The Presidential Search Committee appointed by the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University met on Thursday, March 12, 2015, in the Gateway Dining and Event Center in Salon A on campus. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. by Mr. Harry Black, Rector and Chair.

*Search Committee Members Present:*

Mr. Harry Black, Chair  
Mr. Willie C. Randall, Vice Chair  
Mr. Hyisheem Calier  
Dr. Robert E. Denton, Jr.  
Dr. Milton Omar Faison  
Mr. Frederick S. Humphries, Jr.  
Ms. Jennifer Hunter  
Mr. Franklin Johnson, Jr.  
Mr. Frank Jones  
Mr. Huron F. Winstead

*Also Present:*

Ms. Stephanie Hamlett, Specially-Appointed Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Ramona L. Taylor, Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Bonnie N. Degen, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel  
Mr. Corey T. King, VSU Technology Services  
Mr. Monroe "Bud" Moseley, Isaacson, Miller  
Mr. Vijay Saraswat, Isaacson, Miller  
Ms. Michelle Cruz-Williams, Isaacson, Miller

Mr. Black welcomed the members of the committee, thanked them for their willingness to serve on the committee and discussed the expectations, duties, responsibilities and process of the search. He stressed the need for confidentiality by all those involved and explained the charge to the Committee. He also discussed possible locations of future meetings.

Ms. Stephanie Hamlett, Specially-Appointed Assistant Attorney General, presented a hand out specific to search committees on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and a video to the committee entitled "An Easy Guide for FOIA for Board of Visitors." Ms. Hamlett gave a briefing on the confidentiality of the search, open and closed meetings, what constitutes a meeting, and the search process. Questions and discussion ensued.
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The search consultants from the national executive search firm Isaacson, Miller gave a brief discussion regarding the search committee’s role in the process and reiterated the joint responsibility for candidate confidentiality, interviewing and communication.

The search consultants then gave an overview of their informational interviews and listening sessions held over the last two days with students, faculty, staff, alums, foundation heads, agricultural persons and community members receiving input on the challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities to include: enrollment, financial aid, agricultural potential, nursing program, strategic plan, residence life, transparency, communication and customer service of the University. Discussion ensued.

The search consultants discussed the secure website that was being developed and process for committee members to access the site. They also discussed the scoping of the presidential position; spent time describing the search process; reviewing the important milestones; outlining the committee’s involvement in certain key tasks; background checks of applicants; applicants themselves; and what the committee members were looking for in a candidate. Discussion ensured.

A discussion then ensued amongst the group on the following questions:

a. In hiring this person, what will be the fundamental differences in your organization one year from now, three years from now and five years from now?

b. Are there more subjective or informal measures for determining the success of this individual?

c. What organizational activities need to be sustained? Which ones enhanced? Which ones initiated?

d. What is the case you would make for why the most interesting candidates should come to VSU?

The search consultants then discussed the tentative timeline for the search; that the presidential search website would be up and announced by March 20 with links to a feedback survey for sharing views on the qualities needed in the next president, and to apply for or nominate someone for the position. The search consultants are to also provide a narrative to the committee of the meetings held on March 11 and 12 with the different groups.

The committee members were asked to check their calendars for available meeting dates during the last week in May and the first week in June for a meeting in Washington, D.C.

The meeting concluded at 5:25 p.m.

Harry Black, Rector and Chair

Date