

UPC Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 21, 2026, 3:30 p.m.
Martinelli Boardroom

President Reveley called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. The following members were present:

Dr. Lee Bidwell	Ms. Courtney Hodges	President Taylor Reveley
Dr. Roger Byrne	Dr. Khawaja Mamun	Dr. Brent Roberts
Dr. Wade Edwards	Dr. Angela McDonald	Dr. Shannon Salley
Mr. Ryan Ferebee	Mr. Matt McGregor	Dr. Dawn Schwartz
Ms. Jennifer Fraley	Mr. Cameron O'Brien	Dr. David Shoenthal
Dr. Jennifer Green	Dr. Jonathan Page	Dr. Larissa Smith
Mr. Tim Hall	Mr. Cam Patterson	Ms. Aneicia Stimpson
Mr. Carl Harvey	Dr. JoEllen Pederson	
Ms. Susan Hines	Ms. Kim Redford	
Ms. Ashley Long, Recorder		

Also present were – Dr. Sarai Blincoe, Dr. Eric Hodges, Mr. Dave Hooper, Dr. Anna Kuthy, Mr. Matt McWilliams, Ms. Kathyn Nasburg, Ms. Kathleen Roberts, Dr. Pam Tracy, Dr. Maureen Walls-McKay

Absent were – Jensen Auman, Ms. Stephanie Carwile, Ms. Jennifer Fraley, Mr. Tim Hall, Dr. Chris Kukk, Mr. Todd Parrott, Mr. Cam Patterson, Ryland Patterson, Dr. Jeannine Perry, Mr. Justin Pope, Ms. Kim Wingo

The minutes from the [January 29, 2026](#) UPC meeting were approved as submitted.

President Reveley announced the upcoming Commencement speakers and noted the buzz around campus. He provided federal and state updates related to the budget and talked about the state of Longwood. He also provided an update on the university's endowment in comparison to other Virginia schools. In addition:

- Friday, April 24, 2026 marks the 25th anniversary of the [Rotunda fire](#) and mentioned upcoming updates to the Rotunda building.
- Thursday, April 23, 2026 is the 75th anniversary of the [1951 walkout at the Moton High School](#), led by Barbara Johns that changed the country.
- Today is Dr. Roger Byrne's last UPC meeting.
- Ms. Cheryl Steele is retiring this year.

Assessment Committee – Ms. Kim Redford stated that the assessment committee is working through the 25-26 assessment cycle and will wrap up the end of June. The committee approved the budget request from Student Conduct and Integrity to provide funding for three iPad pros and pencils to digitize work flows and reduce time and energy.

Compliance Committee – Dr. David Shoenthal provided the following updates on Ms. Jen Fraley's behalf:

- Regulations governing digital accessibility were slated to go into effect in April. Steps have been taken across the university, specifically on website compliance. President Reveley announced that it has been announced that the process has been delayed for a year.

Dr. Shoenthal provided the below accreditation updates:

- The U.S. Department of Education is engaging in negotiated rulemaking. The current draft proposed many changes, including specifics about what approved accrediting bodies should measure about student achievement. Further feedback will be considered prior to final rules. Any approved changes would go into effect in July 2027.
- Two programs at SCHEV waiting on approval: Bachelor in Data Science and Masters in Information Technology

University Diversity Council – Dr. JoEllen Pederson provided the following updates:

- In February the council met with Dr. Anna Kuthy about the NSSE survey. There is still time for students to take the survey before the deadline.
- Ms. Madeline Schutt and Ms. Mary Jo Stockton joined a council meeting to talk about Title II and how the changes will improve accessibility.
- Ms. Jen Cox Carne met with the council to discuss the connection between the diversity strategic plan and the SEED Hub and how they think about the difference between community relations versus community engagement. The council is continuing the community needs assessment discussion.
- They are beginning preparations for their second diversity strategic plan. The first iteration ran from 2021-2026.

Finance Committee – Dr. Carl Harvey announced the finance committee met to approve the recommendations from the assessment committee to allocate funds for the approved iPads for student conduct and integrity.

Mr. Matt McGregor provided the following updates:

- The finance team is working to close FY26 while planning for FY27. There are many moving parts to monitoring budgets to track revenue for two different years. They are working closely with budget managers during this time. He highlighted the need for following the correct processes for RTAs, TERVs, and CSC forms. They are continuing to monitor things at the state level for FY27.
- Room and board requests were approved at the December board meeting for FY27.
- Tuition and fee requests go for approval at the June board meeting for FY27.
- Salary and benefits will be the biggest increase next year with the benefits increasing 12 - 13% over last year.

President Reveley stated that the benefit increase is covered partly by the institution and partly by the state. Then he moved to a vote on the recommendation from the finance committee for the iPad Pros needed in Student Affairs. The motion passed.

Purchasing Committee – Mr. Ryan Ferebee confirmed what Mr. Matt McGregor stated regarding the work to close FY26. President Reveley reminded everyone that documentation around charge cards continues to be important.

Retention Committee – Dr. Jennifer Green provided preliminary retention numbers and stated the numbers will change over the summer. The retention committee has updated their communication with parents to include the Lancer Family Hub which will replace the parent pipeline. This will allow parents to self-select communities they are interested in and be paired up with a mentor (trained alumni or parents council member) to have someone to go to with their questions.

Dr. Wade Edwards provided two addition retention efforts underway that involve faculty:

- Peer assistance in the sciences – Biology and Chemistry faculty have met to design academic success support for foundational courses. Grant funds will be used to hire more student assistants and offer more tutoring hours in these courses. These assistants will be integrated into the course and in Canvas. This effort just began and hope to begin this model in the fall.
- Reading Across the Disciplines has wrapped up. This was organized by Ms. Maria Hamilton, Student Success Coordinator for Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences. This is a faculty learning community with ten faculty in English and Modern Languages who piloted a session on teaching reading strategies. Ms. Hamilton is keeping the data to be able to share with other faculty and hope to expand to other departments campus wide going forward.

President Reveley asked the committee if there are some practical examples that help to move the needle on retention? What are some things are working and some that are not?

- Dr. Edwards stated that early connection with students in academic distress with the success coordinators within the colleges has been really useful. Dr. Green stated that faculty have been doing a great job getting students in academic distress to the right department on campus especially related to financial aid options and working with the Dean of Students. She also mentioned that the student success coordinators are succeeding in reaching students who are on academic probation. Those students who engage with the student success coordinators are more likely to get back on track academically than those who do not.

Technology Committee – Ms. Aneicia Stimpson provided the below updates:

- The committee has reviewed 25 technology requests over the last year and will take time this summer to review the process and make adjustments. She asked that departments submit their requests as early as possible.
- The phone project is ongoing, and they are hopeful to deliver the new phones to each office in middle to late May.
- VITA is changing to multi-factor authentication for Cardinal and will go into effect this Monday. They are working on a desktop application for those who do not have a smartphone.
- ITS office is looking at changing their SMS process as well.

President Reveley reminded everyone of the importance of cyber security during this time of beguiling phishing scams and AI.

The meeting was turned over to Dr. Maureen Walls-McKay, Associate Vice President for Health and Well-Being and Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and Mr. Gus Hemmer, Director for Campus Recreation, to present the Five Dimensions of Wellness Initiative. They offered a brief overview of the model they've adopted and offered a couple of examples that are already in play, followed by their next steps. The model was adapted from the book, *Wellbeing: The Five Essential Elements*. The five elements are: loving what you do each day, the quality of your relationships, working toward financial security, vibrant physical health, and pride in and meaningful engagement with your community. These universal elements are promoted as essential to living a worthwhile life at Longwood and beyond. More information can be found on the [Well-Being website](#). They also announced the Here to Hear program funded through the Special Projects Fund. Faculty and staff will choose an outdoor location on campus to provide an upstream approach to support Longwood students in one-hour shifts. More information will be sent via email in the fall for faculty and staff to sign up to participate.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.