PR 6

Office of the President April 26, 2024

Members of the Board of Trustees:

REPEAL AND REPLACE GOVERNING REGULATIONS AND MANDATE THE REVIEW AND REVISION OF EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (FIRST READING)

<u>Recommendation</u>: The Board of Trustees should: (1) approve the President's proposal to Repeal and Replace *Governing Regulations (GR)*; and (2) mandate the Review and Revision of Existing *Administrative Regulations*.

<u>Background:</u> By adopting CR 1 at its February 23, 2024 meeting, the Board directed the President to propose amendments to the *Governing Regulations*, which would accomplish the following objectives:

- 1. Define a clear and appropriate distinction between the education policymaking function of the Board and the respective responsibilities of the President and faculty to administer and implement the Board's educational policy.
- 2. Reaffirm that faculty members assume responsibility for determining good educational practice and, therefore, should have a substantive role in the development and review of academic policies.
- 3. Ensure that the proposed changes are consistent with (A) the University's status as an independent body politic of the Executive Branch of the government of the Commonwealth; (B) the requirements and prohibitions imposed on the University by state and federal law; and (C) the Principles of Accreditation adopted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges ("SACSCOC").
- 4. Recommend changes to the University's Governing Regulations that define and clearly articulate a shared governance structure that is in greater alignment with institutional benchmarks and that clearly recognizes the Board's primacy as the institution's policymaking body.
- 5. Outline additional changes as may be necessary and appropriate to *Governing Regulations* that are consistent with, and supportive of, the substantive changes outlined above.

Specific Actions:

At the April 26, 2024 meeting, the President reported his recommendations to the Board. Having reviewed those recommendations, the Board takes the following actions:

- 1. Governing Regulations I-XIV are repealed.
- 2. New Governing Regulations I-VI are adopted as follows:
 - GR I Declaration of Principles
 - GR II The Board of Trustees
 - GR III The President
 - GR IV The Faculty's Primary Responsibility for the Credit-Bearing Curriculum
 - GR V Shared Governance Bodies
 - GR VI The President's Council

Copies of new Governing Regulations I-VI are attached to this PR 6.

- The Board directs the President to issue a new Administrative Regulation Significant Policies, consisting of those portions of the former GR I, which are not covered by the new GR I — Declaration of Principles and which are necessary for the functioning of the University. Administrative Regulation — Significant Policies will be promulgated by the President, as per the attached, effective with the passage of this PR.
- 4. During its first year, GR VI The President's Council will be composed of four students, four faculty and four staff. The four seats representing each of the three groups on the President's Council will be held by (1) the elected leader of each shared governance body; (2) an elected member of each shared governance body, chosen by the UK President from a list of five names submitted to the UK President from each shared governance body; (3) a student, faculty and staff member who is not an elected member of the shared governance body; (3) a student, faculty and staff member who is not an elected member of the shared governance bodies, chosen by the UK President from a list of five names submitted to the UK President from a list of five names submitted to the UK President from each shared governance body; and (4) a student, faculty and staff member chosen by the President. The final composition and process of selecting members will be considered after the first year and ultimately described in the Administrative Regulations.
- 5. The Board directs the President to issue new Administrative Regulations consisting, in part, of the text of former GR VII-XIV. In issuing these new Administrative Regulations, the Board directs the President to remove those portions of former GR XI concerning the Student Government Association (which will now be part of GR V Shared Governance Bodies), references to the University Senate Rules and other general technical updates as described on the attached. These new Administrative Regulations will be promulgated, as per the attached, effective with the passage of this PR.
- 6. The Board directs the President to issue a new Administrative Regulation Academic and Student Affairs, consisting of those portions of the University Senate Rules, which, in the judgment of the President, are necessary for the continued operation of instructional activity, adjudication of academic misconduct and other related functions. Administrative Regulation Academic and Student Affairs will be promulgated by the President effective with the passage of this PR. Copy of this Administrative Regulation will be available prior to the June 2024 Board meeting.
- The Board directs the President, in consultation with students, faculty and staff, to undertake a comprehensive review and revision of: (a) the new Administrative Regulations consisting of the text of former GR VII-XIV; (b) the new Administrative Regulation – Significant Policies and Administrative Regulation – Academic and Student Affairs; (c) all

existing *Administrative Regulations*; and (d) all other rules and procedures (e.g., college rules) that may conflict with new *Governing Regulations* I-VI. The purpose of this process is to ensure all *Administrative Regulations* and all rules of individual colleges align with the new *Governing Regulations* I-VI. The Board expects this process will be completed no later than March 1, 2025.

- 8. The student shared governance body in consultation with the President and the elected student Trustee must review existing rules for the Student Government Association as soon as practicable, but no later than April 1, 2025. Once approved by the President, such rules shall be promulgated through *Administrative Regulation Student Government Association*.
- 9. The faculty shared governance body in consultation with the President and the elected faculty Trustees must develop rules for the newly constituted Faculty Senate as soon as practicable, but no later than April 1, 2025. Once approved by the President, such rules shall be promulgated through *Administrative Regulation Faculty Senate*. The current 94 elected faculty Senators in the University Senate shall serve in the newly constituted Faculty Senate until elections are held under the newly adopted rules. Such elections must be held no later than May 1, 2025.
- 10. The staff shared governance body in consultation with the President and the elected staff Trustee must review existing rules for the Staff Senate as soon as practicable, but no later than April 1, 2025. Once approved by the President, such rules shall be promulgated as *Administrative Regulation Staff Senate*. The current composition of the Staff Senate elected, appointed, and *ex officio* senators consisting of no more than 175 senators with each senator having one vote and procedures for election of senators and its executive committee as prescribed in its rules shall remain in place until such time as the *Administrative Regulation Staff Senate*, as described above, is promulgated.
- 11. Consistent with our *Governing Regulations*, the Board's adoption of this PR 6 is a first reading of a change to the *Governing Regulations*. The matter is now referred to the Student Government Association, the University Senate and the Staff Senate for their review. After at least one month has passed, the Board will assess any review and consider final passage of this PR 6.
- 12. If the Board adopts this PR 6 on final passage, the new *Governing Regulations* and all other actions become effective immediately.