

**OUTREACH COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
March 26, 2002**

Attendance: Bob Martin, Doug McAlister, Edmund Henneke, George Crofts, Hap Bonham, Jim Blair, Jim Johnson, Joe Merola, John Dooley, Ted Settle, Tim Franklin, Valerie Giddings

Absent: Beth Hanson, Bob Dunay, Clark Jones, Greg Boardman, John White, Judith Jones, Linda Leffel

Handouts: *Virginia Tech's Technical Assistance Program – Update and Recent Changes, Southside Programs and Services Map, Virginia Tech Outreach and Economic Development Councils Concept Paper and Regional Map*

1. Welcome  
John Dooley welcomed all to the March meeting and introduced Dr. Bob Martin as the representative from the College of Veterinary Medicine.
2. College Issues and Announcements
  - Jim Johnson announced the College of Natural Resources has recently updated a Youth and Teacher Education Outreach Bulletin. Copies will be disbursed to the council members.
  - Valarie Giddings reminded the council of the Farm and Family Showcase, which was a great success last year. The deadline for submitting exhibit registration is April 1, 2002.
  - Joe Merola prompted the council to remember Graduate Student Appreciation Week. Events include the normal yearly Student Assembly Research Symposium and Dr. Harriet Fulbright as a speaker on Tuesday evening. He recommended the council take a graduate student to lunch.
  - Doug McAlister informed the council that new legislation will merge the departments of Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Virginia Department of Business Assistance, Department of Minority Business, Virginia Film Office, Virginia Tourism Corporation, parts of VDAC and Housing Community Development into one super economic development agency. The merger is being reviewed and the first component of the report is to be back on July 1. Implementation is to take place before the next session of the Virginia General Assembly.
  - Bob Martin reported the College of Veterinary Medicine is in the process of deciding on how to proceed with the naming of a director for their Outreach Program.

- John Dooley invited the council to submit any additional agenda items. At this time no agenda items were added. Agenda items for future meetings were asked to be submitted to Holly Meadows.

### 3. New Business

#### a. Impact of Reorganization on Outreach

The budget situation was re-emphasized, as Outreach and Research Centers are being targeted. Funding for COTA was reduced 18% by the legislature in the upcoming biennium. Budget reduction plans did not include COTA. Budget language for COTA, as well as other outreach and research centers, suggests future funding should be obtained through non-general funds.

Council discussions included extended campus centers and the different reporting structures that have incurred. The Provost has indicated that in the future the extended campus sites, with the exception of Northern Virginia, will administratively report to University Outreach. Council members spoke of extended campus centers being hubs to represent all three mission areas for the University. There was a question of how to take advantage of reorganization. Solutions included having an internal stakeholders group, which could be a function of the Outreach Council, and to expand the role of the Outreach Economic Development Councils to become an external stakeholders group. It was agreed that the real challenge is how to setup so that all parts of the University are effectively engaged. The council decided additional information would be known, after the college visits, which begin on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### b. Southside Implementation Team

Tim Franklin discussed the recent formation of a university-wide Implementation Team for the Danville/Southside initiative. The functions of the Implementation Team are to couple and coordinate Virginia Tech program activities and to facilitate communications. Additionally, the Implementation Team has become a forum through which new program ideas and activities are shared and built upon. His presentation concluded with updates on program activity, construction bids, and the March visit by the University Team headed by Provost McNamee.

#### c. Technical Assistance Program

Ed Nelson provided Council members an update on the Technical Assistance Program and thanked members for their support and input. The Technical Assistance Program provides faculty with an alternative for managing consulting activities. New information has been posted to the TAP website (<http://www.tap.vt.edu/>). He encouraged Council members to view and distribute to faculty.

Recent changes to TAP include how to manage federal dollars, federal flow through dollars, faculty payment with federal dollars, conflict of interest, consulting limits, potential needs for additional signature lines and testing. Some concerns the council had were subcontracts and payments, cost recovery, competition with commercial services, promotion and legal issues. The revision to disallow federal participation in this program was raised as a serious concern. It was decided there needs to be other strategies to promote the program other than the brochure and website. Strategies presented were visiting departments, email and announcements. It was agreed this is a continuing process and will take time.

d. Strategic Plan Updates

Council members had nothing to share at this time.

e. Regional Outreach Councils

Doug McAlister discussed proposed changes in how the regional councils will function. He informed the council that advisory structure will be out there, but they have been slow to work and expand. Council members were asked to think about who are leaders in the Richmond area that should be added to advisory group. It was agreed that success is contingent on who is brought to the table and the need to be aggressive. Presented were three areas efforts are needed in - Southwest Virginia, the Capital Region and Hampton Roads. Council members were urged to present names that could help in these areas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Holly Meadows  
Recording Secretary