

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
ELECTRONIC COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS
VIA CISCO WEBEX
9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)**

**DRAFT AGENDA
(AS OF 4.14.21)**

- CALL TO ORDER Ms. Pamela Currey, Chair
- ROLL CALL
- INVOCATION
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any)
- PRESIDENT’S REMARKS Dr. Makola M. Abdullah
- REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
 - Enrollment Management Update..... Mr. Rodney Hall
Asst. VP, Enrollment Management
 - Academic & Student Affairs Division Update Dr. Donald Palm
Senior VP, Academic & Student Affairs/Provost

Approval Items:

- Candidates Recommended for Promotion and Tenure
- Candidates Recommended for Sabbatical Leave
- Nominees Recommended for Honorary Doctorate
- Nominees Recommended for Faculty Emeritus
- Education M.ED. On-Line Program

Information Items:

- Enrollment
- Performance Measure Projections
- VSU Covid-19 Update
- New Programs Updates
- VSU Innovation Program (MacKenzie Scott Donation)
- Virginia State Public Health Institute
- Student Affairs Report

- Public Safety Report..... Mr. Hubert D. Harris
Chief of Staff

- OTHER BUSINESS

- ADJOURNMENT

***All start times for committees are approximate. Meetings may begin either before or after the posted approximate start time as committee members are ready to proceed. Meetings may also end either before or after the posted time. The Board reserves the right to change its schedule as needed.*

1.28.21

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS ELECTRONIC
ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 22, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Pamela Currey, Chair, called the Electronic Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at approximately 9:20 a.m. The meeting was conducted via Cisco Web Ex.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present:

Ms. Pamela Currey, Chair
Dr. Christine Darden
Mr. Charlie Hill
Mr. William Murray
Mr. Xavier Richardson
Mr. Wayne Turnage (*absent*)
Mr. Gregory Whirley
Mr. Huron Winstead, Rector
Dr. Ceslav Ciobanu, Faculty Representative
Mr. Kameron Gray, Student Representative

Other Board Members Present:

Dr. Valerie Brown
Mr. Glenn Sessoms

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Sr. Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Mr. Rodney Hall, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management
Mrs. Regina Barnett-Tyler, Interim Associate Vice President, Student Success and Engagement
Dr. Tia Minnis, Assoc. Vice Provost/Ex. Dir., Office of Institutional Planning and Effectiveness
Dr. Robert Corley, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge, Director of Communications
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Assistant to the President and Board Liaison

Legal Counsel Present:

Ms. Deborah Love, Office of the State Attorney General

Other Attendees:

Dr. Kimberly Boyd, Chair of the Psychology/Interim Asst. Dean, College of Natural & Health Sciences
Ms. Cynthia D. Baker, Student Success and Engagement
Dr. Danika Clemmons, Director, Student Health Services
Ms. Yourdonus James, Conference Services
Mr. Travis Edmonds, Technology Services

INVOCATION

Ms. Currey invited Pastor Jasmyn Graham, Director of Campus Ministries, to offer the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee approved the agenda by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The committee approved the minutes from the February 4, 2021 meeting by roll call vote.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Abdullah indicated that he would defer to Provost Palm and staff presentations since the agenda is full.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Currey stated that she has requested the Provost to highlight a faculty member, University program, or initiative at each meeting so that the Board would get a better understanding of what VSU is contributing to the community and to the body of knowledge. Dr. Palm introduced Dr. Kimberly Boyd, Chair of the Psychology/Interim Asst. Dean, College of Natural and Health Sciences, who shared information about the new VSU Public Health Institute (PHI). Dr. Boyd's presentation included an overview of the PHI leadership team, campus and community advisory groups, PHI goals and mission, development of initiative strategy, initial proposals and curriculum, and plans to engage undergraduate and graduate students. Through the PHI, the University will have the ability to develop qualified medical and mental health professionals, increase the pipeline of students to medical schools and other public health related professions, and address mental health and substance abuse responses to chronic diseases in the surrounding community.

Mr. Rodney Hall presented an enrollment management update with comparative reports on admissions and yield (admits and net deposits) for fall 2019, fall 2020, and fall 2021. Mr. Hall indicated that the University is encouraged by the numbers and in moving forward for the fall. He also included updates on the VCAN wherein VSU has extended approximately 150 offers of free tuition. In addition, Mr. Hall provided updates on recruitment events and initiatives and on the status of hiring new enrollment team members in key areas (transfer center, VCAN and strategic initiatives, bilingual multicultural counselor, executive director of admissions). Chair Currey indicated the Committee's interest in the idea of reciprocity with NSU for those students who will not want to enroll at Universities in their hometowns.

Dr. Palm addressed the corrective action plan developed in response to the earlier SCHEV Education Performance Measures report. The corrective action plan revealed the root cause of VSU not meeting the metrics—being overzealous in projections and a decrease in enrollment. The corrective action plan leverages data analytics as well as best practices for graduation and retention rates. The current cycle projection/targets for academic years 2016-2020 include 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 which will be reviewed in fall 2022. For the next cycle projection/target for academic years 2021-2025, the target projections are due May 1, 2021 and consist of consultation with SCHEV, data analytics on student performance over several years. Projection targets for academic year 2021-2022 through 2022-2023 will be reviewed in 2024.

Dr. Robert Corley shared an update on the COVID-19 Campus Response which included the number of vaccinations, tests, and positive cases. The University has continued its collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to identify areas of improvement and hosted a state epidemiologist who made recommendations on containment, quarantine and infection control guidance. From that visit, VDH commended the University for its quality efforts in following COVID-19 health and safety guidelines and exercising proper measures. VDH also made a few recommendations for improvements such as signage and additional student education.

Dr. Palm informed the committee of upcoming spring 2021 calendar events including a face-to-face Commencement Ceremony in Rogers Stadium on May 23, 2021. For the fall 2021, the University plans to re-open with face-to-face classes. The COVID-19 Response Team will monitor developments to advise the administration if changes are required. Four new master's degree programs have received final approval from SCHEV and are slated to begin fall 2021: Master of Business Administration, Master of Social Work, Master of Education online, and Master of Science in Data Analytics. Discussion followed regarding additional online degree programs; Dr. Palm indicated that the faculty are currently working to develop existing programs into online.

Dr. Palm shared information on the Innovation Award and the committee of faculty and students who helped to develop the timeline, goals, and review process. These awards will be funded by a portion (\$1M-\$1.5M) of the MacKenzie Scott funds and the projects are expected to begin September 2021.

Ms. Barnett-Tyler shared more in-depth information on the role of Residence Life staff and Thompson Hospitality in meeting the needs of students who were quarantined/isolated on campus due to COVID-19. She stated that the staff went above and beyond the call of duty. Ms. Barnett-Tyler shared information on activities focused on engaging students through Career Services, FLOW/Campus Ministry, Student Activities, and the TRIO/Talent Search programs. She announced the Student Government Association officers for 2021-2022 highlighting Kameron Gray who has been re-elected as President for another term.

Mr. Hubert Harris shared information on Dr. Zoe Spencer's initiative to invite local law enforcement officers and community activists to campus to discuss a response to the impending verdict in the George Floyd murder case. Mr. Harris shared information on VSU's role in the community vaccination efforts: the Crater Health District held 2 vaccination clinics at the Multipurpose Center (MPC) in March, and in April, the MPC was selected as the FEMA/CVC COVID-19 vaccination site and managed by the Virginia

Department of Emergency Management. VSU will roll out an effort to vaccinate as many students as possible before May 23rd. Harris shared vaccination statistics from the MPC relative to age, race and ethnicity, and gender. The work in the MPC shows that we are trending ahead of the state average with 20% of African Americans being vaccinated. VSU is operating mobile clinics which are being used to offer vaccinations to immobile, poor, migrant, and elderly citizens of the Crater and Chesterfield Health districts. The mobile clinics will be revamped and used by the VSU Public Health Institute in its efforts to become an established health partner with the community.

Dr. Palm presented the Resolution for approval of the Online Master's degree program in Education. This is a modification of the existing Master's degree; the curriculum will remain the same as the original degree program approved by SCHEV in its entirety. The committee voted by roll call to recommend the approval of the online degree program to the full Board. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Murray were not present for the vote.

CLOSED SESSION

The Chair convened a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) and 2.2-3711(A)(11) of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of promotion and tenure, sabbatical leave, of specific university employees, and/or honorary degrees and/or special awards, specifically [Commencement]. The motion called President Makola M. Abdullah, Deb Love, Senior Assistant Attorney, General/Chief, Education Section; Dr. Donald Palm, Senior VP/Provost; Shawri King-Casey, Senior Advisor – Equity, Ethics, Compliance; Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison to attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary, and/or; their presence will aid the Board in its consideration of this matter.

The Committee re-convened in open session with a roll call vote that the Committee discussed or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion(s) by which the closed meeting was convened.

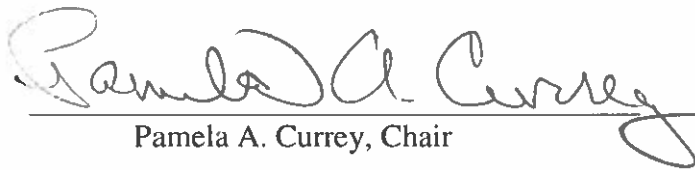
Ms. Regina Barnett-Tyler shared a few remarks about the late Mr. DeAndrea Neal, who was a VSU alumnus and employee in the Student Affairs area for more than 30 years. Rector Winstead presented the resolution honoring the life of Mr. Neal as a historical marker to VSU permanent records for the life and service of Mr. Neal and requested consideration of the Committee to recommend approval of the resolution to the full Board. Vice Rector Hill shared a few remarks about the work of Mr. Neal related to prostate cancer awareness and spoke in support of the resolution.

The Committee took a roll call vote to recommend approval of the resolutions to the full Board: a) Resolution honoring Mr. DeAndrea Neal, b) Resolutions for approval of the Faculty Emeriti, c) Resolutions for Approval of the Honorary Degrees, and d) the candidates for Promotion and Tenure. Mr. Murray and Mr. Richardson were not present for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Approved:



Pamela A. Currey, Chair

9-16-2021

_____ Date