



VCU

**BOARD OF VISITORS
ACADEMIC AND HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
9:20 A.M.
May 12, 2017
JAMES BRANCH CABELL LIBRARY
901 PARK AVENUE, ROOM 303, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Carol S. Shapiro, Chair
Dr. Robert D. Holsworth, vice chair
Mr. H. Benson Dendy III
Mr. William M. Ginther
Mr. Tyrone Nelson
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar
Mr. G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.
Mr. Steve L. Worley

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Elizabeth L. Brooks, Associate University Counsel
Dr. Gail Hackett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Marsha Rappley, Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO VCU Health
Ms. Jamie Stillman, Director of Strategic Communications, Office of the Provost
Staff and students from VCU and VCUHS

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Carol Shapiro, Chair of Academic and Health Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee approved the Minutes of the Meeting held **March 22, 2017**.

ACTION ITEMS

On motion made and seconded the following action items were recommended for approval to the full board of visitors:

- a. Proposal to create a new Ph.D. in Chemical and Life Sciences Engineering
- b. Proposal to create a new Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Engineering
- c. Proposal to rename the Center for Teaching Excellence to the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence

REPORTS

The following items were presented for information and after general discussion follow-up requests were made:

- Dr. Hackett presented the committee dashboard.
- Dr. Hackett provided follow-up information that had been requested at the March 22, 2017 meeting including a) an update on iCubed , the Institute for Inclusion, Inquiry and Innovation, which over a six month period has recruited and hired 19 distinctive and diverse new faculty members and post-graduate researchers who will be working within interdisciplinary core teams throughout the university; b) an update from Dr. Charles Klink, vice provost for student affairs, on the most recent Student Climate Survey, the results of which indicate that our students recognize a strong institutional commitment to diversity and feel a sense of belonging and respect; and c) a brief report to help clarify Purdue University’s tuition freeze for instate undergraduates and the variables that are needed for such a program to succeed.
- Dr. Hackett and Dr. Noble-Triplett provided an update on the Real World Experience initiative. Dr. Deborah Noble-Triplett noted that the “real world initiative,” is now called REAL – the acronym for Relevant Experiential and Applied Learning, and it initiative represents VCU’s commitment to having all VCU undergraduates participate in experiential learning as part of their education. This can be done in the classroom or through external opportunities. The REAL Steering Committee has focused on ensuring that this program builds upon the programs that already exist for many students at VCU. Dr. Hackett explained that the program would roll out in fall 2017 with the incoming freshman class. She indicated that it is anticipated that a full presentation on the initiative will be made to the Board in May 2018.
- Dr. Hackett and Dr. Rappley, who are co-chairs of the task force that is developing the university’s next strategic plan, provided a brief update. This spring the university has seen great participation internally in town hall meetings. The Strategic Plan Steering Committee, which has a broad range of members including faculty, staff, students and community members, as well as Dr. Carol Shapiro and Ms. Jacqueline Stone representing the VCU Board of Visitors. The steering committee now has five active work groups focusing on overarching themes and goals. It is anticipated that a full report on progress will be made to the full board at its next meeting.

- Dr. Frank Macrina, vice president for research and innovation, Dr. Garrett Westlake, executive director of VCU da Vinci Center, and Ms. Nicole Monk, director VCU Innovation Economy, made a presentation that provided insight into Venture Creation University, the dynamic mechanism within the university through which students and faculty from all academic disciplines at VCU can launch innovative ideas and products into the regional economic ecosystem.
- Ms. June Nicholson, the faculty representative, reported that the Faculty Senate expressed the support of the Faculty in the development and implementation of the university's next strategic plan, the human resources redesign, the new budget model and the Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Action Plan. They will continue to focus on the responsibilities of faculty and the intersection of freedom of speech and academic freedom. Ms. Nicholson introduced the incoming president of the VCU Faculty Senate, Dr. W. Scott Street IV, associate professor in the Department of Statistical Sciences and Operations Research in the College of Humanities and Sciences.
- Ms. Sania Marcoccia, the staff representative, presented a Staff Senate resolution dated March 17, 2017 that requested the HR Redesign Committee answer all questions submitted by the Senate as part of the open comment process and release all comments submitted for the university community at large. Ms. Susan Carkeek, senior advisor to the president, reported that the questions had been answered and the comments were available for review on the HR Redesign website. Ms. Marcoccia introduced the incoming president of the VCU Staff Senate, Ms. Lauren Katchuk, business manager in the Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs.
- Ms. Elizabeth Winslow and Mr. Alan Booth, the student representatives, reflected on their year as student representatives to the Board of Visitors.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Carol Shapiro, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.