# VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS BOARD MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019

The Full Board Meeting was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Gateway Dining Events Center Salon A, on the campus of Virginia State University

# CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huron Winstead, Rector, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors (Board) to order in Salon A of the Gateway Dining and Events Center at approximately 9:00 a.m.

# **ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Mr. Huron F. Winstead, Rector Mr. Charlie W. Hill, Vice Rector Ms. Thursa Crittenden, Secretary Dr. Valerie Brown Ms. Pamela A. Currey Dr. Daryl C. Dance Mr. Michael Flemming Mr. Raul Herrera Ms. Jennifer Hunter Mr. Paul Koonce Mr. Xavier Richardson (arrived at 9:27 a.m.) Mr. Glenn Sessoms Mr. James J.L. Stegmaier Mr. Wayne Turnage (absent) Mr. Gregory Whirley Dr. Zoe Spencer, Faculty Representative to the Board Mr. Joshua Hines, Student Representative to the Board

### Administration Present:

Dr. Makola Abdullah, President Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Assistant to the President/Board Liaison Hubert Harris, Vice President for Administration Reshunda Mahone, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dr. G. Dale Wesson, Vice President for Research and Economic Development Dr. Jame'l Hodges, Associate Vice President for Student Success and Engagement Rodney Hall, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management Sheila Alves, Chief Audit Executive, Internal Audit Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2019 Page 2

Administration Present (continued): Pamela Turner, Director of Communications Eldon Burton, Director of Government Relations Tanya Simmons, Director, Human Resources

Legal Counsel Present:

Deborah A. Love, Senior Assistant Attorney General and Chief Ramona Taylor, University Legal Counsel Bonnie N. Holmes, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel

Other Attendees: Dr. Ahkinyala Abdullah Dr. Maxine Sample, Faculty Senate (representing the Faculty Representative) Paula McCapes, Staff Senate Travis Edmonds, Information Technology Yourdonus James, Office of Conference Services Joyce E. Henderson, VSU Real Estate Foundation Malika Blume, Internal Audit Krisnan Agrawal, Mathematics Dept. Tytiana Christmas, SGA Briana Byrd, SGA Kameron Gray, SGA ~

# **OPENING REMARKS**

Rector Winstead invited Mr. Rodney Hall to give the invocation.

# **RECTOR'S REMARKS**

None.

# PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

None.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOARD APPROVAL/ACTIONS

Action on the minutes from the September 13, 2019 Board meeting. (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

The Executive Committee recommended approval of three motions to the Board (APPROVED). The motions were approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

- Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to change the responsibilities of the Personnel & Compensation committee to include governance (approved)
- Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to change the Bylaws to modify the responsibilities of the Personnel & Compensation Committee (approved)

Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2019 Page 3

• Motion: Recommendation to the full Board to adopt a Board Performance assessment tool and the Board Member Matrix (approved)

Action on the Resolution to Approve Unfunded Scholarships (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for Approval of the Master of Social Work. (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for Approval of the Master of Science degree in Data Analytical Engineering (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for Approval of the Gift Fee (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Public Comment Policy for Virginia State University (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 13 members voting. Members Xavier Richardson and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

# **Reports of Faculty and Student Representatives to the Board**

Joshua Hines, President of the Student Government Association (SGA), gave the Board updates on SGA initiatives and activities since the beginning of the semester. Dr. Maxine Sample, Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate, shared information on issues being addressed by the Faculty Senate.

# CLOSED SESSION

The committee convened a closed session at 10:24 a.m. pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel and pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. More specifically, Legal Counsel will counsel provide a litigation report regarding pending legal matters and investigations.

The motion called for President Makola Abdullah; Deborah Love, Senior Asst. Attorney General & Chief, Education Division; Ramona Taylor, University Legal Counsel; and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, to attend the closed meeting because (1) their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary; and or their presence would aid the Board in its consideration of this matter.

The committee re-convened in opened session at 10:57 a.m. with a roll call of Board members to certify that the Committee discussed or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened.

Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2019 Page 4

# **BOARD ACTION PLAN FOLLOW-UP**

Ms. Crittenden opened the discussion and asked Board members to share their reflections on the Board's performance during the November 14-15 Board meeting(s).

# ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:45 a.m.

2.7.20

Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

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2.7.20 Date

Date

Date

# VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS BOARD MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

### CALL TO ORDER

Huron Winstead, Rector, called the Board Meeting to order in the Gateway Dining and Event Center (Salon A) on the campus of Virginia State University at approximately 9:00 a.m.

# **ROLL CALL**

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**Board Members Present:** Mr. Huron F. Winstead, Rector Dr. Valerie Brown Ms. Thursa Crittenden Ms. Pamela A. Currey Dr. Daryl C. Dance Mr. Michael Flemming Mr. Charlie W. Hill Mr. Raul R. Herrera Ms. Jennifer Hunter Mr. Paul Koonce (absent) Mr. Xavier Richardson (absent) Mr. Glenn Sessoms Mr. James J.L. Stegmaier Mr. Wayne Turnage (arrived 10 am) Mr. Gregory Whirley Dr. Zoe Spencer, Faculty Representative to the Board Mr. Joseph Hines, Student Representative to the Board

### Administration Present:

Dr. Makola Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President for Administration
Dr. G. Dale Wesson, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Dr. Jame'l Hodges, Associate Vice President for Student Success and Engagement
Mr. Rodney Hall, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management
Ms. Sheila Alves, Internal Chief Audit Executive
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Assistant to the President/Board Liaison
Mr. Eldon Burton, Director of Government Affairs

Legal Counsel Present: Ms. Ramona Taylor, University Legal Counsel

*Other Attendees:* Ms. Yourdonus James, Director of Conference Services Ms. Danette Johnson, Executive Assistant to the President Ms. Bonnie Holmes, Office of Legal Counsel

Malika Blume, Internal Audit Marlo Green, Internal Audit Darius Holeman, Business Urian Adamp, IT Tia Minnis, Institutional Effectiveness Pamela Turner, Office of Communications Charmica Epps, Institutional Advancement Kiersten Jefferson, Institutional Advancement Aurelia Donald, College of Business Tazia Harris, Institutional Advancement Maxine Sample, Faculty Senatre Jane Harris, Facilities Durba Chatterjee, Institutional Advancement Ben Houck, Finance Rev. Jasmyn C. Graham, Student Success Paula McCapes, Staff Senate Tanya Simmons, Human Resources Emmanuel Omojokun, College of Business Beverly Everson-Jones, VSU Foundation Colleen Taylor, Chemistry Bridgett Roberts, Faculty Senate Sandra Evans, Sociology and Criminal Justice Karma Moore, Student

### **OPENING REMARKS**

The Rector invited Rev. Jasmyn Graham, Director of Campus Ministries to offer the invocation. The Rector then open the floor for President Abdullah to make remarks.

# PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President, presented the 2020 U.S. News and World Report Ranking and displayed the VSU national and regional rankings from 2014 through 2020. Nationally, VSU ranked as the No. 10 Top Public HBCU; regionally, VSU ranked as No. 24 Top Public School. He announced VSU winners in 2019 HBCU Digest categories: Male Alumnus (Rodney Robinson), Male Coach of the Year (Lonnie Blow, Jr.), and Best HBCU Choir (VSU Gospel Chorale). President Abdullah also highlighted VSU support of the local community and recognized students and staff for recent accomplishments.

**FACILITIES, FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE** (Members present: Michael Flemming, Valerie Brown, Charlie Hill, Raul Herrera, James Stegmaier, Wayne Turnage, Gregory Whirley, Huron Winstead)

Mr. Michael Flemming, Chair, convened the Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee to hear reports from the Division of Finance, Internal Audit, and the Division of Administration with a Technology update. ۰.

### **Division of Finance**

Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Finance/CFO, introduced Ms. Jane Harris, Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Capital Outlay, to present the Revised 2020-2026 Capital Outlay Plan and the Revised Campus Master Plan for 2020-2026.

Ms. Harris presented the 2019 additions to the Master Plan in the context of the University's new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)—Becoming Outstanding Leaders of Tomorrow (BOLT) and Strategic Plan—Preeminence with a Purpose. Both plans focus on leadership and social responsibility. Ms. Harris presented the concept for the BOLT Center including its location on campus, size, links to strategic plan, leadership curriculum, and how it would support student success. Ms. Harris presented the updated Six Year Capital Outlay Plan, wherein she highlighted the approval of the capital project to demolish and replace Daniel Gym. The University has approval for preliminary site work and targets a November deadline for submitting updated plans. Ms. Harris provided information on other proposed projects contained in the Six Year Capital Outlay Plan such as updating IT infrastructure, new building for Advancement and Admissions, addition to Johnson Memorial Library, a new pedestrian walkway, renovation to Virginia Hall and other projects.

Mr. Davenport presented the Budget to Actual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Mr. Davenport emphasized the projected budget shortfall and shared how revenues were impacted as expected. He said the beginning of the year shortfall projections were within a few thousand dollars for the actual performance as shown on the Budget to Actual Report. He indicated the University ended the fiscal year with a \$2.3 million surplus, primarily for E&G carry forward funds relating to the IT modernization project, Sponsored Programs and Cooperative Extension.

Mr. Davenport also reviewed the Actual to Actual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. He highlighted expenditure reductions and cost cutting measures, particularly in Institutional Support. Mr. Davenport expressed that the University ended the fiscal year with a balanced budget. Mr. Flemming stated that in light of the fall 2018 enrollment numbers, the Budget to Actual Financial Report reflected pretty good budget management by the University administration. Mr. Davenport stated that Michael Reinholtz, the Manager, APA, attended the FFA Committee on 9/5/19 and presented the final audit report findings for the year ending June 30, 2018. Mr. Reinholtz indicated that an unmodified opinion (highest type of opinion available) letter will be sent along with the university's financial statements to the University and the Board of Visitors. Mr. Davenport has received a copy and indicated he would send a copy to the Board of Visitors. The other part of the audit is the Internal Control Report. APA reviews the University's systems and make recommendations to improve and make the systems stronger. The University has responded with a corrective action plan.

### Division of Administration

Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President for Administration, presented the budget packages which the University has submitted to the Department of Planning and Budget. Mr. Harris also gave updates on the progress made with filling vacant IT positions and explained the IT Budget Summary. Discussion followed regarding the new Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA) policy requirement which requires the chief information security officer to report to the agency head. The IT Department is currently being restructured to comply with the VITA policy.

# Internal Audit

Ms. Sheila Alves, Chief Internal Auditor, presented the results of the Quality Assurance Report. The Internal Audit Department received a "generally confirms" rating which is the best review rating possible. Committee member(s) encouraged all departments to conduct self-evaluations or audits and ask customers whether they are meeting their needs. Ms. Alves also presented hotlines and special investigations, hotline investigation breakdown, the audit plan, and the corrective action plan. The Committee chair called for a closed session to discuss Internal Audit items involving performance of departments of the University where such discussion will necessarily involve the performance of individual employees.

# **CLOSED SESSION**

Ms. Thursa Crittenden, Board Secretary, moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(5) and 2.2-3711 (A)(8) of the *Code of Virginia* and pertaining to prospective and industry business matters and for consultation with legal counsel relative to those matters. More specifically, real estate development considerations. The motion called for President Makola Abdullah, Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel, Kevin Davenport, VP for Finance/CFO, Jane Harris, AVP for Capital Outlay, Dale Wesson, VP for Research and Economic Development, and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, to attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary, and/or their presence would aid the Board in its consideration of this matter. The Board convened this session at 11:15 a.m.

In addition, Ms. Crittenden, moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-2711(A)(1) and Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the *Code of Virginia* involving the discussion of performance of departments of the University where such discussion will necessarily involve the performance of individual employees. Additionally, this information directly pertained to preliminary investigative notes, correspondence, and information furnished to the University's Internal Audit department, which is protected under 2.2-3705.3(7) of the Code of Virginia and may require consultation with legal counsel. The motion called for President Makola Abdullah, Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel, Sheila Alves, Chief Audit Executive, Donald Palm, Provost/Senior Vice President, Hubert Harris, VP for Administration, Kelvin Davenport, VP for Finance/CFO, and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, to attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary, and/or their presence would aid the Board in its consideration of this matter. The Board convened this session at 12:25 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 1:16 p.m. in accordance with §2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Crittenden conducted a roll call in which all Board members present certified that the Board discussed or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened.

4

**INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT** (Members present: Jennifer Hunter, Valerie Brown, Thursa Crittenden, Pamela Currey, Daryl Dance, Michael Flemming, Raul Herrera, Glenn Sessoms, Beverly Everson-Jones, Huron Winstead)

Ms. Reshunda Mahone, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, presented a recap of Fundraising Dashboard reports comparing fiscal year 2019 and 2018 data, fund category (2017-2019), FY 19 alumni renewal, FY 19 major gifts renewal. Ms. Mahone addressed several ideas discussed at the June 2019 IA Committee. The branded donor advised fund is an idea that Ms. Mahone believes VSU should pursue. She will move forward to work with Procurement re: vendors to determine if this is a viable option for VSU. She also presented the current FY 2020 fundraising dashboard year to date as of August 31, 2019.

President Abdullah presented an update on Government Relations which highlighted the six year transportation improvement plan approved by CTB to upgrade and modernize the Ettrick station, to sustain Amtrak service to the Ettrick Station, and to expand the station's regional service. The update informed the Board about government officials that visited the VSU campus thus far in 2019 and VSU faculty members who hold public office or government positions. President Abdullah informed the Board of a new regulation in the *Code of Virginia*, Section 23.1-307(E) which requires Boards to allow public comment on tuition increases at its meetings. The plan is to review policies at other institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia and draft a policy for the Board to review at its November meeting.

Dr. G. Dale Wesson, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, presented data from the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs. 2019 Data showed an increase in the number of proposals submitted and research dollars expended over 2018.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Members present: Pamela Currey, Daryl Dance, Charlie Hill, Wayne Turnage, Gregory Whirley, Huron Winstead, Zoe Spencer, Joshua Hines)

Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President for Administration, gave a update on the Department of Athletics including recent recognitions, upcoming events and community service projects. On behalf of the VSU Police Department, Mr. Harris presented the 2019 and 2019 Year to Date Crime Statistics. In addition, he shared information about the department's community policing activities such as Student Internship Programs, Homecoming Planning, R.A.D. Training, and New Student Orientation 2019. The department conducted several Active Shooter Preparedness Training Sessions for the faculty, staff, and students. Mr. Harris requested approval of Resolution to sell a police firearm to a retired VSU police officer, Julie Sanderson.

Dr. Donald Palm, Senior Vice President/Provost, requested approval of the Resolution for the Six-Year Plan for 2020-2026 and a candidate for tenure and promotion which would be discussed in closed session. Mr. Rodney Hall, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment, gave an enrollment update for fall 2019 pending final validation. Dr. Jame'l Hodges, Associate Vice President for Student Success/Engagement, presented updates on student housing pending final validation.

Dr. Palm discussed the Six-Year Graduation Rate report which encompassed the period of Fall 2010 to Fall 2014. Dr. Palm also discussed the programmatic part of the Six-Year Plan, the Strategic Plan Alignment schedule, and the Climate Survey Timeline.

# CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Thursa Crittenden, Board Secretary, moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) and 2.2-3711 (A)(11) of the *Code of Virginia* for discussion or consideration of promotion and tenure, sabbatical leave, and/or honorary degrees and/or special awards. The motion called for President Makola Abdullah, Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel, and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, to attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary, and/or their presence would aid the Board in its consideration of this matter. The Board convened this session at 3:45 p.m.

In addition, Ms. Crittenden, moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-2711(A)(8) of the *Code of Virginia* for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. More specifically, Legal Counsel will provide a litigation report regarding pending legal matters and investigations. The motion called for President Makola Abdullah, Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel, and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, to attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary, and/or their presence would aid the Board in its consideration of this matter.

The Board reconvened in open session at 3:45 p.m. in accordance with §2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Crittenden conducted a roll call in which all Board members present certified that the Board discussed or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened.

Mr. Hill made the motion to recommend tenure for Dr. Charletta Barringer-Brown. The motion was seconded.

**PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE** (Members present: Glenn Sessoms, Thursa Crittenden, James Stegmaier, Huron Winstead)

Ms. Tanya Simmons, Director of Human Resources, presented a Human Resources Update and a summary of the VSU Annual Succession Plan. She requested that the Board accept the VSU Annual Succession Plan. It is required by the *Code of Virginia*, Section 2.2-1209 (c) that all Commonwealth of Virginia state agencies and public institutions of higher education prepare a succession plan for the Board of Visitors and provide a copy to the Department of Human Resource Management.

# **BOARD APPROVALS/ACTIONS**

Action on the minutes from previous Board meetings (April 25, 2016; April 26, 2019; August 8, 2019) and from the August 8, 2019 New Board Member Orientation and the August 9, 2019 Annual Retreat. (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members voting for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson were not present for the vote. Gregory Whirley abstained.

Action on the recommendation to grant tenure to Dr. Charletta Barringer-Brown (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members voting for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for approval of the Revised 2020-2026 Capital Plan (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members voting for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for approval of the Revised Campus Master Plan (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members voting for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for approval of the (Academic) Six-Year Plan for 2020-2026 (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for approval to sell Police Officer Firearm to Retired VSU DPPS officer, Julie Sanderson (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

Action on the Resolution for approval of the VSU Succession Plan (APPROVED). The motion was approved with 11 members for it. Members Jennifer Hunter, Paul Koonce, Xavier Richardson, and Wayne Turnage were not present for the vote.

# **REMARKS FROM THE FACULTY AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD**

Dr. Zoe Spencer, Faculty Representative, gave her time for officers and committee chairs of the Faculty Senate to introduce themselves. Joshua Hines, Student Representative, presented an overview of the SGA goals and plans for 2019-2020.

# **BOARD RETREAT ACTION PLAN FOLLOW-UP: BOARD'S SELF-EVALUATION**

Ms. Crittenden addressed the topics from the Board Retreat which were compiled into a one sheet flyer and included in the member's packet. Each Board member then shared his or her thoughts about the Board's performance in the September 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Huron F. Winstead, Rector

Date

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Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

Date

# Virginia State University Policies Manual

#### Title: Public Comment Policy

Policy:

### <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this policy is comply with the requirements of § 23.1-307(E) of the Code of Virginia. Virginia law requires that prior to any vote relative to an increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees, the University shall permit public comment on the proposed increase at a meeting of the governing board, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University ("Visitors" or "the Board"). In addition, the law provides that the Board establish a policy for the public comment process that includes reasonable time limitations.

#### Authority, Responsibility, and Duties

This policy governs the conduct of the Board and University employees including faculty, administrators, staff, students, and visitors to the campus of Virginia State University. The Board or their designees must approve any exceptions in the application or enforcement of this policy. The Rector of the Board of Visitors or his/her designee is responsible for the official interpretation of this policy. Questions regarding the application of this policy should be directed to the Board Liaison.

#### **Definitions**

Public Comment: the opportunity for the public to address the Board of Visitors.

**Speaker**: individual who seeks to make a public comment, or submit a written comment, to the Board and its members.

**Meeting**: gathering or working sessions of the Board of Visitors in which public business is being discussed or transacted. These working sessions or gatherings may be held through the physical sitting of the body or through electronic communications pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3708.2.

**Tuition:** the semester, or term charges and fees imposed by the University for instruction.

Mandatory Fees (Comprehensive Fees): the mandatory semester or term fees assessed by and imposed on each full-time student for non-educational and non-general costs.

#### **Policy Statements**

The Board of Virginia State University will permit public comment on any proposed increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees at an open and public meeting of the Board. The Board will determine the dates of any public comment period and consider reasonable time limitations for public comment. The Administration will provide a

1

# Virginia State University Policies Manual

## Title: Public Comment Policy

Policy:

statement and general information about the proposed increase and distribute to the VSU Community prior to any public comment period.

# Public Comment Period Process

Upon consideration of any proposed undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees increase, the Board or a Board subcommittee meeting will set a period of public comment prior to the Board's vote regarding tuition and mandatory fees increases. This public comment period will be held at least 30 days prior to the Board's vote on tuition and fees. Public notice will be given as required by law. Instructions for submitting public comment will be included in the public notice.

At least three (3) Board members will be present for the public comment period including the Rector or Vice Rector and members of the Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee. Those individuals who desire to speak before the Board must adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1) Complete the electronic pre-registration form;
- Submit the pre-registration form to the Board Liaison at least seven
   (7) business days prior to the scheduled Board meeting;
- 3) Limit remarks to a three (3) minute statement; and
- 4) Provide a written copy of the speaker's comments to the Board Secretary.

Speakers must pre-register on a first-come, first served basis for the public comment period. Speakers will be asked to specify their affiliation, if any, with the University.

All remarks before the VSU Board of Visitors must be relevant to the proposed increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees. The public comment period will be limited to one (1) hour.

Written comments may be submitted to the Board Secretary in lieu of oral comments at the meeting. These written comments will also be accepted from the date that the public notice is issued until seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which the Board considers tuition and fee increases. These written comments may be submitted in hard copy, via email, or online. Instructions for written comments will be included in the public notice.

There will be dedicated time slot(s) for the Student Government Representative to provide a statement on behalf of the students. This does not preclude individual students from registering to speak during the public comment period or from providing written comments.

## Virginia State University Policies Manual

#### Title: Public Comment Policy

Policy:

If time remains after the pre-registered speakers offer their comments, additional speakers may be offered the opportunity to speak during the remaining time.

All comments will become a part of the public record. The Board will not respond to oral or written comments.

### **Obligations and Responsibilities:**

All public comment speakers are responsible for conducting themselves professionally and in a manner consistent with this policy. Additionally, the Board of Visitors will periodically review the public comment policy and procedures, re-evaluate the time allotted for public comment based on demand, and modify this policy and procedures as appropriate.

Public Comment will be managed by the Board Liaison in consultation with the Board Secretary and the Rector. The University will submit all public comment related to proposed increases in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees to the State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV) by July 1 of each year.

#### **References:**

§ 23.1-307(D)(E). Public institutions of higher education; tuition and fees.

§ 2.2-3708.2. Meetings held through electronic communication means.

§ 2.2-3701. Definitions (Virginia Freedom of Information Act).

11

§ 2.2-3707. Meetings to be public; notice of meetings; recordings; minutes.

**Approval By:** 

E DOU ENVERN

Date:

#### VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

#### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UNFUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS**

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 the *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 2019, the University's FY 2020 approved budget includes a total allocation of \$500,000 for unfunded scholarships for Virginia students and non-Virginia students, respectively.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** that the Board approves the University's plan to award a maximum of 100 unfunded scholarships to Virginia students and a maximum of 200 unfunded scholarships to non-Virginia students in spring 2020 and that the total of these combined categories of unfunded scholarships shall not exceed \$500,000.

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

Huron F. Winstead, Rector

Thurson D. Gitterlen

Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

Date

Date

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE**

### VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS

#### **APPROVAL OF**

#### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

**WHEREAS,** Article III, Section 3.5 of the Board of Visitors Bylaws provides that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee shall have control and oversight over all academic and student programs and activities. Academic and student programs and activities of the University to include curriculum, landgrant, faculty appointments, promotions, tenure and compensation, recruitment, admissions and registration, residence life, health services, cultural affairs, student organizations, athletics, and such other related matters as shall be so recognized by the Board; and

WHEREAS, VSU is proposing to provide a cutting edge clinical curriculum with an identified emphasis on trauma-informed care in social work practice. Graduates of the program will be prepared to provide specialized trauma-informed clinical services as well as address the impact of secondary traumatic stress, vicarious traumatization, vicarious resilience, and posttraumatic stress conditions as experienced with individuals, families, groups and organizations and communities in society; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program responds to current needs in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation as a whole. There is a rapidly growing awareness that previous trauma experiences have significantly impacted client population groups that are served in child welfare, criminal justice, mental health, educational, and social service settings, and that the need for trauma-informed and resilience-enhancing services is significant; and

WHEREAS, a graduate curriculum that is trauma-focused is believed to be timely and also one of the first of its kind, among Master of Social Work (MSW) programs in the state. Most important is that a program of this type is actually an initial offering among Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) institutions of higher learning and is anticipated to bring additional distinction to the social work program at Virginia State University.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the Master of Social Work (MSW).

ead, Rector

Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

Date

## **RESOLUTION OF THE**

### VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS

## **APPROVAL OF**

### MS DEGREE IN DATA ANALYTICS ENGINEERING

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.5 of the Board of Visitors Bylaws provides that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee shall have control and oversight over all academic and student programs and activities. Academic and student programs and activities of the University include curriculum, land-grant, faculty appointments, promotion, tenure and compensation, recruitment, admissions and registration, residence life, health services, cultural affairs, student organizations, athletics, and such other related matters as shall be so recognized by the Board; and

WHEREAS, VSU proposed MS degree in Data Analytics Engineering program will address the current and future industry and government needs for data scientists/analytics workforce at a local, regional, state, national, and global levels; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the program is to educate future data scientists and data analytics experts who have theoretical and technical expertise as well as pragmatic knowledge to take on data intensive research and data intensive industry projects. The program will specifically focus on producing data engineers/scientists with analytical skills and the understanding of methodologies and technologies necessary for data-driven decision making; and

**WHEREAS**, the main visions of our proposed Data Analytics Engineering program at VSU is to fill the currently existing diversity and gender gaps in the data engineering/science workforce. There exists a great shortage of data professionals in America. The number of data engineers on the market today is fewer than 200,000 while the number of data science jobs exceeds 490,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the MS Degree in Data Analytics Engineering.

tead Rector

Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

Date

### VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

## **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A GIFT FEE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University ("VSU" or "University") have the authority to review and approve endowment related matters and review and approve the University's financial management; and

WHEREAS, Virginia State University through Institutional Advancement raises both charitable and non-charitable funds to support the priorities of the institution; and

WHEREAS, implementing a gift fee of 4% for all contributions to non-endowed funds provides additional resources for Institutional Advancement to execute a fundraising campaign and support activities related to development and fundraising; and

WHEREAS, the governing board determines the gift fee with recommendations from the Institutional Advancement Committee and the Facilities, Finance, and Audit Committee.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors approves to implement a gift fee for all contributions to the University to non-endowed funds at the rate of 4%. The Board of Visitors reserves the right to review this increase annually as the market dictates.

instead. Rector

Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

Date