September 15, 2022 Institutional Advancement Committee: 12:30 pm

9/15/2022 12:00:00 AM 12:30 PM

Agenda Topic

Book Contents

- 1. Committee Agenda
- 2. Previous Meeting Minutes
- 3. Office of Institutional Advancement
- 4. Office of Communications



Presenter

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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT 12:30 P.M.; THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 Gateway Dining & Event Center (on the campus of Virginia State University) (No Public Comment Period Scheduled)

DRAFT AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER Ms. Shavonne Gordon, Chair
ROLL CALL
INVOCATION (Pastor Jasmyn Graham, Director of Campus Ministries)
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any) ∑ April 22, 2022 Committee Meeting
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS Dr. Makola M. Abdullah
REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
 Σ Institutional Advancement
 Campus Branding Initiatives Recent Media Successes Marketing Initiatives

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

All start and ending meeting times are approximate. Meetings may begin after the posted start time at the pleasure of the Board. The Board reserves the right to change its schedule as necessary.

IRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT 9:00 A.M.; FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022 Gateway Dining & Event Center (on the campus of Virginia State University)

(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)

DRAFT AGENDA (as of 4.7.22)

CALL TO ORDER	Ms. Shavonne Gordon, Chair
ROLL CALL	
INVOCATION (Pastor Graham)	
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any) Minutes from the February 4, 2022 meeting 	
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS	Dr. Makola M. Abdullah
 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS Government Relations Update	Mr. Eldon Burton Vice President, Government Relations
 General Assembly Updates Budget Update VSU Day @ the General Assembly Massey Cancer Basketball Game Campus Visits Attorney General Miyares (Executive Speakers Series Tom Barkin (Richmond Federal Reserve) Petersburg City School Board Meeting Northern Virginia Regional Commission Presidential Board of Advisors)
 Office of Communications	Asst. Vice President, Communications
COACH DonationMental Health Walk	

Committee on Institutional Advancement Friday, April 22, 2022 Page 2

- VSU in the News (continued)
 - President Abdullah Appointed to the U.S. President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs
 - VSU Race Car at the Richmond VA Raceway

Marketing Initiatives 0

- Contract with Media Firm
- Centralized Location for Marketing
- Billboards, Ads, Social Media
- Promo Video for VSU & Spanish Version

Institutional Advancement Ms. Tonya S. Hall Vice President for External Relations

0 **Approval Items**

- Resolution to Name the Academic Commons Building
- Acknowledgement of the Alumna of the Year

Information Items: 0

- **Fundraising Dashboard Review**
- **FY22** Fundraising Activity Update
 - Measuring Success
 - Setting Individual and Team Metrics
- **Corporate and Individual Engagement Strategy**
- Alumni Update

Mission Moment

- CIAA Basketball Tournament Recap
- Founder's Day Celebration Recap
- Virtual Book Club
- Oral History Project
- Upcoming events
- Update from the National Alumni Association Dr. Michael Rainey

President

Economic Development Joint VenturePresident Makola Abdullah

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

*All start times for committees are approximate. Meetings may begin after the posted start time as committee members are ready to proceed. The Board reserves the right to change its schedule as needed.

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT (IA) COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES Friday, April 22, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Shavonne Gordon, Chair, called the meeting of the Institutional Advancement Committee to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the Gateway Dining and Event Center.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Shavonne Gordon Mr. Edward Owens Ms. Thursa Crittenden Ms. Pamela Currey Dr. Christine Darden Mr. Glenn Sessoms Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector (ex-officio) Ms. Brenda Stith-Finch; Chair, VSU Foundation

Administration Present: Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D., President Dr. Donald Palm, Executive Vice President/Vice President/Provost Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President, Finance/Administration/CFO Tonya Hall, Vice President for External Relations Eldon Burton, Asst. Vice President/Director, Government Relations Shawri King-Casey, Senior Advisor to President, IEEC Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge, Asst. Vice President/Director, Communications Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Asst. to President/Board Liaison Maurion Edwards, CIO/Technology Services Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Associate Vice Provost, Enrollment Management Regina Barnett-Tyler, Associate Vice Provost/Student Success & Engagement Adrian Petway, Asst. Vice President, Budget & Finance

Legal Counsel Present: Cynthia Norwood, Senior Assistant State Attorney General

Others Present: Ri'Shawn Bassett, Office of Communications Tasha Owens, Internal Audit

Others Present:

Yourdonus James, Director, Conference Services Pastor Graham, Director of Campus Ministries Malika Blume, President's Office Travis Edmonds, Technology Services Derrick Jennings, Technology Services

INVOCATION

The Chair invited Pastor Graham to offer the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee approved the agenda by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes from the February 4th meeting by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Due to the full agenda and time constraints, President Makola M. Abdullah simply stated greater happens here at VSU.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Government Relations

Mr. Eldon Burton presented updates in the Government Relations area. Mr. Burton shared that February 28, 2022 was a notable day for VSU. On that day, Virginia College Affordability Network (VCAN) Scholars, leaders from the Student Government Association (SGA), Faculty, and Administrators met at the Capitol to attend VSU's Day at the Virginia General Assembly. After meeting with legislators, VSU was greeted by Del. Mike Cherry and Sen. Joe Morrisey in both chambers. During their remarks, Del. Cherry highlighted notable alumni from the institution (including Board member Dr. Christine Darden), and Sen. Morrissey acknowledged every student and administrator in attendance by name while sharing the importance of expanding our VCAN program.

On the same day, President Abdullah attended a Black History Month Celebration at the White House with U.S. President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Subsequently, President Biden's office announced that President Abdullah was appointed to serve on the U.S. President's Board of Advisors for White House Initiatives on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Later that evening, President Abdullah played in the 14th Annual Capitol Square Basketball Classic held in Richmond, VA. In this event, the Governor's team plays against the lobbyists, and the House and Senate compete against each other to raise money for cancer research.

On February 28th, VSU also hosted Petersburg Public Schools for their School Board meeting on campus in the Gateway Center. This was a fantastic opportunity for the students who attended to witness VSU deliver updates and learn more about being engaged in the civic process. VSU plans to host more local School Board and City Council Meetings here on campus and will continue to show that "Greater Community and Educational Partnerships Happen Here" at VSU.

Mr. Burton informed the Board that the General Assembly adjourned on March 12th without reaching an agreement on a biennial budget that will take effect on July 1st. There was a \$3 billion gap between the competing budgets in the House and Senate, primarily surrounding tax cuts. They are currently in recess after reconvening for a Special Session called to reconcile their broadly different spending proposals. They will likely release a finalized budget as we move closer to the "veto session" on April 27th.

On April 4th, members of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) visited the campus to discuss the potential for a VSU and NSU satellite campus in Northern Virginia. The NVRC is comprised of 13 local elected officials from various municipalities in Northern Virginia, and this was the first time that both administrations met with them in person. VSU alumna and Chair of the NVRC, Cydny Neville, recently published an op-ed highlighting the need for an HBCU presence in Northern Virginia. "It's not even just the institution itself... It's its presence and how that uplifts the community around it, and Northern Virginia will be better off with it." Neville stated.

Three of our federal legislators visited the local area to highlight projects that received federal funding and will impact VSU. Many of our students utilize the Ettrick Train Station, which received \$1 million to revitalize the station and the surrounding vicinity. VSU has already connected with the County to discuss how VSU can market and create more visibility for passengers commuting to and through the station. Two million (\$2M) were secured to support the Ashland to Petersburg Fall Line Trail, which connects seven localities in Central Virginia. The trail ends with a project connecting VSU with a pedestrian walkway in the City of Petersburg.

The final project announced was upgrades to the Petersburg Pharmaceutical Park. VSU is currently a part of the Advanced Pharmaceutical Cluster Growth Project. This Economic Development Administration grant proposal aims to develop and scale the Advanced Pharmaceutical Industry in the Richmond/Petersburg region. As VSU continues to enhance its economic development efforts, we will look to establish deeper partnerships with regional developers that will assist us in securing direct federal funding for future projects.

Communications

Dr. Gwendolyn Williams Dandridge presented updates from the VSU Office of Communications, which continues the work of ensuring that we meet Strategic Plan Priority Four by "defining the VSU Brand and telling our Story by effectively demonstrating and communicating the value of Virginia State University."

Dr. Dandridge shared some of the news stories and press releases that occurred since the Board meeting in February. The communications team has worked to keep the VSU name in the media in a positive light. Several VSU faculty and staff have been contacted by media as subject matter experts; for example, Dr. Ceslav Ciobanu, Dr. Wes Bellamy, and Dr. Zoe Spencer. The teams has continued to share other important events with good coverage; i.e., The VSU mental health walk; VSU students offering tax assistance; hiring of the first VSU Director of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging – Dr. A.C. Fowlkes; the sponsorship of Rajah Caruth, an HBCU student who drove the VSU car in the NASCAR race at the Richmond Raceway; and national coverage about Dr. Abdullah's appointment to the White House Advisory Board on HBCUs.

Dr. Dandridge shared information about the episode of Unsung featuring Das EFX filmed on the VSU campus; the episode aired on Sunday, April 10, 2022. VSU has erected a new entrance welcome sign/score board for softball on River Road, and work has begun on the mural along University Avenue. Other projects include redesigning the Trojan card as a keepsake for our students/employees, considering a marketing team to handle an advertising blitz to promote VSU in the fall of 2022, and new branding initiatives on campus.

Institutional Advancement & Alumni Relations

Ms. Tonya Hall presented updates on behalf of the offices of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations. According to the Voluntary Support of Education survey conducted in 2020-2021, voluntary support of higher education institutions in the United States increased by 6.9%. These findings are modest, given that support to VSU has risen by 25% despite the ongoing pandemic and inflation levels across the US. In addition, unrestricted contributions typically increased by 7.4% at other institutions of higher learning, while VSU can report that unrestricted contributions increased by 28%. Donor-advised funds have emerged as an increasingly significant donor category, one that we will begin to track as a separate category.

As we sprint through the fourth quarter, the Office of Institutional Advancement has already begun implementing a new strategy for Corporate and Foundation that will engage various constituents campuswide. We will also implement three fundraising strategies; All In for State: Day of Giving, Tuition Assistance Spring Mailing, and a targeted Text to Give, a campaign for students, as well as a Virtual Book Club and Oral History Project that will help us to identify, invite, inform, interest, involve and ultimately leveraging investment from newly identified VSU alums. Ms. Hall shared that the James Stegmaier Scholarship Fund which the Board established at its February 4, 2022 meeting has a current balance of \$7500.

Ms. Hall introduced Dr. Michael Rainey, President of the VSU National Alumni Association (NAA), who shared information on the overall NAA activities of its fifty-five chapters. The NAA supports the VSU through various means including alumni giving to fund scholarships and endowments, working with the Admissions Office to recruit top students, and community service in areas surrounding VSU. Dr. Rainey also announced the Alumna of the Year, 2022-2023, Ms. Holly Conrad Jackson.

Ms. Hall shared that the University has planned a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Academic Commons Building, which the Board is invited to attend at 11:00 a.m.

Chair Gordon presented two action items to the Committee. First, a resolution to name the Academic Commons Building after Founder Alfred W. Harris. Ms. Gordon asked for a motion to recommend approval of the naming to the full Board. The motion was made and carried by voice vote.

The National Alumni Association annually selects the Alumni of the Year but asks the Board of Visitors to formally acknowledge the recipient. Ms. Gordon asked for a motion to recommend acknowledgement to the full Board. The motion was made and carried by voice vote.

Economic Development Joint Venture

President Abdullah informed the Committee that the University is seeking to establish an economic development joint venture with a firm that exist in the Tri-Cities area. The President stated that he looks forward to feedback about the idea before he presents a proposal at the next committee meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Approved:

Chair

Date

Office of Institutional Advancement Update September 15, 2022



Getting to Know the Office of VSU Institutional Advancement



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY "Preeminence with Purpose"

Institutional Advancement Priorities PRIORITY 4: DEFINE THE VSU BRAND AND TO TELL OUR STORY

PRIORITY 5: DIVERSIFY FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND ENHANCE OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS



What is Institutional Advancement?

Definition

- The strategic plan for getting ahead, of progressing. Applied to higher education, it's the overarching plan for moving an institution forward from where it is today to where it wants to be in the future.
- "External facing"
- > Historical Background
 - Kimom, the general and politician was the first to invest in higher education." Plato and Socrates were the first "higher education fundraisers."
 - Harvard University established the first formalized higher education advancement program.



- Communications
- Conference and Event Services
- Government Relations











You Are All a Part of Institutional Advancement: Are You Ready?





- > Be among the **first donors** to make leadership gifts
- Becomes committed to and engaged with
 - advancement and/or campaign
- Represents the institution with passion and fluency
- Identifies, engages, stewards and, when appropriate solicits donors



Since 1887

Profile of an Individual Donor

- **"A" Connector** Affinity
- □ Access

□ Affluence

Industry

- □ Agriculture
- Business
- **D** Engineering
- Pharmaceutical
- Hospitality Management
- **D** Public Health
- Government/Political Science
- **G** STEAM
- **Other**







"Anatomy of a Gift"



Case Study #1 Individual Partnership

William "Chip" Sawyer Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations

Case Study #2 Corporate Partnership

Dr. Gwen Dandridge AVP for Communications & Eldon Burton AVP for Government Relations



Office of Alumni Relations Update





Virtual Book Club Update

- •Overall page views since the launch on August 5th as been 490
- Overall likes and comments 12
- 29 people have signed up for the book club and are actively participating
- •We will be doing another marketing push to get more people signed up during Homecoming





Oral History Project Update

Marketing Period : 4/29/22-10/28/22 Respondents: 3,551 Recommendations: 98.3% Total Stories: 2,543

	New
Emails	1,207
Home Addresses	502
Home Phone Numbers	2,550
Cell Phone Numbers	2,196

Verified 1,979 2,987 985 N/A





https://www.vsu.edu/alumni-homecoming.php



Homecoming Match It Challenge



Beginning September 8th until October 10th, all gifts will be matched dollar-for-dollar by an anonymous donor! Give to a newly established, already established, or any fund near and dear to your heart. The power of alumni, parents, friends, faculty, and staff coming together makes transformative experiences possible.

*Undesignated gifts will be directed to the areas of greatest need at VSU.



The Greater Pathway Brick Campaign

The GREATER Pathway Brick Campaign

Since 1882, VSU has been paving the path to "GREATER" student opportunities. Your participation in the campaign is an affordable way to support your beloved University. Your personalized brick will be placed in front of Foster Hall. Each personalized brick can be purchased for \$200.



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Each personalized brick can be purchased for \$200.

The campaign goes from September 12th to November 12th



ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT





FY22 Year End Dashboard

2002				
	FY 2022 - YTD		FY 2021 - YTD	
	DOLLARS	DONORS	DOLLARS	DONORS
CHARITABLE	<mark>\$4,753,448.52</mark>	1,978	\$3,797,444.94	3,084
ALUMNI	\$1,257,473.17	1,350	\$1,250,774.98	2253
ALUMNI ASSN	\$67,511.30	13	\$47,648.66	18
FACULTY/STAFF	\$139,461.50	100	\$160,188.74	128
CORP/FND/ORG	<mark>\$2,939,605.27*</mark>	136	\$1,727,645.45	120
FRIENDS	\$318,553.23	351	\$573,592.16	474
PARENTS	\$24,414.05	22	\$35,239.31	37
STUDENTS	\$6,430	6	\$2,355.64	54

	FY22	FY21 – FINAL	FY20 - FINAL	FY19 - FINAL
Tuition Assistance Fund	<mark>\$557,549.16</mark>	\$477,530.10	\$389,922.36	\$349, 289.36



MISSION MOMENTS





Greater Happens Here

University Relations and Communications

Gwen Williams Dandridge Assistant Vice President for Communications



Strategic Plan Priority 4 **The VSU Brand** We will define the VSU Brand and tell our Story: effectively demonstrating and communicating the value of Virginia State University





Board of Visitors Updates

- I. Campus Branding Initiatives
- II. Recent Media Successes
- III. Marketing Initiatives
- IV. Q & A/Comments
















Campus Branding Initiative Entrance Rebranding









Campus Branding Initiative Rogers Stadium Renovations







Recent Media Successes VSU Freshman Alex Dayle





Recent Media Successes VSU graduate Kyle Jacobs



Virginia State University Posted by RI/Shawn Bassette

Jul 20 + Our VSU College of Education is doing it's part to address the need for teachers in Petersburg and Richmond. Thank you NBC12 for sharing our story of the greater that happens here! #GreaterAtVSU

For more on the program, go to https://www.vsu.edu/ news/2022/vsu-graduate-program-to-addressrichmond-and-petersburg-teacher-shortage.php.

MBC12

VSU says students in the program will gain real-world experience in the classroom while working nights and weekends on their degrees.



VSU program to address Richmond, Petersburg teacher shortages



Board of Visitors Updates

- . Campus Branding Initiatives
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III. Marketing Initiatives

IV. Q & A/Comments





Marketing Initiative RICHMOND Magazine Ad





Marketing Initiatives VSU Gear

- Kohls
- Sam's Club
- Publix











Marketing Initiatives Richmond International Airport





Marketing Initiatives Richmond International Airport





GREATER HAPPENS HERE



Greater Happens Here

Marketing Initiatives Ettrick Train Station





Marketing Initiatives Ettrick Train Station







Marketing Initiatives Radio Advertising

















Marketing Initiatives Interstate-95 Advertising









Board of Visitors Updates

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Greater Happens Here

University Relations and Communications

Gwen Williams Dandridge Assistant Vice President for Communications



Strategic Plan Priority 4 **The VSU Brand** We will define the VSU Brand and tell our Story: effectively demonstrating and communicating the value of Virginia State University