

**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA
PLANNING GROUP ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR RESEARCH
SEPTEMBER 10, 2013
MINUTES**

Ms. DiGennaro called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. in the Papa Bear conference room, Owens and Minor, 9120 Lockwood Boulevard, Mechanicsville, Virginia. Council members present: Joann DiGennaro, Gene Lockhart, and Steve Haner

Council member absent: Gary Nakamoto

Staff members present: Peter Blake, Beverly Covington, Alan Edwards, Lee Ann Rung, and Monica Osei

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Ms. DiGennaro and seconded by Mr. Haner, the minutes from the August 6, 2013, meeting were unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PURPOSE STATEMENT AND EVENT DESCRIPTION

Ms. DiGennaro reminded members that discussions and planning outside meetings of the Planning Group would be limited to two members at a time in order to maintain compliance with open meeting laws.

The draft document was distributed and discussed. There was general consensus that the event will be referred to as a “summit” for future planning purposes. Ms. DiGennaro asked that the summit focus on networking with the private sector to learn about strengths and assets, and identify possible collaborations.

DISCUSSION OF INVITEES, PARTICIPANTS, LOCATION, AND LOGISTICS

There was some discussion about the location of the summit, and it was agreed that Richmond should be the first option. Fredericksburg and Charlottesville were offered as alternative locations. Ms. DiGennaro said the preferred date would be early April 2014. Mr. Lockhart asked about federal government involvement and Ms. DiGennaro said she recommended that agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and the National Institute of Health be invited to participate, but not as partners. Mr. Haner indicated that his agency could provide a recommendation on participation from the Department of Defense.

Members agreed that the summit should include case studies of collaborative efforts in Virginia that are currently contributing to research. The Center of Innovative Technology (CIT), and the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing

(CCAM) were specifically mentioned. Lessons learned from the existing Rolls Royce collaboration could also be considered.

Ms. DiGennaro asked Ms. Rung to send the estimated costs to members.

Mr. Lockhart suggested that a case study of successes in public-private partnerships be discussed early on the agenda, including pros and cons and practical applications. Following that discussion, he suggested a panel discussion of four others to address their perspectives on those conclusions.

Mr. Haner suggested that efforts focus on ways to capture better ideas for moving forward to make improvements in the area of research. Ms. DiGennaro expressed her hope that the end result of the summit would be 3-4 action items that could be implemented in Virginia.

Staff will modify the agenda, including the addition of a case study and the addition of expected outcomes.

NEXT STEPS

It was agreed that before the next meeting, a list of sponsors be finalized; a budget for the event should be determined, including specifics about costs and who will absorb them. Seeking a date during the first week of April will also be considered.

Members discussed the possibility of charging sponsors to participate and/or charging participants to attend. Mr. Lockhart and Mr. Haner suggested corporate sponsors and Mr. Blake indicated that public funds could be available. He suggested that sponsors could be asked to cover the cost of lunch or other portions of the event.

Staff agreed to send out a revised version of the draft purpose statement and event description, and suggest additional planning group members, prior to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Joann DiGennaro, Chair

Lee Ann Rung
Manager, Executive and Council Affairs