

## Executive Council Meeting Minutes

### **Virginia Higher Education Substance Use Advisory Committee (VHESUAC) Members in attendance:**

Travis Hill, Virginia ABC  
Ashley Lockhart, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia  
Deirdre Goldsmith, Commission on Youth  
Greg Hodges, Patrick Henry Community College  
Shawn White, Hampden-Sydney College  
Alexander Lee, University of Mary Washington  
Matt McGraw, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College  
Charles Klink, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Christopher Holstege, University of Virginia  
Keith Anderson, Liberty University

### **Virginia ABC staff members in attendance:**

Katie Crumble, Virginia ABC  
Chris Young, Virginia ABC  
Abby Pendleton, Virginia ABC

### **VHESUAC Members not in attendance:**

Van Wilson, Virginia Community College System  
Adam Williams, Regent University  
Brooke Berry, Marymount University

Coordinator, Chris Young, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

### **Introductions and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Chris Young introduced himself as the new Virginia ABC Adult Education and Prevention Coordinator and facilitator of VHESUAC.
- Marcia Thom-Kaley, Sweet Briar College and Lesley Villarose, Averett University are no longer with their institutions and will no longer be serving on the Executive Council.
- Members of the Executive Council approved the July 2020 meeting minutes unanimously.

### **VHESUAC Updates**

- The VHESUAC Annual Report and the Virginia Higher Education Substance Use Prevention Strategic Plan have been finalized, approved by Virginia ABC Board and submitted to Legislative services. The

plans can be found on the VHESUAC website here:

<https://www.abc.virginia.gov/education/programs/vhesuac>.

- Executive Council members brainstormed to develop a communications plan for the Virginia Higher Education Substance Use Prevention Strategic Plan to identify stakeholders to communicate the plan to, the best communication method and timeline for each stakeholder group and talking points to highlight for each group. Executive Council members provided the titles of multiple high level stakeholders that appear on most college and university campuses as well student organizations. It was emphasized that providing an update to the Commission on Youth and legislators is of high importance to ensure the strategic plan is communicated statewide. It was also emphasized that after the initial distribution to legislators, additional follow-up meetings and communication may be required in order to facilitate deeper conversations about the VHESUAC Strategic Plan.
  - Email communication was determined to be the most effective way to reach university stakeholders, while in-person/virtual presentations were determined to be most effective way to reach SCHEV and the Commission on Youth.
- The strategic plan outlines two categories of initiatives: general statewide initiatives and campus-wide initiatives.
  - To facilitate the implementation of the strategic plan, the Workgroup would be divided into five subgroups, with each subgroup focusing on one strategic area (as defined in the strategic plan). Each subgroup would work to develop strategies and action items in order to actualize the identified statewide initiatives found with the strategic plan.
  - Assignment to subgroups would be based on titles, positions and areas of expertise of VHESUAC Workgroup members. The following titles, positions and areas of expertise were identified for potential membership in each subgroup:
    - **Foundation & Leadership:** administrators, student leaders, public safety/campus police, student health;
    - **Planning & Assessment:** student affairs, vice provost, data collection, IT, analytic support, institutional research, FSL leaders, hospitals or toxicology centers, statewide medical associations;
    - **Policy & Enforcement:** human resources, student conduct, Title IX coordinators, student groups (including local and statewide organizations), faculty senate, student health ADAPT/peer-peer health educators, housing, community police, campus police;
    - **Programming & Services:** office of health promotions, peer health educators, academic affairs, human resources, faculty senate;
    - **Collaboration & Communication:** SCHEV, university presidents, statewide organizations that can allow IHEs to share best practices that are working to help reduce misuse, American college health association has a warehouse of data/practices, CICV, collegiate recovery community.
- Concern was shared by multiple members of the Executive Council regarding implementation of the strategic plan and participation by all institutes of higher education in the commonwealth, as

implementation of the identified initiatives in the strategic plan is not required of institutes of higher education by Virginia law. It was noted that the strategic plan states that the initiatives mentioned are to serve as a guide rather than as a collective package as each campus has unique needs and resources. With that being said, additional concern was expressed as substance use education and prevention initiatives are not a priority of some institutions due to resources being limited/

- Conversation was held to discuss how VHESUAC can get IHEs on board to implement substance use education and prevention initiatives. The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (or Biennial Review) was referred to as a way for VHESUAC to strongly encourage participation in and implementation of the Virginia Substance Use Strategic Plan. It was noted that some IHEs are regularly implementing substance use education and prevention initiatives, while others are not. For those institutions that are, reporting may need to be shifted to show how their substance use education and prevention initiatives do fall in line with the Virginia Substance Use Strategic Plan.
- Additional conversation noted that resources are limited for smaller campuses and that communication regarding the importance and implementation of the strategic plan must come from leadership (from the top down).

#### **Agency News, Successful Efforts and Discussion**

- ABC Alcohol Education and Prevention Grant applications are open for fiscal year 2022; colleges and universities can apply and use funding for prevention initiatives. For more information, visit <https://www.abc.virginia.gov/education/grants>.
- Coordinator solidified the next Executive Council meeting date as July 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. The location and length of the meeting is to be determined.

Coordinator, Chris Young, adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.