

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
SPECIAL STRATEGIC PLAN MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2016
MINUTES**

Mr. Minor called the meeting to order at 12:40 a.m. in the board room, Virginia Economic Development Partnership offices, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, G. Gilmer Minor, III, and Minnis Ridenour. Henry Light, William Murray, Carlyle Ramsey, Tom Slater, and Katharine Webb.

Al Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

Council member absent: Gene Lockhart.

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Jodi Fidler, Dan Hix, Wendy Kang, Tod Massa, Lee Ann Rung, Lynn Seuffert, and Greg Weatherford.

REVIEW OF VISION, MISSION, GOALS, STRATEGIES, MEASURES AND TARGETS

Mr. Minor reminded members of the need to develop a work plan that produces results. Mr. Blake provided a summary of the feedback he has received on The Virginia Plan and informed members that it is beginning to shape various higher education conversations in the state. For the benefit of new members, he reviewed the timeline for the Plan that began in March 2014. Mr. Blake reviewed the higher education landscape by the numbers. Mr. Blake reported that SCHEV will have more accurate enrollment numbers in November and will provide an additional report to the Council in January. Ms. Kang provided more detailed information about attainment and answered questions from members.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON BEST-EDUCATED STATE STATUS, MEASURES AND TARGETS

Members discussed their ideas related to state investments in research and space planning that would be needed to move the needle in these areas. Ms. Connelly suggested that the Council consider tracking and measuring efficiency or cost rather than tracking the inflation rate.

Ms. Kang reviewed the long-term measures and targets as well as the immediate measures.

The chairman called for a break at 2:30 p.m. The meeting resumed at 2:50 p.m.

UPDATE ON INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Members reviewed the initiatives for 2016 provided in the materials and staff requested direction on how to sharpen and modify the list and determine priorities, while realizing that everything may not be achieved. Each staff director reviewed the initiatives on which they have been working and provided an update on the progress being made in each area.

DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS AND STRATEGIES FOR 2017

Mr. Slater requested data on jobs and salaries and whether or not graduates are meeting the needs of employers in Virginia.

Mr. Fralin said SCHEV would be well positioned to bring forth proposals for phase 2 of restructuring, particularly since Mr. Ridenour was one of the architects of phase 1. He also suggested that the timing is right to have a discussion with next year's gubernatorial candidates. He explained said SCHEV is in a good position to help take research from the laboratory to the marketplace and develop recommendations that can be provided to institutions.

Mr. Slater discussed INOVA healthcare's research in genomics. Mr. Fralin mentioned that funding is a problem for start-up companies and he encouraged some members with a financial background, particularly Ms. Connelly and Mr. Lockhart, to be a catalyst for this effort. Mr. Ridenour suggested that the Council consider possible public-private ventures for research.

Mr. Ridenour initiated a conversation about the ways in which the system is changing the landscape over the next 20 years, the role of technology in teaching and learning, and the future of capital investments. He requested that members discuss ways to build it into the communications plan to target students and parents. Are we making major investments today that might be obsolete tomorrow? He suggested an in-depth workshop on costing and understanding the implications of how spending in one area affects others.

Ms. Connelly suggested focusing on a single message such as "Why invest in higher education?"

Mr. Blake thanked members for their productive comments. Staff will recap the discussions and provide more for Council's consideration and prioritization.

Dr. Murray offered to host an additional meeting at Dominion's Tredegar offices if needed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

Minnis Ridenour
Council Secretary

Lee Ann Rung
Director, Executive & Board Affairs