

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2017
MINUTES**

Mr. Minor called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. in the SCHEV main conference room, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Ken Ampy, Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Henry Light, Gene Lockhart, G. Gilmer Minor, III, Stephen Moret, William Murray, Carlyle Ramsey, Minnis Ridenour, Tom Slater, and Katharine Webb.

Council member absent: Pamela Moran.

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Ellie Boyd, Beverly Covington, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Wendy Kang, Ashley Lockhart, Paula Robinson, Lee Ann Rung, Greg Weatherford, and Yan Zheng. Al Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General was also in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Minor read Mr. Moret's bio and welcomed him to the Council.

Mr. Blake introduced China Wilson, a Ph.D. student who will be interviewing some Council members as part of her dissertation; Karin Kapsidelis from *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, and Jim Bacon, reporter, writer, and editor of the blog *Bacon's Rebellion*, also were introduced.

RECEIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Minor reported that no requests for public comment had been received. He invited comments from those in attendance; no one came forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Slater and seconded by Dr. Murray, the minutes from the following meetings were approved unanimously:

October 18-19, 2016, Boards of Visitors orientation
October 24, 2016, Executive Committee meeting
October 25, 2016, Council meeting
December 1, 2016, Special meeting

REMARKS FROM MAKOLA ABDULLAH, PRESIDENT, VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY (VSU)

Mr. Minor introduced President Abdullah and read his biography. President Abdullah provided a recap of his first year at VSU with the following five points:

1. VSU will continue to provide transformative opportunities for students.
2. VSU will invest in academic programs to provide quality return on investment for the Commonwealth and the community, including an emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).
3. Faculty and others will begin to tell the great stories of VSU, including the level of commitment by faculty and students.
4. VSU will continue to embrace its land-grant mission by providing careers that lead to economic development for the region and the Commonwealth, and will continue to provide access for all students.
5. VSU will continue to embrace its role as a historically black university.

President Abdullah spoke about VSU's enrollment and the challenges it faces to minimize tuition increases and provide sufficient financial aid. He expressed his pride in VSU's faculty and staff.

President Abdullah informed the Council that VSU has been removed from its earlier warning from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC). He answered questions from members.

REMARKS FROM JOHN O. "DUBBY" WYNNE, CHAIRMAN, VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD

Mr. Minor provided background information from Mr. Wynne's biography and thanked him for attending the meeting. Mr. Wynne provided information on the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board, or the GO Virginia board.

GO Virginia was initiated to improve Virginia's economy and its workforce by involving regions to identify their top priorities to create higher paying jobs. The purpose of GO Virginia is to provide focused, incentivized collaboration. While collaboration must be done at all levels, sufficient funds are not currently available. He said real growth is needed from outside the Commonwealth in order to grow the economy.

Mr. Wynne explained the organizational structure of GO Virginia. The board is composed of 24 members. Nine regions have been designated. Stipends should go out to the regions in spring 2017. The collaborative initiatives should identify priorities that are actionable rather than aspirational. He answered questions from members.

Dr. Murray left the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

The chairman called for a break at 1:15 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:25 p.m.

REPORT OF THE AGENCY DIRECTOR

Mr. Blake highlighted recent agency activities. He said the cybersecurity public service scholarship, affordable pathways partnership grant, and the new economy workforce credential grant are new programs established in the last General Assembly session. SCHEV was assigned responsibility to provide leadership in these areas. Mr. Blake provided a progress report on each.

Boards of Visitors orientation – Mr. Blake thanked Council members for their participation and provided a brief summary of the feedback received from the follow-up survey. Ms. Webb requested that staff share the specific comments from the survey.

Outstanding Faculty Awards – Mr. Blake thanked Mr. Ampy and Mr. Slater for their participation on the final selection committee. Each spoke about the experience and expressed their impression of the caliber of the nominees.

Mr. Blake asked Ms. Kang to provide an update on the communication initiative. Ms. Kang reported that the annual report on The Virginia Plan that SCHEV is required by the Code of Virginia to submit annually, has been completed and is being prepared for submission to the Governor and General Assembly. She highlighted portions of the report and indicated that the report will be shared with presidents, legislative liaisons, and Council members. Ms. Kang informed the Council that during the 2017 General Assembly session, staff will distribute to legislators a series of one-page papers highlighting elements of The Virginia Plan.

Mr. Blake thanked Ms. Webb, Ms. Kang, and Mr. Weatherford for their efforts in advancing the communications initiative. Ms. Kang answered questions from members.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

Report from Executive Committee

Mr. Minor reminded members that the proposed bylaws changes were approved by the Executive Committee in September. Because the bylaws changes require a three-quarters vote of the membership, there was not sufficient attendance at the October meeting to approve the changes. On a motion by Mr. Light and seconded by Ms. Webb the following resolution was approved unanimously 11-0):

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, pursuant to the SCHEV Bylaws Section Eight, following presentation in writing and discussion at the September 19, 2016, Council meeting, and following a three-quarters vote of the total Council membership at the January 10, 2017, Council meeting, adopts the amended version of the SCHEV Bylaws dated January 10, 2017. Council also requests that staff distribute the amended bylaws to the members and post a copy on the SCHEV website.

Mr. Minor reminded members that as a result of the bylaws changes, Council elections will take place at the May meeting instead of the July meeting, ensuring that the new chair and officers are in place by July 1.

Report from Academic Affairs Committee

Action on Programs at Public Institutions

Mr. Lockhart and Dr. DeFilippo provided information about the Bachelor of Science degree program at Longwood University. The Committee's recommendation was seconded by Mr. Slater and the following resolution was approved unanimously (10-0. Dr. Ramsey was not present for the vote):

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Longwood University to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Health and Physical Education (CIP: 13.1314), effective fall 2017.

Mr. Lockhart thanked the representatives from Longwood who attended the meeting.

Mr. Lockhart also provided a summary of other discussions that took place at the Committee meeting.

Report from Resources and Planning Committee

Action on 2017 Enrollment Projection and Degree Estimate Process

Ms. Connelly summarized Mr. Massa's presentation to the Committee. The Committee's recommendation was seconded by Ms. Webb and the following resolution was approved unanimously (11-0):

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia directs staff to collaborate with institutions to produce a package of enrollment projections and degree estimates that informs the Council on its ability to meet the Commonwealth's goal of "becoming the best educated state in the nation by 2030"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enrollment projection and degree estimate process shall follow the schedule below as closely as possible:

1. Kickoff Webinar – February 9th
2. Optional Training Webinars February 13th – 24th
3. Submission Due Dates:
 - a. Public Institutions – May 1st
 - b. Private Institutions – May 1st
4. Staff Update – May Council Meeting
5. Staff Update – July Council Meeting

6. **Meetings with Institutions (as part of six-year plan review) – Summer**
7. **Council Review – September Council Meeting**
8. **Council Action – October Council Meeting**

Mr. Moret expressed the importance of a strong economic development partnership and agreed to share with Mr. Blake some of his experiences in this area.

Ms. Connelly provided an overview of the other items that were discussed at the Committee meeting, including: discussion of the 2016 fall enrollment, the Governor's introduced budget, a preview of the 2017 General Assembly session, and updates to The Virginia Plan.

Ms. Ridenour departed the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Research

In Dr. Murray's absence, Dr. Edwards provided the ad hoc committee's report. He reminded members that Chairman Minor created the ad hoc committee in December to coordinate Council's fulfillment of its new responsibilities in the administration of the Virginia Research Investment Fund (VRIF).

He reviewed the topics discussed at the ad hoc committee's two meetings (December 21 and January 10). The next ad hoc committee meeting is scheduled for February 23, and members have directed staff to invite public institutions' research officers to discuss foci and strengths of their research programs.

RECEIPT OF ITEMS DELEGATED TO STAFF

Mr. Blake noted the categories of recent actions taken by staff as delegated by the Council. As required, a copy of these actions is attached to the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Action on Resolution for Departing Council Member

Mr. Minor thanked Mr. Gundersen for his service on the Council and said it was a privilege work with him. On a motion by Ms. Webb and seconded by Mr. Slater, the following resolution was approved unanimously (10-0). Because Mr. Gundersen was not in attendance, the resolution will be mailed to him:

WHEREAS, Daniel C. Gundersen served as a member of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in 2016; and

WHEREAS, he demonstrated his unwavering commitment to enhancing Virginia's outstanding system of higher education through his guidance and good counsel on the Resources and Planning Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gundersen's leadership experience in local, state, national, and international business development with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) greatly benefited the Council in its public policy deliberations and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gundersen regularly reminded Council members of the important link between higher education and the expansion of Virginia's economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, his unique perspective enabled him to offer observations and suggestions that were essential to the Council's work related to The Virginia Plan for Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, he will continue to work to ensure that Virginia is advanced through higher education and will serve as a valued and knowledgeable advisor to the Council as it continues its important work; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia expresses its sincere gratitude and appreciation to **Daniel C. Gundersen** for his distinguished service and commitment to advancing the well-being of higher education in Virginia, and extends to him best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Connelly and seconded by Mr. Slater, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. Mr. Minor reminded members that the next meeting will be held at Virginia Military Institute on March 20-21, 2017.

Mr. Minor commended James Madison University for winning the Football Championship Subdivision national championship.

Mr. Minor informed attendees of the results of the Council survey. Staff has received good suggestions and will work to implement several of them.

Minnis Ridenour
Council Secretary

Lee Ann Rung
Director, Executive and Board Affairs

Items Delegated to Director/Staff

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "*Policies and Procedures for Program Approval and Changes*," the following items were approved/not approved as delegated to staff:

Program Actions

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
George Mason University	New Degree Program Not Approved: Master of Arts degree program in Higher Education and Student Development (13.0406)	October 12, 2016
George Mason University	New Degree Program Not Approved: Master of Science degree program in Bioengineering (14.0501)	October 31, 2016
Norfolk State University	Facilitated Staff Approval: Master of Arts in Teaching degree program in Education (13.0101) [Conferral: Fall 2016]	Fall 2016
Old Dominion University	Title Change Approval: From a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages (16.0101) to a Bachelor of Arts in World Languages and Cultures (16.0101)	Spring 2017
Old Dominion University	New Degree Program Not Approved: Master of Science degree program in Sport Management (31.0504)	November 3, 2016

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "*Policies and Procedures for Program Approval and Changes*," the following items were reported:

Diploma, Certificate and Discontinued Programs

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
Danville Community College	Initiate a new Undergraduate Certificate program in Cybersecurity (11.1003) [Conferral: Spring 2017]	Fall 2016
Danville Community College	Initiate a new Diploma program in Welding (48.0508) [Conferral: Spring 2018]	Fall 2016
George Mason University	Initiate a new Graduate Certificate program in Sport Coaching (13.1314) [Conferral: Spring 2017]	Spring 2017
Longwood University	Discontinue the Master of Arts degree program in English (23.0101) [Council Approval: Pre- SCHEV]	Spring 2018

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
Longwood University	Discontinue the Master of Science degree program in Sociology (45.1101) [Council Approval: July 1, 1993]	Spring 2018
Virginia Tech	<u>Initiate 14 new Graduate Certificate programs [Conferral: Spring 2017]:</u> Business Analytics (52.1302); Business Analytics and Data Mining (52.1207); Data Analytics (11.0301); Database Management (11.0802); Entrepreneurship in Hospitality and Tourism Management (52.0701); Health Information Technology (51.2706); Hospitality and Tourism Analytics and Revenue Management (52.0904); Human Factors of Transportation Safety (30.0000); Information Security and Analytics (11.0103); International Hospitality and Tourism Strategy (52.1101); Public Health (51.2201); Remote Sensing (14.3801); Science and Technology Studies (30.1501); Software Development (11.0202)	Spring 2017

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9.14:3 and Council's "*Commonwealth of Virginia Policy on the Reciprocal Authorization of Distance Education and Related Activities*," the following items were approved as delegated to staff:

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

Institution	Effective Date
Virginia Western Community College	October 4, 2016
Appalachian College of Pharmacy	December 8, 2016

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10, 2017
MINUTES**

Mr. H. Eugene (Gene) Lockhart (Chair) called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. in SCHEV Offices, 10th Floor Conference Room. Committee members present: Ken Ampy, Heywood Fralin, Gene Lockhart (Chair), and G. Gilmer Minor III. Katharine (Katie) M. Webb arrived at 10:10 a.m. and Carlyle Ramsey (Vice-Chair) at 11:15 a.m.

Staff members present: Joseph DeFilippo, Darlene Derricott, Jodi Fisler, Wendy Kang, Tod Massa, Monica Osei and Paula Robinson. Al Wilson – Office of the Attorney General.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Ampy and seconded by Mr. Fralin, minutes from the October 24, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.

ACTION ON PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education (BSHPE) – Longwood University

Dr. DeFilippo provided an overview and informed members that the program is split-off from Longwood's undergraduate Kinesiology program. The BSHPE is designed as a teacher education training program in health and education to meet teacher preparation requirements of the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). VDOE has reported physical education as a teacher critical shortage area for the last seven years.

On motion by Ms. Webb and seconded by Mr. Ampy, the following resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia grants approval to Longwood University to initiate a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Health and Physical Education (CIP: 13.1314), effective fall 2017.

DISCUSSION OF UPDATES TO THE VIRGINIA PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. DeFilippo informed members this update will be presented by SCHEV staff in three parts. The first part on quality and assessment was presented by Dr. Jodi Fisler, SCHEV's Associate for Assessment Policy and Analysis, along with invited guests who are members of SCHEV's Task Force on Quality and Assessment: Dr. Susan

Bosworth, Associate Provost for Institutional Accreditation and Effectiveness (College of William and Mary) and Dr. Scott Oates, Director of Academic Integrity and Assessment (Virginia Commonwealth University). Dr. Fisler briefed members on the Task Force's deliberations and key elements of the draft Assessment Policy under development, including: the statement of quality, guiding principles on student learning, parameters of core competencies and outcomes, and six-year reporting plans.

Drs. Bosworth and Oates shared institutional perspectives on strategies and methods used for general education and program-level assessments as well as collaboration and partnerships among faculty, departments and schools. Staff responded to several questions and concerns about student success measures and the alignment of the policy to accreditation requirements. Mr. Lockhart requested staff to provide a follow-up at Council's March 2017, meeting.

Mr. Tod Massa, Director of Policy Research and Data Warehousing, conveyed part two of the discussion by presenting resources and data on post-graduate outcomes available on the SCHEV website. The presentation showcased data and reports available on student debt, wages, graduate outcomes, enrollment, degree awards and the Economic Opportunity Metrics Scorecard for individual institutions. Members thanked him for his demonstration and the creation of an effective tool.

Ms. Wendy Kang, Director of Higher Education Innovation, and Ms. Paula Robinson, Assistant Director of College Access and pre-K-12 Outreach, provided updates on access and affordability. Staff informed members that they are working on establishing partnerships and outreach opportunities and convening round tables with the Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and the Virginia College Access Network. Members suggested: 1) adding working groups comprised of high school and early childhood counselors and college admissions officers, and 2) inviting Virginia Department of Education staff to a future Council meeting.

REPORT OF THE STAFF LIAISON TO THE COMMITTEE

Dr. DeFilippo informed members this item begins on page 83.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Lockhart adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

H. Eugene Lockhart
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

Darlene Derricott
Staff, Academic Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10, 2017
MINUTES**

Ms. Connelly called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in the 9th floor conference room, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Committee members present: Marge Connelly, Henry Light, Bill Murray, Tom Slater, and Minnis Ridenour.

Committee member absent: Stephen Moret.

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Alan Edwards, Dan Hix, Tod Massa, Lee Ann Rung, and Yan Zheng.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Light the minutes from the October 18, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously.

ACTION ON 2017 ENROLLMENT PROJECTION AND DEGREE ESTIMATE PROCESS

Mr. Blake introduced the item and asked Mr. Massa to provide details. Mr. Massa described the Council's authority and answered questions from members. On a motion by Dr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Ridenour the following revised resolution was approved unanimously to be forwarded to the full Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia directs staff to collaborate with institutions to produce a package of enrollment projections and degree estimates that informs the Council on its ability to meet the Commonwealth's goal of "becoming the best educated state in the nation by 2030"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enrollment projection and degree estimate process shall follow the schedule below as closely as possible:

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DISCUSSION OF 2016 FALL ENROLLMENT

Mr. Massa provided a briefing on the status of fall enrollments. He indicated that five community colleges and at least one private college had not yet submitted information. He provided information on the four-year institutions, reporting that enrollments have increased slightly. While there was an increase in first-time enrollments, out-of-state enrollments decreased. Mr. Massa also reported an increase in transfer students, mostly from the community colleges and Richard Bland College. Most transfer students completed an associate degree prior to transferring. Mr. Massa highlighted a few of the tables in the agenda book and indicated that he expects shifts in next few years. He provided numbers on the private institutions.

Mr. Massa informed the members that he would send updated information once data is received from all institutions. At that time, he should have a clearer picture on the achievability of the state goals.

DISCUSSION OF GOVERNOR'S INTRODUCED BUDGET

Mr. Hix reviewed the charts and indicated that the Governor introduced his budget on December 16. He reported that the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) had discussed the Governor's introduced budget at its recent meeting.

He informed members that the Governor requested a 5% budget reduction for institutions, rather than 7.5% as previously requested. Norfolk State University and Virginia State University were excluded from the budget cuts. Financial aid also was excluded. Mr. Hix reviewed individual budget items and answered questions from members.

Mr. Hix reminded members that changes will occur quickly since this is a short General Assembly session. His staff will summarize the House and Senate budgets and provide a report to the Council at its March meeting.

Mr. Blake provided an update on SCHEV's operating budget, reporting that the appropriation of approximately \$700,000 that SCHEV received in the 2016 General Assembly session to take on additional responsibilities assigned to the agency, has now been reduced by approximately \$400,000 in the Governor's introduced budget. The agency has been able to hire three staff associated with new assignments but will be unable to hire additional staff if the current introduced budget is adopted.

PREVIEW OF 2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Ms. Covington had to leave the meeting early. Therefore, Mr. Blake distributed a list of the pre-filed legislation and discussed the bills related to higher education.

Mr. Blake reviewed the list of proposed House and Senate legislation pertaining to higher education.

Mr. Minor joined the meeting at 11:00.

DISCUSSION OF UPDATES TO THE VIRGINIA PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. Blake solicited input from members about their preferences related to initiatives 2 and 3 in The Virginia Plan for Higher Education.

Mr. Ridenour requested that staff share the efforts of the Finance Advisory Committee Workgroup on Shared Services and Efficiencies. Mr. Hix distributed a handout of the workgroup's efforts and indicated that its primary focus has been on shared services.

In response to Mr. Blake's request for preferences, Ms. Connelly suggested that the items be translated into a range of options. Mr. Ridenour suggested that more emphasis be placed on how many more students (both in-state and out-of-state) can be served rather than concentrating on percentages of students. Even though the Council approves the number of enrollments, much of the legislation related to enrollment addresses percentages.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Marge Connelly
Committee Chair

Lee Ann Rung
Director, Executive & Board Affairs

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2017
MINUTES**

Dr. Murray called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the SCHEV Main Conference Room, 9th Floor, James Monroe Building, Richmond, Virginia.

Committee members present: Ken Ampy, H. Eugene Lockhart, William Murray, Minnis E. Ridenour

Council members present: Marge Connelly, Heywood Fralin, Henry Light, G. Gilmer Minor III, Tom Slater

Staff present: Peter Blake, Alan Edwards, Lynn Seuffert. Al Wilson, SCHEV counsel from the Office of the Attorney General, also was in attendance.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Murray welcomed committee members, attending Council members, staff, and guests and asked all to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Dr. Murray motioned to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2016, meeting. Mr. Ridenour seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

REVIEW OF CHARGE TO THE COMMITTEE

Dr. Murray asked Mr. Blake to introduce the topic. Mr. Blake reviewed Mr. Minor's charge to the committee, briefly covering the purpose and the statutes establishing the Virginia Research Investment Fund (VRIF) and Virginia Research Investment Committee (VRIC). He noted the statutory requirement that Council consult with VRIC on the guidelines and criteria for award of funds from VRIF.

Mr. Blake advised that the VRIC meeting had been cancelled the day before due to the weather and the closure of the James Monroe Building, so he had no formal consultative advice from VRIC to share with the committee.

DISCUSSION OF CONTINUUM OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION; SOURCES OF PUBLIC FUNDING IN VIRGINIA

Dr. Murray offered his perspective that the committee should begin by discussing how the VRIF can add value to the Commonwealth and how the ad hoc committee can add value to the process of awarding VRIF funds.

At Dr. Murray's invitation, Dr. Edwards introduced the documents in the Agenda Book and invited Ms. Seuffert to provide an overview of other state-funded research grant programs in the Commonwealth.

Ms. Seuffert mentioned each Virginia entity that awards research grants using public funds and explained the graphic illustrating the research and innovation continuum which highlights staff's recommendation to position the VRIF in the middle and latter stages of the continuum.

In response to Mr. Ridenour's request for better understanding of all research funding being expended by universities, not just the other state-funded grant competitions, Dr. Edwards suggested that the data collected by the National Science Foundation could provide some insights. Mr. Ridenour said that this data should be supplemented with information on Virginia universities' current research topics, which the public institutions' chief research officers could provide directly to the committee.

Dr. Edwards reminded that the focus of the VRIF statute is on areas of research that are commercializable. He explained that the Research and Technology (R&T) Strategic Roadmap, which is maintained by the Center for Innovative Technology, is designed to answer some of the questions surrounding which topics of research have the best prospects of enhancing economic development and creating jobs.

Dr. Murray requested input from Robert Stolle, CIT Senior Vice President for Operations and former Secretary of Commerce and Trade. Mr. Stolle explained that the Code of Virginia requires CIT to update the R&T Roadmap every three years and that the Roadmap must include information not only from universities, but also from economic development groups, industry, and federal agencies and labs. Rather than a comprehensive list of research areas within the universities, the Roadmap identifies industries in which the Commonwealth has strength. It highlights the big priorities right now, such as data analytics, cybersecurity, etc. The current Roadmap identifies 11 priority industries.

He advised that CIT intends to update and refine the Roadmap in 2017 to make it more useful to the ad hoc committee, VRIC, and the GO Virginia board.

Mr. Stolle agreed that several of the state-funded research programs focus on early stage and proof of concept research. He stated that he and other CIT staff hear from researchers that Virginia lacks a program that could make a big investment.

INTRODUCTION OF ORGANIZING PRINCIPLES FOR AWARD COMPETITIONS FOR VIRGINIA RESEARCH INVESTMENT FUNDS

Following Dr. Murray's suggestion that the two remaining agenda items be merged, the ensuing discussion addressed committee members' perspectives on what the guidelines and criteria should include, as well as their ideas for next steps.

Dr. Murray shared that some external stakeholders had suggested that the committee go slowly until the other entities act. He said his preference would be to proceed as

required by statute. He said that if the path changes later, the committee at least will have completed due diligence and fulfilled the statutory charge to Council, while still being respectful of the other entities' roles.

Mr. Minor suggested bringing institutions' research officers together to discuss what the Commonwealth is trying to do. He believes that the committee needs their help. Mr. Blake offered to invite the research officers of all public institutions to a work session with the committee. Dr. Murray supported this idea. Dr. Edwards noted that, at the first VRIC meeting, the seven research university vice presidents of research (VPRs) (presenting as the Virginia Research Alliance) had recommended focusing the VRIF on cybersecurity and neuroscience.

Dr. Murray suggested that the VPRs could assist, not only regarding the specific subject areas, but also regarding the criteria for award. Mr. Light requested that research officers from all public institutions be invited, rather than only the VPRs of the research universities.

Dr. Murray then asked each committee member and attending Council member to share any other thoughts or comments. He called on Mr. Ridenour to provide the campus perspective on the criteria universities use when allocating limited resources to their research enterprise.

Mr. Ridenour highlighted three strategies: (i) finding the best talent to achieve each purpose (i.e., recruiting eminent researchers and developing young investigators); (ii) providing resources (i.e., labs and facilities) to position these individuals to obtain grant funding; and (iii) maintaining and enhancing research infrastructure.

Mr. Ampy voiced support for ensuring that smaller universities have an opportunity to participate. He returned to the statutory emphasis on collaboration and suggested the guidelines and criteria include a "gold star" for collaborating and partnering.

Mr. Light suggested that research areas beyond those in the Roadmap, such as sea-level rise and defense/military issues, would make the Commonwealth stronger by allowing it to focus on its own interests while simultaneously improving research generally.

Mr. Minor said that he would like to send a message that the committee and the Council are serious about moving Virginia's research enterprise forward.

Mr. Fralin stated that this effort will be judged by how effectively Virginia institutions are able to get VRIF-supported research from the lab to the marketplace. He urged members to keep their eye on that objective. He believes that the General Assembly is supporting research via the VRIF is because legislators think Virginia has a problem with economic development and that the VRIF is a vehicle to create high-paying jobs. He also believes that how well this goal is accomplished will be the ultimate measure of success.

Mr. Slater agreed that the VRIC and the committee have an obligation to include all public institutions and that representatives of all public institution undergraduate research programs be included in the next work session.

Mr. Ridenour stated that the committee should view the statutory language to involve schools across the Commonwealth as a challenge. He recommended that the committee develop a sharp focus in the guidelines to encourage collaboration between institutions. Mr. Ridenour concluded that a plan is needed if the goal is to improve Virginia's research position nationally.

Mr. Minor and Mr. Ridenour agreed on the value of engaging undergraduates in the research enterprise and suggested the guidelines could simply acknowledge the importance of undergraduate research rather than encourage use of VRIF funding for those activities.

Mr. Blake observed that neither the role of VRIC nor the VRIF statutes foreclose the committee and Council from engaging in broader thinking about the academic research enterprise in the Commonwealth. He suggested that VRIF is not the only vehicle to achieve these goals and that the committee's discussions might be broader than what ends up in the final VRIF guidelines.

DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS

Without taking a formal vote, members agreed in conversation that the chief research officers (or designees) from all public institutions would be invited to join a February work session to get their perspectives, and ideally buy-in, on a set of organizing principles for the VRIF award process that are not predetermined by statute.

Ms. Seuffert reported that a poll of committee members conducted prior to the meeting indicated that all were available on Thursday, February 23, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Members did not object, which staff accepted as agreement, on this date for the next committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Murray adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

William Murray
Acting Chair, SCHEV Ad Hoc Committee on
Research

Lynn Seuffert
Associate for Research Investment