

APPROVED  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY  
STAFF SENATE

Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Thursday, June 15, 1995  
Room 102, Phase II, Vet Medicine

Senators Present: Joyce Bohr, Janet Bryant, Judy Davis, Marge Dellers, Patrick Donohoe, Wanda Grubb, Patti Hall, Mary Holliman, Delbert Jones, Julia King, Joyce Longrie, Bhaba Misra, Trevia Moses, Fred Phillips, Peggy Rasnick, Wyatt Sasser, Widget Shannon, Chuck Shorter, Tony Sutphin, Virginia Viers

Alternates and Guests Present: Netta Eisler for Richard Lovegrove, Nancy Looney for Deb Williams, Tom Hergert

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 PM.

#### Announcements

President Sasser congratulated the newly elected officers and those elected to Councils, Commissions, and Committees. He also encouraged continued support for shared governance and thanked members of the senate for their support throughout his term as president.

#### Guest Speakers

Wayne Donald explained Project Enable as follows. Project Enable is about change, and everyone in the university will be affected by it in some way. Its purpose is to implement a technology environment that will help us be more effective. This was a directive that came down from the administration. It requires replacing many administrative systems, many of which were developed in the late 1960s. It involves teams that examine processes and make suggestions about what is needed in new systems. The project will take three to five years to replace all core administrative systems.

Linda Woodard from Personnel Services addressed the Human Resources Project that is being implemented in personnel. She stated that just about everything is changing and that no one can predict the full impact of Project Enable. One of the benefits is the implementation of electronic forms on-line.

Senator Dellers questioned the security of on-line systems. Donald stated that things sent across the network will be encrypted and can be decoded only by the person with the right code. He assured the senators that nothing would be implemented without appropriate security.

Senator Donohoe questioned why the University switched from PC's to Mac's. Donald responded that the decision was made because the new systems are easier to learn on Mac's.

Donald also stated that the new system will allow people to spend less time doing administrative work and more time doing more critical tasks.

## Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 18, 1995 could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

## University Council, Commission, Committee Reports

Elections and Nominations annual report available on hard-copy.

Policies and Issues will have annual report ready by next meeting.

All annual reports are due by July meeting.

## Old Business

None

## New Business

Resolution for new membership on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors: The Board of Visitors is made up of business leaders in the state and community, as well as faculty members and students. Faculty and students have non-voting memberships. Staff has no representation. Part of the reason for that, according to President Sasser, is that the board deals with issues that are critical to faculty, such as salary raises. Also, input from the board can have a direct effect on students. Classified staff is governed by the legislature and DPT. There are concerns, however, that board decisions can have an indirect effect on classified staff. Several people think there is a need for a non-voting representative of classified staff on the Board of Visitors. After discussion, this issue was forwarded to the Policies and Issues Committee.

The Senate has an office in 323E Burruss Hall. The telephone number is 1-9637. There is a computer in there as well, and E-mail is being investigated. Senator Dellers has volunteered to head a group to organize the office and get it "up and running". Volunteers will be solicited later. Senator Phillips stated that he sees the senate office as a communications tool and also as a place where we can pull together our historical records, annual reports, minutes, etc. There are also some training materials that have been donated to the senate, which will be available from that office.

## Other

Senator Shannon received an informal letter stating that the parallel parking spaces are being taken away from the Drillfield and that all parking will be straight-on. They are also putting in a bike lane on the Drillfield. Senator Shannon is concerned that these decisions did not go through the governance system. The Senate Executive Committee has discussed asking Richard Alvarez to come and address some of the

parking issues. Also, some decisions are being made without going through the entire Transportation/Parking Committee. Richard Lovegrove is acting chair of the Commission on University Support and will be a good avenue for information on this issue.

Newly elected President Phillips would like to invite Dr. Larry Moore and President Torgersen to a future meeting.

President Sasser thanked the senators again for their support and encouraged participation in what he thinks will be an exciting 1995-96 year.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.