

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL ORIENTATION
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
DRAFT MINUTES**

Council Members present: Ken Ampy, Walter Curt, Scott Fleming, John Jumper, Delceno Miles and Doug Straley.

Staff members present: Lee Andes, Tom Allison, Peter Blake, Lynne Brownlee, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Grace Khattar, Tod Massa, Laura Osberger, Kristin Whelan and Yan Zheng.

Mr. Ampy started the meeting at 10:45 a.m. in Room 3016 of Hartman Hall at James Madison University. Mr. Ampy welcomed the Council members and thanked them for agreeing to serve.

Mr. Blake asked the new members to introduce themselves. Mr. Blake asked Mr. Ampy, Mr. Curt and staff members to introduce themselves.

Mr. Blake discussed SCHEV's role and functions as the state coordinating board and provided a brief history of the agency. He explained SCHEV's decentralized system with the flexibility to facilitate innovation at each institution. Mr. Blake described the primary priorities for SCHEV as cost, quality and access. He gave a brief overview of the size of Virginia's system and presented some data points on enrollment, degrees awarded and state funding. He also explained how Council does most of its work through two committees and meets six times per year.

Mr. Blake referenced a document provided to members with lists of Council members and staff members. He talked about the processes involving travel to meetings, expense reimbursements, and how FOIA rules may impact email communications. He also reviewed a summary of strategic plan priority initiatives and the "Key Facts" booklet providing important data about higher education in Virginia.

Mr. Blake described the expressed and implied duties of SCHEV and directed the new members to the SCHEV Responsibilities document included in the Orientation materials.

Gen. Jumper asked Mr. Blake to describe SCHEV's relationship to the General Assembly and the Governor's office. SCHEV is an Executive branch agency and has some responsibilities to the General Assembly. By design, the SCHEV director is not an appointed head, which works to assure some independence. Members of SCHEV staff and the director occasionally testify to the General Assembly.

Direct report staff members provided overviews of the work of their section and how they work with Council members:

- Dr. DeFilippo talked about the Academic Affairs department and its duties of coordination over both the public and private higher education sectors. Dr. DeFilippo answered several questions from new Council members about certification requirements and degree approvals.
- Dr. Edwards talked about the Finance, Policy and Innovation department and its work on the strategic plan goals and initiatives, the innovative internship program, the fund for excellence and innovation and the mental health workforce pilot. Much of their work is on systemwide budget recommendations, student aid, financial aid management, policy recommendations, outreach and access in the K-12 sector. Dr. Edwards responded to questions from the Council Members. Mr. Andes briefly introduced the Council members to the Virginia College Access Network (V-CAN).
- Mr. Massa talked about the Policy Analytics department and the data it collects and maintains. SCHEV is the lead agency for Virginia Longitudinal Data System (VLDC) and therefore has access to data from all the partner agencies. The Policy Analytics department directly supports several of SCHEV's assigned duties and supports the work of all other SCHEV departments.
- Dr. Edwards briefly discussed the Strategic Plan, Pathways to Opportunity, and work-based learning, Innovative Internship Program, Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (VTOP). Dr. Edwards answered questions from the Council members.
- Ms. Brownlee provided an overview of the budget and finance department. She described how her unit supports the work of the agency units.
- Ms. Osberger discussed her role in coordinating logistics for Council meetings and members, agency operations and communications.

The meeting concluded at 12:00 p.m.

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
September 18, 2023**

DRAFT MINUTES

Ms. O'Holleran called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in Hartman Hall at James Madison University. Committee members present: Ken Ampy; Walter Curt; Jennie O'Holleran; Delceno Miles; and John Jumper.

The following Committee members were absent: John Broderick; and Victoria Harker.

Staff members present: Tom Allison; Lee Andes; Peter Blake; Alan Edwards; Grace Covello Khattar; Tod Massa; Laura Osberger; Emily Salmon; and Yan Zheng.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Curt and seconded by Mr. Ampy, the minutes from the May 15th, 2023, Resources and Planning Committee meeting were approved. Ms. Miles abstained, given that she was not a member in May.

DISCUSSION OF SYSTEMWIDE BUDGET AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-26 BIENNIUM

Ms. O'Holleran invited Dr. Edwards to summarize the categories of the draft budget and policy recommendations; he highlighted various themes and sections in the materials prepared by staff, including affordability and access, initiatives from public institutions' six-year plans and capital outlay.

Mr. Curt asked whether the agency budget was included in the systemwide budget recommendations. Ms. O'Holleran clarified that while agencies' budget requests are separate from Council's recommendations, both topics were open for discussion. In that context, members discussed the possibility of a discretionary fund for use by the next agency director. Staff advised that such a fund is not allocated within the agency budget, but that staff would investigate the matter further.

Members inquired as to which items/topics among the draft recommendations were in most need of additional funding, and which represented new funding requests. Dr. Edwards highlighted student aid and the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Program (VMSDEP) as high-need topics; he also pointed to the item regarding a new potential fund pool for the recruitment and retention of talent as a theme voiced by the public institutions. Ms. Miles requested discussion of the items labelled "TBD" and voiced priority for undergraduate financial aid, the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) and work-based learning (WBL) initiatives. Generally, students were a common priority.

The WBL discussion led members to request a subsequent update on the grant process associated with V-TOP (Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership). General Jumper encouraged staff to seek collaboration with existing community and/or private sector programs in lieu of starting new programs. Members encouraged staff to consider policy

changes/amendments that could facilitate efficient and effective use of funds, including the possibility of housing support for students completing internships in locales where such short-term housing is not readily available or affordable.

Ms. O'Holleran highlighted as an ongoing Council priority the mental-health workforce pilot program, which underwrites the salaries and benefits of certain relevant master's-level students so that they can work in a campus counseling center and receive supervision hours for licensure. Ms. Salmon reviewed the program design and the funding thus far. Mr. Ampy said that for several years he had heard directly from students in various settings the need for more and better campus mental-health efforts.

Members stressed campus safety as a priority and inquired of the feasibility of including it in the recommendations; they expressed interest in pursuing a more direct line of funding for campus safety. Members also suggested looking ahead to the Governor's budget recommendations for any funding for campus safety.

Members requested that, to the extent possible, staff provide additional data and materials ahead of the October meeting, to allow members to be as helpful as possible before and during the meeting regarding the budget and policy recommendations.

DISCUSSION OF INSTITUTIONS' ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Ms. O'Holleran welcomed Mr. Massa to facilitate the Committee's discussion of the 2023 enrollment projections and degree estimates. He highlighted the statutory language that requires the projections and estimates, outlines their uses and describes Council's role in approving them.

Mr. Massa highlighted key findings and trends from staff's analysis of the 2023 submissions, including a projected increase in total enrollment from 2022 to 2029 of about 13,000 students, but with considerable variance across institutions in projections of in-state first-time-in-college (FTIC) students. He noted aggressive targets set by the private non-profit institutions to increase enrollment in such areas as Master's students, transfer students and out-of-state students. Mr. Massa concluded that the enrollment projections appear to be attainable and that the Commonwealth remains on track to meet the target of the statewide strategic plan of adding a cumulative 1.5 million degrees and credentials by 2030. If such is achieved, then 70% of Virginia's working-age population will possess an Associate's or Bachelor's degree or other relevant workforce credential.

Mr. Massa also highlighted key findings by type of institution, noting that, overall, four-year institutions anticipate a decrease in in-state FTIC students. The number of four-year institutions projecting a decrease is about equal to the number projecting an increase. Over the period, distance enrollment is projected to increase from 6.8% to 8.9%.

Members raised the issue of students dropping out due to financial barriers and discussed ways to address this issue and thereby increase retention rates. Mr. Curt shared information from conversations with college presidents in which he learned of students lacking the finances to pay even relatively-small debts. The Committee

requested that staff research best practices on state-level emergency funds and/or forgiveness programs that help students eliminate smaller debts so they can continue their educations.

Members also reviewed the projections of high school graduates from WICHE (Western Interstate Compact for Higher Education) and the Weldon-Cooper Center at UVa, as well as the in-state FTIC and out-of-state FTIC projections through Fall 2029 for both public and private colleges. Mr. Massa highlighted where some projections for Fall 2023 already appear to be inaccurate, noting that the enrollment landscape is changing even from Spring 2023.

Members suggested, with certain institutions increasing enrollment, that other institutions could experience unforeseen or larger-than-foreseen declines in enrollment. Further conversation centered on Council's process for reviewing the projections and estimates and its ability to intervene. The Committee encouraged staff to further develop policy recommendations regarding the enrollment-projection process before the October meeting.

BRIEFING ON REVIEW PROCESS FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS' SIX-YEAR PLANS

Ms. O'Holleran invited Mr. Allison to brief the Committee on the status of the six-year-plan process for public institutions. He highlighted the traditional process of institutions submitting draft six-year operating (academic, financial and enrollment) plans in odd numbered years for review by a group of representatives from the executive and legislative branches, known colloquially as Op-Six. He also noted a slightly changed and delayed process for 2023 involving a contract with the Boston Consulting Group to assist with and review the process, as well as the generation of a "fact-pack" about each institution to inform Op-Six members and institutional staff.

Mr. Allison noted that previous years' plans are publicly available and that institutions' final, board-approved plans for 2023 will be publicly available by December 1. Mr. Curt noted that the fact facts use the compound annual growth rate and highlighted some issues with using this approach.

UPDATE ON INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (IPS)

Ms. O'Holleran asked Dr. Khattar to give an update on the review authorized at the May meeting of the set of institutional performance standards (IPS) outlined in the *Restructuring Act of 2005*. That action directed staff to form a workgroup to review the IPS process and its statutory measures in consideration of ways to make the process and/or measures more timely and relevant. Dr. Khattar reviewed the potential options outlined by the workgroup for changing the IPS process and/or measures, which she said could result in recommendations for action at the October meeting on changes in SCHEV policy, statute (amendment of the *Restructuring Act*) and/or budget language.

Dr. Khattar noted three Council responsibilities regarding this set of performance standards: (i) assess each public institution's performance on the education-related measures; (ii) review recommendations made by the Department of Planning and Budget and the Finance Secretariat on public institutions' performance on the financial

and administrative standards; and then (iii) certify whether each institution is eligible to receive the specific financial benefits associated with this process.

Dr. Khattar reported that the workgroup identified three important issues: (i) enforcement and accountability; (ii) measures based on self-projected benchmarks; and (iii) confusion over years on which data are presented. She advised that, since the process's inception, no institution has failed to be certified for each fiscal year in question; although in some years, prior to certification, Council required additional information, known as remediation plans, from institutions that failed three or more measures. Also, four of the six education-related performance measures are based on an institution's ability to self-project. She offered that the process could be better aligned to measure actual results opposed to projections. Finally, given the current timeline for enrollment projection data submission, a lag exists when using the data to assess the measures. She suggested that updating the process to be a true biennial review – as opposed to the annual data that are provided currently – would allow for data that are aligned more closely with the IPS process.

The materials included a list of seven potential considerations for future changes or improvements to IPS. The Committee encouraged staff to continue the review, with a focus on how Council can hold institutions more accountable, including a more in-depth review of the remediation plans and more explicit feedback when an institution does not meet its enrollment projections.

BRIEFING ON CHANGES TO THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID POLICIES

At the request of Ms. O'Holleran, Mr. Andes provided a briefing on several federal financial-aid policy changes that will take effect in the 2024-25 academic year, including process and calculation changes regarding expected family contribution (EFC) and eligibility for Pell grants. Ms. O'Holleran encouraged staff to include in future budget and/or policy recommendations any changes to state policies and programs that will be necessitated by the federal changes.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. O'Holleran motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:58 p.m., seconded by Mr. Curt.

Jennie O'Holleran
Committee Chair

Grace Covello Khattar
SCHEV Staff

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
September 18, 2023**

DRAFT MINUTES

Thaddeus Holloman called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., at Hartman Hall, Room #3016, James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Committee members present: Jason El Koubi Scott Fleming, Thaddeus Holloman, and J. Douglas Straley. Cheryl Oldham, Chair, arrived at 1:16pm.

Committee members absent: William Harvey.

Staff members present: Joseph G. DeFilippo, Jodi Fisler, Sandra Freeman, Kirstin Pantazis, and Kristin Whelan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE May 18 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

On motion by Mr. Holloman and seconded by Mr. El Koubi, the minutes were approved unanimously (4-0).

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

ACTION ON PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the background for the organizational change proposed by Old Dominion University (ODU). The School of Supply Chain, Logistics, and Maritime Operations would administer a Master of Science (MS) in Maritime Trade and Supply Chain Management as well as two graduate certificate programs. The school would also coordinate external partnerships and maritime research efforts. The proposal received broad industry support. Dr. DeFilippo acknowledged Dr. Brian Payne, Vice Provost, who commented that this effort is the result of ODU working with their local community and industry partners as a pillar of regional economic development.

Mr. David White, executive director of the Virginia Maritime Association, noted that the maritime industry drives the Hampton Roads economy, and the proposed school is fundamental to Virginia receiving global recognition in maritime supply chain logistics. Ms. Deb Waters, Vice Chair of the Maritime Advisory Council, spoke to the industry need for more graduates with broader skill sets to ensure continued economic development. Vinny Di Costanzo of CVInternational noted that the proposed school would assist in meeting staffing needs and propel Norfolk to the center of global maritime logistics.

In response to a query from Mr. Holloman about pulling departments from existing schools Dr. Payne noted that new programs will not be proposed until they are requested by industry partners. Mr. Fleming followed with a query regarding undergraduate students in the field. Dr. Payne and Ms. Waters both noted that

recommendations are being presented to ODU's board to develop undergraduate programs in maritime trade and supply chain logistics to fill current market demand. Mr. Holloman thanked the representatives for attending the meeting.

The following resolution was approved unanimously (4-0) to be forwarded to the full council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the establishment of the School of Supply Chain, Logistics, and Maritime Operations at Old Dominion University, effective October 1, 2023.

ACTION ON REPORT OF AUDIT FOR A CERTIFIED POSTSECONDARY SCHOOL

Dr. DeFilippo presented SCHEV's duty as the default certifier of private post-secondary institutions operating in Virginia. This duty includes auditing existing schools for compliance with regulation and seeking Council authorization to begin revocation proceedings. If Council approves, staff would initiate required administrative processes, including an informal fact-finding conference and, if necessary, a formal hearing. Dr. DeFilippo noted that the resolution, found on page 45 of the Agenda Book, is being modified to remove the provision that would immediately forbid MPower enrolling new students. Dr. DeFilippo introduced Ms. Freeman, Director of Private Postsecondary Education, to answer questions about the audit findings and subsequent request.

In response to a query from Mr. Fleming, Ms. Freeman noted that MPower operates in other states, and she has no knowledge of similar non-compliance issues occurring in those states. Ms. Oldham asked Dr. DeFilippo to comment on potential outcomes and the appropriateness of inviting MPower representatives to speak. Dr. DeFilippo noted that the request before Council is to initiate a process, and that the process may not necessarily culminate in revocation.

Steve Chema, legal counsel for MPower Career Training, was invited to speak and made several assertions, including that SCHEV staff had not consulted with MPower during the audit, that the audit report contained factual errors and faulty assumptions, and that the regulations being cited do not support staff's findings. Ms. Freeman countered that the audit process had included consultation with MPower as well as an exit interview. Dr. DeFilippo noted that the request before the committee is the result of two audits which found a total of 18 items of non-compliance, six of which were repeat violations.

In response to a query from Mr. Straley, Ms. Freeman noted that the second audit was conducted after receipt of multiple student complaints and revealed numerous instances of repeat non-compliance. Mr. Straley clarified that the resolution would only begin proceedings, not revoke certification. Mr. Fleming added that Council might benefit from further fact finding.

The following resolution was unanimously approved (5-0) to be forwarded to the full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia instructs staff to initiate procedures to revoke MPower Career Training's certificate to operate.

ACTION ON PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAM AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION

Dr. DeFilippo described the background and curriculum of the proposed Data Science degree program at The University of Virginia (UVA). This program responds to recent efforts to establish Data Science as an independent academic discipline. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) shows faster than average growth in the field. No other institutions objected to this program. Dr. DeFilippo acknowledged the University of Virginia representatives present and thanked them and Dr. Osei for their work on the proposal.

Mr. El Koubi noted that knowledge work is a core growth sector in Virginia and that the growth of Data Science was forecast through the Tech Talent computer science initiative. Ms. Oldham cautioned that the pace of change in this sector is great and institutions and Council have a duty to ensure academic programs integrate with industry to produce graduates with current, relevant skills.

Dr. Brian Wright, Director of Undergraduate Programs for the School of Data Science, responded that the math underpinning the program does not change and that the program was designed with flexibility in electives to allow response to industry needs. Dr. Christina Morell, Associate Provost for Institutional Research & Analytics, and Ms. Alena Herklotz, Assistant Director for Academic Compliance, were present and responded to questions from committee members.

The following resolution was approved unanimously (5-0) to be forwarded to the full council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to the University of Virginia to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Data Science (CIP code: 30.7001), effective spring 2024.

REVIEW OF PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Dr. DeFilippo introduced the agenda item, presenting "Program Announcements" for new degree programs that public institutions plan to submit for SCHEV approval. The Program Announcement is a feature of the SCHEV program approval process in accord with Council's duty to "review and approve or disapprove all new undergraduate or graduate academic programs that any public institution of higher education proposes," Code of Virginia § 23.1-203 (5). Dr. DeFilippo spoke about the purposes of listing program announcements related to alerting staff, Council members and other institutions about institutions' programmatic plans.

Dr. DeFilippo provided descriptions of each proposed program and factors that may affect approval of such programs. Committee members offered comments and received information from institutional representatives.

BRIEFING ON DAY OF DIALOGUE ON CIVIC LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Fislser provided a presentation on the state of civic engagement in the Commonwealth, the Day of Dialogue, and continuing plans to further civic engagement. Background was given on civic engagement being added to policy in 2017 as a part of student learning assessment. Committee members expressed interest in how engagement is measured, who is responsible for these initiatives on each campus, what effort is being made to work with K12 institutions, and a state-wide map of engagement and assessment efforts. Dr. Fislser noted that this is a non-partisan push that encourages students to engage and act according to individual values. Further, Virginia was one of three states to affirm a commitment to have civic engagement as a part of every undergraduate student experience.

RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE STAFF LIAISON

Dr. DeFilippo commented on the recent activities and accomplishments of Academic Affairs staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Oldham adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

Cheryl Oldham
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

Kirstin Pantazis
Staff, Academic Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
JOINT SCHEV/COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS MEETING
September 18, 2023**

DRAFT MINUTES

Mr. Ampy called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 2021 of Hartman Hall, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Mr. Ampy introduced the current Chair of the Council of Presidents, President Taylor Reveley IV. President Reveley thanked everyone for attending and expressed gratitude for being able to gather in person.

Council members present: Ken Ampy, Walter Curt, Victoria Harker, William Harvey, Jennie O'Holleran, Thaddeus Holloman, Cheryl Oldham, Jason El Koubi, Delceno Miles, Doug Straley, Scott Fleming and John Jumper.

Council members absent: John Broderick.

Staff members present: Tom Allison, Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Grace Covello Khattar, Joseph DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Jodi Fidler, Sandra Freeman, Tod Massa, Laura Osberger, Emily Salmon, Bob Spieldenner, Kristin Whelan and Yan Zheng.

Other notable attendees: Deb Love from the Office of the Attorney General; the Honorable Aimee Guidera, Secretary of Education; Kirk Cox, President, Virginia Business Higher Education Council (VBHEC); and Nicholas Kent, Deputy Secretary of Education.

See the list at the end of this document of Presidents who attended.

INTRODUCTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

President Alger welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to JMU. He thanked Peter Blake for his years of service as SCHEV director. President Alger shared some information about JMU and the genesis of Hartman Hall.

Mr. Ampy called for the presidents and Council members to introduce themselves. He then asked if any presidents could share their experiences with the mental health pilot program. Several participants spoke about how the program benefits their campuses.

Mr. Blake asked the presidents to address how their campuses are helping to ensure the success of Pell Grant eligible students. The presidents discussed how they've been able to increase Pell eligible enrollment at their universities. They discussed wrap-around services and strategies to help Pell Grant eligible and first-generation students complete their degrees.

The presidents discussed mental health initiatives, campus safety and affirmative action. They also discussed administrative costs and challenges to hiring. The presidents also talked about the partnership between K-12 and higher education. They also discussed the impact of low teacher pay on college student interest in studying education.

WHAT VIRGINIANS THINK ABOUT VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. Ampy introduced Mr. Cox from the Virginia Business Higher Education Council (VBHEC) and invited him to address the presidents and Council members.

Mr. Cox spoke about the VBHEC's 2023-2024 Growth4VA advocacy campaign. The campaign's message is that it's time to invest in Virginia's talent.

The VBHEC sponsored a comprehensive economic impact study by the Weldon Center at UVA. The study found that Virginia public institutions contribute \$52 billion annually to Virginia's gross state product. The public system accounts for 188,000 jobs in the state, and higher education returns approximately \$3.8 billion in revenue to the state treasury. The investment in higher education more than pays for itself.

According to a public opinion poll released by the VBHEC, more than 90% of Virginians in both parties say that making sure that every Virginian can earn a certificate or degree is the most important investment the state can make.

Mr. Cox wrapped up his remarks by advocating for greater investment in VTOP as the best way to provide more opportunities for students and Virginia business.

After his remarks, Mr. Cox shared a short video.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Mr. Ampy opened the floor to questions for Mr. Cox and reactions to his presentation.

Mr. Cox answered questions about the polling data and the bipartisan support for higher education in Virginia. Council members asked about the methodology behind the poll and asked for data connecting the internships to outcomes. Mr. Cox stated that it is too soon to measure those results.

Mr. Ampy invited Secretary Guidera to share some remarks. On behalf of the Governor, she thanked the returning Council members and welcomed the new ones. She updated the group about initiatives from her office.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Blake applauded Secretary Guidera for her partnership. He thanked the new Council members and welcomed the new presidents and chancellor. Mr. Blake reflected on his memories and important accomplishments in Virginia higher ed during his tenure.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The chair adjourned the joint meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Council Secretary

Kristin Whelan
Coordinator of Board and Executive Operations

Council of Presidents Attendees

Bret Danilowicz, Radford University
Cedric Wins, Virginia Military Institute
Greg Hodges, Patrick & Henry Community College
Michael Rao, Virginia Commonwealth University
Adam Hutchison, Virginia Highlands Community College
Donna Price Henry, UVA-Wise
Troy Paino, University of Mary Washington
Taylor Reveley IV, Longwood University
Jon Alger, James Madison University
Brian Hemphill, Old Dominion University
Tim Sands, Virginia Tech
Jim Ryan, University of Virginia
Gregory Washington, George Mason University
Javuane Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University
David Doré, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System
Bill Kelly, Christopher Newport University

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL MEETING
May 16, 2023**

DRAFT MINUTES

Mr. Ampy called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in Room #2021, Hartman Hall, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Council members present: Ken Ampy, Walter Curt, Victoria Harker, William Harvey, Thaddeus Holloman, Cheryl Oldham, John Jumper, Scott Fleming, Douglas Straley and Delceno Miles.

Council members attending virtually: Jennie O'Holleran.

Council members absent: Jason El Koubi, John Broderick.

Mr. Ampy asked Ms. Osberger to conduct a roll call vote to approve the virtual participation of Mr. Broderick and Ms. O'Holleran. The members approved unanimously. Mr. Broderick ultimately was unable to join the meeting at all.

Staff members present: Tom Allison, Lee Andes, Peter Blake, Grace Covello Khattar, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Jodi Fisler, Sandra Freeman, Tod Massa, Laura Osberger, Kirstin Pantazis, Paul Smith, Emily Salmon, Bob Spieldenner, Kristin Whelan and Yan Zheng.

Notable Guests: Secretary of Education, the Honorable Aimee Guidera; Deputy Secretary of Education Nicholas Kent; and Deb Love from the Office of the Attorney General.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Harker, seconded by Mr. Holloman, the minutes from the May 15, 2023, joint meeting with the Private College Advisory Board and the minutes from the May 16, 2023, Council were approved 11-0, with two abstaining. (General Jumper and Mr. Fleming).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Ampy directed everyone to the biographies of the new Council members published in the agenda book and asked the new members to introduce themselves.

REMARKS FROM JON ALGER, PRESIDENT OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Mr. Ampy introduced President Alger and thanked him for hosting the meetings.

President Alger shared a presentation about James Madison University' distinctive identity. President Alger highlighted the following:

- JMU's strong enrollment numbers.

- Commitment to Pell eligible and low-income students.
- Evolving student body.
- Early student success system.
- Meeting workforce needs.
- Career outcomes.
- R2 national research designation.
- Community engagement.
- Civic engagement and free expression.

President Alger answered questions from Council members about civics education, accessibility and enrollment data.

BRIEFING ON TRANSFER VIRGINIA

Dr. Hutchison, director of transfer for the Virginia Community College System, presented an overview of transfer in Virginia.

The transfer team has completed all the implementation strategies need to meet their goals. Transfer Virginia aims to:

- Reduce gateway barriers.
- Assign credits efficiency.
- Enhance student mobility.
- Lead to degree attainment.

The transfer guide is a four-year path guidance document for students. Faculties from four-year and two-year institutions work together to create the guides for each institution.

Dr. Hutchison answered questions from Council members about transfer rates and transfer agreements.

Ms. Hutchison introduced Ms. Crenshaw, the transfer portal coordinator. Ms. Crenshaw demonstrated the Transfer Virginia website. She highlighted features that assist students in comparing their portfolios to see what each of the four-year institutions will provide as credit.

ACTION ON PRIORITY INITIATIVES SUPPORTING THE STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. Salmon updated the Council on the strategic plan progress. She stepped through a chart, directing members to the updates made since the May Council meeting. Council members had several questions and suggestions for changes.

Among the questions and suggestions, Council members mentioned the following:

- Categorize the initiatives so that they clearly align with the Governor's stated goals.
- Explicitly include civics and history under the creating a vibrant campus life initiative.
- Update to include missing language about commitment and completion.

- Explicitly tie financial investments initiatives to the private colleges in addition to the public institutions.

After Council member input, the Council delayed the vote on the priority initiatives until October to give staff time to update the initiatives based on Council input.

ACTION ON MEETING SCHEDULES AND LOCATIONS

Ms. Osberger presented Council members with a proposed meeting schedule and locations for the 2024 meetings.

Proposed 2024 schedule and locations:

January 9, 2024 – virtual or in Richmond

March 18-19, 2024 – George Mason University, Fairfax

May 13-14, 2024 - (with Private College Advisory Board) Bridgewater College, Bridgewater

July 16, 2024 – Central Virginia Community College, Lynchburg

September 16-17, 2024 (with Council of Presidents), Old Dominion University, Norfolk

October 21-22, 2024 – SCHEV in Richmond

Council voted and passed the schedule unanimously.

RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM THE AGENCY DIRECTOR

Mr. Blake highlighted the following from the Director's report, published on page 178 of the agenda book:

Tuition and fees. Public colleges and universities have approved tuition and fee increases for 2023-24. The four-year institution average for tuition and all mandatory fees for 2023-24 will be \$15,036, or about \$498 (3.4%) higher than the listed price in 2022-23. In 2022-23, colleges and universities used one-time funds or other cost savings to discount the listed price for tuition and some fees at 2021-22 levels. As a result, the net increase of tuition and mandatory fees at four-year institutions for in-state undergraduate students in 2023-24 over the actual 2022-23 price (as opposed to the sticker price) is \$755, or 5.3%. Mr. Blake directed the Council to the link on the SCHEV website for the full report.

General Assembly session: On September 6, the General Assembly approved amendments to the 2022-24 budget. The amendments added \$182 million for higher education operations and financial aid and \$16.9 million for the maintenance reserve program, which supports capital improvements to classrooms, labs, libraries and other academic buildings. These additional funds will provide additional financial aid for students and help address higher salary costs, inflation, tuition waivers and other budget pressures. This approved budget, pending the Governor's approval, will be the baseline for Council's budget recommendations for 2024-26. Additional details can be found on the following pages.

General Professional Advisory Committee (GPAC):

June 26 (all virtual): Secretary of Labor Bryan Slater shared his and the Governor's vision for workforce development and ways in which the colleges and universities can help meet the high-demand labor market needs of the future. Other topics included the six-year-plan process, enrollment planning, and the Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) program.

August 28 (in person): Attorney General Jason Miyares offered his perspectives on the importance of higher ed and equal access to it. Robyn McDougale (VCU) presented postsecondary-related results of recent Commonwealth Polls. Staff discussed the recent contract between V-TOP and a staffing agency to provide staffing services to small businesses that lack the infrastructure to offer internships.

Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership: V-TOP has embarked on significant partnerships with key stakeholders. Notably, the Virginia Business Higher Education Council and SCHEV have established a relationship to improve connections between businesses and institutions of higher education. Also, SCHEV and the Department of Human Resource Management developed the COVA (Commonwealth of Virginia) Internship Connection program, which aims to provide training and resources for students to pursue opportunities in public service. Finally, in conjunction with the Council of Presidents, SCHEV produced three items that will be useful in capturing data for the V-TOP program. The work included the following: 1) a report on baseline data for credit-bearing internships from academic years 2019-2021, 2) guidance on identifying work-based learning course-type codes in SCHEV data systems, and 3) definitions and categories for work-based learning experiences.

Virginia Intern Day: Governor Youngkin issued a proclamation designating July 27 (the second annual) Virginia Intern Day. A photo shoot with interns was held outside the Executive Mansion; Secretaries Guidera and Slater participated, as did Virginia Business Higher Education Council President Kirk Cox and several hundred interns. Events occurred around the Commonwealth. The V-TOP program also recognized this year's Top Employers for Interns; see: <https://virginiatop.org/vainternday/>.

Planning for new board member orientation program: On August 30, SCHEV staff convened the group planning the annual educational program for recent gubernatorial appointees to public institution governing boards. Representatives of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Secretary Education, as well as the institutions and new Council members Delceno Miles and John Jumper. Attendees discussed a draft event agenda and suggested additional topics and speakers. The event is slated for November 14-15 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.

New office space: SCHEV, along with other tenants of the James Monroe Building, have been working with the Department of General Service on an office relocation plan. It is possible that SCHEV staff will move to a new location within the next 12 months.

Dr. Harvey commended Mr. Blake on his outstanding work as SCHEV Director.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEES

Report from Academic Affairs Committee

Ms. Oldham reported on the activities of the committee.

- The committee approved establishing the School of Supply Chain Logistics at ODU. The action out of the committee is the motion, General Jumper seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
- The committee approved SCHEV staff to initiate the revocation process at the MPower school. The Council voted only on the first resolution. The action out of the committee is the motion, Ms. Harter seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
- The committee approved the Data Science degree at UVA. The action out of the committee is the motion. Ms. Harter seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
- Staff notified the committee about upcoming program changes at public institutions.
- The committee received an update from Dr. Fisler about the Day of Dialogue held in June. Dr. Defilippo offered to present this topic to the full Council in October.

Council members stated that it would be instructive to hear how the K-12 system connects to higher education and to learn what is within SCHEV's charter to act upon.

Report from the Resources & Planning Committee

Ms. O'Holleran reported on the activities of the committee.

The committee discussed draft budget and policy recommendations for the 2024-26 biennium.

- Dr. Edwards reviewed the draft recommendations highlighting various sections including affordability, six-year plan initiatives and capital outlay. Discussions on budget and policy recommendations were to inform actions by the committee in October and/or thereafter.
- The committee discussed staff's recommendations and provided staff with additional areas for consideration including campus safety funding, funding for students in financial hardship to meet minor debts and campus mental health. Staff will work with committee members over the next month in preparation for the October Council meeting action item on budget and policy recommendations.

The committee discussed institutional enrollment projections.

- Mr. Massa presented enrollment projections. He highlighted Council's duties in the Virginia Code as it relates to enrollment projections, the process institutions, SCHEV and Op-Six go through as it relates to the projections. He presented detailed data by sector and institution on enrollment projections through Fall of 2029.

- Mr. Massa highlighted key findings by institution type noting that four-year institutions anticipate an overall decrease in in-state first-time in college students. Among four-year institutions, there is an even split among institutions that project a decrease and those that project an increase.
- Staff concluded the presentation noting that we are on track to meet the cumulative goal in the statewide strategic plan to have 1.5 million degrees and credentials by 2030. Staff estimate that by 2030, 70% of Virginia's working-age population will have an associate or bachelor's degree or other relevant workforce credential.
- The committee discussed that with certain institutions increasing enrollments, other institutions could suffer more and see a decline in enrollment. Further conversation occurred on the options Council has, to review and intervene related to enrollment projections. Council encouraged staff to further develop enrollment projection policy recommendations before the October meeting.

The committee discussed the review process for public institutions' six-year plans.

- Mr. Allison reviewed briefed Council on the status of the six-year plan process. He highlighted the historical process where institutions submit six-year plans every odd year to the Op-Six group.
- The plans include enrollment projections, financial plans and academic plans. Another objective of the plans is to gather general fund requests for the upcoming biennium.
- Mr. Allison discussed the process of meeting with all public institutions to review their plans, highlighting that this year Op-Six worked with Boston Consulting Group on the process, noting the addition of the fact-packs from the consultant.
- He noted that previous years' plans are publicly available, and the final plans for this year will be available by December 1, 2023.

Staff provided an update on the work of the workgroup for the institutional performance measures.

- At the May meeting Council requested SCHEV staff form a workgroup to review the IPS process and consider ways to make the process timelier and more relevant.
- Dr. Khattar provided some background on the institutional performance standards, highlighting Council's role approving the education-related measures.
- Dr. Khattar highlighted three important factors that emerged from the workgroup: (i) enforcement and accountability; (ii) measures are based on self-projected benchmarks; and (iii) confusion over years on which data are presented.
- She presented a list of seven items to consider for future changes or improvements to IPS. The committee encouraged staff to take another look and emphasize how Council can hold institutions more accountable including reviewing in detail the remediation plans and requiring feedback if an institution does not meet their enrollment projections.

Staff briefed the committee on the federal financial aid changes.

- Mr. Andes briefed Council on several federal financial aid policy changes, including expected family contribution calculation, and the Pell grant student awards. These changes will take effect in the 2024-25 award years.

- The committee discussed a series of state policies considerations to align with the federal changes. Ms. O'Holleran encouraged staff to include any necessary changes in budget or policy recommendations at the October meeting.

Council members expressed interest in enrollment data regarding enrollment management and what is within SCHEV's control to influence.

REPORT FROM THE SCHEV DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Ms. Harker reported on the activities of the Executive Search Committee. The committee has hired a search firm. Next week, the firm will provide Ms. Harker and Ms. Webb with profiles of the types of candidates who should be considered.

Mr. Ampy noted that Council may need a special meeting in December to discuss the executive search. Ms. Love provided clarification on the rules for special Council meetings. She provided FOIA rules regarding holding a meeting for the express purpose of interviewing candidates.

RECEIPT OF ITEMS DELEGATED TO STAFF

Mr. Blake confirmed no new items were delegated to staff. He told the new members where to find the item in the agenda book.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

RECEIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Ken Ampy
Council Chair

Kristin Whelan
SCHEV Staff

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 |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Blue Ridge Community College | Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |
| Blue Ridge Community College | Facilitated Staff Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Early Childhood Development (19.0709) | Fall 2023 |
| Brightpoint Community College | Degree Designation and Program Name Change Approved: Change the degree designation and program name for the Associate of Art (AA) in Secondary Teacher Education (English/History) degree program (13.1205) to an Associate of Science (AS) in Secondary Teacher Education (13.1205) | Fall 2023 |
| Central Virginia Community College | Facilitated Staff Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Early Childhood Development (19.0709) | Fall 2023 |
| George Mason University | Undergraduate Certificate Program Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphic Design (50.0409) Graduate Certificate Program Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Studies in Education (13.0901) | Fall 2023 |
| Germanna Community College | Facilitated Staff Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Surgical Technology (51.0909) | Fall 2023 |
| J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College | Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |

| Institution | Degree/Program/CIP | Effective Date |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| James Madison University | Facilitated Staff Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master of Science (MS) degree program in Applied Nutrition (51.3101) | Summer 2023 |
| James Madison University | New Degree Programs Not Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree program in Dance (50.0301) • Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree program in Musical Theatre (50.0509) | August 7, 2023 August 8, 2023 |
| Old Dominion University | CIP Code Changes Approved: Change the CIP code of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degree program in Economics from 52.0601 to 52.1399 • Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science (BA/BS) degree program in Geography from 45.0701 to 30.4401 • Graduate Certificate program in The Teaching of Writing from 13.1299 to 23.1304 | Fall 2023 |
| Old Dominion University | Program Modification Not Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree program in Business Administration (52.0201) | July 27, 2023 |
| Piedmont Virginia Community College | Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Police Science to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |
| Southside Virginia Community College | Program Name Changes Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the name of the Certificate in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) • Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |
| Southwest Virginia Community College | Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science degree program in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |
| Tidewater Community College | Certificate Program Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical Nursing (51.3901) | Fall 2023 |
| University of Virginia | Graduate Certificate Program Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Leadership (44.0599) | Fall 2023 |

| Institution | Degree/Program/CIP | Effective Date |
|---|---|----------------|
| University of Virginia | <p>Program Modification Approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add an online delivery format to the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Administration and Supervision (13.0401) | Fall 2023 |
| Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University | <p>CIP Code Change Approved:</p> <p>Change the CIP code of the Master of Arts (MA) in Economics from 45.0601 to 45.0603</p> | Spring 2024 |
| Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University | <p>Degree Designation Change Approved:</p> <p>Change the abbreviation of the Master of Engineering degree designation from M.E. to M.Eng. for the following degree programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Aerospace Engineering (14.0201) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Biological Systems Engineering (14.0301) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Chemical Engineering (14.0701) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Civil Engineering (14.0801) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Computer Engineering (14.0901) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Electrical Engineering (14.1001) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Engineering Mechanics (14.1101) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Industrial and Systems Engineering (14.3501) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Materials Science and Engineering (14.1801) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Mechanical Engineering (14.1901) • Master of Science and Master of Engineering (M.S./M.E.) in Mining Engineering (14.2101) | Fall 2023 |

| Institution | Degree/Program/CIP | Effective Date |
|---|---|----------------|
| Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University | Graduate Certificate Programs Approved: | Fall 2023 |
| | • Bioethics (51.3201) | Spring 2024 |
| | • Data Science for Chemical Engineering (14.0799) | Fall 2023 |
| Wytheville Community College | • Educational Administration and Supervision (13.0401) | Fall 2023 |
| Wytheville Community College | Program Name Change Approved: Change the name of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program in Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice (43.0103) | Fall 2023 |

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

Program Discontinued

| Institution | Degree/Program/CIP | Effective Date |
|-------------------------|--|----------------|
| George Mason University | Program Discontinuance Approved: • Master of Science (MS) in Health and Medical Policy (44.0503) [Council Approval Date: March 16, 2010] | Fall 2023 |

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

Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes

| Institution | Change/Site | Effective Date |
|-------------------------|--|----------------|
| George Mason University | Rename the Arlington Campus, an off-campus site, located at 3341 Fairfax Drive, Arlington Virginia, 22201 to Mason Square . The off-campus site has been re-named to differentiate the site from off-campus sites in Arlington operated by other institutions of higher education, and to “provide a brand recognition for the university’s off-campus site.” The new name will also ensure that the “specific geographical location” within Arlington—the neighborhood of Arlington known as “Virginia Square”—is “indicated in the name of the university’s off-campus site.” | July 1, 2023 |

| Institution | Change/Site | Effective Date |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| George Mason University | <p>Create the Graduate Division. The Graduate Division will operate as a standalone academic unit. The lead administrator, the associate provost for graduate education will report to both the provost and the vice provost of academic affairs. No new departments will be established in the first three years of operation and no existing departments will be relocated to the Division.</p> <p>The establishment of the Graduate Division will provide an “academic and administrative” unit to “support and promote graduate academic programs, graduate faculty, and graduate students.</p> | July 1, 2023 |
| Norfolk State University | Rename the Department of Technology to the Department of Engineering Technology . NSU indicates that the renaming will recognize “the focus of the department’s academics in the specific area of engineering technology.” The new name will also reflect that “NSU’s department offers similar academic programs as those offered by departments with the same name at other public institutions in Virginia. | July 1, 2023 |
| Radford University | Rename the College of Graduate Studies and Research to the College of Graduate Studies . Radford indicates that the renaming “will ensure the college’s name accurately reflects its focus” on graduate education. The new name will also “clarify to the campus community that the College no longer has oversight over research compliance and sponsored programs and grants management.” | August 10, 2023 |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | Close the Northern Virginia off-campus site: VCU Department of Nurse Anesthesia, 6295 Edsall Road Plaza 500, Suite 103, Alexandria, VA 22312. | August 13, 2023 |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | Establish the off-campus instructional site: VCU NoVA, Poplar Run Office Building, 5285 Shawnee Road, Alexandria, VA 22312. | August 11, 2023 |

Pursuant to the *Code of Virginia*, § 23.1-203 and Council’s “Policies and Procedures for Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes,” the following items not approved as delegated to staff:

Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes

| Institution | Change/Site | Effective Date |
|--------------------|--|----------------|
| Radford University | Change the name of the Department of Accounting, Finance, and Business Law to the Department of Accounting and Finance Services Systems . | May 18, 2023 |
| Radford University | Change the name of the School of Nursing to the College of Nursing . | May 18, 2023 |

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 item approved as delegated to staff:

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

| Institution | Effective Date |
|---|----------------|
| Standard Healthcare Services College of Nursing | May 25, 2023 |

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

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

| Institution | Location | Effective Date |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Royal Spa Academy | Fredericksburg, VA | April 27, 2023 |