

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
FULL BOARD MEETING
9:00 A.M., FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026
Gateway Dining & Events Center
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)

DRAFT AGENDA

Presiding: General (Ret.) Dennis Via, Vice Rector

Call to Order..... General (Ret.) Dennis Via, Vice Rector

Roll Call..... Ms. Verndell Robinson, Secretary

Invocation (*Rev. Thomas Wynn, Director of Campus Ministries*)

Rector's Remarks

Approval of Agenda

Consent Agenda

- Minutes from Previous Meetings:
 - March 20, 2026; February 6, 2026
- Re-affirmation of Board Documents
 - Code of Ethics
 - Statement of Governance
 - Board Bylaws
 - Electronic Participant Policy
 - Proposed Calendar of Meeting Dates: 2026-2027; 2027-2028

President's Report..... Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

Closed Session

- Honorary Degrees-2026 & Special Awards
- Promotion & Tenure Applications
- President's Performance Evaluation

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic & Student Affairs Committee
 - **Approval Item(s):**
 - Honorary Doctoral Degrees
 - The Honorable Abigail Spanberger, Governor of Virginia
 - The Honorable Jay Jones, Attorney General
 - The Honorable Charniele Herring, Delegate

- Faculty Emeritus - Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun
- Dean Emeritus – Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun
- Promotion & Tenure Applications

Information Item(s):

- Summary of Updates
- Reports from the Faculty and Student Representatives to the Board
 - Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Chair of the Faculty Senate
 - Marquis Mason, President of the Student Government Association
 - Ms. Fran Thomas, Chair, Staff Senate
- Facilities & Finance Committee
 - **Approval Item(s):** None
 - Resolution Authorizing the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27
 - Resolution Approving Unfunded Scholarships for Fiscal Year 2026-27
 - Resolution to Create the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee of the Facilities & Finance Committee
 - **Information Item(s):**
 - Summary of Updates
- Institutional Advancement Committee
 - **Approval Item(s):** None
 - Acknowledgement of Alumna of the Year
 - **Information Item(s):**
 - Summary of Updates
- Personnel, Compensation & Governance Committee
 - **Approval Item(s):** None
 - **Information Item(s):**
 - President's Performance Evaluation/Compensation

Report of Affiliated Foundation(s)

Legal Counsel Update (*if any*)

Board Self-Assessment of its Performance

Announcement

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**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS DRAFT
FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Rector (Ret.) General Dennis Via called the meeting of the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. in the Gateway Dining & Events Center. He announced that the Full Board meeting was available to the general public via livestream, in accordance with the Commonwealth of Virginia's open meeting laws.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Valerie K. Brown
Dr. Joseph A. F. Chase, Jr.
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr. (*absent*)
Dr. Harold Green, Jr.
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III (*absent*)
Ms. Daphne Meeks
Mr. M. Peter McPherson
Ms. Morenike Miles
Mr. Jon Moore
Ms. Verndell Robinson
Mr. Kishore Thota
Mr. Robert Thompson
General Dennis L. Via (Ret.)

BOARD APPOINTEES:

Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Faculty Representative
Mr. Marquis Mason, Student Representative

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Tia A. Minnis, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration/CFO

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Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Dr. Willis W. Walter Jr., Vice President for Advancement and External Engagement
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board of Operations & Relations

LEGAL COUNSEL:
Mr. Nathan Moberley

INVOCATION

Reverend Thomas Wynn was invited to give the invocation.

RECTOR'S REMARKS

The meeting commenced with the Vice Rector, on behalf of the Rector Branch, his deepest apologies for not being able to be in attendance today due to personal matters, and he extends his warmest regards to all the board members, to the President, the faculty, and looks forward to hopefully joining all of us tomorrow evening at the Gala.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Vice Rector called for the approval of the agenda. The Board approved the agenda by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Rector asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. The Board approved the previous meeting minutes from March 20, 2026, and February 6, 2026, reaffirmation of Board documents, which are available for full book review in Diligent, including, the code of ethics, the statement of governance, board bylaws, electronic participation policy, which is required by the Code of Virginia, and proposed calendar of meeting dates for 2026 to 2027, and for 2027 to 2028 approved by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Makola M. Abdullah extended his appreciation to the Vice Rector and the members of the Board of Visitors and formally welcomed all attendees to the campus. He acknowledged the presence of Virginia State University students in attendance and, consistent with his usual practice, provided a brief overview of the Board of Visitors. President Abdullah noted that the Board consists of fifteen members appointed by the Governor, who serve as the governing body of the University. He emphasized that Board members serve on a volunteer basis and provide stewardship and oversight for the institution, to which he reports.

President Makola M. Abdullah recognized the newly elected Student Government Association (SGA) officers for the 2026–2027 academic year. He expressed that he and his administration look forward to working collaboratively with the officers over the coming year.

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President Abdullah provided a summary of the information presented to Board members during the prior session. He noted that progress toward fall enrollment is strong, with Virginia State University experiencing increases in applications, admissions, and confirmed deposits compared to the previous year. He attributed this positive trend to the efforts of Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter and her team, highlighting the effective use of enhanced technology and the additional support of student workers in advancing enrollment initiatives.

President Abdullah provided a brief budget update, referencing Mr. Davenport's presentation from the previous session. The update included approximately \$25 million in additional budgeted revenues. President Abdullah clarified that a portion of these funds had been incorporated into the General Assembly's budget in the prior year but were not included in the Board's approval at that time; therefore, while not entirely new to the University, they are newly reflected in the current budget.

He further reported a recommended 2.5% increase in tuition and fees, along with a 5% increase in room and board rates, to address deferred maintenance needs. President Abdullah emphasized that conservative enrollment and housing projections have been maintained to ensure the University can meet its budgetary commitments. He concluded by underscoring the importance of making prudent financial decisions and aligning all resources with the University's strategic plan.

Dr. Willis Walters presented an update on Institutional Advancement fundraising. He reported that total funds raised to date amount to \$55 million, inclusive of the Mackenzie Scott gift received earlier in the year. For year-over-year comparison purposes, the \$50 million gift was excluded, reflecting \$5 million in fundraising, which represents a 27% increase over the previous year. He further noted growth in the number of donors, as well as increased contributions from corporate, foundation, and organizational partners.

In the area of Government Relations, it was noted that Dr. Laquan Hilton, a Virginia State University alumnus, was recently elected to the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors—marking the first time in recent years that a VSU alum has served in this capacity. The University recently presented updates on institutional achievements to the Board of Supervisors, and four of the five members attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Magnolia Hall. Dr. Walters emphasized the importance of this engagement and expressed optimism about strengthening the University's relationship with Chesterfield County, particularly with alumni representation on the Board.

Dr. Abdullah referenced Virginia State University's upcoming Commencement ceremonies, noting that the University has assembled an exceptionally distinguished slate of speakers. It was announced that the Governor, Abigail Spanberger, will serve as the speaker for the early commencement ceremony. Mr. Jay Jones, the first African American Attorney General of Virginia, will serve as the speaker for the latter ceremony.

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President Abdullah reminded attendees of the upcoming gala being held in celebration of his ten years of service as President of Virginia State University.

President Abdullah also reminded attendees that this marked Dr. Valerie K. Brown's final Board of Visitors meeting, concluding her eight years of service. He recognized her as an extraordinary leader whose contributions have had a significant and lasting impact on Virginia State University. President Abdullah expressed his sincere appreciation for Dr. Brown's service and acknowledged her historic role as the first African American woman to serve as Rector of the Board. His remarks were followed by a standing ovation in her honor.

Mr. President noted the Open House held this past weekend. He also referenced the robotics competition held the previous weekend at the Multi-Purpose Center, which drew over 5,000 high school students from communities across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

CLOSED SESSION

The Vice Chair asked for a motion to enter a closed session Discussion or consideration of matters pursuant to 2.2-3711 (A)(1), specifically, "...assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body. . ." namely, items concerning presidential evaluation and compensation and promotion and tenure; and Discussion or consideration of honorary degrees or special awards pursuant to 2.2-3711 (A)(11); namely, review and approval of candidates for conferral of honorary degrees and special awards during the University's Spring 2026 Commencement exercises. The committee went into closed session. The Chair asked for a motion to return to open session at 11:14 am; the motion was made, properly seconded, and approved by voice vote.

The Vice Chair read a statement to certify that during its closed meeting, the Board discussed only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and only those public business matters identified in the motion convening the Board in closed session. The Committee voted by roll call vote to certify the meeting.

BOARD APPROVALS

- Resolution Authorizing the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27
- Resolution Approving Unfunded Scholarships for Fiscal Year 2026-27
- Resolution to Create the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee
- Alumni Acknowledgement- Dr. Latrice J. Sutton, Col. (Ret.)
- Faculty Emeritus - Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun
- Dean Emeritus – Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun

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- Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun – Honorary Degree
- Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun – Distinguished Professor
- The Honorable Abigail Spanberger, Governor of Virginia -Honorary Degree
- The Honorable Jay Jones, Attorney General – Honorary Degree
- The Honorable Charniele Herring, Delegate – Honorary Degree
- Candidates for Promotion and Tenure(Approved by roll call). Rector Branch, Dr. Leonard Haynes III, and Dr. Robert Denton, Jr. were not present for the vote.)

College of Agriculture

Sanjun Gu, Full Professor/Tenure

Chyer Kim, Full Professor

Business

Junsang Lim, Full Professor

Engineering and Technology

Sergio Da Silva, Associate Professor/Tenure

Francis Erebholo, Tenure

Humanities and Social Sciences

Lamon Lawhorn, Associate Professor/Tenure

Miles Massicotte, Associate Professor/Tenure

Craig Robertson, Associate Professor/Tenure

Natural and Health Sciences Health

Xianfa XIE, Full Professor

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic and Student Affairs

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Cosgrove, Vice Chair, presented recommendations for approval of Honorary Degrees and Awards and Promotion and Tenure Candidates to the Full Board. The motions were made, properly seconded, and approved by roll call votes. Dr. Haynes, Dr. Denton, and Mr. Branch were not present for the votes

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Mr. Cosgrove provided a summary of updates from the Academics and Student Affairs divisions and called upon the Faculty and Student Representatives to give remarks. Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Faculty Senate Chair gave remarks on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Marquis Mason, the Student Government Association President, gave remarks on behalf of the Student Government. There were no updates from the Staff Senate.

Facilities and Finance

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Meeks, Chair, gave an overview of the Division of Finance and Administration's updates. The Chair presented recommendations for approval for Operating Budgets for 2026-2027, Unfunded Scholarships for 2026-2027, and Creation of a Sub-Committee on Endowment Investments. The motions were made, properly seconded, and approved by roll call votes. Dr. Haynes, Dr. Denton, and Mr. Branch were not present for the votes.

Institutional Advancement

On behalf of the committee, Dr. Valerie Brown, Chair, provided a summary of updates from the Division of Institutional Advancement. Dr. Brown announced that the Board achieved 100% participation in giving. The committee acknowledged the Alumni of the year, Dr. Latrice Jones Sutton, Col. (Ret.)

Audit and Compliance

Mr. Jon Moore, Chair of the Audit and Compliance Committee, provided a general overview of the Committee's activities, noting that there were minimal updates to report. He remarked that this reflects the University's strong standing in audit and compliance matters.

Personnel, Compensation, and Governance

Mr. McPherson, Chair, on behalf of the committee, requested a motion to approve the modification of the President's contract, including the addition of a new stretch goal as discussed during the closed session. It was noted that these matters would be confirmed by the Rector in consultation with the Chair of the Personnel and Compensation Committee. The motion was properly made and seconded and was approved by roll call vote.

VSU Foundation

Visitor Chase provided a brief report on the affiliated foundations, noting the appointment of four new members: Dr. Tia Minnis, President; Dr. Donald Palm, Vice President; Mr. Osubi Craig; and Dr. Dale Wesson, Secretary. He indicated that these appointments were made at the previous meeting. Visitor Chase further reported that the Foundation has been meeting regularly, or as needed, and expressed optimism for a strong and promising future.

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The Board Assessment of its Performance

A Visitor commended the Board for responding positively and rising to the occasion, noting that the recent announcement regarding full Board participation in giving was a significant and commendable achievement in support of the University. Several visitors acknowledged Dr. Valerie K. Brown's contributions and expressed appreciation for her expertise and service to the Board. Individual board members with expiring terms (as of June 30, 2026) include Rector Victor Branch, Dr. Harold Green, Dr. Leonard Haynes, III, and Mr. Cosgrove. Appreciation was expressed for their service and contributions to the Board and the University.

LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATES

There were no legal updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Rector Via called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was received and properly seconded, and the Committee voted by voice vote. The Vice Rector adjourned the meeting.

Victor K. Branch, Rector

Verndell Robinson, Secretary

Date

Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATING BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the appropriations to Virginia State University (“VSU” or “University”), which authorize the state funding and spending authority for the University, including the Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Research Services budget, but not including Local University or VSU Foundation funding, are limited to the amounts and conditions in the 2025 Session, Virginia Acts of Assembly, Chapter 725; and

WHEREAS, the University has forecasted revenue collections from all sources for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, based on conservatively anticipated enrollment levels; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 23.1-1301(A)(2) grants to the Virginia State University Board of Visitors (“Board of Visitors”) the authority to “[m]anage the funds of the institution and approve an annual budget”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Visitors approves the Operating Budget appearing on the attached Table I; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves the Educational and General (E&G) Budget appearing on the attached Schedule I; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves the budgeted amounts for the Auxiliary Enterprise programs as appearing on Schedules II through V; and

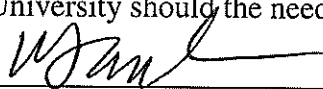
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves expenditures in support of Sponsored Programs that have been properly awarded to the University and up to the amounts for which cash will be made available during the course of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 or as appearing on Schedule VI; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves the budgeted amounts for Local Funds appearing on the attached Schedule VII; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves the budgeted amounts for the Student Financial Assistance programs appearing on the attached Schedule VIII; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves the budgeted amounts for the Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Research Services (“CEARS”) programs as appearing on Schedule IX; and

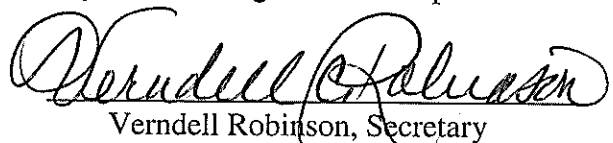
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors authorizes the President to allocate and cause to be expended tuition, room, board, comprehensive, and other fees collected beyond base projections, up to the amount appropriated and adjustments required and allowed by language in the Act, any additional General Fund appropriation which may be incorporated in the University’s final budget and to expend Local Funds available to the University should the need arise.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-26

Date

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UNFUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS
April 24, 2026**

WHEREAS, Virginia State University (“VSU” or “University”) utilizes unfunded scholarships to support students with financial need who might not otherwise be able to attend the University for financial reasons; and

WHEREAS, unfunded scholarships support VSU’s mission and its strategic plan by providing students *affordable access to an excellent education*, which is also an initiative of the Governor and the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 23.1-612 of *Code of Virginia*, unfunded scholarships are applied exclusively to the remission, in whole or in part, of tuition and mandatory fees; and

WHEREAS, an undergraduate Virginia student may receive an annual remission of an amount not to exceed the cost of tuition and mandatory fees. An undergraduate non-Virginia student may receive an annual remission not to exceed the amount of the out-of-state tuition differential required to be paid by the student for tuition and mandatory fees; and


WHEREAS, the governing board determines the number of unfunded scholarships annually awarded to undergraduate Virginia students and non-Virginia students, and the total value of all such scholarships annually awarded to undergraduate Virginia students shall not exceed the amount of the applicable sum of undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees multiplied by 20 percent of the enrollment of undergraduate Virginia students during the preceding academic year; and

WHEREAS, the total value of all such scholarships annually awarded to undergraduate non-Virginia students shall not exceed the amount of the applicable per capita out-of-state tuition differential paid by undergraduate non-Virginia students for tuition and mandatory fees multiplied by 20 percent of the enrollment of undergraduate non-Virginia students during the preceding academic year; and

WHEREAS, in April 2025, the University’s FY 2025-2026 approved budget includes a total allocation of \$5,715,465 for unfunded scholarships for Virginia students and non-Virginia students, respectively.

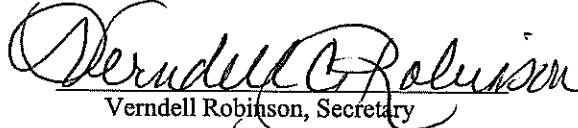
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the University’s plan to award a maximum of 858 unfunded scholarships to Virginia students and a maximum of 670 unfunded scholarships to non-Virginia students in the fiscal year 2026-2027 and that the total of these combined categories of unfunded scholarships shall not exceed \$6,200,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board will review and determine the amount of unfunded scholarships annually during the development of its operating budget which typically occurs in April of each year.



Victor K. Branch, Rector
4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary
4-24-26

Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF
THE FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 23.1-1301(A)(2) grants to the Virginia State University Board of Visitors (“Board of Visitors”) the authority to “[m]anage the funds of the institution and approve an annual budget”; and

WHEREAS, the endowment of Virginia State University (“VSU”) has increased significantly due to the generous contributions of those who support its vision and mission; and

WHEREAS, it is considered best practice for universities possessing an endowment value similar to or greater than VSU to have a Board Investment Committee designated as part of the governing board; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article III of the Bylaws of the Board of Visitors (“Article III”), “[t]he Rector, with the consent of the Board, shall have the authority to appoint Board members and other persons to serve the Board in advisory or *ad hoc* capacities to the Board and its committees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Virginia State University Board of Visitors (“Board of Visitors”) establish an Endowment Investment Sub-Committee (“Sub-Committee”) as a subcommittee of the Facilities and Finance Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee will serve in an advisory role to the Facilities and Finance Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in exercising its advisory role, the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee will regularly review the University endowment and make recommendations to the Chief Financial Officer on the endowment;


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chair of the Facilities and Finance Committee, or their designee, will provide the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee updates to the Board of Visitors during full board meetings;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Endowment Investment Sub-Committee will include the following members, and will not exceed six members:

- a. Two (2) members from the Board of Visitors;
- b. Two (2) external members with extensive professional experience managing money;
- c. The University’s Chief Financial Officer as an ex-officio member; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board provides its consent to the Rector to appoint the Chair and other members of the sub-committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be entered upon the permanent records of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors.



Victor K. Branch, Rector
4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary
4/24/26

Date

*Acknowledgement by the
Virginia State University Board of Visitors
of the
2026 – 2027 VSU Alumni Association Alumna of the Year*

Dr. Latrice Jones Sutton, Col. (Ret.)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(A), the Board of Visitors shall “. . . generally direct the affairs of the University”; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Latrice Jones Sutton, Col. (Ret.), is an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Adjutant General Corps in 1979; and

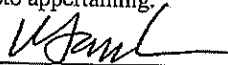
WHEREAS, Dr. Sutton received her Bachelor of Arts in History in 1979 and Master of Science in Education Administration and Supervision in 1989 from Virginia State University. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Education with a specialization in Leadership, Policy, and Change from Walden University in 2018. Dr. Sutton is also a graduate of many military schools, including Adjutant General Basic and Advance Courses; Combined Arms and Services Staff School (CAS3); Command and General Staff College; Associate Logistics Executive Development Course (ALEDC); Support Operations Course; Joint Course on Logistics; Multinational Logistics Course; and Army Management Staff College (SBLM); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sutton’s military career spans thirty years of active and reserve service during which she held numerous positions of increasing responsibility, including assignments with the 1st Corps Support Command, 300th Area Support Group, the 80th Training Command, and the 9th Theater Support Command. Her culminating positions included the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Personnel, 9th Theater Support Command; Deputy Commander, 390th Personnel Group; Battalion Commander, 429th QM Battalion; Deputy G-1, 80th Training Command; Division G-4, 80th Training Command; and Chief of Deployment/Redeployment Operations, 1st Theater Sustainment Command, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sutton’s military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal w/ 30LC, the Army Commendation Medal w/ 8OLC’s, Army Reserve Commendation Medal w/ 50LC’s, National Defense Service Medal w/star device, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Service Medal w/ silver Hr and “M” device, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbon w/ 6 device; and

WHEREAS, as a Department of the Army civilian, Dr. Sutton received the Superior Civilian Service Award and served as a committee chairman and course director at the U.S. Army Logistics University for more than thirty-seven years. Her duties supported the education and training missions of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, and the Defense Logistics Agency; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University acknowledges Dr. Latrice Jones Sutton, Col. (Ret.), as the 2026 - 2027 Virginia State University Alumni Association (“VSUAA”) Alumna of the Year with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26
Date



Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D., President

4/24/26
Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO CONFER THE TITLE OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF INFORMATION
SYSTEMS UPON
DR. EMMANUEL O. OMOJOKUN**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to “appoint all professors, teachers, and agents and fix their salaries and generally direct the affairs of the University” pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(A);

WHEREAS, Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun has served Virginia State University (“University”) with distinction for more than three decades as faculty member, scholar, mentor, and academic leader, advancing the mission of the University through exemplary teaching, scholarship, service, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has served with distinction as Professor of Computer Information Systems at Virginia State University since 2007, following earlier service as Associate Professor and Assistant Professor, and has devoted a distinguished career to the advancement of teaching and learning in computer and information systems and related technologies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has made significant and lasting contributions to academic program development at Virginia State University, including the establishment of the Computer Science program, contributions to the development of the Cyber Security and Forensics minor, the strengthening of curriculum in computer information systems and related disciplines, and the advancement of industry-recognized certifications and workforce preparation for students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has taught and developed courses in computer networks, databases, object-oriented programming, systems architecture, information technology security, and related areas, thereby preparing generations of students for professional success in technology-driven fields; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has demonstrated excellence in scholarship and research through a substantial record of externally funded projects, scholarly publications, professional presentations, and applied research in computer science, information systems, networking, analytics, and technology-enhanced learning, bringing distinction to Virginia State University and contributing to the advancement of his discipline; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun made foundational contributions to the technological growth of Virginia State University, including leadership in the design of the first computer network on campus, the development of early Internet and fiber optic infrastructure, and the creation of academic technology systems that strengthened instruction, advising, and institutional effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has rendered distinguished service to Virginia State University through faculty mentoring across multiple colleges, leadership and service on departmental, college, and university committees, participation in Faculty Senate, service on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee, and representation of the faculty on the Board of Visitors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has earned recognition for excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service, including University and School of Business honors, professional recognition, and the respect of colleagues, students, and academic peers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun's distinguished career as professor, scholar, mentor, and servant-leader has brought honor to Virginia State University and warrants special and lasting recognition by the University; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby confers upon Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun the title of Professor Emeritus of Computer Information Systems, in recognition of his distinguished faculty service, scholarly achievement, outstanding teaching, and lasting contributions to Virginia State University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the title of Professor Emeritus of Computer Information Systems shall stand as a mark of the University's esteem and appreciation for Dr. Omojokun's meritorious career and enduring legacy in academic excellence, student development, scholarship, and service; and

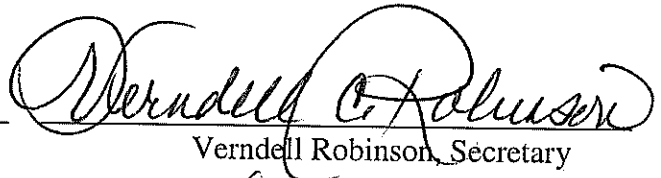
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, and that a suitably framed copy be presented to Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun as a testament to the gratitude and high regard of the University.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-26

Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO CONFER THE TITLE OF DEAN EMERITUS OF THE REGINALD F. LEWIS
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS UPON
DR. EMMANUEL O. OMOJOKUN**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to “appoint all professors, teachers, and agents and fix their salaries and generally direct the affairs of the University” pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(A);

WHEREAS, Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun has served Virginia State University (“University”) with distinction for more than three decades as faculty member, academic leader, and scholar, and has advanced the mission of the University through exemplary teaching, scholarship, service, and administrative leadership; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has served as Dean of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business since 2014, following prior service as Associate Dean and Chair of the Department of Computer Information Systems, thereby reflecting sustained and substantial leadership at the dean level and within the academic administration of the University; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Omojokun’s leadership, the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business successfully achieved and maintained AACSB accreditation, and the College advanced a culture of academic quality, faculty engagement, and student success, with external reviewers commending his strong and respected leadership in transforming the College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun provided transformative leadership in academic program development and innovation, including spearheading the approval and launch of the Master of Business Administration, establishing the Computer Science program at Virginia State University, creating the Cyber Security and Forensics minor, strengthening curricular offerings across business disciplines, and expanding opportunities for industry-recognized certifications and workforce preparation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun made foundational contributions to the technological advancement of Virginia State University, including leadership in designing the first computer network on campus, helping bring Internet connectivity and fiber optic backbone infrastructure to the University, developing technology systems in support of academic administration and student advising, and providing long-term service in strengthening the University’s instructional and operational capacity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun demonstrated distinguished commitment to student success through the establishment of the Center for Entrepreneurship, support for experiential learning, the creation of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business Student Success Support Fund, and fundraising and partnership efforts that expanded resources for scholarships, certifications, study abroad, and student learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has provided sustained service to the University through mentoring faculty across multiple colleges, chairing and serving on major institutional committees, representing the faculty in the Faculty Senate and on the Board of Visitors, and contributing to accreditation, strategic planning, enrollment, promotion and tenure, technology, and other matters of institutional importance; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun's scholarly and professional record includes more than \$25 million in funded proposals and research participation, service on national and international academic and professional bodies, contributions to computing and information systems scholarship, and leadership in studies demonstrating the University's economic impact on the region and Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun's career reflects the qualities commonly associated with the conferral of Dean Emeritus at peer institutions, including substantial tenure in the deanship, distinguished and honorable service, significant and lasting institutional impact, and leadership that strengthened the academic mission of the University; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors finds that Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun's record of achievement, leadership, service, and enduring contribution to Virginia State University warrants special and lasting recognition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby confers upon Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun the title of Dean Emeritus of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business, in recognition of his distinguished administrative leadership, exemplary service, and lasting contributions to Virginia State University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the title of Dean Emeritus of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business shall stand as a mark of the University's esteem and appreciation for Dr. Omojokun's meritorious service and enduring legacy in advancing academic excellence, innovation, student success, and institutional development; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, and that a suitably framed copy be presented to Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun as a testament to the gratitude and high regard of the University.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-26

Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (*HONORIS CAUSA*)
UPON DR. EMMANUEL O. OMOJOKUN**

February 6, 2026

WHEREAS, Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun has served Virginia State University with distinction for more than three decades, advancing the mission of the University through exemplary teaching, scholarship, service, and academic leadership; **and**

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has provided transformative leadership as Dean of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business, and Professor of Computer Information Systems, guiding the College through successful accreditation reviews, contributing to the establishment of new academic programs, including the University's Master of Business Administration (MBA), and fostering a culture of student success and academic excellence; **and**

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has made significant contributions to curriculum development and academic innovation in the fields of computer and information systems and related technologies, including the establishment of the Computer Science program, the development of a Cybersecurity and Forensics minor, and the integration of industry-recognized certifications, thereby strengthening students' preparation for technology-driven professions; **and**

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has led and contributed to numerous externally funded projects and applied research initiatives in areas related to computing, information systems, and analytics, including work that has enhanced the University's technological infrastructure and demonstrated Virginia State University's economic and educational impact on the region and the Commonwealth; **and**

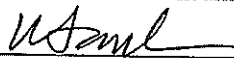
WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has demonstrated a sustained record of service to the University through the mentorship of faculty and students, leadership on key institutional committees, and representation of Virginia State University at state, national, and international levels; **and**

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun's outstanding contributions in computer and information systems and related fields, together with his enduring service to Virginia State University, warrant recognition through the University's highest honorary academic distinction in science and technology; **and**

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun was the pioneer who led the effort to bring modern Internet connectivity to Virginia State University, designing and implementing the University's first campus-wide computer network and Internet access, thereby laying the technological foundation for teaching, learning, research, and administration in the digital era; **and** (MBA), and fostering a culture of student success and academic excellence.

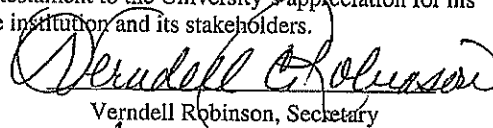
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby confers upon Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*), in recognition of his exemplary achievements, leadership, and lasting contributions to Virginia State University and to the broader fields of computer and information systems and business education; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, and that a suitably framed copy be presented to Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun, as a testament to the University's appreciation for his distinguished career and enduring impact on the institution and its stakeholders.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26
Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

April 24, 2026
Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS TO AWARD
THE HONORARY RANK OF DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR UPON
DR. EMMANUEL O. OMOJOKUN**

February 6, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to “appoint all professors, teachers, and agents and fix their salaries and generally direct the affairs of the University” pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(A); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun has served Virginia State University with distinction for more than three decades, advancing the mission of the University through exemplary teaching, scholarship, service, and academic leadership; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has provided transformative leadership as Dean of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business, and Professor of Computer Information Systems, guiding the College through successful accreditation reviews, contributing to the establishment of new academic programs, including the University’s Master of Business Administration (MBA), and fostering a culture of student success and academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has made significant contributions to curriculum development and academic innovation, including the establishment of the Computer Science program, the development of a Cybersecurity and Forensics minor, and the integration of industry-recognized certifications, thereby strengthening students’ professional preparation; and

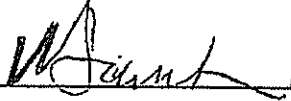
WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has led and contributed to numerous externally funded projects and applied research initiatives, including work that has enhanced the University’s technological infrastructure and demonstrated Virginia State University’s economic and educational impact on the region and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun has demonstrated a sustained record of service to the University through mentorship of faculty, leadership on key institutional committees, and representation of Virginia State University at state and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Omojokun’s outstanding contributions to Virginia State University clearly merit recognition at the highest level of honorary faculty distinction; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby confers upon Dr. Emmanuel O. Omojokun the honorary rank of Distinguished Professor, in recognition of his exemplary and longstanding service to the University; and

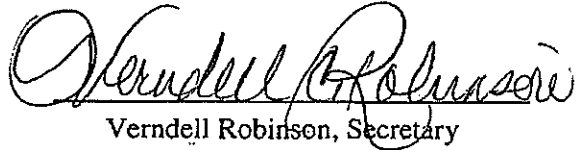
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, and that a suitably framed copy be presented to Dr. Omojokun, as a testament to the University's appreciation for his distinguished career and lasting impact on the institution.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

2/6/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

2-6-26

Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO AWARD THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS TO
THE HONORABLE ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to confer degrees pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(B); and

WHEREAS, Virginia State University (“University”) seeks to recognize and honor distinguished leaders whose lives and service reflect the University’s enduring commitment to scholarship, leadership, public service, civic engagement, justice, and the advancement of opportunity for the Commonwealth of Virginia (“Commonwealth”); and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Abigail D. Spanberger was sworn in as the 75th Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 17, 2026, and now serves the people of Virginia in the Commonwealth’s highest executive office; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger grew up just outside of Richmond, was educated in Virginia’s public schools, and has remained deeply rooted in the life and future of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger has demonstrated notable academic and professional achievement, having earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Virginia and later completed a Master of Business Administration through a dual-degree program between Purdue University and GISMA Business School in Germany; and

WHEREAS, before entering elected office, Governor Spanberger devoted much of her professional life to the service of the United States, first as a federal law enforcement officer with the United States Postal Inspection Service and later as a case officer with the Central Intelligence Agency, where she worked to protect national security, address criminal threats, and serve the public interest; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger subsequently served with distinction in the United States House of Representatives, representing Virginia’s Seventh Congressional District for three consecutive terms and building a reputation for principled, bipartisan, and effective leadership on behalf of the people of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, during her congressional service, she advanced public policy and legislative efforts in support of safer communities, stronger public institutions, environmental stewardship, veterans, law enforcement support, and lower costs for American families; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger’s inauguration marked a historic milestone in the Commonwealth, as she became the first woman elected Governor of Virginia, thereby adding a new and significant chapter to the civic history of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger has articulated and advanced a vision for Virginia centered on public service, educational excellence, affordability for working families, public safety, and responsive government that brings people together to solve shared challenges; and

WHEREAS, Governor Spanberger's career in national service, public leadership, and government reflects sustained achievement and exemplifies the ideals Virginia State University seeks to honor through the conferral of an honorary doctoral degree; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University Board of Visitors finds that Governor Spanberger's distinguished record of executive leadership, public service, and commitment to the welfare of the Commonwealth merits special recognition by the University through the conferral of the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby expresses its deep respect and admiration for the Honorable Abigail D. Spanberger, 75th Governor of Virginia, for her distinguished service, historic leadership, and enduring contributions to the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

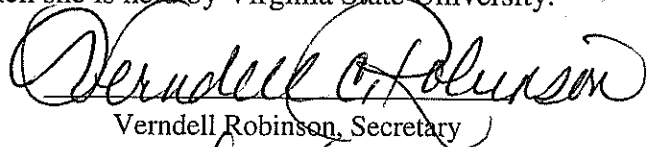
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the conferral of the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters upon the Honorable Abigail D. Spanberger, a doctoral honorary degree in recognition of her exemplary contributions to public leadership, national service, civic advancement, and the welfare and progress of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be entered upon the permanent records of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors, and that an engrossed copy shall be presented to the Honorable Abigail D. Spanberger as an expression of the high esteem, profound respect, and sincere appreciation in which she is held by Virginia State University.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26
Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-26
Date

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO AWARD THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS TO
THE HONORABLE JERRAULD “JAY” JONES**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to confer degrees pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(B); and

WHEREAS, Virginia State University seeks to recognize and honor distinguished leaders whose lives and service reflect the University’s enduring commitment to scholarship, leadership, public service, civic engagement, justice, and the advancement of opportunity for the Commonwealth of Virginia (“Commonwealth”); and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Jerrauld “Jay” Jones was sworn in as the 49th Attorney General of Virginia on January 17, 2026, and now serves the Commonwealth in one of its highest legal and constitutional offices; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jones is a lifelong resident of Norfolk, Virginia, and his call to public service was generations in the making, rooted in a family legacy of leadership, civil rights advocacy, education, and service to the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, his grandfather, Hilary H. Jones, Sr., was a pioneering civil rights attorney in Norfolk, the first Black member of the Norfolk School Board, and, in 1969, the first Black person appointed to the Virginia State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, his father, Jerrauld C. Jones, was among the few Virginians to serve in all three branches of state government, having served as a member of the General Assembly from 1988 to 2002, as Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice under Governor Mark Warner, and later as a circuit court judge; and his mother, Lyn Simmons, has served the Commonwealth as a judge of the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court following a long career as a prosecutor and private practice attorney; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jones has demonstrated notable academic and professional achievement, having earned his undergraduate degree from the College of William & Mary and his Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law, thereby meeting the academic and professional distinction associated with the conferral of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws; and

WHEREAS, prior to assuming statewide office, Attorney General Jones served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where, as a member of the Office of Consumer Protection, he worked to protect families and consumers by addressing violent crime, corporate misconduct, unfair pricing practices, and predatory conduct affecting vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jones also served with distinction in the Virginia House of Delegates, where he advanced legislation and public policy in support of abortion rights, Medicaid expansion, teacher pay raises, and energy and environmental policies designed to protect Virginia's air, water, and land while helping lower costs for Virginians; and

WHEREAS, as a legislator, he authored the legislation known as the "Ashanti Alert," establishing a missing persons alert for adults in the Commonwealth of Virginia, a model that has since been used nationwide; and

WHEREAS, as an accomplished litigator and advocate, Attorney General Jones has led efforts to protect voting rights on behalf of the Virginia NAACP and has supported reproductive healthcare access and abortion rights through public service and board leadership; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jones's career reflects a sustained commitment to justice, family security, consumer protection, civil rights, and principled public leadership, and his record of service exemplifies the ideals Virginia State University seeks to honor through the conferral of a doctoral honorary degree; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University Board of Visitors finds that Attorney General Jones's distinguished career in law, public leadership, constitutional service, and advocacy for the people of the Commonwealth merits special recognition through the conferral of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby expresses its deep respect and admiration for the Honorable Jerrauld "Jay" Jones, 49th Attorney General of Virginia, for his distinguished record of achievement in law, public service, civil rights advocacy, legislative leadership, and constitutional service to the people of the Commonwealth; and

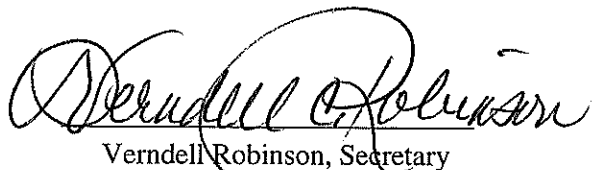
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the conferral upon the Honorable Jerrauld "Jay" Jones of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, a doctoral honorary degree, in recognition of his exemplary contributions to law, justice, public leadership, and the welfare and progress of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be entered upon the permanent records of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors, and that an engrossed copy shall be presented to the Honorable Jerrauld "Jay" Jones as an expression of the high esteem, profound respect, and sincere appreciation in which he is held by Virginia State University.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/20



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-20

**RESOLUTION OF
THE VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
TO AWARD THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS TO
THE HONORABLE CHARNIELE L. HERRING**

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors is authorized to confer degrees pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-2702(B); and

WHEREAS, Virginia State University (“University”) seeks to recognize and honor distinguished leaders whose lives and service reflect the University’s mission of scholarship, leadership, public service, civic engagement, perseverance, and the advancement of opportunity and justice; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Charniele L. Herring, Majority Leader of the Virginia House of Delegates and delegate for the Fourth District, has served the Commonwealth of Virginia with distinction since January 26, 2009, representing portions of Fairfax County and the City of Alexandria with integrity, effectiveness, and a deep commitment to the public good; and

WHEREAS, Delegate Herring has achieved distinction as a barrier-breaking public servant, having been elected by her colleagues as majority leader of the Virginia House of Delegates and recognized as the first woman and the first African American to serve in that leadership role; and

WHEREAS, her life story is one of remarkable resilience, determination, and purpose, having overcome significant hardship in her youth and transformed those lived experiences into a lifelong commitment to advocacy, public leadership, and service on behalf of individuals, families, and communities too often overlooked; and

WHEREAS, Delegate Herring is an accomplished attorney, mediator, and public leader whose professional background reflects both scholarly preparation and practical legal experience, having earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from George Mason University and a Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, and having built a distinguished legal career in civil litigation, family law, mediation, and regulatory matters; and

WHEREAS, through her legal and professional work, including the leadership of her own mediation practice, she has served individuals, small businesses, government entities, and the broader community with diligence, sound judgment, and a demonstrated commitment to fairness, access, and resolution; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure in the General Assembly, Delegate Herring has provided influential legislative leadership on matters of profound consequence to the Commonwealth, including educational opportunity, women’s health, violence prevention, criminal justice reform, environmental justice, and equitable access to public resources and protections; and

WHEREAS, her legislative record reflects a sustained dedication to strengthening Virginia’s communities through policy leadership, including championing efforts that expanded support for small businesses, advanced reproductive health protections, supported maternal health study and reform, promoted fairness within the justice system, and helped shape more just and inclusive public policy for the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Delegate Herring's public service extends beyond elected office and includes longstanding civic and community engagement, with service and leadership connected to educational, community, and youth-centered organizations, reflecting her enduring investment in local uplift, community empowerment, and the development of future generations; and

WHEREAS, as a lawyer, legislator, policy leader, and community advocate, Delegate Herring has exemplified the highest ideals of principled leadership, public responsibility, and service-centered achievement, thereby bringing honor to the legal profession, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the citizens she serves; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University Board of Visitors finds that Delegate Herring's distinguished record of legal accomplishment, legislative leadership, civic engagement, and transformative public service merits special recognition by the University through the conferral of a doctoral honorary degree; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby expresses its deep respect and admiration for the Honorable Charniele L. Herring for her extraordinary record of achievement, her steadfast commitment to justice and opportunity, and her enduring service to the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the conferral upon the Honorable Charniele L. Herring of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, a doctoral honorary degree, in recognition of her distinguished achievements in law, legislative leadership, public service, civic advocacy, and her exemplary contributions to the welfare and progress of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be entered upon the permanent records of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors, and that an engrossed copy shall be presented to the Honorable Charniele L. Herring as an expression of the high esteem, profound respect, and sincere appreciation in which she is held by Virginia State University.



Victor K. Branch, Rector

4/24/26

Date



Verndell Robinson, Secretary

4-24-26

Date

Virginia State University Promotion and Tenure Candidates
Spring 2026

Faculty	College	Department	Current Rank	Promotion/Tenure
1. Gu, Sanjun	Agriculture	Cooperative Extension	Associate Professor	Full Professor - Tenure
2. Kim, Chyer	Agriculture	Agricultural Research	Associate Professor	Full Professor
3. Lim, Junsang	Business	Management and Marketing	Associate Professor	Full Professor
4. Da Silva, Sergio	Engineering and Technology	Mathematics and Economics	Assistant Professor	Associate Professor/Tenure
5. Erebholo, Francis	Engineering and Technology	Mathematics and Economics	Associate Professor	Tenure
6. Lawhorn, Lamon	Humanities and Social Sciences	Music	Assistant Professor	Associate Professor/Tenure
7. Massicotte, Miles	Humanities and Social Sciences	Music	Assistant Professor	Associate Professor / Tenure
8. Robertson, Craig	Humanities and Social Sciences	Music	Assistant Professor	Associate Professor / Tenure
9. Xie, Xianfa	Natural and Health Sciences	Biology	Associate Professor	Full Professor