**MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 5, 2020**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

MCV Campus, BioTech Center

Founders Room

A meeting of the University Council was held on Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 3 p.m. at the BioTech Center.

The following members and alternates were present:

**Officers:** President Michael Rao and Holly Alford

**Administration:** Cathleen Burke, Gypsy Denzine, Jean Giddens, Cindy Kirkwood, Charles Klink, Tomikia LeGrande, Deborah Noble-Triplett, Constance Relihan, Jacqueline Smith-Mason, John Ulmschneider, and Don Young

**Faculty:** Deidra Arrington,Brian Brown**,** Everett Carpenter, Mary Lou Hall, Nancy Jallo, Andrea Kohashi, Miriam Kuttikat, Sharon Lanning, Thomas Mayhew, Donna McClish, Meera Mehtaji, Thomas McNulty, Lauren Pamulapati, Carrie Peterson, Christine Remmers, Joseph Schaub, Carlos Smith, Nancy Stutts,Christy Tyndall, Niraj Verma, Brian Verrelli, Matt Wallin, Christine Wynd, and Kristin Zimmerman

**Postdoctoral Scholar:**

**Classified staff:** Christopher Garland, Pam Mason, Brian McNeill, Beni Meyers, Karen Mullins, and Saher Randhawa

**Students**: Alexia Guzman**,** Taylor Maloney,Shy Miller,and April Wayne

**Ex-Officio and Guests**: Andrew Arroyo, Lydia Klinger, Scott Oates, and James Orr

1. **President’s Report**

President Rao provided a brief report that included the following highlights:

* Leadership updates: Nicole Dailey, now VCU’s Assistant Chief of Police (served in interim position since August 2019); Jennifer Malat, College of Humanities and Sciences Dean effective July 1; and Scott Breuninger, Honors College Dean effective July 1
* VCU Black Engineers Association-celebrating its 50th anniversary; an integral part; we are grateful for their work to ensure equality, inclusion and better representation at VCU.
* ICA Recognition-named one of the 10 best new museums in the U.S.by USA Today; also recognized by NYTimes for “Great Force” exhibition last fall; proud of the work done by ICA to bring thought-provoking contemporary art to Richmond
* We are having a great annual year-record research/record grad rates; amazing student success stories; record clinic trials—most in Virginia (while committing to patient experience/safety); much-needed master planning, Engineering Research and STEM building.
* During the State of the University address, President Rao spoke of our many of our successes, but he noted we still have work to do (enrollment—down overall for 4th time in last 5 years). We are a national premier research university, but we should be a national leader in graduate education. Our mission is to educate students from all backgrounds who focus on solving problems that hold back human potential. Think of the ways we can do more to help these students succeed and graduate when they come to us (i.e. focus on retention). We are in this together. You are not alone in this work.
* Important nursing partnership begins this fall. VCU will offer accelerated nursing coursework through John Tyler Community College (available to current RNs; address national need for baccalaureate-prepared nurses; and online format so it’s more accessible to more people
* School of Education’s Center for Innovation-Center in development will be located at the Science Museum of Virginia; working with area schools to focus on STEM education in underserved communities
* Important progress in our research mission--$5M grant to Pauley to develop treatments for patients with arrhythmia disorders; $3M philanthropic donation to CHoR will develop a center dedicated to pediatric TBI research and treatment; Important work—pediatric brain injury is the leading cause of death in children in the U.S.; and we are confident VCU will be a leader in this research
* MIR update-->$800M raised; final year of campaign is focused on student success (scholarships); Invest in Me campaign will focus on three categories: Opportunity, Excellence, and TalentCOVID-19: Mass mail sent earlier this week outlining safety and actions we are taking; Monitoring actions taken by the State Dept. and CDC
* President Rao thanked everyone for moving VCU forward and creating opportunity for all students/patients we serve.
1. **Minutes**

Minutes from the University Council meeting on February 6, 2020 were accepted.

1. **Committee Reports**

The Academic Affairs and University Policy Committee presented the following new and revised policy proposals:

1. New Scholarship Management Policy (Administrative*)—* Dr. James Orr, Assistant Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Project Management, Division of Strategic Enrollment Management, discussed the new policy and responded to questions.
2. Revised Research-Related Institutes and Centers Policy (Board of Visitors)—Ms. Lydia Klinger, Special Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Research Administration and Compliance, Office of Research and Innovation, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.
3. Revised Assessing Student Learning Outcomes in Degree and Certificate Programs Policy (Administrative)—Dr. Scott Oates, Director, Academic Program Integrity and Assessment, Office of the Provost, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.
4. Revised Additional Sources of Academic Credit Policy (Board of Visitors)*—*Dr. Andrew Arroyo, Director, Academic Programs and Policy, Office of the Provost, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.
5. Revised Textbook Adoptions and Sales Policy (Administrative)—Dr. Andrew Arroyo discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.
6. Revised Faculty Bonus Award Policy(Administrative)*—*Dr. Gypsy Denzine, Senior Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, discussed the revised policy and responded to questions.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the above new and revised policy proposals and move them forward for review and approval by the VCU Cabinet.

A Student Government Association report was provided. They discussed recent activities, and a general discussion followed.

A Faculty Senate Report was provided. A general discussion followed.

A Staff Senate Report was provided. A general discussion followed.

1. **For Information**

Tomikia LeGrande, Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management, provided an overview and discussed highlights. A general discussion followed and Tomikia LeGrande responded to questions.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.