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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS
9:00 A.M.; THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022
Gateway Dining & Event Center
(on the campus of Virginia State University)
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER Ms. Pamela A. Currey, Chair

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION (*Pastor Jasmyn Graham, Director of Campus Ministries*)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any)

- September 15, 2022 Committee Meeting

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Division of Academic & Student Affairs Dr. Donald E. Palm III
Executive Vice President/Provost

- Approval Item:

- Information Items:

- College of Natural & Health Sciences (Overview)..... Dr. Derrick Scott
Dean, College of Natural & Health Sciences
- Enrollment Management Report Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter
Asst. Vice Provost for Enrollment Management
- Student Success & Engagement Ms. Regina Barnett-Tyler
Assoc. Vice Provost, Student Success & Engagement
- Vision for the Division of Academic Affairs..... Dr. Donald E. Palm, III
Executive Vice President/Provost

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.

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, November 17, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Pamela Curry, Chair, called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Gateway Dining & Event Center located on the campus of Virginia State University.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present:

Ms. Pam Currey, Chair
Dr. Christine Darden (*absent*)
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III (*participated by electronic means*)
Mr. Edward Owens
Dr. Valerie Brown, (Rector, ex-officio)
Dr. Leonard Githinji, Faculty Representative
Ms. Yania Campbell, Student Representative (*absent*)

Other Members Present:

Mr. Victor Branch
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Dr. Harold Green, Jr.
Mr. Glenn Sessoms

Dr. Leonard Haynes participated in the committee meeting by conference telephone from Silver Springs, MD. Dr. Haynes was unable to physically attend the meeting due to personal reasons.

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Donald Palm, Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Tonya Hall, Vice President for External Relations
Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer
Shawri King-Casey, Vice President for Institutional Integrity & Compliance
Dr. Annie C. Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board Operations & Relations
Rodney Hall, Deputy Chief of Staff
Dr. Tia Minnis, Vice Provost for Academic Success, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness
Dr. Robert Corley, Vice Provost for Academic and Student Affairs
Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge, Asst. Vice President/Director of Communications
Maurion Edwards, CIO/Technology Services
Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Chief David Bragg, Asst. Vice President/Chief, VSU Police and Public Safety

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Dr. Kawachi Clemons, Vice President for Academics, Innovation & Strategic Initiatives
Tanya Simmons, Associate Vice President for Human Resources
Regina Barnett-Tyler, Associate Vice Provost, Student Success & Engagement

Legal Counsel Present:

Cynthia Norwood Marquez, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Other Attendees:

Pastor Jasmyn Graham, Campus Ministries
Yourdonus James, Office of Conference Services
Danette Johnson, President's Office
Debbie Jefferson, President's Office
Marjorie Muse, President's Office
Kendra White, Office of Compliance/Policy Analyst
Franklin Antonio, Technology Services
Travis Edmonds, Technology Services
Derrick Jennings, Technology Services
Courtney Grice, Institutional Advancement
William Sawyer, Institutional Advancement
Franklin Johnson-Norwood, Institutional Advancement

INVOCATION

Chair Currey invited Pastor Graham to offer the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair made a change in the agenda to add a closed session at the end of the meeting. The revised agenda was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes from the September 15, 2022 meeting by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Abdullah welcomed the board members back to the campus and thanked them for their service. He thanked Dr. Palm and his team for their diligence and hard work which will be evident in their presentations.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Palm presented Dr. Derrick Scott, who was appointed as the new Dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences in August 2022. Dr. Scott introduced himself to the Board and presented a brief overview of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) of the College and some of his new initiatives for the College.

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Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter provided an update on preliminary enrollment numbers for the spring 2023 and fall 2023 semesters. She presented an overview of the enrollment trend for a 5-year period (fall 2018 to fall 2022) for undergraduates and graduates showing an overall enrollment increase of 8% and undergraduate enrollment increase of 10%. Dr. Brooks-Walter also presented a comparison of VSU's undergraduate student retention from fall 2017-fall 2021. She also reviewed the student retention strategy which includes entry and transition, community building, learning and academic support, data and communication, counseling and advising. The fall 2022 retention rate is 73% which is 3% lower than last year. Dr. Brooks-Walter gave an overview of the retention initiatives to support new students.

Dr. Palm gave a brief update on the status of student housing. He then presented a snapshot of the academic colleges, accreditation, fall 2022 student enrollment profile, and the VSU Trojan class of 2026 (new students). Dr. Palm also gave an update on the University strategic plan with a focus on the significant progress in the implementation of the eight strategic objectives under Strategic Plan Priority 2: Sustain Academic Excellence. He concluded his presentation with discussion of the administration's vision for the Division of Academic Affairs. In summary, the COVID-19 epidemic exposed the disparities in the areas of healthcare, technology, and social justice; and VSU is a unique position to lead and address those disparities. As a result, the vision of this administration is to implement academic programs to produce leaders who will address disparities in the areas of healthcare, technology, and social justice.

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Currey requested a motion to enter closed meeting at 11:13 a.m. for the discussion or consideration of honorary degrees or special awards pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (11), specifically relating to: discussion and consideration of an honorary degree. The motion was made and properly seconded. Other attendees including Cynthia Norwood Marquez, Legal Counsel; Dr. Donald Palm, Kevin Davenport, Shawri King-Casey, Tonya Hall, and Annie C. Redd, Board Liaison.

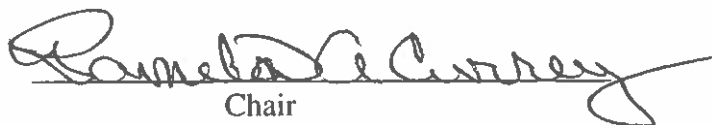
Following discussion, the Chair requested a motion to enter open session. The motion was made and properly seconded. The committee voted by voice vote. In open session, the Chair read the certification statement: During its closed meeting, the committee discussed only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and only those public business matters identified in the motion convening the committee in closed session. The Chair requested a motion to certify the closed meeting. The motion was made and properly seconded. The committee voted by a roll call vote.

The Chair requested a motion to recommend approval of an honorary degree to Kay Cole James, Secretary of the Commonwealth to the full Board. The motion was made and properly seconded.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Currey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was received, properly seconded, and the committee voted by voice vote. The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m.

APPROVED:


Chair


Date