

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 13, 2019
9:30 a.m., Room 310 Virginia Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Rector Huron F. Winstead, Committee Chair, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (“VSU”) Board of Visitors (“Board”) Executive Committee to order in the Board Room in Virginia Hall on the campus of Virginia State University at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Ms. Jennifer Hunter joined the meeting by telephone at 9:30 a.m. from a remote location identified as 6603 West Broad Street, Richmond VA 23230. Ms. Hunter was unable to physically attend the meeting due to business conflicts. The committee approved Ms. Hunter’s participation by telephone.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Huron Winstead, Rector
Mr. Charlie Hill, Vice Rector
Ms. Thursa Crittenden, Secretary
Ms. Pamela Currey
Ms. Jennifer Hunter (*electronic communication*)
Mr. Glenn Sessoms

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Michael Flemming

Other Board Members Present:

Mr. Gregory Whirley

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/ Sr. Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President of Administration
Ms. Sheila Alves, Chief Audit Executive
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Assistant to the President and Board Liaison

Legal Counsel Present:

Ms. Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel Board of Visitors

Other Attendees:

Ms. Malika Blume, Internal Audit
Ms. Deb Love, Office of the State Attorney General

AGENDA APPROVED

The Committee approved the meeting agenda.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The last Committee meeting was the Strategic Plan Advisory Subcommittee meeting on January 31, 2019. Those minutes were approved at the February 8th Board meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Makola M. Abdullah shared a few highlights about the Trojan football and men's basketball teams.

DISCUSSION

Board Governance

The Rector indicated that the purpose of this meeting was to follow up on discussions at the August 2019 Retreat on how to move toward becoming a high performance Board. The *Code of Virginia* §23.1-1306 is the guiding document for the Board's Executive Committee. Today's discussion will focus on how the Executive Committee will move the Board forward and what recommendations the Committee will make to the full Board.

The Committee addressed the duties of the Executive Committee and subcommittees and discussed Board assessment tools and a member matrix/needs assessment. After further discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend three motions to the full Board.

- Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to change the responsibilities of the Personnel & Compensation committee to include governance
- Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to change the Bylaws to modify the responsibilities of the Personnel & Compensation Committee
- Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to adopt a Board Performance assessment tool and the Board Member Matrix

Board Elections

Board elections for 2020-2022 will take place at the Annual Meeting on April 24, 2020. Vice Rector Hill will conduct the Board's officer nomination and election process. The timeline for the process begins with the call for nominations at the February 7, 2020 meeting.

Review of the VSU Draft Public Comment Policy

The Public Comment Policy was drafted based on the Code of Virginia guidelines §23.1-307 (E) and a review of existing policies adopted by other Commonwealth institutions. Ms. Currey recommended that the administration provide a presentation on the budget for the public and students before the public comment meeting. Board members should receive the same information. Language will be added to the Policy Statements section of the Public Comment Policy.

Updates

Ms. Crittenden shared information about the partnership with the Hampton Roads Community Action Program. The partnership is expected to expand the VSU brand in the Hampton Roads region and identify programs and opportunities that would 1) bring students to VSU, and 2) generate more money from the Hampton Roads region. Recently, 30 students from the Hampton Roads area visited VSU as part of the Project Discovery Program. The program works with students to help first-generation students (8th grade through college) prepare for college.

Ms. Currey shared information about a pending statement from the Governor announcing a partnership with the Lumina Foundation for talent, innovation, and equity. The partnership would create equity champions for higher education around the state. Ms. Currey asked for recommendations of persons who could serve in this role.

Mr. Sessoms shared that he and Ms. Crittenden will tour the VSU Archives today to see what is housed there. They also shared a few ideas of how the University can capture the history of older alumni to help tell the VSU story.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.


Huron F. Winstead, Chair

2.7.20
Date

