1. Dr. Long called the meeting of the Educational Policy Committee to order and recognized the Rector.

2. The Rector made a statement concerning the events of last week involving University student Martese Johnson. Mr. Martin emphasized that the safety and security of our students is the University’s highest priority.

3. The committee approved the closure of the M.A. in Digital Humanities. This closure was part of SCHEV’s program productivity and viability review.

4. The committee approved the renaming of an existing endowed professorship to the “William Parson Professorship in Teaching Excellence.”

5. President Sullivan briefed the committee on the Obama Administration’s proposed rating system for institutions of higher education.
   a. In Feb. 2015, the University provided feedback to the U.S. Department of Education on the proposed rating system, including recommendations to make the system more meaningful by further rating schools by institutional type.
   b. The president reviewed the metrics included in the rating system and the University’s performance on these metrics. Among the metrics are:
      i. Percentage of Pell grant recipients
      ii. Net price
      iii. Percentage of first-generation college students
      iv. Graduate school attendance
      v. Completion or graduation rates
      vi. Labor market success
      vii. Loan performance outcomes
   c. The U.S. Department of Education is expected to issue the first ratings later this year.

6. Phil Parris, interim vice president for research, briefed the committee on a recent partnership with the Max Planck Institute
   a. The Max Planck institute is one of the leading and most reputable research institutes in the world.
   b. There are only two Max Planck initiatives in the United States – one at Princeton around plasma physics and one in Florida around neuroscience.
   c. The University’s partnership is focused on energy research, involving nine U.Va. faculty members across two schools and four departments.
   d. The long-term goal is to develop a self-sustaining collaborative research program with the Max Planck Society and expand energy-based research at the University. It will also bring additional research opportunities to graduate and undergraduate students.
   e. The partnership will make the University more competitive for domestic sponsored research opportunities, as well as open new research-related revenue streams in Europe.

7. Meg Gould led a panel discussion of advising at the University.
   a. First, Maurie McInnis provided an overview of the University’s advising initiatives included in the Cornerstone Plan and how assessment data is helping the University improve undergraduate advising.
   b. A panel of five students then discussed their experience with advising at the University.
i. They stressed the fact that good advising means having access to a variety of individuals -- faculty, other students, and administrators -- who can support academic, personal, and career goals.

ii. The students discussed their experience with various advising initiatives such as the peer mentoring program in the Office of African American Affairs, College Advising Seminars (COLAS), ULink, and career peer educators.