

**VSU Board of Visitors
Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee
November 14, 2024**

Executive Summary

The Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting commenced with a review of VSU's enrollment trends. Dr. Brooks-Walter presented an overview of the Fall 2024 enrollment, highlighting a significant increase in new student enrollment. The university welcomed its largest freshman class ever, comprising 1,489 students joining the class of 2028. This year's new cohort joining the VSU community included 1,482 full-time, first-time-in-college students, 264 transfer students, and 261 new graduate students.

Dr. Minnis subsequently provided an update on the Fall 2024 headcount. The final census count revealed a total of 5,605 undergraduate and graduate students, including 2,068 new students and 3,537 returning students. This represents an 8% increase compared to the previous year.

Dr. Brooks-Walter discussed the retention strategies implemented to support first-time-in-college students and address challenges such as the need for increased financial support.

Dr. Minnis provided an update on the progress and status of the 2020-2021 to 2024-2025 Preeminence with Purpose Strategic Plan. She highlighted key performance indicators (KPIs) used to measure the plan's success, including enrollment, retention, graduation rates, degrees awarded, internships, global experiences, faculty development, research expenditures, philanthropic support, and auxiliary reserves. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the strategic plan served as a valuable roadmap, guiding the university's efforts and contributing to significant achievements across various areas. As the university prepares for its next five-year strategic plan, the team continues to assess the current plan's objectives while identifying opportunities for future growth and development.