

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS  
NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION & ANNUAL RETREAT  
Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront  
3001 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
August 2-4, 2023**

**DRAFT AGENDA  
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)**

*Theme: Telling the Virginia State University Story: Building Greater Connections  
(Strategic Operating Program/Priority 4)*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2023 – Session II**

**Location: Peacock Ballroom Salon C, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

*(All times are approximate)*

**8:00 – 8:45 am** Breakfast

**9:00 am – 11:00 am**

- Opening Remarks.....Rector Valerie K. Brown
- Roll Call.....Pamela A. Currey,  
Board Secretary
- Invocation
- State of the University .....President Makola Abdullah

**(BREAK: 10:00-10:15 am)**

**10:15 – 11:00 am**

- Board Structure .....Vice Rector Shavonne Gordon
  - Officers & Committees, Board Governance Documents
- Functions and current focus of standing committees ..... Committee Chairs
  - Dr. Leonard Haynes – Chair, Academic & Student Affairs Committee
  - Mr. Edward Owens – Chair, Institutional Advancement Committee
  - Mr. William Murray – Chair, Facilities & Finance Committee
  - Mr. Jon Moore – Chair, Audit & Compliance Committee
  - Mr. Victor Branch – Chair, Personnel, Compensation & Governance Committee
- FOIA Presentation ..... Ms. Cynthia Norwood Marquez  
Senior Assistant State Attorney General

**11:00 – 12:00 pm**

- Overview of Student Success and Outcomes..... Dr. Mark Becker, President  
Association of Public Land-Grant Institutions

**12:00 – 2:00 pm**

- Working Lunch & Discussion with the President and the VSU Leadership Team – *Student Success at Virginia State University*

**2:00 – 3:00 pm**

- Wrap Up/Adjournment ..... Rector Valerie Brown  
President Makola Abdullah

**acr/7.28.2023**

**NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION SESSION II**  
**MINUTES**  
**Friday, August 4, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors to order in the Peacock Ballroom Salon C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront, Virginia Beach, Virginia at approximately 9:00a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present.

*Board Members Present:*

Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector  
Ms. Shavonne Gordon, Vice Rector (Arrived @ 9:06a.m.)  
Ms. Pamela Currey, Secretary  
Dr. Christine M. Darden, (Absent)  
Mr. Victor Branch  
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove  
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.  
Dr. Harold Green, Jr.  
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III  
Mr. Jon Moore (Absent)  
Mr. William Murray (Arrived @ 10:06 a.m.)  
Mr. Edward Owens  
Mr. Joseph A. F. Chase, Jr.  
Ms. Daphne Meeks  
Mr. Kishore Thota

*Board Appointments*

Dr. Tracey Jackson, Faculty Representative to the Board  
Dr. Leonard Githinji, Faculty Representative to the Board (*absent*)  
Ms. Kailyn Haye, Student Representative to the Board

*Administration Present:*

Dr. Makola Abdullah, President  
Dr. Tia Minnis, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President, Finance & Administration  
Shawri King-Casey, Vice President for Institutional Integrity and Compliance  
Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Vice President for Enrollment & Student Success  
Ms. Tanya S. Hall Vice President for External Relations  
Ms. Tanya L. Simmons, Associate Vice President for Human Resources  
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board Governance, Operations, & Relations

*Legal Counsel Present:*

Cynthia Norwood-Marquez, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION & ANNUAL RETREAT SESSION II**  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2023**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
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*Other Attendees:*

Yourdonus James, Office of Conference Services  
Tina Cabrera, President's Office  
Technology Services Team

**INVOCATION**

Rector Brown invited Dr. Joseph A.F. Chase, Jr., to offer the invocation.

**STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY**

President Abdullah presented the "State of the University" sharing highlights from the sectors--academic affairs, enrollment, residence life, finance, capital outlay, institutional advancement, compliance, and the Office of the President.

**BOARD STRUCTURE**

Vice Rector Shavonne Gordon gave an overview of the Board's structure to include offices, committees, and board governance documents. The Vice Rector introduced the committee chairs who explained the committees' function, shared the current focus of their respective committees, and discussed protocols designed to support collaboration of board members and effective decision making. In the absence of Mr. Moore, Rector Brown gave a brief overview of the Audit & Compliance Committee.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)**

Ms. Cynthia Norwood-Marquez presented information on the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and reviewed the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) with the board members.

**OVERVIEW OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND OUTCOMES**

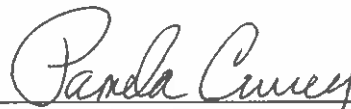
President Abdullah welcomed and introduced Dr. Mark Becker, President, Association of Public Land-grant institutions, who gave an overview of the success achieved by the Georgia State University. The discussion on student success at VSU was postponed until a later meeting.

**WRAP UP/ADJOURNMENT**

Rector Brown thanked the committee chairs and staff for their participation in the orientation and retreat sessions which proved informational and educational for new and returning board members. The Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.



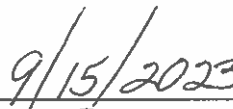
Dr. Valerie K. Brown, Rector



Ms. Pamela Currey, Secretary



Date



Date