**Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Executive Committee**

**With the Provost & VP Greg DuBois**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

3:00- 4:15 p.m.

Zoom Conference

1. **Called to order 3:01 pm**
   1. In attendance:
      1. Provost Austin Agho, VP of Finance Greg DuBois, Chairman John Sokolowski, Secretary Corrin Richels, Vice-Chair Nina Brown, Senator David Burdige, Senator Lynn Tolle, Senator Marc Ouellette, Senator Wie Yusuf, Library Representative James Rhoades
2. **Action Items**

* Potential merger with EVMS
  + The Governor has shown interest in this initiative
    - Neither ODU nor EVMS are the progenitors of this merger/partnership
    - Looking to the Governor’s office to provide budget support
    - A commitment for the commonwealth is necessary for anything to move forward
  + Back in exploratory mode
  + We are the only region that doesn’t have a professional school attached to it
  + The funding and potential implications for EVMS, Sentara, & ODU has to be detailed
  + Would take at least a year for some sort of transition to take place
  + Sentara is interested in making an academic Health Sciences campus
  + No direct implication for the Health Sciences building
* Budget Update
  + This is the first year of the biennial budget
    - The General Assembly can still change funding when they are back in session
  + Still cautious about the potential impact enrollments will have for the long term
    - Enrollment is up 3% in terms of number of students in terms of credit hours there was a 1.8% increase
  + We will receive an additional $10 million this year with a decrease for the following year
  + Will be reviewing the steps taken over the course of this year
  + There is no longer a hiring freeze at the state level
  + The Office of Finance has already unfrozen approximately ½ of the academic budget for priority hires identified by the Provost
    - The Deans have been made aware of which lines have been released
  + Another priority is to shore up the budget for Adjunct faculty for this year
    - Will provide an additional 2 million to these efforts
    - The adjunct budget shortfall still occurred despite reductions made this year
  + Reduced the NPS budgets and will look to restore some of that
    - Will try to restore it entirely in the following year
  + Took a significant hit in student fees for housing, dining, athletics, etc.
    - These areas will continue to face difficulties
  + Revenue for the state was better than expected
    - Was still a large shortfall
    - Tax revenues will be impacted
* Planning for Spring Semester
  + The plan is still to start the semester on January 19
  + Added two days for mental health breaks for faculty and students
  + The expectation is that there will still be no Spring Break
    - Eliminating Spring Break allows us to be in compliance for the number of weeks needed in a semester
  + If adjustments to policies have to be made, every effort will be made to provide the faculty an opportunity to give input
* President and Provost comments
  + Tech Fee policy – this is a policy that comes out of the President’s office
    - Previously $20 per credit hour
      * 50% goes back to the department
    - Currently increased to $30
      * The additional $10 per credit hour has not been part of the percentage that goes back to departments
      * This was originally implemented to keep the academic side from having to take a budget cut
    - The funds that go to the department are supposed to be used to support online instruction
  + Teach-load policy
    - Committee I has not provided their feedback as of yet
  + Changes to policies
    - Please send to Provost Agho before President Broderick
  + Concern raised regarding support of Faculty
    - Funding for home office supplies
    - Acknowledgement and support for faculty efforts that cause monetary and mental health strain

1. Meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm