UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS
MEETING OF THE
EDUCATIONAL POLICY
COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 11, 2011
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, November 11, 2011
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Board Room, The Rotunda

Committee Members:
Glynn D. Key, Chair
A. Macdonald Caputo
Allison Cryor DiNardo
Mark J. Kington
Randal J. Kirk
Stephen P. Long, M.D.
George Keith Martin
Edward D. Miller, M.D.
Jonathan B. Overdevest
Helen E. Dragas, Ex-officio
Gweneth L. West, Consulting Member

AGENDA

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I. ACTION ITEM (Mr. Simon to introduce Mr. Eric M. Patashnik, Mr. Patashnik to present)
   • New Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Leadership in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy

II. REPORTS BY THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST (Mr. Simon)
   A. Faculty Senate Report (Mr. Simon to introduce Mr. Robert S. Kemp; Mr. Kemp to report)
   B. Commission on the Future of the University (COFU): Themes in Practice
      1. Advancing Education and Pedagogy: Strategic Perspectives on Distinguishing U.Va in STEM Teaching and Learning (Mr. Simon to introduce Ms. Karen K. Inkelas; Ms. Inkelas to report)
      2. Impact of Faculty Research: Examples of Technology Transfer (Mr. Simon to introduce Mr. Thomas C. Skalak, Mr. Brian R. Wamhoff, Mr. Brett R. Blackman, and Mr. Anselmo G. Canfora; Messrs. Skalak, Wamhoff, and Canfora to report)
      3. New Innovations in First-Year Advising (Mr. Simon to introduce Ms. Meredith Jung-En Woo, Ms. Lisa R. Spaar, and Mr. Paul Freedman; Ms. Woo, Ms. Spaar and Mr. Freedman to report)

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION (to take place in separate session)
   • Faculty Personnel Actions
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: November 11, 2011

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: I.A. New Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Leadership in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy

BACKGROUND: The University of Virginia proposes to establish a new degree program, a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Public Policy and Leadership, to be offered by the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy.

The Batten School currently offers two degree programs, the five-year B.A./M.P.P. and the post-graduate M.P.P. In addition, it recently signed memoranda of understanding to offer dual degree programs with the following University schools: Architecture, Curry, Darden, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and Law. The addition of the standalone B.A. will contribute to the original vision of the school’s benefactor and namesake, the late Frank Batten, Sr.

DISCUSSION: The Report to the Faculty Senate on the Establishment of the Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, submitted on October 1, 2007 and approved by the Faculty Senate on November 2, 2007, indicated that a selective, two-year undergraduate public policy degree program would be a major component of the Batten School. The proposed program will prepare students to be enlightened and ethical leaders in civic life. The degree will serve as a pathway for careers in public service and will provide a strong foundation for graduate studies in law, business, journalism, medicine, and other fields. The public policy and leadership degree will be a liberal arts degree, based in the social sciences, that gives students a critical and practical understanding of the role of public policy in addressing domestic and global problems and the contribution of civic leadership to societal change.

The mission of the Batten School is to educate women and men to lead their communities in identifying, addressing, and solving problems, whether those communities be neighborhoods, cities, nations, or the world as a whole. The graduates of the school will serve as analysts, advocates, activists, officials,
or simply as enlightened and engaged citizens. Built upon Frank Batten’s vision to “produce entrepreneurial leaders who understand the responsibilities and opportunities of public service,” the School carries forward Thomas Jefferson’s belief that a democratic polity cannot endure if citizens lack the capacity for self-government, and that education is the key to that capacity.

The B.A. program was approved by the Faculty Senate on October 18, 2011, and it is anticipated that the program will be initiated formally in the Fall of 2012, pending approvals by the Board of Visitors and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

All new degree programs must be approved by the Board of Visitors before they can be forwarded to SCHEV for review and approval.

ACTION REQUIRED: Approval by the Educational Policy Committee and by the Board of Visitors

APPROVAL OF A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PUBLIC POLICY AND LEADERSHIP IN THE FRANK BATTEN SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC POLICY

RESOLVED, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Leadership is established at the Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy.
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: November 11, 2011

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: II.A. Faculty Senate Report

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: Mr. Simon will introduce Mr. Robert S. Kemp, Chair of the Faculty Senate. Mr. Kemp will discuss the Senate’s plans for the remainder of the academic year.
BACKGROUND: The Association of American Universities (AAU) recently announced that it would “undertake a five-year initiative to improve the quality of undergraduate teaching and learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields at its member institutions. The goals of the initiative are to help institutions assess the quality of STEM teaching on their campuses, share best practices, and create incentives for their departments and faculty members to adopt the most effective teaching methods in their classes.”

The AAU announcement coincides with the Commonwealth of Virginia’s legislative emphasis on increased degree production in STEM fields by Virginia’s colleges and universities, as outlined in the 2011 Top Jobs legislation. The University has placed enrollment growth and support for STEM faculty start-up packages among its highest priorities in the 2012-2018 Six-Year Plan.

The University is well positioned to participate in the AAU and Top Jobs initiatives, in part, due to investments made by the Board of Visitors in Commission on the Future of the University initiatives, including the University’s Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (CASTL-HE). CASTL-HE is collaborating with schools and units across Grounds to facilitate evidence-based study of teaching effectiveness.

DISCUSSION: The Executive Vice President and Provost will introduce Ms. Karen Inkelas, Associate Professor & Director of the Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Ms. Inkelas will discuss the unique leverage of the University with regard to STEM teaching and learning. In addition, she will describe several CASTL-HE collaborative
studies with the School of Engineering and Applied Science that illustrate ways in which the University is already focusing on innovations in STEM education.

By focusing on a program of faculty and institutionally-led examinations of instruction in STEM disciplines, the portability of STEM knowledge across disciplines, and the follow-up of graduate’s careers in STEM-related fields, the University will expand and improve the quality and impact of its preparation in the STEM fields, and export its findings and tools as a means of addressing STEM education challenges that reach far beyond the Grounds. In doing so, the University can distinguish itself among the elite institutions in the AAU, and become a leader in STEM education efforts nationally.
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: November 11, 2011

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: II.B.2. Impact of Faculty Research: Examples of Technology Transfer

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Executive Vice President and Provost will introduce Mr. Thomas Skalak, Vice President for Research, Mr. Brian Wamhoff, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Mr. Brett Blackman, Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mr. Anselmo Canfora, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture. Mr. Wamhoff and Mr. Canfora will discuss the early phase of their scientific/engineering/design interests and work at U.Va. The Board will hear how the work was curiosity-driven, aimed at a social good, or aimed at solving a medical challenge. The source of funding of the original research will be discussed. The presenters will continue by unfolding the story of how they moved the project forward with collaborators and partners both inside and outside of U.Va, how they became inspired to move the research to “translation to market”. There will be a description of key steps and milestones in commercialization, jobs created, talent attracted and/or retained in our region, and the economic impact of broader benefits expected in the long-term.
BACKGROUND: The first semester is a crucial one for the academic success of our students. Coming from high schools where they have rarely seen a class larger than 25 and where they have few choices to make about which classes to take, new students find that navigating hundreds of classes amidst thousands of fellow students can be overwhelming. Advising is intended to help ease the transition from high school to University. The College offers multiple points of contact for advising incoming students: summer orientation, resident assistants, College Association deans, faculty advisors, and faculty. Each incoming first-year student is assigned to a faculty member and it is that person who, in the minds of students, serves as the primary advising contact. Nationwide, advising remains one of the challenges in higher education, and the University is no exception. Responding to surveys that suggested the University needed to find a better way to advise, the College has been experimenting with a new program since 2006 called "College Advising Seminars" or "COLAs" (as they are known colloquially).

DISCUSSION: The Executive Vice President and Provost will introduce Ms. Meredith Jung-En Woo, Dean, College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Ms. Lisa Spaar, Professor, Department of English, and Mr. Paul Freedman, Associate Professor Department of Politics.

COLA seminars are one-credit classes that meet for 75 minutes a week. The classes are 80% academic content and 20% advising. The professor teaching that COLA becomes the students' advisor until they declare a major and are assigned to a major advisor. Faculty teach these seminars as overload courses and are compensated for their time with research money. Feedback from the classes makes it clear that by meeting once a week and working together on academic material, faculty and students are able to develop a much richer bond that enables the
faculties to serve as more effective advisors. The small class size also helps first-year students feel less overwhelmed. Data comparing all first-year students with those in COLA classes show a dramatic difference in their satisfaction with advising. Since the program began in 2006, data also demonstrates a significant improvement in overall satisfaction with advising. Since 2006, U.Va has been offering 10-12 COLA sections serving about 200 students, having increased that to 24 sections this year. In order to offer COLA seminars to all entering first-year students, the University would need to offer 150 to 160 sections (depending on enrollment growth).

Following the introductory discussion by Meredith Woo, Lisa Spaar and Paul Freedman will discuss their experience teaching COLA seminars.