Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee meeting held Monday August 26, 2019 at the Chancellor's office, Conference Room 101, Montpelier, VT - APPROVED

The VSCS Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee met on Monday, August 26, 2019 at the Chancellor's Office, Montpelier, Vermont.

Committee Members present: Jim Masland (Chair), Karen Luneau (Vice Chair), Janette Bombardier, Megan Cluver, Peg Flory

Absent: Isabel Gogarty

Other Trustees Present: Churchill Hindes, Lynn Dickinson

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Karen Scolforo

Chancellor's Office Staff:	Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor
	Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
	Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
	Steve Wisloski, Chief Financial Officer
	Sophie Zdatny, General Counsel
	Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer
From the Colleges:	Nolan Atkins, Provost, Northern Vermont University
	Laura Jakubowski, Chief Budget & Finance Officer, Castleton University
	Tom Maus-Pugh, Provost, Castleton University
	Maurice Ouimet, Dean of Enrollment, Castleton University
	Greg Petrics, Professor of Mathematics Norther Vermont University
	Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Northern Vermont University

1. Call to Order

Chair Masland called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. Consent Agenda: Approval of May 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Masland seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

   3. <u>Northern Vermont University Policy 102 New Program Proposal: B.S. in Data Science</u>

NVU Provost Dr. Nolan Atkins and NVU Professor Dr. Greg Petrics gave an overview of the proposed program for a B.S. in Data Science at Northern Vermont University. Dr. Atkins shared that Data Science is a rapidly growing field and this program is designed to meet that need. This degree program will produce well trained data scientists to address the growing need of data demand. This program is possible at NVU with the combined expertise of both campuses. Professor Bradley Beth at NVU-Lyndon has a strong data science expertise background and this will serve to integrate both campuses to offer this program. Trustee Bombardier asked how much of this program will be available online. Dr. Petrics answered that most will be offered on campus, but the hope is to have the courses available via telepresence as well as online availability in the future. There was discussion of potential strong interest in some of the courses for workforce development. Dr. Atkins identified that Ann Nygard, Director of the Center for Professional Studies at Lyndon has been involved in the program's development.

<u>Trustee Flory moved and Trustee Bombardier seconded the motion to recommend to the Board the approval of the B.S. in Data Science at NVU. The motion was approved unanimously.</u>

   4. <u>Discussion of academic programs data</u>

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Yasmine Ziesler explained that the basis for this report (Enrollment Overview by Academic Program Area) comes as a result of the ideas generated during the Long Range Planning Committee sessions as they gather ideas for "Secure the Future." This is a response to input about duplication and transferability within the system. Dr. Ziesler began by discussing how many of the VSCS courses are in the McClure Pathways to Promising Careers resource. This is a resource guide for potential students developed to identify educational pathways into high wage and high growth jobs over the next ten years. The McClure Foundation, working with the Department of Labor, has identified all the education and training programs around the state of Vermont that align with those jobs. Dr. Ziesler explained that this document is a live resource that is constantly being updated. Dr. Ziesler concluded that the VSCS programs are well aligned with these high standards set by the McClure Foundation.

   5. <u>Discussion of online program delivery across the system</u>
Dr. Ziesler shared the launch of the new Learning Management System named Canvas. This system replaces the former system, Moodle, and includes 24 hour, 7 days/week, 365 days support to students and faculty, something previously unavailable with Moodle. Additionally, VSCS is implementing a single student advising platform named Aviso. This is geared towards student retention using predictive analytics to identify retention risks and facilitating intervention and communication outreach. The VSCS is also migrating to a new cleaner interface for registration, billing, and financial aid. As a system, there is also a single academic transcript for students, eliminating the need to transfer credits within the system. Dr. Ziesler then shared the complete list of currently offered online programs at VSCS. There is some programmatic overlap but there is significant differentiation at the master's level. There are also different tuition rates for online programs across the system, as is the case for all tuition rates generally.

6. <u>Other Business</u>

Chancellor Spaulding inquired of the committee members what they might like to see covered in future meetings. Trustee Bombardier would like to know about where the schools are going in 2, 3, 4 years and what key strategic directions are, as this is the place for the board to provide input. What is the future direction of programs? What are you seeing as voids in the future? Trustee Flory likes the data but would like to know what it will be used for. Trustee Cluver is interested in learning more about the VSCS customer base and who that will be in the future.

7. <u>Comments from the public</u>

There were no comments from the public.

Chair Masland adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.