

## SCHEV Priorities for 2012-13

UPDATE: Activities since Council Meeting (January 16-March 15)

### 1. **ACADEMIC QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY**

*(Program approval, viability and relevance; Preparation for life and work)*

- Participated in discussions with parties interested and/or involved in the effort to locate a private medical school to the Abingdon area.
- Collaborated with the Instructional Programs Advisory Committee on an MOU enhancing bilateral cooperation between Virginia public institutions and Taiwan; MOU will be signed in late March.
- Recruited and convened institutional representatives to frame recommendations for Virginia's potential participation in regional and national schemes for reciprocal state authorization of distance-education offerings. Efforts will result in legislation for the 2014 General Assembly and an administrative structure that will satisfy the developing national reciprocity standards.
- Completed plans for a conference on digital learning resources at the University of Mary Washington (postponed until fall by weather).
- Reviewed, and prepared for Council consideration and action, public-institution program proposals and proprietary-institution certification applications.
- Recognized 12 remarkable scholar-educators at the 2013 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards supported by the Dominion Foundation. Initiated planning for OFA Workshop for public and private institutions, to occur in Richmond in April.
- Tracked the biennial budget process, provided relevant testimony when requested, and prepared and distributed budget updates to the Finance Advisory Committee, Council, presidents, and others. Final budget reflected Council's priorities and will advance academic quality, student success, and institutional innovation and efficiency.

### 2. **STUDENT SUCCESS**

*(Readiness, P-20 alignment: Changing demographics; Student support services)*

- Convened a meeting with the six College Access Challenge Grant institutional sub-grant partners under the Increasing Adult Completion program.
- Contributed to planning and conducting the statewide Super Saturday event, where college-bound Virginians received assistance in completing the FAFSA.
- Promoted greater awareness of access issues via a display table in the General Assembly Building featuring College Access Challenge Grant materials.
- Conducted the Legislative Day for the SCHEV Student Advisory Committee; members lobbied legislators regarding financial aid and spoke directly with the Governor and the chair of the Senate Education and Health Committee.

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- Initiated new legislation (HB2088) that strengthens student protections when for-profit institutions close unexpectedly; it requires that records be stored appropriately and students be offered “teach-outs.”
- Participated in legislative discussions and deliberations regarding student financial aid; for example:
  - Presented to the Senate Finance Committee’s Education Subcommittee on Financial Aid; and
  - Worked with legislators on financial aid bills, including the successful expansion of the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) amount for students applying for the Two-Year College Transfer Grant.
- Completed guidelines regarding priority course registration for military students; Council will consider and act on the proposed guidelines on March 18-19.
- Participated in two campus-safety-related initiatives:
  - Assisted in development of the recommendations of the Governor’s School and Campus Safety Task Force; and
  - Supported the work of the Governor’s Domestic Violence Prevention and Response Advisory Board, which recommended the creation of a Campus Safety Coordinator position at the Department of Criminal Justice Services; the position was filled in January.
- Presented to the HBCU Summit on Retention (Ocean City, MD, March 14) on student success and higher education policy in Virginia.

### **3. EFFICIENCY, INNOVATION AND INCENTIVES**

*(Cost control, including auxiliary; Optimal use of institutional assets; Partnerships, collaboration, “scale economies”)*

- Collaborated with patrons and stakeholders on the drafting and revising of legislation (HB2311) amending Council’s composition and purposes.
- Provided information in support of the successful request for additional resources for the Virginia Longitudinal Data System.
- Convened a workgroup of representatives from institutions, Department of Planning and Budget, and the legislative money committees to review issues related to undergraduate tuition and financial aid.
- Consulted with various central government agencies regarding the SCHEV capital outlay function.
- Provided considerable consultation and information to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee teams conducting the study of efficiency in public higher education.
- Participated in a legislative breakfast marking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program.

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- Participated in discussions among the public institutions, the Department of Human Resource Management, the Secretary of Education, and the Office of the Attorney General regarding the Commonwealth's new 29-hour part-time employment rule and the federal Affordable Care Act.
- Initiated internal staff discussions regarding the annual orientation session for new appointees to public-institution boards, in light of new legislation (HB1952).
- Initiated conversations via advisory committees regarding the six-year plan process and the likely calendar for submission and review.
- Served in a liaison/support capacity to the Governor's Rural Jobs Council; attended meetings of the Council and of its Infrastructure Subcommittee and Workforce/K12 Education Subcommittee.
- Collaborated with the Governor's Policy Office and multiple secretariats on an undergraduate business-plan competition, which agency staff will coordinate (guidelines in development).

#### **4. CLEAR AND MEASURABLE GOALS AND RESULTS**

*(State-level measures; Alignment of state and institutional goals)*

- Prepared and submitted on time all 46 requested Legislative Action Summaries and Enrolled Bills Summaries of relevant 2013 legislation.
- Advised the House and Senate budget committee staffs when requested.
- Presented to the Senate Finance Committee's Higher Education Subcommittee information regarding the Virginia Longitudinal Data System and the post-completion wage reports.
- Conducted numerous informational training webinars for institutional staffers regarding the enrollment projection/degree estimation process.
- Produced a campus-safety survey instrument.