

Discussion of Interim Report on the Cost and Funding Needs Study

The committee discussed the first three deliverables. The fourth, the funding model, will be in progress in March. The full study is due in July.

Discussion of the Virginia Alternative Student Aid (VASA) Application

The committee heard a presentation about the VASA Application for Virginia, the financial aid application for students who are unable to use FAFSA because of their immigration status.

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.

ACTION ON RESOLUTION FOR A DEPARTING COUNCIL MEMBER

Chair Connelly read a resolution recognizing the service of Ex Officio Council member Stephen Moret.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Connelly distributed the certificates recognizing the appointments of new Council members from the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Katharine Webb
Council Secretary

Kristin Whelan
Interim 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 approved/not approved as delegated to staff:

Academic Program Actions

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
College of William and Mary in Virginia	Program Name Change Not Approved: Change the name of the Bachelor of Arts degree program in Spanish (16.0905) to Hispanic Studies (16.0905)	October 14, 2021
College of William and Mary in Virginia	Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Bachelor of Arts degree program in Theatre and Speech (50.0501) to Theatre (50.0501)	Spring 2022
James Madison University	Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degree programs in Communications (09.0101) to Communication Studies (09.0101)	Spring 2022
James Madison University	Program Name Change Not Approved: Change the name of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Geography (45.0701) to Geographic Science (45.0701)	October 12, 2021
James Madison University	Program Name Change Not Approved: Change the name of the Bachelor of Science degree program in Public Administration (44.0401) to Public Policy and Administration (44.0401)	October 14, 2021
James Madison University	Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Master of Science in Speech Pathology (51.0203) to Speech Language Pathology (51.0203)	Spring 2022
Old Dominion University	Certificate Program Approved: Graduate Certificate in Music Performance (50.9999)	Spring 2022
Radford University	Certificate Program Approved: Post-Professional Certificate in Special Education, General Curriculum (13.1099)	Spring 2022
Southwest Virginia Community College	Facilitated Staff Approval: Associate of Applied Science degree program in Culinary Arts (12.0500)	Fall 2022
University of Virginia	Certificate Programs Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate Certificate in Cloud Computing (11.0902) • Graduate Certificate in Premodern Cultures and Communities (30.1301) 	Spring 2022

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Program Merger Approved: Merge the Bachelor of Science degree program in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences (01.1102) and the Bachelor of Science degree program in Horticulture (01.1103) to create the new Bachelor of Science degree program in Plant Science (01.1101)	Spring 2022
Virginia Western Community College	Facilitated Staff Approval: Associate of Applied Science degree program in Occupational Therapy Assistant (51.0803)	Fall 2025

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

Discontinued Programs

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
The College of William and Mary in Virginia	Program Discontinuance: Discontinue the Graduate Certificate in College Teaching (13.1299)	Spring 2022
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Program Discontinuances: Discontinue the following degree programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences (01.1102)[Council Approval Date: BCHE] • Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (01.1103) [Council Approval Date: BCHE] 	Spring 2022

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 approved as delegated to staff:

Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes

Institution	Change/Site	Effective Date
College of William and Mary in Virginia	Establish and officially-recognize the William & Mary Washington Center at 901 4th Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20001.	February 1, 2022

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section § 23.1-211 and Council's "Commonwealth of Virginia Policy on the Reciprocal Authorization of Distance Education and Related Activities," the following action was taken as delegated to staff:

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

Institution	Action	Effective Date
Hampton University	Renewal Not Approved	November 4, 2021

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 23.1-213 to 230 and 8VAC-40-31-90 of the Virginia Administrative Code, the following items approved as delegated to staff:

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

Institution	Location	Effective Date
Aveda Arts & Sciences Institute, Arlington Name	Arlington City, VA	12/13/21
Inova Phlebotomy School	Fairfax, VA	12/09/21
Learning Tree USA	Herndon, VA	11/17/21
T & D Phlebotomy	Norfolk, VA	12/13/21
Vital Phlebotomy, LLC	Fredericksburg ,VA	12/09/21

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 23.1-213 to 230 and 8VAC-40-31-90 of the Virginia Administrative Code, the following item approved as delegated to staff:

Postsecondary Schools with Change from In-State to Out-of-State Designation

Institution	Location	Effective Date
Saint Michael College of Allied Health	Washington, DC	11/9/2021

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL SESSION
JANUARY 11, 2022
FINAL MINUTES**

Ms. Connelly called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. in room 138 of the Massey Library Technology Center, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Ken Ampy, Alex Arriaga, Mirza Baig, Marge Connelly, Henry Light, Jennie O'Holleran, Alvin J. Schexnider, Jeff Smith and Katharine Webb.

Council members absent: John Broderick, Jason El Koubi, Victoria Harker.

Staff members present: Tom Allison, Peter Blake, Alan Edwards, Sandra Freeman, Ashley Lockhart, Laura Osberger, Beverly Rebar, Emily Salmon, Paul Smith and Kristin Whelan.

Others present: Ramona Taylor from the Office of the Attorney General

DEI: OVERVIEW OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Connelly welcomed the Council members to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presentation on students with disabilities in Virginia higher education.

Ashley Lockhart introduced the presentation as one that will frame the challenges of students with disabilities as an equity issue.

The Virginia Plan goals address this with the goal to make higher education more equitable.

Ms. Lockhart discussed the k-12 to higher education pipeline and the number of students who move on to higher education. In k-12 education, the burden for proof of disability is on the school, but in higher education, the burden is on the student to provide documentation and request accommodations.

The barriers to access include admissions barriers, accommodations that are not appropriate and financial barriers to gaining documentation.

The barriers to success persist throughout their college career. Students must request their accommodations from each instructor each semester. Research shows that there is a stigma to being required to share their disability. COVID provides additional challenges for students with disabilities.

Virginia began to study this in 2016 and presented to results to an advisory committee. The Disabilities Access to Higher Education Committee formed in 2017. The committee recommended better data collection and enhanced resources targeted to students with disabilities. Virginia is the first in the nation collecting this data. The data will allow SCHEV to determine the allocation of funds and look at college preparation for k-12 education students.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Katharine Webb
Council Secretary

Kristin Whelan
Interim Director, Executive & Board Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
January 11, 2022
FINAL MINUTES**

Ms. Harker called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Massey Library Building, Room 138, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Richmond, Virginia. Committee members present: Marge Connelly, Victoria Harker, Thaddeus Holloman and Katharine Webb.

The following Committee member joined by phone: John Broderick

Staff members present: Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Grace Covello, Wendy Kang, Claire Mairead, Laura Osberger, Kristin Whelan and Yan Zheng.

Others present: Ramona Taylor from the Office of the Attorney General

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Holloman and seconded by Ms. Webb, the minutes from the October 26, 2021, meeting were approved unanimously.

GOVERNOR'S INTRODUCED BUDGET

The size of this budget is unprecedented and increases the operating budget by 33% and the financial aid by 74%. SCHEV was pleased with the budget alignments with SCHEV budget recommendations. Financial aid recommendations were all considered in the introduced budget. A program was introduced to make the Virginia Historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) free for students who live within a 25 miles radius of the institution. It is to be determined how these funds will be allocated to the private HBCUs. SCHEV sends the funds to the institution which act as a pass through to the student. SCHEV determines compliance through an audit review process.

Initiatives at various institutions are supported in the budget. The G3 investments to increase funding programs that support the G3.

A significant, 5% salary increase for faculty was passed in July and recommended for an additional year. It is a fund split recommendation with the budget assuming that the institutions will cover half of the increase. This recommendation could impact tuition and fees.

SCHEV recommendations were also aligned from an equity perspective with the financial aid funding.

SCHEV received funding for 2 studies of student support services and 2 studies of the nursing shortage. There was no internship investment and no support for the mental health pilot program in the budget. The SREB doctoral fellows' program is also not supported.

Legislators are submitting amendments due Friday and the new Governor will submit amendments one week later. The House and Senate will produce their own budgets.

Two SCHEV budget items for 6 additional positions and an access request for FAFSA completion support funding request are in the budget.

Patrons in both house and senate to endorse the Virginia Plan.

DISCUSSION OF INTERIM REPORT ON THE COST AND FUNDING NEEDS STUDY

Ms. Kang updated the committee and discussed the preliminary report.

The preliminary report largely covers:

Deliverable #1, review of funding policies
Deliverable #2, efficiency and effectiveness review, and
Deliverable #3, trends in costs for higher education.

The interim report introduces principles of the design and implementation and anticipated parameters of Deliverable #4, recommendations for a new funding model. Deliverables 1, 2 and 3 are part of this report. Number 4 will be included in the final report.

The analysis of the funding relies on SCHEV data on enrollments and finances and identified a set of comparison institutions of the 14 public institutions.

The efficiency and effectiveness review was carried out through a 50 state survey. Survey of VA institutions is due back 2/1/22.

The fourth deliverable will include recommendations for the new model and a series of principles for design and implementation of the new model.

Staff meets regularly with finance heads, bi-weekly through March and with the OpSix workgroup bi-weekly. Staff is seeking consensus on the elements of the model. SCHEV will conduct fast polls with finance heads on small parts of the model to lock in consensus.

DISCUSSION OF THE VIRGINIA ALTERNATIVE STUDENT AID (VASA) APPLICATION

Ms. Kang introduced Lee Andes to discuss the launch of the VASA. Mr. Andes last spoke about the initiative in July of 2021.

The purpose of the VASA is to help more students apply for student aid, specifically providing a way undocumented students, pending asylum and unable to establish domicile to apply for aid. SCHEV built a FAFSA equivalent on the state level to help students determine their expected family contribution (EFC). SCHEV contracted with Regent Education, Inc. to assist in creating the application. VASA only gives access to state awards.

The plan for distribution includes prepping advocacy and access groups such as VCAN and the Latino Advisory Board and direct emails to financial aid and admissions staff. Mr. Andes will present at a school counselor's meeting next month. Staff continues to look at analytics of the landing page and the app to understand how the pages are used and how successful.

SCHEV owns the data from the VASA, but the information goes to the Regents database. SCHEV distributes the funds to institutions based on enrollment.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Victoria Harker
Committee Chair

Kristin Whelan
Interim Director, Executive & Board Affairs

STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
January 11, 2022
FINAL MINUTES

Mr. Light called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m., at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and Workforce Development Center. Committee members present: Henry Light, Chair; Alexandra Arriaga, Vice Chair; Ken Ampy, Jennie O'Holleran, Alvin Schexnider, and Jeffery Smith.

Committee members absent: None.

Staff members present: Joseph G. DeFilippo, Sandra Freeman, Kathleen Kincheloe, Ashley Lockhart, Beverly Rebar, and Paul Smith.

Mr. Light introduced and invited staff to present information on the following topics:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 25, 2021, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

On motion by Mr. Light, seconded by Ms. Arriaga, the minutes from the October 25, 2021, Academic Affairs Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

ACTION ON PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the two new proposed degree programs for approval, and one proposed degree program for consideration without a recommendation of approval. He described the University of Virginia, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Computer Science (CIP: 11.0701) as a Computer Science program integrated with specific subdisciplines to supplement the degree. Dr. DeFilippo explained the expected growth and duplication aspects of the proposed program, as well as differences between a B.A. and a B.S.

On motion by Mr. Ampy, seconded by Ms. Arriaga, the following resolution was unanimously forwarded to the full committee:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to the University of Virginia to initiate a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree program in Computer Science (CIP code: 11.0701), effective spring 2022.

Dr. DeFilippo then introduced the James Madison University, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Information Technology (CIP: 11.0103). He described the expected maturation of the program and articulated the job market for the degree. Dr. DeFilippo then explained that James Madison University has submitted a budget request to cover the full cost of the program, and how that is reflected in the resolution, which provides provisional approval until the funds are allocated. There was some discussion about the differences between computer science and information technology degrees, and the employment market demand for graduates of each kind of program.

On motion by Dr. Schexnider, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was unanimously forwarded to the full committee:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants provisional approval to James Madison University (JMU) to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Information Technology (CIP code: 11.0103), effective fall 2022.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JMU shall report to SCHEV on the outcome of the funding request for this program from the 2022 General Assembly, including how the program will be funded if the request is not appropriated in whole or in part. The Director of SCHEV shall confer final approval upon his determination that the program is sufficiently funded.

Dr. DeFilippo then introduced the University of Virginia, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Behavioral Neuroscience (CIP: 42.2706), which was not recommended for approval by Staff. He described relevant features of the proposal, including the relative lack of documentation for specific and employment demand.

There was some discussion on the types of employment for a graduate in behavioral neuroscience, as well duplicate programs within and outside the Commonwealth, due to the nature of this new field. There was further discussion on the staff recommendation, and the committee declined to take action on the proposal at this time. Informal comments were offered to the effect that the committee would be receptive to the proposal with a staff recommendation of approval.

ACTION ON REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE

Dr. DeFilippo presented a resolution to revoke Medical Learning Center's (MLC) certificate to operate in Virginia, in accord with Council's responsibility to revoke certification of a school for certain categories of non-compliance. He detailed MLC's documented refusal to cooperate with SCHEV's regulatory procedures, including not providing requested information and refusing to admit SCHEV staff to conduct an on-site audit.

There was some discussion about the specifics of the administrative process, and the findings of the hearing officer appointed by the Supreme Court of Virginia, which broadly concur with staff's analysis of MLC's non-compliance and recommend sanction of the school.

On motion by Mr. Ampy, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was unanimously forwarded to the full committee:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with § 23.1-221 of the Code of Virginia, and with the regulations set forth in Part VII of 8VAC40-31 of the Virginia Administrative Code,

- (i) that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) hereby revokes Medical Learning Center's (MLC) Certificate to Operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective immediately; and**
- (ii) that the proprietors of MLC shall take appropriate steps to ensure an orderly transition including, but not limited to, teaching out currently**

enrolled students; and that the proprietors of MLC shall make arrangements for the transfer of student records to SCHEV or another institution of postsecondary education approved by SCHEV within thirty days of the date of revocation, in accordance with subsection D of 8VAC40-31-280.

DISCUSSION OF THE OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARDS

Ms. Lockhart provided an overview and update on the Outstanding Faculty Awards program. She described the review process, categories of awards, as well as the criteria for nomination. There was some discussion about the current list of recipients, their institutions, and their fields of study.

RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE STAFF LIAISON

Dr. DeFilippo commented briefly on the work of Academic Affairs staff, including recent meetings of IPAC, staff transfer portal work, the biennial budget recommendations, and SARA regulatory processes and best practices.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Light adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

Henry Light
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

Ashley Lockhart
Staff, Academic Affairs