

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Long Range Planning Committee meeting held Wednesday, May 29, 2019, in Room 101 of the Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, VT – UNAPPROVED

Note: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent meeting.

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Long Range Planning Committee conducted a meeting Wednesday, May 29, 2019, at the Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, Vermont

Committee members: Michael Pieciak (Chair), Janette Bombardier (Vice-Chair), Megan Cluver, Lynn Dickinson, Dylan Giambatista, Adam Grinold, Bill Lippert

Other Trustees Present: Karen Luneau, Churchill Hindes, Linda Milne

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton, Karen Scolforo

Chancellor's Office Staff: Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
Todd Daloz, Associate Counsel
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Steve Wisloski, Chief Financial Officer
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Nolan Atkins, Provost, Northern Vermont University
Kate Gold, Director of Advising Resources, VSCUP President, Northern Vermont University
Laura Jakubowski, Chief Budget & Finance Officer, Castleton University
Maurice Ouimet, Dean of Enrollment, Castleton University
Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Northern Vermont University

1. Chair Pieciak called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Chair Pieciak gave a brief history of the Long Range Planning Committee, including highlighting some of the Committee's more significant accomplishments. He indicated that the charge and term of the Committee, which expires in the coming months, would be discussed later in the meeting.

2. Review charge of Long Range Planning Committee

Chair Pieciak reviewed the charge and specific responsibilities of the Committee, which include monitoring and assessing the various strategic plans of the VSCS Institutions and periodically making recommendations to the full VSCS Board regarding strategic challenges facing the System. Trustee Lippert added his belief that the Committee additionally needs to assist with accurately understanding the external challenges and changing demographics faced by the Institutions.

3. Presentation

Chancellor Spaulding presented “Securing our Future” to the Committee – a presentation on the successes and challenges the System is experiencing in the current environment. Following the Chancellor’s presentation about the challenges facing higher education institutions generally, and the VSCS in particular, the Committee discussed the actions taken by the VSCS to address these challenges. After highlighting the particular difficulties, including demographic shifts, financial pressures and changes in student expectations, the Committee discussed how best to respond with short-, medium- and long-term strategies, focusing on what Vermont needs and how the VSCS can be a tool to meet those needs. The Committee requested that the Chancellor’s Office continue its work identifying and developing multiple potential courses of action, in consultation with the Committee. The Committee requested that the Chancellor’s Office solicit input from various stake-holder groups, including visiting each member Institution, looking specifically at the current challenges and potential actionable solutions. The Committee anticipates evaluating the potential options the Chancellor’s Office provides in the coming months with the initial goal of making a recommendation for action to the Board of Trustees in December. The Committee anticipates an updated timeline from the Chancellor and a draft white-paper on this topic to review in advance of the June Board of Trustees’ meeting at Castleton

4. Committee term extension

Trustee Hinderes suggested that the term of the Committee be extended indefinitely and the limit on member capacity be removed, with a minimum of six members of the Committee.

Trustee Dickinson moved and Trustee Giambatista seconded the motion to recommend to the Board the extension of Committee term and removal of member limits from the LRPC Committee charge. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Other business

No other business

6. Comments from the public

No Comments from the public

Chair Pieciak adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m.