

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 21, 2008  
MINUTES NO. 527**

Mr. Clement called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the SCHEV main conference room, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Whittington Clement, Jim Dyke, Eva Hardy, Susan Magill, and Christine Milliken. Staff members present: Daniel LaVista, Lee Ann Rung. Jake Belue from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with §2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia convened in executive session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss personnel matters related to the Executive Director.

The Executive Committee reconvened from the executive session at 9:00 a.m. A roll call vote was taken on a resolution certifying that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the executive session. The resolution passed by a vote of 5-0 and is attached to the October 21 Council minutes.

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Whittington W. Clement  
Chair

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Lee Ann Rung  
Council Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA  
COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 21, 2008  
MINUTES NO. 528**

Mr. Clement called the Council meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in the SCHEV main conference room, Richmond, Virginia. Council members present: Gilbert Bland, Whittington Clement, Jim Dyke, Eva Hardy, Margaret Lewis, Susan Magill, Christine Milliken, and Alan Wurtzel. Staff members present: Lee Andes, Tom Daley, Joe DeFilippo, Alan Edwards, Dan Hix, Daniel LaVista, Tod Massa, Kirsten Nelson, and Lee Ann Rung. Jake Belue from the Office of the Attorney General was also present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Executive Committee reconvened from the executive session at 9:05 a.m. A roll call vote was taken on a resolution certifying that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the executive session. The resolution passed by a vote of 5-0 and is attached.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Clement requested that Item #7.c be postponed.

He also recognized a representative from the Student Advisory Committee (SAC), Fajir Amin, a student at Virginia Commonwealth University, and indicated that the Council appreciates the interest of the SAC in higher education issues.

Mr. Clement informed the Council that he received a thank you note from Helen Dragas for the framed resolution presented by the Council for her service. The letter was distributed to the members.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Clement asked if anyone wished to address the Council during the public comment period. No requests were received.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mr. Wurtzel and seconded by Ms. Hardy, the minutes from the September 9, 2008 Executive Committee and Council meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

## **REMARKS BY DR. RICHARD R. SHURTZ**

Mr. Clement introduced Dr. Shurtz, President and CEO of Stratford University, located in Falls Church, Virginia. Dr. Shurtz provided information about Stratford and distributed a brochure about the university. Stratford represents the for-profit sector of the higher education community. Dr. Shurtz provided a brief history of the institution, reviewed the student population of 2,000, the various locations as well as the number of degrees and fields of study offered by the University. Stratford offers accelerated degree programs and a flexible schedule to support the job requirements of its students. It offers an inverted curriculum to allow students to enroll in specialty courses before taking General Education courses.

Dr. Shurtz feels that accredited POPE institutions can help the state deal with budget shortfalls and stressed that private-public partnerships in education would allow the state to leverage the potential of the career college sector.

Dr. Shurtz answered questions from members relating to the profiles of the student body and faculty and the cost per credit hour. The average student age is 29, with a 50/50 split of international and domestic students; the teaching ratio is 50/50 adjunct faculty; and the cost is \$325/credit hour for undergraduate courses and \$360/credit hour for graduate level courses. Stratford has no articulation agreements with state institutions but it assists students individually if they are interested in transferring to a state institution. There are limited scholarships available to Stratford students, but the institution does offer loan programs.

Mr. Clement thanked Dr. Shurtz for his presentation and recognized Mark Singer for his good work in representing the Virginia Career College Association.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. LaVista highlighted important contributions that Consortia make to higher education institutions. Collaboration and cooperation are emerging as important concepts and becoming more popular within the higher education community. He pointed out the good work of the consortia in Virginia and other states.

Examples of inter-state consortia are the Chesapeake Research Consortium, which includes Johns Hopkins, Penn State, the University of Maryland System, Old Dominion University, VIMS, and the Smithsonian; and the new Chesapeake Crescent Innovation Alliance which includes Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland System, George Washington University, George Mason University, and Virginia Tech. Intra-state consortia include the Virginia Space Grant Consortium, the Tidewater Consortium for Higher Education, and the Valley of Virginia Partnership for Education. Dr. LaVista also named other consortia and reviewed the focus of each. These include the Colonial Academic Alliance, the Professional Arts Consortium and the Africana Studies Consortium, the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area, and the Virtual Library of Virginia.

Dr. LaVista reviewed the work of the various consortia and stressed the importance of these organizations in benefiting the system of higher education in Virginia and the Commonwealth as a whole.

## **BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Report from Ad Hoc Affordability Committee**

Mr. Clement indicated that the Council spent time at the October 20 briefing session reviewing the report. It was decided that staff would continue to work on recommendations in the report and bring it to the Council in January. Mr. Clement expressed his appreciation for the work staff has done and for Council members' participation.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Action on the Review of Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS)**

Mr. Daley was asked to provide information about the report, which was brought to the Council in draft form in September. It was mentioned that a recommendation was made to add a statewide review of the overall fiscal health of medical education in Virginia, and this was added to the report. SCHEV's Executive Director would be responsible for reviewing the overall fiscal health of medical education in the Commonwealth with representatives from the medical schools, and working with the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) and the appropriate legislative staff for ways to formulate a strategy to address this in the future.

There was some discussion about the report and Ms. Milliken asked that staff consider where it might be appropriate to bring together additional healthcare professions other than medical schools and nursing programs in an effort to avoid a piecemeal approach and to have this as an ongoing effort. Ms. Lewis and Ms. Hardy agreed.

Ms. Hardy thanked all those who worked on the report. Mr. Lester, President of EVMS, thanked Mr. Daley for his research and writing of the report.

On motion by Ms. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Bland, the following resolution was approved (7-1). Mr. Wurtzel indicated that while he is in favor of the report, he abstained from voting due to concerns over the governance structure and his uncertainty about accountability:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the "Review of Eastern Virginia Medical School."**

### **Action on 2008-10 Systemwide Budget Amendment Items**

Mr. Hix discussed each item and provided background information. A resolution was distributed and discussed. The resolution addressed the concerns expressed by the Council members at the September meeting and delineated short and long-term goals.

Mr. Hix informed the Council that Radford University has named its fine arts center (Covington Center for Visual and Performing Arts). This name change will be added to information that will be posted on the SCHEV website.

There was some discussion about the financial aid recommendation and Ms. Hardy suggested adding a requirement that a portion of tuition increases be set aside for financial aid.

There was also a suggestion that an additional recommendation be added regarding the continuation of the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) at current levels. Staff was asked to draft this additional language and add it to the recommendations related to financial aid in the short-term goals listed in the resolution.

A suggestion was made to add language stating that while institutions are provided flexibility in raising tuition, new revenues between 5-30% should be dedicated to need-based financial aid. It was mentioned that according to the Affordability Study, this is being done in 17 other states.

The revised language was read and on motion by Mr. Bland and seconded by Mr. Dyke, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Council addressing Items 7.b.1 through 7.b.4, and Item 7.b.6:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the following addendum to its 2008-10 budget amendment recommendations:**

#### **Budget Addendum Language**

**The policies and goals contained in the individual budget amendment items (see list below) reviewed by the Council at its October 21, 2008 meeting, are critical to the quality and affordability of our system of higher education, but the current state revenue shortfall makes it necessary to distinguish between the Council's long-term and short-term goals for higher education in the Commonwealth.**

**Long-term goals that have been supported strongly and consistently by the Council include:**

- 1) Reaching full funding under the base adequacy funding guidelines**
- 2) Raising average faculty salaries to the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile**

- 3) **Securing the funds needed to properly operate and maintain new facility space and address deferred maintenance needs through the Maintenance Reserve program**
- 4) **Providing sufficient financial aid to needy in-state undergraduate students based on the Partnership model and adequate financial aid to graduate students to ensure competitiveness and strengthen our research efforts**

**In order to preserve our nationally acclaimed system of higher education and ensure the well being of our citizens, the continued pursuit of these goals is a necessity. However, the economic crisis now threatening the Commonwealth and the nation as a whole makes it necessary to recommend the following strategies for higher education in Virginia that focus more on short-term goals.**

- 1) **We recommend that need-based financial aid for in-state undergraduate students and Virginia Commonwealth awards for graduate students be identified as the highest priority for any additional funding that may be available since there is currently no increase budgeted in the Appropriation Act in the second year of the biennium. We further recommend that the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) minimally be continued at the current level to ensure that resident Virginia students have access to higher education.**
- 2) **We recommend the use of the base adequacy funding guidelines as a means to equitably reduce institutional budgets if reductions are necessary. In general, institutions that are currently funded at a higher percentage of the guidelines could afford a larger reduction than those institutions at the lower end of the scale.**
- 3) **We recognize that our institutions should be given the flexibility needed to increase tuition appropriately to help offset any necessary general fund budget reductions provided that, as in many other states, institutions be required to dedicate between 5% and 30% of such tuition increases (depending on their circumstances) to need-based financial aid for in-state students. This recommendation could very well adversely impact the affordability of our institutions in the short-term, but such flexibility may be necessary in order to preserve an acceptable level of service to our students and their families. Without this flexibility, access to essential course offerings and timely graduation could be at risk. Further, we recommend to the institutions that tuition increases be structured so as to minimize—as much as possible—the impact on Virginia students, particularly in-state undergraduates.**

**Finally, we direct our staff to begin preparing a financial plan that will address the growing imbalance in the higher education cost-sharing policy between the Commonwealth and our in-state students and their parents, so that when the economy improves, we can be assured that our acclaimed system of higher**

education is in a stronger position to meet the challenges of not only today's students but also the students of tomorrow.

### **Private Institutions and the State's Nursing Shortage**

On motion by Mr. Dyke and seconded by Mr. Wurtzel, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia remains concerned about the challenges facing Virginia's private, nonprofit colleges to recruit and retain sufficient nursing faculty and considers it a high priority of the Commonwealth to examine ways to expand enrollment capacity at the 7 private institutions with nursing programs.

The joint subcommittee established by House Joint Resolution No. 91 is encouraged to review existing state programs, such as graduate scholarships for nurses or nursing students committed to teaching; consider modifications to these programs that would help private colleges build capacity; and explore other partnership opportunities between the Commonwealth and private, nonprofit institutions to address the shortage of nurses and nursing faculty in Virginia.

#### *Action on Institutional Performance Standards Targets*

This item was removed from the agenda and will be brought to the Council in January.

#### *Action on Recommendations from the Restructuring Task Force*

Mr. Alessio reminded members that the Task Force appointed by the Council met during September and developed language on the assessment of institutional performance. Institutions were surveyed and their recommendations were included in the final version approved by the Task Force. Mr. Clement indicated that the discussion from the October 20 briefing session on this topic was excellent. On motion by Ms. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Clement, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Council:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the changes to the performance standards and directs the staff to forward the changes to the Governor and General Assembly.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### *Action on Private and Out-of-state Postsecondary Education Institutions*

No requests were made to discuss the consent agenda items. Therefore, on motion by Ms. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Wurtzel the following items were unanimously approved by consent:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Bon Secours Memorial School of Nursing to operate a postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective October 21, 2008.**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies Saint Michael College of Allied Health to operate a postsecondary institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective October 21, 2008.**

### **ITEMS DELEGATED TO STAFF**

The following items had been reviewed and approved by staff, as delegated by the Council. As required, this information is included as part of these minutes:

- Program Actions
  - George Mason University
  - Old Dominion University
- Organizational Changes / Off-campus Instructional Sites
  - Old Dominion University

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Clement reminded members of the Boards of Visitors orientation session scheduled for November 17 and invited all members to attend.

He also reminded members that the next meeting of the Council will be held on January 5-6.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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Whittington Clement  
Chairman

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Lee Ann Rung  
Council Secretary

### 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 as delegated to staff:

#### Program Actions

Institution	Degree/Program/CIP	Effective Date
George Mason University	Discontinue the Master of Arts in Music (CIP Code: 50.0999)	August 29, 2008
Old Dominion University	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Dissolve its partnership with Eastern Virginia Medical School in offering a joint Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree program in Biomedical Sciences (CIP Code: 26.0699); and</li> <li>2) Offer (solely) the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree program in Biomedical Sciences (CIP Code: 26.0699).</li> </ol>	September 1, 2008

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9:6:1 and Council's "Policies and Procedures for Internal and Off-Campus Organizational Changes," the following items were approved as delegated to staff:

#### Organizational Changes / Off-campus Instructional Sites

Institution Site	Change	Effective Date
Old Dominion University at Rappahannock Community College (Warsaw) 52 Campus Drive Warsaw, VA 22572	Consolidated	December 2007
Old Dominion University at Germanna Community College (Locust Grove) 2130 Germanna Highway Locust Grove, VA 22508	Consolidated	December 2007

Old Dominion University at Northern Virginia Community College (Annandale) 833 Little River Turnpike Annandale, VA 22003	Consolidated	December 2007
Old Dominion University at Danville Community College 1008 South Main Street Danville, VA 24541	Closed	May 2008
Old Dominion University at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College 100 Dabney Drive Clifton Forge, VA 24422	Closed	May 2008
Old Dominion University at Paul D. Camp Community College 100 North College Drive Franklin, VA 23851	Closed	May 2008

**RESOLUTION NO. 48**  
**MEETING DATE: October 21, 2008**

**CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, §2.2-3712 (D) of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia hereby certifies that, to the best of each members' knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

**VOTE**

YES:           5       (Clement, Dyke, Hardy, Magill, Milliken)

NAYS:         0

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Whittington Clement  
Chairman  
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia