



State Council of  
Higher Education for Virginia

# SAC MINUTES

## SAC Teleconference Friday, January 29 at 2:30

**Members Present:** Brittany Anderson (Virginia Tech), Catherine Bowman (NVCC), Elliott J. Clark (ODU), Jason Clemons (NRCC), Kelly Knox (W&M), Gerry Martin (Longwood), and Randi-Lyn Randall (Radford).

**SCHEV Staff Present:** Kathleen Kincheloe and Kirsten Nelson.

- Kathleen Kincheloe brought the meeting to order at 2:36.
- Kirsten Nelson helped facilitate a discussion about an email sent out earlier by Gerry Martin (Longwood) expressing concern about the auxiliary enterprise reductions proposed in Governor Kaine's 2010-12 budget. Kirsten shared that the Council was also concerned about this unprecedented decision and had sent a memo to the chairs of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee (see attached PDF).
- All SAC members present agreed that this is an item of concern and perhaps an issue the body would like to bring up during its February Legislative Visit. Kirsten will keep an eye on any changes to this proposal and apprise SAC members of its status before their visit.
- Students asked questions about several bills tracked on SCHEV's Long List, including HB32 (which would allow full-time faculty members of state institutions of higher education who possess a valid Virginia concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun on campus) and HB 903 (which would exempt all records of threat assessment teams established at public institutions of higher education from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act).
- Kathleen went over section I of the agenda, which provided information on general fund reductions and appropriations for Virginia's higher education institutions. All students agreed that this would be good background information for them to have during their Legislative Visit.
- Brittany Anderson (Virginia Tech) requested that SCHEV staff also include information about Virginia's ranking in per student appropriations as compared to other SREB, which has been added to the attached Talking Points document.
- Student discussed items II and III on the agenda, ultimately agreeing that these were important topics to discuss with legislators. They felt these two topics should be bolstered by members' personal experiences and anecdotes, both as verbal stories during one-on-one meetings and as textual additions to the written brochure students will leave behind.
- Catherine Bowman (NVCC) suggested that members end their visit on a positive note by thanking legislators for not making cuts to financial aid. This has been added to the attached Talking Points document as item III.
- Students discussed scheduling for the visit and ultimately decided on one of two days: Monday, February 22 or the morning of Friday, February 26. All SAC members will be asked for the input before a date is finalized.
- The meeting adjourned in a "flurry" of comments about the impending winter weather.