

PR 6

Office of the President
June 14, 2024

Members of the Board of Trustees:

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

Recommendation: 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*, which were received for preliminary consideration on April 26, 2024 and final review and approval June 14, 2024; and (3) direct the President to initiate the Review and Revision of all *Administrative Regulations* to ensure alignment with the *Governing Regulations* adopted June 14, 2024.

Background: 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:

During its April 26, 2024 meeting, the Board approved the first reading of PR 6 — Repeal and Replace *Governing Regulations* and mandate the Review and Revision of Existing *Administrative Regulations*. Changes to those revisions, which resulted in part from feedback from the shared governance groups as prescribed in the current governing regulations, are contained in the attached document for approval. As a next step, the Board is asked to approve them as part of the second reading.

Additionally, the attached document includes *Administrative Regulations* that the President has deemed necessary to enact immediately to ensure the appropriate management and functioning of the institution. The Board, as part of PR 6, directs the President to promulgate these Administrative Regulations and to begin the process of reviewing and revising all Administrative Regulations in consultation with the campus community.

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 and Non-Credit Bearing Curriculum in Academic Colleges

GR V — Shared Governance Bodies

GR VI — The President's Council

3. New *Administrative Regulations* as follows:

Administrative Regulation — Significant Policies (*formerly GR I*)

Administrative Regulation — University Organization (*formerly GR VII*)

Administrative Regulation — University Appointments (*formerly GR VIII*)

Administrative Regulation — Reviews of Organizational Units and Their Chief Administrative Officers (*formerly GR IX*)

Administrative Regulation — Regulations Affecting Employment (*formerly GR X*)

Administrative Regulation — Student Affairs (*formerly GR XI*)

Administrative Regulation — Issuance of Administrative Regulations and Other Policies (*formerly GR XIII*)

Administrative Regulation — Ethical Principles and Employee Code of Conduct (*formerly GR XIV*)

Administrative Regulation — Academic and Student Affairs

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

4. 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.

5. 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 respectively 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 member, a faculty member and a 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 each shared governance body; and (4) a student member, a faculty member and a staff member chosen by the President. The final composition and process of selecting members will be considered after the first year (by June 30, 2025) and ultimately described in the *Administrative Regulations*.
6. 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. These new *Administrative Regulations* will be promulgated by the President.
7. 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. Copy of this *Administrative Regulation* is available prior to the June 2024 Board meeting.
8. 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.

9. 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*.
10. Effective with the passage of this PR, the University Senate is abolished and a Faculty Senate, which is a shared governance body for the faculty, is established. Elections for the new Faculty Senate will be held no later than October 31, 2024 and the new Faculty Senators will take office no later than November 30, 2024. The new Faculty Senate will elect a new Faculty Senate Executive Committee no later than December 31, 2024. Between the passage of this PR and the election of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the responsibilities of the Faculty Senate under GR V, including the development of Faculty Senate Rules and election procedures, shall be vested in a Provisional Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Provisional Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall be composed of 22 members including the Provost, who will serve as chair, the two (2) Faculty Trustees and one (1) faculty member from each college. The faculty member per college will be chosen by the Provost from nominations submitted by the respective dean of each college. Each dean will nominate three (3) faculty members from the respective college and the Provost will select one (1) of three (3) to serve on the Provisional Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Once the Provisional Faculty Senate Executive Committee has adopted rules and election procedures and those rules and procedures are approved by the President, such rules and procedures shall be promulgated through *Administrative Regulation — Faculty Senate*.
11. 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.
12. If the Board adopts this PR 6, the new *Governing Regulations* and all other actions become effective immediately.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____