

Minutes of the Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee meeting Wednesday, November 16, 2016—APPROVED March 24, 2017

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee met on November 16, 2016 at the Chancellor's Office in Montpelier, VT.

Committee members present: Lynn Dickinson (by phone), Morgan Easton, Kraig Hannum (Chair), Karen Luneau, Jim Masland, Martha O'Connor, Mike Pieciak

Other Trustees: Church Hindes, Tim Jerman

Presidents: Nolan Atkins, Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton

From the Chancellor's Office: Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Nate Ball, VTC, PAT/SUP Representative
Reese Barber, Athletic Training Program Director, Castleton
Jonathan Davis, Dean of Students, LSC
Kelly Everhart, VSEA Staff Attorney
Barb Flathers, JSC, Vice President, VSCUP
Sandy Noyes, JSC Staff Federation Unit Chair
Jay Paterson, Dean of Student Affairs, VTC
Phil Petty, Academic Dean, VTC
Dennis Proulx, Dean of Students, Castleton
Mariah Sanderson, Coordinator, Tobacco Free College Initiative
Jonathan Spiro, Academic Dean, Castleton
Eoana Sturges, Tobacco Program Manager, VT Dept. of Health
Sharon Twigg, Interim Academic Dean, JSC
Heather Weinstein, Dean of Students, CCV
Michelle Whitmore, Interim Dean of Students, JSC

Chair Hannum called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the July 20, 2016 Meeting

Chair Hannum noted the date in the first paragraph should be changed to July 20th from July 27th. Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Masland seconded the minutes as amended. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of PReCIP Reports and COP Recommendations

Chair Hannum asked Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler to give background information regarding the Policy 101 process. The VSC is now operating under a new set of NEASC standards that require a demonstrable record of success in using the results of assessment. She referred to the Council of Presidents' response to the committee reports and emphasized the need for more institutional research capacity.

Trustee Dickinson stated the reports were thorough and helpful. Trustee Masland asked the deans to ensure they are being efficient and nimble when adding or subtracting programs. He stated the thoroughness of the reports submitted are reflective of a good process. Chair Hannum noted the disparity between online success of CCV's early childhood program in comparison to that of on-ground courses, and asked if this trend is common in all programs. CCV President Joyce Judy answered that there are participation requirements and interactive aspects of online courses designed to boost this measure.

Chancellor Spaulding inquired how the deans use these reports once completed. Castleton Academic Dean Jonathan Spiro stated that faculty were initially resistant to the PReCIP process but now in general the attitude has changed and faculty view it as beneficial to look at programs and whether benchmarks have been achieved. In addition, faculty use the PReCIP reports to prepare for NEASC self studies. Lyndon State College Interim President Nolan Atkins stated that as dean he follows up mid-cycle with departments to see if progress was being made on recommendations in their reports. Vermont Tech Academic Dean Phil Petty stated that sometimes very little is done depending on the nature of the recommendations in the report; suggestions like new hires or new classroom space are difficult to implement short term. Also, all recommendations are not always accepted by departments; sometimes external committee members do not have a thorough enough background in the VSC to know that some recommendations may not be feasible.

Chancellor Spaulding noted the low number of graduating mathematics majors. President Atkins stated this speaks to the need for counting double majors in the data. Johnson State College Interim Academic Dean Sharon Twigg noted that student interviews of math majors indicated very good experiences with the programs. When asked how the lower graduate numbers affect staffing, President Atkins answered that the colleges need good faculty teaching general

education courses as well as the lower enrolled higher level courses. Dr. Ziesler reminded the Committee that at their next meeting they will see Policy 109 reports with more comprehensive data regarding program enrollment.

Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to commend the 2016 PReCIP committees. The resolution passed unanimously.

Chair Hannum stated that the resolution to approve programs to be assessed in the 2017 PReCIP cycle required two amendments: to change 2016 to 2017 in the third whereas clause, and to add “CU BA Ecological Studies” to the list of programs to be reviewed on page two. Trustee Luneau moved the resolution as amended, and Trustee Pieciak seconded. The amended resolution was approved unanimously.

Trustee Easton arrived at this time.

3. Program Proposals under Policy 102

Castleton University BA Graphic Design

Academic Dean Jonathan Spiro provided the background on this new program, which involves hiring one new professor and converting one classroom to a graphic design lab. The program will provide interns to Rutland area businesses.

Trustee O’Connor arrived at this time. Chair Hannum noted this would be the only BA graphic design program in the system and that geographically it would be attractive to students who previously might not have attended a VSC. Chancellor Spaulding encouraged Dean Spiro to investigate opportunities for collaboration between similar programs at other colleges.

Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to approve the program resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

Castleton University 3+2 Athletic Training Program: BA Science in Kinesiology/Pre-athletic training, MA Athletic Training

Reese Barber, chair of Castleton’s athletic training department, gave the proposal’s background. The accrediting body for this program recently announced that all programs must transition to a MA degree. Trustee Hinds clarified that students can enroll who are completing a degree. Professor Barber also confirmed that LSC students can graduate with a 4-year degree and then complete the MA in 2 years at Castleton. They are preparing for the change far ahead of other colleges. The MA program would begin in 2020.

Trustee Masland moved and Trustee Pieciak seconded the motion to approve the program resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

Lyndon State College BS Climate Change Science

Interim President Nolan Atkins shared that graduates from this program will bridge hard science with people who need access to that info in a meaningful way. It has many practical applications to current societal needs, including alternative energy, health, agriculture, risk management, communication, and education. 97% of scientists believe human impact is a cause of climate change while only 44% of Americans believe the same. Climate change has been added to middle and high school science standards. Courses will be taught by faculty from LSC's atmospheric science program and by JSC faculty. There are no known programs like this.

Vermont Tech Interim President Pat Moulton inquired whether students will engage in research that could be presented at VTC programs. President Atkins confirmed this and stated that there are three LSC faculty members and one JSC faculty member currently engaged in research that will provide the experiential research opportunities for students. Trustee Hindes noted this program may be an option that would help with retention and stemming the attrition rate out of the atmospheric sciences program. President Atkins agreed and stated there are a large number of students who want to be a part of atmospheric sciences but prefer less rigor.

Trustee Easton moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to approve the program resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

Johnson State College AA/BFA Fine Woodworking and Furniture Design

President Collins stated that when Burlington College closed the school in charge of their woodworking program needed a partner institution to be able to grant degrees. Johnson State made temporary arrangement to do teachouts for existing students. Interim Academic Dean Sharon Twigg stated the program is an opportunity for a community partnership and that Vermont Woodworking School is close to campus. The partnership combines core general education curriculum with artisan, experiential aspects of the woodworking program.

Trustee O'Connor asked whether this program required any on campus facilities. Dean Twigg answered that the Woodworking School has its own fully equipped facilities. Trustee O'Connor inquired whether JSC would need to lease space in that facility. Dean Twigg answered that the program partnership does not require this. President Collins noted a significant number of returning veterans are enrolled in the program.

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Easton seconded the motion to approve the program resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

Chancellor Spaulding shared that there is interest in developing a partnership between Johnson State and the Granite Museum; Dr. Ziesler will follow up.

4. Discussion of Tobacco-free Policy Options and updates from colleges

Chair Hannum reminded the Committee that the Board directed the Chancellor's Office to develop a tobacco-free policy. Associate General Counsel Sophie Zdatny provided background and reviewed the four policy options that were developed after review of many Vermont-based and national resources. The policy was drafted and circulated to the colleges and unions. A conference call discussion was held and changes made based on feedback. Ms. Zdatny noted that the colleges are in different places regarding this new policy, which is why four variations have been provided:

- Option A: A straightforward tobacco-free policy to be implemented by July 1, 2018, which allows the colleges to implement sooner than the deadline if preferred.
- Option B: A policy that allows for a safety exception, providing an accessible area off campus for tobacco users.
- Option C: Same as option B but with a 2-year sunset.
- Option D: Same as Option A but with the deadline extended to July 1, 2019.

The proposed policy is drawn from other colleges' policies, including UVM and St. Michael's College. Vaping is included in the policy. There is a focus on education more than compliance. Chancellor Spaulding noted that of the four options there is no definite right or wrong, but that the Chancellor's Office has a recommendation.

Castleton University Dean of Students Dennis Proulx shared that they have had an alcohol and drug task force since 2014. President Wolk is in favor of a policy. They do not have an implementation team. They plan on a short implementation period and hope the policy chosen by the Board is liberal enough to include colleges' variations. Castleton will bring together an implementation team after the decision is made.

There is a student petition included in the meeting packet that is in favor of separating the tobacco-free initiative from current initiatives in Vermont to legalize marijuana. Trustee Easton shared that she spoke to the president of Castleton's student government association. She stated that the impression of students is that VSC is dictating this policy but wants to emphasize it's a statewide initiative and recommended plans to educate students. Dean Proulx said Castleton would implement the policy by fall 2017 and will educate the students about it. Ms. Zdatny added that timelines are included in the educational resources being used.

Johnson State College Interim Dean of Students Michele Whitmore co-chairs JSC's tobacco-free implementation team with Dean of Administration Sharron Scott. They have identified fall 2018

as a target implementation date but she advocates for fall 2019 to accomplish it. They will continue to communicate with the JSC community after the decision. Safety for community members who smoke is a prominent concern due to the geographic location of campus. JSC wants the Board to consider a safety provision identifying places where smokers can go, allowing them to make a more gradual, less impactful movement toward a tobacco-free campus. Barb Flathers reminded the Committee that they must ensure they are talking about union members as well as students. Designated places to smoke on campus would help retain workers. There are also concerns about how to handle visitors at conferences and camps.

Lyndon State College Dean of Students Jonathan Davis shared that they have a 15-member working group and a partnership with Northeast Medical Center to ensure a spectrum of support. The college's current policy allows smoking in designated parking lots only. The culture on campus has changed. LSC's geographic location, like JSC, creates an issue around the safety of off campus designated smoking areas. In summer 2017 they will remove smoking gazebos currently located on campus. They will also be ready to provide education and support services to assist in quitting.

Vermont Technical College Dean of Student Affairs Jay Patterson stated the college has received a grant from the Truth Initiative and in 2013 formed a committee to explore going tobacco-free. There is a new policy limiting smoking to a few designated areas. There has been some sliding back, and so communication must be continuous. Vermont Tech will be tobacco-free no later than fall 2018. Cessation resources will be made available. The Truth Initiative goes through the end of 2017. There is concern that residential students do not have a place to smoke, as opposed to non-residential students.

Academic Dean Phil Petty shared that the Faculty Assembly heard a motion to establish a smoke-free campus initiative starting fall 2017. Members felt it couldn't be implemented until fall 2018; a vote on the motion was postponed for further research. JSC Dean Twigg stated she believes a smoking ban is unethical because a campus wide smoking ban will not help with students' addiction issues. Smoking is also a class issue. Finally, not having a safe place on campus for smokers is problematic. Kelly Everhart stated the VSEA opposes an outright ban as this is a working conditions issue. They welcome education on reduction but the Federation does not want a total ban. They are also curious about enforcement and discipline as they have not heard anything about that yet.

CCV Dean of Students Heather Weinstein stated that CCV is assuming implementation in 2019. They have formed a tobacco-free working group and will assess existing conditions of perimeters and signage needs at all its sites. They conducted a survey that generated 447 respondents. They are also assessing the neighbors at academic sites. During their annual

college-wide wellness week in March all centers will focus on cessation. They anticipate that two of 12 locations (Montpelier and St Albans) will need a safe place to smoke.

Chair Hannum reviewed the differences between each of the policy versions presented. Ms. Zdatny noted that special allowances in some policy versions do not make VSC truly tobacco-free. Eoana Sturges of the VT Department of Health noted that strict policies against smoking exist in the workforce and allowing students to smoke in college does not prepare them for that. President Moulton emphasized that this is a health issue that points to a larger issue of how to handle all unhealthy behaviors, addictions, and mental health issues in policy.

The Committee discussed the policy options at length. Trustee Luneau asked Committee members to consider the influence of smokers on family and others off campus. Trustee O'Connor stated that providing a safety zone to allow unhealthy behavior doesn't make sense. Trustee Dickinson views the policy as addressing a health issue. Trustee Masland stated he is sensitive to the class issue. Castleton Dean Proulx clarified for the Committee that the safety provision is to prevent liability for the institutions, not necessarily to provide a safe space to smoke.

Mariah Sanderson of the Tobacco Free College Initiative said what is most effective is as comprehensive a ban as possible, as clearly stated as possible. If a safety provision is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the ban, then that should be done, but suggested making the place where smoking is allowable inconvenient and not visible.

Trustee Hinds stated he cannot support approving a policy that allows deadly behavior and would rather frame it as VSC's campaign to end smoking that will include preventive and remedial activities that includes a ban on smoking. He stated he would like to see incentive programs for faculty and staff who stop smoking. The VSC should focus not on controlling smoking but stopping it.

In the resolution, the first whereas clause should declare a focus on helping people to stop smoking, followed by preventing people from starting, followed by a statement banning tobacco use on VSC property.

President Moulton recommended extending cessation efforts to include family. Trustee Easton stated it is important also to focus on quitting as saving money. Equating quitting smoking to cost can address the class issue—by not spending money on tobacco you can spend it on other things.

Chair Hannum asked for the Chancellor's recommendation. Chancellor Spaulding stated that policies like these are proven to lower the number of smokers. Giving the colleges an extra year seems to be the best opportunity to allow all the colleges the chance to implement the policy. He

recommends version D, a complete ban on tobacco use no later than July 1, 2019. Some colleges may implement the policy sooner but the deadline for all will be July 1, 2019.

The Committee decided it should approve one of the policy options, but not the resolution, which should be modified based on this discussion before being presented to the Board.

Trustee Masland moved to adopt policy option D, and asked that it be sure to include vaping. Trustee Luneau seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Hannum suggested that the Finance & Facilities Committee investigate what kind of financial resources the VSC has to assist in implementing the new policy. Ms. Zdatny noted there will be costs associated with signage, education, supplies, etc.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Chair Hannum adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION

Commendation to Policy 101 Program Review Committees

- WHEREAS, In 2002 the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees approved a revised Policy 101, Review and Approval of Existing Academic Programs, to incorporate a VSC-wide review of degree programs by discipline; and
- WHEREAS, On April 28, 2011, the Board replaced its Review and Approval of Existing Academic Programs policy with a new Program Review and Continuous Improvement Process; and
- WHEREAS, The Policy 101 process calls for the establishment of cross-college committees to review program reports submitted by the colleges;
- WHEREAS, These committees include VSC faculty and staff and external representatives with strong backgrounds in the program area under review who voluntarily commit their time and expertise to the process; and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees recognizes that these Policy 101 Program Committees play a critical role in the VSC program review process, particularly by making specific program improvement recommendations back to the colleges; and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees appreciates the special role of the academic deans in managing the process, chairing the committees, and authoring the committee reports; therefore be it,
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees commends the thoughtful and thorough work of the 2016 Policy 101 Program Review Committees, as attached, and particularly acknowledges the extra effort of the committee chairs, to support the purpose of Policy 101, to ensure that VSC colleges regularly engage in practices designed to foster the continuous improvement of programs.

November 30, 2016

2016 PreCIP Review Committees

Business and Accounting

Facilitator: Yasmine Ziesler, VSC
Cathy Kozlik, Associate Academic Dean, Castleton
Diane Hermann-Artim, Associate Academic Dean, CCV
James Black, Business & Economics Dept. Chair, Johnson
Bill Morison, Assistant Professor, Lyndon
Allan Rodgers, Professor, Vermont Tech
Linda Rossi, State Director, VT Small Business Development Center
John Davis, CPA, Davis & Hodgson Associates

Education

Facilitator: Jonathan Spiro, Academic Dean, Castleton
Diane Hermann-Artim, Associate Academic Dean, CCV
Amethyst Peaslee, Resource Specialist, Mary Johnson Childcare Services

Mathematics

Facilitator: Sharon Twigg, Interim Academic Dean, Johnson
Susan Generazzo, Math Dept. Chair, Castleton
Julie Theoret, Math Dept. Chair, Johnson
Dan Daley, Associate Professor, Lyndon
Tony Julianelle, Dept. of Math & Statistics, University of Vermont
Zsuzsanna Kadas, Professor, St. Michael's College

Health & Exercise Sciences

Facilitator: Phil Petty, Academic Dean, Vermont Tech
Justin Carlstrom, Associate Professor, Exercise Science Program Coordinator, Castleton
Hans Christian Haverkamp, Associate Professor, Johnson
Dr. Robert Hamilton, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Dr. John Bisaccia, Williston Family Chiropractic & Sports Medicine

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION

Policy 101 Programs for 2017 Review

WHEREAS, On April 28, 2011, the Board replaced its Review and Approval of Existing Academic Programs Policy 101 with a new Program Review and Continuous Improvement Process; and

WHEREAS, Per Policy 101, the Council of Presidents recommends to the Board of Trustees the disciplines to be reviewed and the timeline for their review; and

WHEREAS, The Council of Presidents recommends to the Board of Trustees the following programs for 2016 review:

- Agriculture/Horticulture/Equine Studies
- Information Technology & Computing
- Biology
- Environmental Sciences
- Natural Sciences
- Outdoor Education/Recreation/Management
- STEM Studies

Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the VSC Board of Trustees approves the program areas listed above for Policy 101 VSC-wide review in 2017.

November 30, 2016

VSC POLICY 101
PROGRAM REVIEW AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS
PROGRAMS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN 2016-2017

Agriculture and horticulture, including equine studies

VTC AAS, Agribusiness Management
Technology
VTC AAS, Dairy Farm Management
VTC AAS, Equine Studies
VTC AAS, Landscape Design and Sustainable Horticulture
VTC BS, Diversified Agriculture

Information technology and computing

CCV AS, Computer Systems Management
CCV AAS., Network Administration
CU BS, Computer Information Systems
LSC AS, Computing
LSC BS, Computer Information Systems
VTC AE, Computer Engineering
Technology
VTC AS, Computer Information
Technology
VTC AS, Computer Software Engineering
VTC BS, Computer Engineering
Technology
VTC BS, Computer Information
Technology
VTC BS, Computer Software Engineering
VTC MS, Computer Software Engineering

Biology

CU BS, Biology
JSC BS, Biology
JSC BA, Biology, Field Naturalist

Environmental sciences

CCV AS, Environmental Science
CU BS, Environmental Science
JSC BS, Environmental Science
LSC BS, Environmental Science

Natural Sciences

CU BS, Chemistry
CU BS, Geology
LSC BS, Natural Sciences
LSC BS, Sustainability Studies

**Outdoor education/recreation/
management**

CU BS, Sports Administration
JSC BA, Outdoor Education
LSC BS, Mountain Recreation Management

STEM Studies

CCV AS, STEM Studies

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Castleton University: Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design

WHEREAS, Castleton University proposed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design; and

WHEREAS, Castleton University's B.A. in Graphic Design is an innovative, interdisciplinary program that will prepare students for a variety of rewarding and popular careers in the context of the liberal arts tradition; and

WHEREAS, The B.A. in Graphic Design would replace Castleton's existing concentration in Graphic Design as a joint effort of the departments of art and communication with a primary reliance on existing curriculum; and

WHEREAS, The program will offer a blend of theoretical and practical courses and thereby provide a more thorough graphics preparation as well as significant communication and public relations options to ensure that graduates are well prepared to meet the challenges of the modern professional workforce and address an identified need in the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, Castleton has developed a budget to deliver the program based on admissions applicant data projecting enrollment growth; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with Policy 102, following the Council of Presidents discussion of the proposal, the Board Education, Personnel, Student Life Committee reviewed it and recommends it to the full Board for approval; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the VSC Board of Trustees authorizes Castleton University to offer a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design as of this date, November 30, 2016.

November 30, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION

Castleton University
3+2 Athletic Training Program:
Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology/Pre-Athletic Training
Master of Athletic Training (MAT)

- WHEREAS, Castleton University proposed a 3+2 Degree in Kinesiology/Pre-Athletic Training and Master of Athletic Training; and
- WHEREAS, Castleton University's current Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training program will be phased out and replaced with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology / Pre-Athletic Training program; and
- WHEREAS, Students in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology / Pre-Athletic Training program will apply to the MAT program during their 3rd year, and if accepted will begin the 2-year MAT program during their fourth year; and
- WHEREAS, In May 2015, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education announced that all accredited programs must transition to the master's level by the year 2022, and this 3+2 Pre-AT-to-MAT program will allow students to complete the entire program in five years and be eligible to take the Board of Certification Examination upon program completion; and
- WHEREAS, Castleton has developed a budget to deliver the program based on increased enrollment due to stronger retention within the undergraduate program and tuition from undergraduates continuing to a fifth year of graduate enrollment; and
- WHEREAS, In accordance with Policy 102, following the Council of Presidents discussion of the proposal, the Board Education, Personnel, Student Life Committee reviewed it and recommends it to the full Board for approval; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the VSC Board of Trustees authorizes Castleton University to offer a 3+2 Athletic Training Program with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology/Pre-Athletic Training and Master of Athletic Training (MAT) as of this date, November 30, 2016.

November 30, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Johnson State College
Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts Degrees
in Fine Woodworking and Furniture Design

WHEREAS, Johnson State College proposed an Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fine Woodworking and Furniture Design; and

WHEREAS, The degrees in Fine Woodworking and Furniture Design would be delivered in collaboration with the Vermont Woodworking School and align with the spirit of Johnson State College's mission of offering a high-impact, liberal arts education; and

WHEREAS, The courses currently offered by the Vermont Woodworking School have been subject to vigorous review and subsequent approval by Johnson faculty in order to ensure academic integrity, with a Memorandum of Agreement that provides continuing oversight and approval authority by Johnson State College of the curriculum and any Vermont Woodworking School faculty/staff changes that impact courses offered as part of the programs; and

WHEREAS, Johnson State College has developed a conservative expenditures budget to deliver the program based on a fee-based financial model for Vermont Woodworking School courses; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with Policy 102, following the Council of Presidents discussion of the proposal, the Board Education, Personnel, Student Life Committee reviewed it and recommends it to the full Board for approval; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the VSC Board of Trustees authorizes Johnson State College to offer Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts Degrees in Fine Woodworking and Furniture Design as of this date, November 30, 2016.

November 30, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION

Lyndon State College
Bachelor of Science Degree in Climate Change Science

- WHEREAS, Lyndon State College proposed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Climate Change Science; and
- WHEREAS, Climate change will continue to challenge mankind, bringing global environmental impacts that stress social and economic systems, and this degree is designed to empower students with the education and skills necessary to tackle the anticipated widespread problems that we will face within a variety of career paths; and
- WHEREAS, Students will gain an understanding of the current state of climate change science, use technology to work with large climate datasets, learn about current applications of the science, and develop effective communication skills to help bridge the gap between scientists and non-scientists; and
- WHEREAS, The proposal of this degree program has also prompted discussion of collaboration between Lyndon and Johnson faculty in line with the proposed unification, such that Johnson courses may ultimately be added to the degree program which would increase scheduling flexibility and introduce more choices for degree specialization; and
- WHEREAS, Lyndon has developed a conservative budget for program expenditures combined with ambitious enrollment growth due to active marketing efforts and increased within-institution retention of Atmospheric Sciences program students; and
- WHEREAS, In accordance with Policy 102, following the Council of Presidents discussion of the proposal, the Board Education, Personnel, Student Life Committee reviewed it and recommends it to the full Board for approval; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the VSC Board of Trustees authorizes Lyndon State College to offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Climate Change Science as of this date, November 30, 2016.

November 30, 2016