

Committee Minutes

ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 20, 2023

Committee Members Present: Melissa Nelson (chair), Sandy Davis, and Carrie Chenery.

Board Members and Constituent Representatives Present: Anna Buhle (graduate and professional student representative), Holli Drewry (A/P representative), Tish Long, (Rector), Jamal Ross (undergraduate student representative), Jeff Veach (board member), Robert Weiss (faculty representative), and Serena Young (staff representative).

Guests: Lauren Augustine, Janice Austin, Rosemary Blieszner, Heather Bradford, Anne Brown, Cyril Clarke, Corey Earles, Madeline Eberhardt, Kim Filer, Mike Friedlander, Ron Fricker, Rachel Gabriele, Luisa Havens Gerardo, Mike Goforth, Suzanne Griffin, Dave Guerin, Rebekah Gunn, Trish Hammer, Kay Heidbreder, Rachel Holloway, Matt Holt, Frances Keene, Scott Midkiff, Bernadette Mondy, Amanda Morris, April Myers, Stephanie Overton, Robin Queen, Kim O'Rourke, Mark Owczarski, Ellen Plummer, Katie Polidoro, Julia Ross, Oliver Shuey, Mark Sikes, Aimee Surprenant, G. Don Taylor, Judy Taylor, Donna Westfall-Rudd, Katie White, Nick Whitesell.

OPEN SESSION

1. Welcome. M. Nelson, chair of the committee, welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. Review and Approval of Open Session Agenda.

3. Consent Agenda Items. Approval of November 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes; Report of Reappointments to Endowed Chairs, Professorships, and Fellowships; Approval of Resolution to Approve New MS Degree in Applied Data Science; Approval of Resolution to Amend the Faculty Handbook Regarding Retirement Contributions; Approval of Revisions to Policy 1036: Student-Athlete Monitoring and Assistance Program (SAMAP).

The committee voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Agenda as presented including approval of all Consent Agenda items.

4. Provost's Update. C. Clarke, executive vice president and provost, updated the committee on several initiatives. A program to support the scholarly development of faculty members whose work was impacted by the COVID pandemic provided an average of \$7.7K per faculty in course buy-out funds to 35 pre-tenured faculty members. Tsai Lu Liu has been appointed dean of the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design and Saonee Sarker has been appointed dean of the Pamplin College of Business. Julie Ross has been appointed as special advisor to President Sands. In addition to continuing her role as dean of the College of Engineering, Dean Ross will chair the university's Northern Virginia Steering Committee, and co-chair the review and updating of the Beyond Boundaries

Vision. Recommendations outlined in the February 2023 Report of the Graduate Assistantship Support Task Force are under review. Recommendations regarding stipend amounts, fees, and strategies are being studied and a plan to enhance graduate student compensation will be developed in consultation with the leadership of the Graduate School and academic colleges. The task force was charged by Provost Clarke and the dean of the Graduate School Aimee Suprenant to draft a report and recommendations for providing assistantship stipends and other financial support that covers educational expenses and minimizes educational debt. The university is committed to enhancing the competitiveness of the graduate program and recognizes that compensation is an important factor in securing talent. Committee and board members congratulated the provost on many accomplishments including addressing the concerns and priorities of many university constituencies. The provost reviewed the task force membership which included graduate and professional students nominated by the appropriate senates.

#5. Overview of Student Conduct Processes. F. Keene, interim vice president of the division of student affairs offered the committee an overview of the university's student conduct system. The Student Code of Conduct applies to all students and student organizations and supports the university's commitment to fostering a community in which students can flourish academically and personally. Procedures for addressing allegations of conduct code violations are appropriately flexible to accommodate the complexity and severity of the allegation. Resolution of a referral to the Office of Student Conduct may include an educational conversation, adaptable conflict resolution, agreed resolution, a formal hearing, or, depending on the facts of the allegation, a formal Title IX adjudication and gender-based violence hearing. The student conduct process attends to approximately 1,200 cases a year. Most cases are resolved informally and approximately one-third of the cases are referred for a formal hearing. Title IX hearings have an important and complex difference from other conduct processes in that federal regulations allow for direct questioning (cross-examination) of witnesses by a selected advisor. Once completed, hearing officers determine responsibility using a preponderance of evidence standard. Parties to the hearing are provided simultaneously with the decision of the hearing officers including appeal processes.

6. Panel Discussion: Experiential Learning. R. Holloway, vice provost for undergraduate education introduced K. Filer, director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. In addition, D. Westfall-Rudd, associate professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, A. Brown, assistant professor in University Libraries and biochemistry, and undergraduate student M. Eberhardt participated in providing information to the committee. The university's evidence-based commitment to experiential learning is required within the curriculum. Students are encouraged and supported to explore learning opportunities and identify internships, research experiences, or other appropriate work-based experiences that support their transition to their first destination following graduation, including work or continued education. Efforts to expand experiential learning opportunities at Virginia Tech include improving communication about opportunities, expanding curricular options, affordability, and growing the university's programmatic capacity to support on and off-campus opportunities.

7. Agenda Items for Committee Meeting. Committee members are encouraged to contact the chair with any items of interest for future agendas.

8. Adjournment. The committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Open Session Agenda

ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Inn at Virginia Tech
March 20, 2023**

**Duckpond Room
9:00 – 10:45 a.m.**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Reporting Responsibility</u>
1. Welcome	M. Nelson
2. Review and Approve Open Session Agenda	M. Nelson
3. Consent Agenda	M. Nelson
A. Approval of November 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes	
B. Report of Reappointments to Endowed Chairs, Professorships, and Fellowships	
*C. Approval of Resolution to Approve New MS Degree in Applied Data Science	
*D. Approval of Resolution to Amend the Faculty Handbook Regarding Retirement Contributions	
*E. Approval of Revisions to Policy 1036: Student-Athlete Monitoring and Assistance Program (SAMAP)	
	C. Clarke
4. Provost's Update and Discussion	
# 5. Overview of Student Conduct Processes	F. Keene
6. Panel Discussion: Experiential Education	R. Holloway, K. Filer
7. Agenda Items for June 2023 Committee Meeting	M. Nelson
8. Adjourn Committee Meeting	M. Nelson

* Requires Full Board Approval

Discusses Enterprise Risk Management topic(s)

Closed Session Agenda

ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Inn at Virginia Tech
Monday, March 20, 2023**

**Duckpond Room
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Reporting Responsibility</u>
1. Motion to Begin Closed Session	M. Nelson
* 2. Resolutions to Approve Appointments to Emeritus/a Status (6)	C. Clarke
* 3. Resolution to Approve Appointments Endowed Chairs, Professorships, or Fellowships (4)	C. Clarke
* 4. Resolution to Approve Appointments with Tenure (3)	C. Clarke
* 5. Resolution to Approve Faculty Research Leaves (92)	C. Clarke
* 6. Resolutions to Approve Exceptions to the Virginia Conflict of Interests Act (1)	C. Clarke
* 7. Ratification of Personnel Changes Report <i>(shared with Finance and Resource Management Committee)</i>	C. Clarke
8. Motion to End Closed Session	M. Nelson
9. Report of Closed Session Action items	M. Nelson

*Requires Full Board Approval



Panel Discussion: Experiential Learning

Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee
Board of Visitors
March 20, 2023

“

...we know that disciplinary depth alone is insufficient to prepare a student to become a productive contributor in society...**we believe that Virginia Tech is uniquely positioned to offer a holistic and experiential education that engages the whole person...**We envision a Virginia Tech education in 2047 will be grounded in work and learning that is **purpose-driven**, a manifestation of Ut Prosim and the land-grant mission that is no longer just co-curricular but **embedded in and indeed integral to the curriculum.**

”

- Beyond Boundaries: Thematic Area Group Report (2016)

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Principle 1

Evidence-based

Principle 2

Build from the bright spots

Principle 3

Accessible and inclusive

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING DEVELOPMENTALLY

Phase 1: Exploratory
Guided

Phase 2: Bridge to career
Independent



BRIDGE EXPERIENCES

Work-based experience matching a student's goals after graduation

- Examples: internships, undergraduate research, and others as appropriate to discipline and career
- Applies degree knowledge and skills in authentic contexts
- Supports transition to life after VT



WHY IS EXPERIENCE IMPORTANT?

Students with work placements

Students with **paid internships** are significantly more likely to secure a **work placement** in ALL colleges.

Students continuing education

Students with **paid internships** are significantly more likely to secure **additional education** in ALL colleges.

Students with **research** experience are significantly more likely to secure **additional education** in STEM and liberal arts.

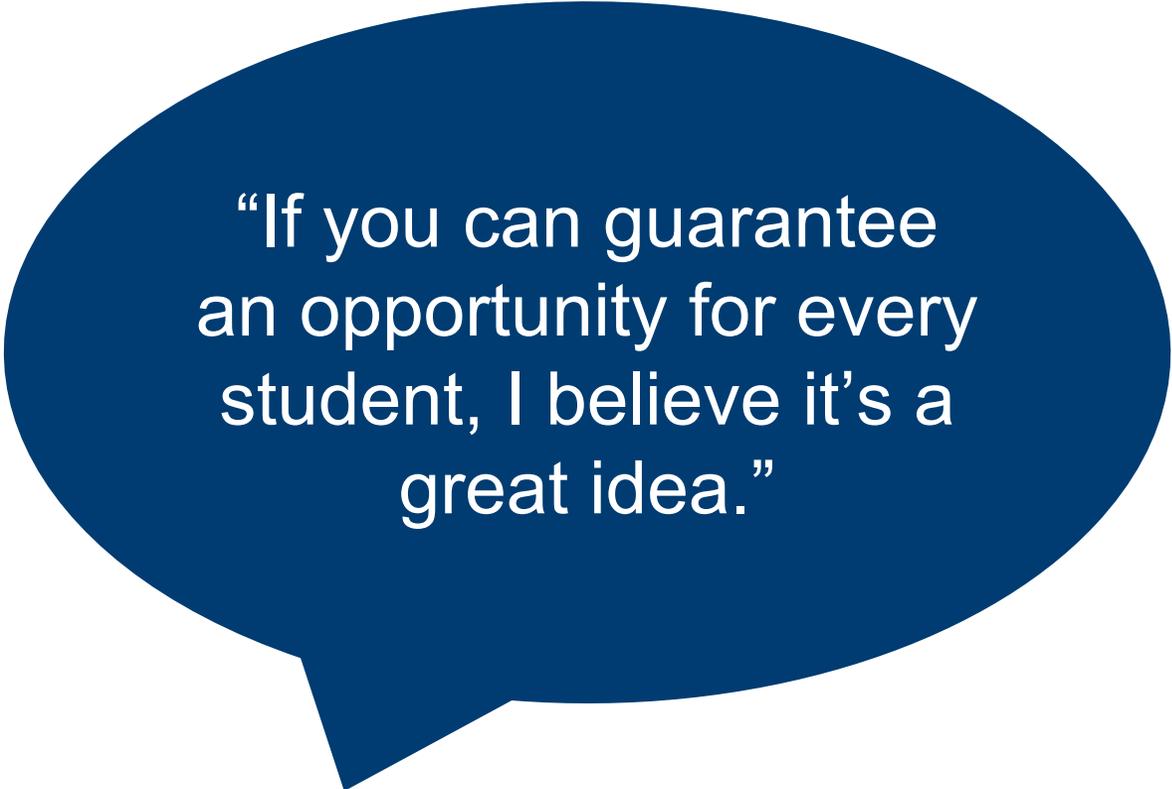
CHALLENGES FOR STUDENTS

Communication

Curriculum

Cost

Capacity



“If you can guarantee an opportunity for every student, I believe it’s a great idea.”

PANELISTS

Donna Westfall-Rudd, PhD

Associate Professor
Undergraduate Director

Agricultural, Leadership, and
Community Education

Anne Brown, PhD

Assistant Professor
University Libraries

Biochemistry

Madeline Eberhardt

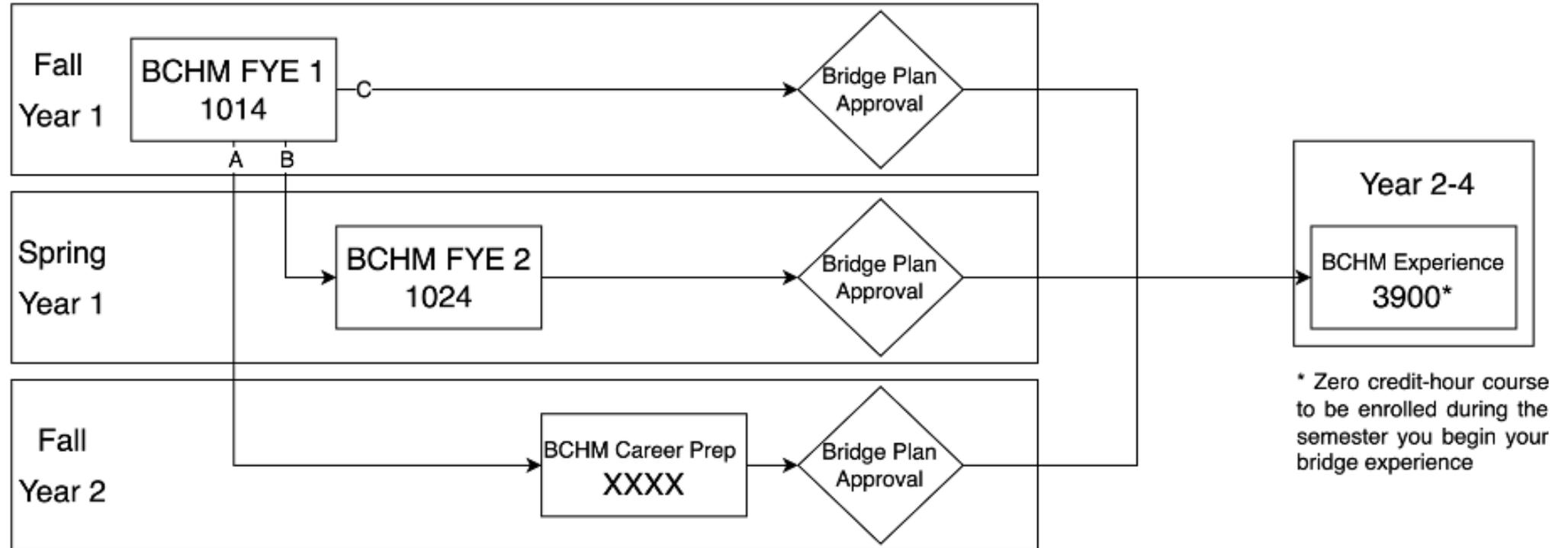
Graduating Senior

English

Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education



Biochemistry



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