

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Friday, February 10, 2023

9:00 – 10:00 am.

The Gateway Dining & Events Center

**AGENDA
(as of 1.30.23)**

CALL TO ORDER **Dr. Valerie K. Brown, Rector**
The Code of Virginia §23.1-307(E) requires boards of visitors to hold public comment sessions prior to acting on any proposed increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees. In accordance with the Code, members of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors are present in open session to receive public comments on the proposed increase in mandatory fees. The vote on the proposed increase will take place at 10 am on March 21, 2023 at a meeting of the Board’s Executive Committee.

ROLL CALL (*DR. ANNIE C. REDD*)

INVOCATION (*PASTOR GRAHAM*)

INSTRUCTIONS (*DR. REDD*)

BUDGET INFORMATION SESSION **Mr. Kevin Davenport**
Senior Vice President, Finance & Administration/CFO

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3-minute time limit)

All remarks must be relevant to the proposed increase in mandatory fees. The public comments will become a part of the public record and made available to the Board prior to the March 21st Executive Committee meeting where the vote on the proposed increase will be taken.

- The President of the Student Government Association and Student Representative to the Board (Time limit waived)
- Individuals who pre-registered
- Additional speakers (if time permits)

The Board will not respond to oral or written comments.

ADJOURNMENT

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS PUBLIC PERIOD
FOR PROPOSED INCREASE IN
2023-2024 MANDATORY FEES**

MEETING MINUTES

In accordance with Code of Virginia §23.1-307(E), requiring boards of visitors to hold public comment sessions prior to acting on any proposed increase in undergraduate tuition or mandatory fees, members of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors met in open session on Friday, February 10, 2023 in the Gateway Dining and Events Center on the VSU campus.

Rector Brown called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. In accordance with Code of Virginia §23.1-307(D), a public notice of the proposed range of increase was issued on January 13, 2023. The public notice included information about the public comment period. (Copy filed with permanent minutes).

Board members present:

Dr. Valerie K. Brown
Mr. William Murray
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove
Ms. Pamela Currey
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Ms. Shavonne Gordon
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III
Mr. Glenn Sessoms
Mr. Wayne Turnage (*electronic participation*)
Dr. Leonard Githinji, Faculty Representative
Ms. Yania Campbell, Student Representative

Legal Counsel present:

Cindy Norwood, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Others in attendance:

Dr. Annie C. Redd
Dr. Donald Palm
Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge
Pastor Jasmyn Graham
Kevin Davenport
Ri'Shawn Bassette
Travis Edmonds
Debbie Jefferson
Marjorie Muse

Budget Information Session

The session began with comments by Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration/CFO. Mr. Davenport stated that Virginia State University is not planning to increase its undergraduate in-state tuition rates. The University is considering a 0-3% increase to its out of state and graduate tuition rates and fees to address inflationary pressures and anticipated increased costs for utilities and security. Mr. Davenport presented the higher education price index versus the consumer price index for fiscal years 2018-2022 to address the inflationary pressures. He also presented 2022-2023 comparative in-state tuition and fee rates with other VA public institutions. Mr. Davenport also presented charts to show percentage changes in every fee category between the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year with the proposed increase factored in.

Public Comments

Rector Brown called on Dr. Annie C. Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board Operations & Relations, to review the guidelines for the public comment period. Each speaker was allotted three minutes to speak and were to limit their comments to the topic of tuition and fees. Speakers were asked to pre-register, and if any time remained, walk-ins would be given the opportunity to speak. The time limit was waived for the Student Government representative. If there were no additional speakers after the Student Government representative, the Board would close the Public Comment Period.

Ms. Yania Campbell, President of the Student Government Association, spoke before the board on behalf of the student body. Ms. Campbell submitted a copy of her remarks to be entered into the public record. (Copy filed with the permanent minutes.)

There were no other pre-registered speakers or walk-in speakers.

Dr. Redd announced that the public would have the opportunity to submit written comments to the Board by email, postal mail, or hand-delivery to the Office of the President. The due date for written comments is March 10, 2023. The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors is scheduled to act on the proposed increase in mandatory fees at 10 am, March 21, 2023. All public comments will be provided to the Board in preparation for that meeting and will become part of the public record.

The Rector adjourned the session at 9:41 a.m.

Valerie K Brown
Valerie K. Brown, Rector

Christine M. Darden
Christine M. Darden

4/21/23
Date

4/21/2023
Date