**D R A F T**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, Sept. 9, 2021**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 3 p.m. at the VCU Student Commons in the Virginia Rooms and via Zoom.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** Michael Rao, Fotis Sotiropoulos, and Meredith Weiss

**Administration:** Grant Heston, Arthur Kellerman, Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, Pam Lepley, Susan Parish, and Constance Relihan

**Faculty:** Sompop Bencharit,Michael Broda,Brian Brown,Paul Bukaveckas,DeniseBurnette, Kimberly Compton**,** Jason Callahan,Everett Carpenter,Hillary Cassil,Ross Collin, Mariah Crilley, Marjolein Dewit, Rodney Dyer, Sarah Faris, Josh Galligan, Eric Hazelrigg, Denia Lee-Hing, Nancy Husson, Catherine Ingrassia, Aniket Jadhave, Peter Kirkpatrick, Susan Kornstein, Milos Manic, Edward Millner, Lathika Moharaj, Mary Pettiette, Maria Rivera, Valerie Robnolt, Roxanne Spindle, Katharine Tibbetts, Christy Tyndall,StaceyWahl,Yi Wen Wei,Jeff Wilson**,** Wenli Yan, and Erin Hickey Zacholski

**Postdoctoral Scholar:** Shawn Rosalez

**Classified staff**: Delores Armstrong, Elizabeth Dean, Greg Kimbrell, Pamela Mason, Saher Randhawa, Amanda Simmons, Hannah Steighner, Chris Strauss, Jennifer Tennison, Katina Velentzas, and Wren Wyatt

**Students**: Kamal Alhassan, Natalie Barr, Sydney Biondi, Julia Daum, Chidera Ntiwunka-Ifeanyi, Jordan James, Fatima Malik, Rena Pidaparti, Singth Nawagamwage Perera, and Erik Lainez-Villanueva

**Ex-Officio and Guests**: Michael Cimis, Gypsy Denzine, Chelsea Gray, Karen Helderman, Irene Herold, Magnus Johnson, Alison Jones, Carly Katz, Allison Miller, Aashir Nasim, Reuban Rodriguez, and Deborah Noble-Triplett.

1. **President’s Report**

President Rao welcomed Council members to the first hybrid meeting of the academic year. For this first meeting of the academic year, he asked several cabinet members to provide an update on several aspects of the fall 2021 semester – from academics to public health measures. He introduced our new Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Fotis Sotoriopoulos, who discussed priorities and vision. Tomikia LeGrande discussed enrollment and vaccination numbers. Chuck Klink discussed student life. Meredith Weiss provided an ICT perspective from faculty and staff and discussed vaccinations. Art Kellerman discussed the current state of COVID. A general discussion followed.

1. **Constituent Reports**

Natalie Barr provided an SGA Report. She discussed SGA highlights and a general discussion followed.

Valerie Robnholt provided a Faculty Senate Report. She discussed faculty senate highlights and a general discussion followed.

Gregory Kimbrell provided a Staff Senate Report. He discussed staff senate highlights and a general discussion followed.

1. **Membership Caucuses**

Council members were informed that an email is forthcoming regarding committee assignments.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.