

Board Meeting Minutes

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
FULL BOARD MEETING
1:00 to 5:00 PM., FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022
The Gateway Dining & Event Center
(on the campus of Virginia State University)
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)**

1:00 P.M. FULL BOARD MEETING CONVENED

Rector Dr. Valerie K. Brown, Presiding

- Roll Call.....Dr. Christine Darden, Board Secretary
- Invocation..... Pastor Jasmyn Graham, Campus Ministries
- Rector’s Remarks.....Dr. Valerie K. Brown

- President’s Remarks..... Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

- Board Approvals
 - Affirmation of Committee Appointments
 - Full Board Meeting Minutes, April 22, 2022
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Dr. Charlie Hill
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Thursa Crittenden
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service - Xavier Richardson
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Raul Herrera

- Discussion
 - Focus on Academics Enrollment..... Dr. Donald Palm & Team
 - VSU Initiatives..... Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

- Wrap Up/Adjournment..... Rector Dr. Valerie K. Brown

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MINUTES
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CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors (Board) to order in the Gateway Dining and Event Center on the campus of Virginia State University at approximately 1:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector
Mr. Glenn D. Sessoms, Vice Rector
Dr. Christine M. Darden, Secretary
Mr. Victor Branch (*absent*)
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove
Ms. Pamela A. Currey
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Mr. Michael Flemming
Ms. Shavonne Gordon
Dr. Harold Green, Jr.
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III
Mr. Jon Moore (*absent*)
Mr. William Murray (*absent*)
Mr. Edward Owens
Mr. Wayne Turnage (*absent*)
Dr. Leonard Githinji, Faculty Representative to the Board
Ms. Yania Campbell, Student Representative to the Board (*absent*)

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Executive Vice President/Provost
Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President, Finance & Administration
Shawri King-Casey, Vice President for Institutional Integrity and Compliance
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board Governance, Operations, & Relations
Rodney Hall, Deputy Chief of Staff
Maurion Edwards, Chief Information Officer/Technology Services
Chief David Bragg, Associate Vice President, Chief/VSU Police Department
Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Associate Vice Provost/Enrollment Management
Eldon Burton, Assistant Vice President/Director of Government Relations
Dr. Tia Minnis, Vice Provost for Academic Success, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness

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Legal Counsel Present:

Cynthia Norwood Marquez, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Other Attendees:

Travis Edmonds, Technology Services
Derrick Jennings, Technology Services
Yourdonus James, Office of Conference Services
Danette Johnson, President's Office
Debbie Jefferson, President's Office
Marjorie Muse, President's Office
Tasha Owens, Internal Audit
Kendra White, Policy Analyst

INVOCATION

Rector Brown invited Pastor Graham to offer the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

RECTOR'S REMARKS

Rector Brown announced a great Orientation and thanked both the President and his staff and especially the efforts of Dr. Annie C. Redd. Rector Brown welcomed new and old Board members and acknowledged for protocol if you want to speak please just turn on your microphone and your red light will be acknowledged.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Makola M. Abdullah had no remarks at this time but shared on a more personal note how thankful he was to everyone for joining and acknowledged the importance of the work the Board of Visitors carries out on behalf of Virginia State University.

BOARD APPROVALS

- Affirmation of the Committee Assignments, (APPROVED) by voice vote. Visitors Victor Branch, Jon Moore, William Murray, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.
- The Board approved minutes from the April 22, 2022, Full Board Meeting (APPROVED) by voice vote. Visitors Victor Branch, Jon Moore, William Murray, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

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- The Board approved Resolutions for Exemplary Service to four recipients (APPROVED) by voice vote. Visitors Victor Branch, Jon Moore, William Murray, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Dr. Charlie Hill
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Thursa Crittenden
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Xavier Richardson
 - Resolution for Exemplary Service – Raul Herrera

- The Board approved a motion authorizing President Abdullah to execute any and all documents necessary for the transfer to VSU certain residential hall buildings owned by Richard Bland College or other institutions and the rental of all or portions of non-stated owned facilities for housing VSU students beginning in August 2022. Visitors Victor Branch, Leonard Haynes, Jon Moore, William Murray, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

DISCUSSION

Focus on Academic & Enrollment

Dr. Donald Palm, Executive Vice President/Provost introduced team members Dr. Tia Minnis and Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter who would give updates on VSU's status in meeting State Council for Higher Education (SCHEV) Performance Measures and the outlook on Fall 2022 Enrollment.

Dr. Minnis presented 6 performance measures required by SCHEV for all Universities. The measures that VSU did not fulfill were recognized by Dr. Palm and his team who then presented the Board with a corrective action plan that will implement and better support our Greater Happens Here mission.

Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter presented an update on enrollment management stating enrollment is up significantly this year with this being the largest incoming class of students in university history. With this large enrollment comes a lot of challenges which VSU is meeting head on. There is an increase of almost 500 in state students and scholars. Transfer numbers are up as well in new graduate programs introduced to the University. Great success with both the Trojan Bridge Program and the Virginia College Affordability Network (VCAN) Program.

VSU Initiatives

President Abdullah shared information about two initiatives, lab schools and a partnership on economic development, which will require Board approval. After some discussion, President Abdullah stated that the administration will bring these items back to the Board at an upcoming meeting to request approval.

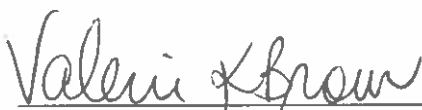
President Abdullah requested approval from the Board to implement an agreement with Richard Bland College to house students on their campus as well as secure hotels. After some discussion, Visitor Owens made a motion to approve authorizing President Abdullah to execute any and all

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documents necessary for the transfer to VSU certain residential hall buildings owned by Richard Bland College or other institutions and the rental of all or portions of non-stated owned facilities for housing VSU students beginning in August 2022. The motion was properly seconded by Visitor Sessoms and passed by voice vote. Visitors Victor Branch, Leonard Haynes, Jon Moore, William Murray, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m.




Dr. Valerie K. Brown, Rector



Dr. Christine M. Darden, Secretary



Date



Date