

## **MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Monroe Park Campus, University Student Commons

Virginia Rooms

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, November 7, 2019, at 3 p.m. at the University Student Commons.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** Holly Alford

**Administration:** Cathleen Burke

**Faculty:** Tamika Alexander, Deidra Arrington, Mike Broda, Brian Brown, Patricia Cummins, Kim Curry-Lourenco, Muthoni Imungi, Melissa Jamerson, Cindy Kirkwood, Andrea Kohashi, Katie Logan, Hermine Maes, Donna McClish, Meera Mehtaji, Jonathan Moore, Lauren Pamulapati, Carrie Peterson, Christine Remmers, Jacqueline Smith-Mason, Nancy Stutts, Dong Sun, Brian Verelli, Matt Wallin, April Wayne, and David Webber

**Postdoctoral Scholar:** Sean Koebley

**Classified Staff:** Delores Armstrong, Valarie Carter, Holly Dean, Nick Fetzer, Christopher Garland, Brian McNeill, Beni Meyers, Saher Randhawa

**Students:** Sombo Chunda, Alexia Guzman, Jordan James, Udhanth Mallasani, Taylor Maloney, Shay Miller, April Wayne and Tyler Williams

**Ex-Officio and Guests:** Gypsy Denzine, Miles Gordon, Manu Gupta, Dan Han, Shirley Helm, Alex Henson, Alison Jones, Angela Nicholas, Fred Orellove, Susan Robb, Michael Rosenberg, Jennifer Tennison, and Marc Vernon

### **1. President's Report**

Gypsy Denzine provided the President's Report on behalf of President Rao, who was in Kuwait and unable to present an update in person. She discussed the following highlights:

- University-wide commencement scheduled for December 14, 2019 at 10 am. David Baldacci (best-selling author and VCU grad) is our keynote speaker.

Ramona Neifeld and Dr. James Neifeld will be honored with the Edward A. Wayne Medal for generosity and service to VCU and the community.

- This is a time of transition for VCU Health. Marsha Rappley will retire in early January. Peter Buckley will serve as interim senior VP for VCU Health Sciences and as interim VCUHS CEO. He will continue to serve as Dean of the School of Medicine as well as the health system's Executive VP for Medical Affairs. Ron Clark will serve as interim CEO of VCU Hospitals and Clinics, effective November 1, 2019 (replacing Shane Cerone who is returning to his healthcare consulting firm).
- VCU Massey Cancer Center has a new director. Robert Winn, M.D. will start on December 2, 2019, replacing Gordon Ginder, Masseys' director for 22 years.
- Virginia Coordinated Care Program is ending because most of the patients in the program qualify for Medicaid. This program connected uninsured patients to primary care providers. Patients who do not qualify for Medicaid can still receive care through VCUH, free health clinics and through federally-funded health care centers in the commonwealth.
- Development and Alumni Relations recently named a new AVP of Alumni Relations. Elizabeth Bass started on November 4. She is the former executive director of MENTOR Virginia and holds a masters in social work from VCU.
- We are pleased and grateful for the grants awarded to VCU educators and researchers which help us continue our work to advance the human condition. Recent grants include: 1) \$6.8 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to support research on addiction to opioids and other abused drugs; 2) \$6 million grant from the NIH Helping to End Addiction Long-term Initiative (HEAL); 3) Rams in Recovery--\$675,000 grant from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services; and 4) two grants totaling \$8.8 million from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (Dept. of Health and Human Services).
- The College of Engineering celebrated the topping off of their Engineering Research building (2020 completion anticipated).
- VCU was recently named a top college for diversity. VCU received the 2019 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award, a special distinction as a Diversity Champion from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine.

## **2. Consent Items**

There were no changes to the minutes from the University Council meeting on October 3, 2019.

### 3. Committee Reports

On behalf of the Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee, Gypsy Denzine discussed the following new programs/programmatic changes and policy proposals:

1. Proposal to request a name change for the Center for the Study of Biological Complexity to the Center for Biological Data Science — Brian Verrelli, Director for the Life Sciences Education and Integrative Life Sciences Doctoral Program, VCU Life Sciences, and Michael Rosenberg, Director, Center for Study of Biological Complexity, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
2. Proposal to request the closure of the Master of Bioinformatics — Brian Verrelli, Director for the Life Sciences Education and Integrative Life Sciences Doctoral Program, VCU Life Sciences, and Michael Rosenberg, Director, Center for Study of Biological Complexity, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
3. Proposal to create a Baccalaureate Certificate in Disability Studies— Donna Gibson, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Education, and Fred Orelove, faculty member in the School of Education, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
4. Proposal to request the closure of the Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder-- Donna Gibson, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Education, and Jennifer Tennison, Academic Affairs Coordinator, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
5. Proposal to create a Ph.D. in Special Education-- Donna Gibson, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Education, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
6. Proposal to create a Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Clinical Research— Shirley Helm, Manager of Clinical Research Administration, C. Kenneth and Dianne Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
7. Proposal to request a name change for the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences to the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences— Melissa Jamerson, assistant professor, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
8. Proposal to create a B.S. in Finance--Manu Gupta, Chair, Department of Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, School of Business, discussed the proposal and responded to questions.
9. New Data and Information Governance Policy (Administrative)—Dan Han, Chief Information Security Officer, discussed the policy and responded to questions.

10. Revised Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy (Administrative)—Angela Nicholson, Senior Employee Relations Consultant, Office of Human Resources, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.
11. Revised Financial Aid Adjustments due to Total Withdrawal or Enrollment Changes and Return of Title IV Funds (Administrative)—Marc Vernon, Executive Director, Office of Financial Aid, discussed the revised adjustments and responded to questions.
12. Revised Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Financial Aid Policy—Marc Vernon, Executive Director, Office of Financial Aid, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the above proposals and new programs/programmatic changes and move them forward for review and approval by the VCU Board of Visitors.

Alexia Guzman and Udhanth Mallasani provided a Student Government Association report. A general discussion followed.

Saher Randhawa provided a Staff Senate Report, to include: 1) new election to staff senate process in Spring 2020; 2) committee awards; 3) career development; 4) March 9-13, 2020 Staff Appreciation Week activities; and 5) Professional Development Day. A general discussion followed.

#### **4. For Information**

Mike Melis, provided an overview of University Counsel. A general discussion followed and Mike Melis responded to questions.

#### **5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.