

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

*The Full Board Meeting will be held on the 2nd floor of the Gateway Dining & Events Center
Salon A, on the campus of Virginia State University*

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Harry Black, Rector
Mr. Huron F. Winstead, Vice Rector
Ms. Thursa Crittenden, Secretary
Ms. Pamela A. Currey
Dr. Daryl C. Dance
Mr. Michael Flemming
Mr. Charlie W. Hill
Dr. Alma C. Hobbs
Ms. Jennifer Hunter
Mr. Paul Koonce
Mr. Xavier Richardson (*absent*)
Mr. Glenn Sessoms (*absent*)
Mr. James J.L. Stegmaier
Mr. Wayne Turnage
Mr. Gregory Whirley
Dr. James Norman, Faculty Representative to the Board
Mr. Cody Mitchell, Student Representative to the Board

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Letizia Gambrell-Boone, Vice President for Student Success and Engagement
Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President for Administration
Ms. Reshunda Mahone, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Dr. G. Dale Wesson, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Mr. Rodney Hall, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management
Ms. Pamela Turner, Director of Communications
Mr. Osubi Craig, Special Assistant to the President for Special Projects and Initiatives
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Special Assistant to the President/Board Liaison
Ms. Sheila Alves, Internal Chief Audit Executive

Legal Counsel Present:

Ms. Carrie Nee, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Chief, Education Section
Ms. Ramona Taylor, University Legal Counsel
Ms. Bonnie N. Holmes, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel

Other Attendees:

Dr. Robert Corley, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Franklin Johnson, Jr., VSU Alumni Association
Paula McCapes, President, Staff Senate
Travis Edmonds, Information Technology
Danette Johnson, President's Office
Yourdonus James, Office of Conference Services
Senator Roslyn Dance
Delegate Lascharese Aird
Karen Campbell, Verizon
Marcus Newsome, Petersburg Schools Supt.
Jason Chandler, Principal, Dinwiddie County Middle School
Dr. Melody Hackney, Superintendent, Hopewell Public Schools
Shannon Royster, Principal, Carter G. Woodson Middle
Danielle Davis, Principal, Vernon Johns Middle School
Kristi DiSonza, Vernon Johns Middle School
Melissa Johnson, Wallace Grant & VSU
Brenda Finch, VSU-Verizon
Dr. Willis Walter, College of Education
Durba Chatterjee, Institutional Advancement
Charmica Epps, Institutional Advancement
Stephen Wilson, Institutional Advancement
Mario White, Institutional Advancement
Clarence Nelson, Institutional Advancement
Kiersten Jefferson, Institutional Advancement
Susan Moening, Institutional Advancement
Jacqueline Smith, Institutional Advancement
Jesse Vaughan, Advance Creative Group @ VSU
Shelly Bazemore, College of Education
Brianna MENCHION
Patricia Aldridge, College of Education
Elizabeth Harrison, Verizon
Harriett Wynn, College of Education
Linda Person, College of Education
Chidera Nhiwunka-Ifeanyi, Student
Dr. Jame'l Hodges, Student Success & Engagement
Dr. Tia Minnis, Academic Affairs
Victor Vilchiz, Chemistry Dept.
Dr. John Fife, Faculty member
Robert Wieman, Dept. of Mathematics
Brae Fletcher, HCASC
Dan Roberts, Honors Program
John Brinson, HCASC
Sierra Turner, Student
Beverly Everson-Jones, VSU Foundation

OPENING REMARKS

Rector Black invited Dr. Robert Corley, Associate Vice Provost, to lead the invocation.

RECTOR'S REMARKS

The Rector had no remarks.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Abdullah indicated that the University's SACSCOC reaffirmation process was successful and acknowledged Provost Donald Palm and his staff for their commitment and leadership. The gallery also expressed appreciation to Dr. Palm and his staff. The University will now build upon what it learned through the reaffirmation process to complete the next strategic plan. President Abdullah gave an update on the University Report Card but indicated that the final report card for 2017-2018 would be presented in August.

The President acknowledged receipt of the Wallace Foundation Grant funds which support the University's transformative work on the national based University Principal Preparation Project. President Abdullah highlighted faculty and student achievements. Faculty members, Dr. Victor Vilchiz and Dr. John Fife, were recognized for their achievement in being accepted into the 2018 Harvard Management Development Program. Thirteen students in the College of Business received recognition for awards at the Virginia Future Business Leaders of America Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership and Business Competition. In addition, Myia Jones and Ke-ana Williams, received recognition for acceptance into study abroad programs in Berlin, Germany, and London, England.

COMMITTEE SESSIONS

The Rector adjourned the meeting of the Full Board to allow for board committee meetings with the Board functioning as a committee of the whole.

Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee

(Committee Members Present: Flemming, Hill, Koonce, Stegmaier, Winstead, Whirley, Black)

Mr. Michael Flemming, Committee Chair, convened the Facilities, Finance, and Audit Committee (FFA). Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Finance, presented information to support three resolutions for the Board's approval: Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget, Resolution to approve Tuition, Fees, Room and Board Rates for 2018-2019, and the Resolution for Annual Review of the Composite Financial Index (CFI). At the request of the Chair, Mr. Koonce and Mr. Whirley shared their perspectives about the tuition increase and budget discussed at the FFA Committee meeting on April 12, 2018.

Discussion followed regarding the resolution for approval of the FY 2018-2019 Operating Budget. At the April 12th FFA committee meeting, board members recommended changing the resolution to reflect that the President will have authority to re-allocate funds subject to the approval of the Board. Mr. Flemming stated that the resolution presented for approval does not reflect the change because the administration has requested more time to dialogue with other university chief financial officers who operate under a similar approval process. The administration will report back to the board on this issue early in the next fiscal year. After further discussion, the Committee recommended the resolutions for approval to the full Board.

Mr. Davenport presented the following information items:

- VSU Annual Audit Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2017
- VSU Report on Internal Controls for the Year Ended June 30, 2017
- VSU Corrective Action Work Plan for FY 2017
- FY 2017-2018 Budget to Actual Report as of March 31, 2018 (Expanded)
- FY 2017-2018 Actual to Actual Report as of March 31, 2018 (New)

- Schedule of Capital Projects as of March 31, 2018 (New)

Ms. Sheila Alves, Chief Audit Executive, presented an Internal Audit update. The update included the Internal Audit Plan Status, Internal Audit Staffing Status, Hotline Summary, and Internal Audit's Corrective Action Plan.

Mr. Hubert Harris, Vice President for Division of Administration, presented a technology update which included the technology services ecosystem issues. Mr. Harris also addressed the problem of identity and access management cited in the SACSCOC site visit and the audit finding and presented solutions to the problem.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

(Committee Members Present: Dance, Hill, Hobbs, Whirley, Norman, Mitchell, Black)

Dr. Alma Hobbs, Committee Chair, convened the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Mr. Hubert Harris presented an update on campus safety including 2017 crime statistics for VSU and crime statistics for all Virginia public colleges and universities, 2013-2016. Mr. Harris gave an overview of the VSU Security Plan including recently hired officers and staff in the Department of Police and Public Safety.

Mr. Rodney Hall, Asst. Vice President for Enrollment Management, presented an enrollment update which included year to date enrollment trends since fall 2016 for freshmen and transfer students. Mr. Hall also shared highlights from the Open House held April 14, 2018.

Dr. Letizia Gambrell-Boone, Vice President for Student Success & Engagement, recognized Dr. Sabin Duncan, Executive Director of the Academic Center for Excellence, and Dr. Jame'l Hodges, Associate Vice President, for their outstanding work in the Division. Dr. Gambrell-Boone presented updates on the retention rate to include information on registration of returning students for fall 2018. Dr. Gambrell-Boone shared some of the division highlights and successful student engagement activities and experiences since the last Board meeting.

Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, recognized Dr. Tia Minnis, Associate Vice Provost/Exec. Director, Institutional Effectiveness, for her leadership in the SACSCOC reaffirmation process. Dr. Palm stated that he would present several resolutions for the Board's approval in closed session: Candidates for Promotion and Tenure, Candidates for Faculty Emeritus, Candidates for Honorary Degrees. In open session, Dr. Palm presented the Credit Acceptance Policy for Board approval. Dr. Palm presented information items on the SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process, the Strategic Plan, and the Quality Enhancement Plan.

Institutional Advancement Committee

(Committee Members Present: Crittenden, Hobbs, Hunter, Koonce, Flemming, Black)

Ms. Jennifer Hunter, Committee Chair, convened the Institutional Advancement Committee. Mr. Osubi Craig, Special Asst to the President and Director, Government Relations, presented updates from the Virginia General Assembly regarding the 2018-19 Governor's proposed budget and its impact on colleges and universities. Mr. Craig also presented updates on VSU's application for Level II, and federal advocacy with the Investment and Opportunity Act and the Farm Bill.

Dr. G. Dale Wesson, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, presented data from the Office of Sponsored Research including research expenditures and indirect cost collected year to date. He also presented information on the University's economic development activities in the Petersburg, VA area. Dr. Wesson recognized Dr. Jewel Bronaugh, Executive Director of CAREO, who has accepted the position as Commissioner of the Virginia Agriculture and Consumer Sciences. The gallery congratulated Dr. Bronaugh.

Institutional Advancement Committee *(continued)*

Ms. Pamela Tolson Turner shared two new developments in her area: the VSU Communications Plan, which will be published and shared with the Board for information; and establishment of an Internal PR Advisory Council. The Council is composed of VSU Stakeholders to increase awareness of the VSU mission, core, values, campus culture and academic programs. Ms. Turner also shared the forms of media currently used to communicate the VSU story; i.e., print, online blogs, digital (television), and social media.

Mr. Franklin Johnson, Jr., President of the VSU Alumni Association, shared information about the Association's chapters and current membership, and its efforts in alumni giving, recruitment of new members, and community service. The Alumni Association is visible in its support as it partners with Institutional Advancement, the Department of Athletics, and with the Division of Academic Affairs throughout the academic year. Mr. Johnson announced that the Alumna of the Year was Sharon E. Crenshaw, Class of 1979.

Ms. Reshunda Mahone, Vice President for Institutional Advancement (IA), provided updates on fundraising efforts and activities of the Institutional Advancement Division. The IA Fundraising Dashboard displayed data that the total dollars raised as of April 26, 2018 have surpassed the total dollars raised year to date in 2017. Ms. Mahone thanked the Board Members for participating in calls with the IA staff. The conversations helped build a pipeline of new prospects and for giving input on the strategic vision for Opportunities of Excellence. As a result, the IA team action items include conducting prospect research, planning cultivation events in the state, developing and refining opportunities of excellence, and preparing for an intensive and comprehensive campaign.

Ms. Hunter expressed gratitude to the Board for its leadership in giving and supporting the efforts of the IA team. She also thanked the IA team for their hard work in achieving such positive results. Ms. Hunter acknowledged that it was a cause for celebration to know that we have already surpassed the total dollars raised year to date in 2017. She stated that we should not be complacent about where we are but excited about where we are headed.

Personnel and Compensation Committee

(Committee members present: James Stegmaier, Huron Winstead, Thursa Crittenden, Jennifer Hunter, Harry Black)

Mr. James Stegmaier, Vice Chair, convened the Committee meeting which went into closed session with the full Board to discuss the President's Performance Review.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with § 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the *Code of Virginia*, Ms. Crittenden moved to go into closed session at 3:27 p.m. for discussion of personnel matters specifically regarding the President's Performance Review.

The motion provided that Carrie Nee, Senior Assistant Attorney General, attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary, and/or her presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The Board reconvened in open session at 4:15 p.m. in accordance with § 2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Crittenden conducted the poll in which all board members certified that the Board only discussed personnel matters. All board members present certified compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with § 2.2-3711(A)(1) and 2.2-3711(A)(11) of the *Code of Virginia*, Ms. Crittenden moved to go into closed session at 5:12 p.m. for discussion or consideration of promotion and tenure, faculty emeritus, and/or honorary degrees and/or special awards.

The motion provided that President Makola Abdullah, Dr. Donald Palm, Provost; Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel, and Dr. Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the

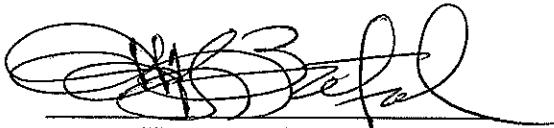
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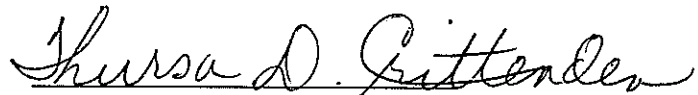
CHECK PRESENTATION

During the morning break, the Board welcomed Ms. Karen Campbell who presented a check for \$300,000 in support of the new Verizon partnership with VSU. The partnership includes a 2-year grant for innovative learning for minority males, specifically, middle school students. Senator Roslyn Dance, Delegate Lascharese Aird, and representatives from Verizon, the VSU College of Education, Petersburg Public Schools, Hopewell Public Schools, Dinwiddie County Public Schools, and the Institutional Advancement team attended the check presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m.


Huron F. Winstead, Rector


Thursa D. Crittenden, Secretary

8.10.18
Date

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