

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF
VISITORS COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL
ADVANCEMENT**

**1:30 P.M. THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025
Gateway Dining & Events Center
(on the campus of Virginia State University)
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)**

DRAFT AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER..... Mr. Edward Owens, Chair

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any)

- February 6, 2025, Committee Meeting

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

CLOSED SESSION

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Fundraising Dr. Makola Abdullah, President
- Government Relations Mr. Eldon Burton
 - 1. General Assembly Updates
 - a. Budget Update
 - 2. Gubernatorial Debate
- Communications Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge
 - 1. VSU on Where the Food Comes From
 - 2. VSU Customer Service Initiative
 - 3. Communications Update
 - 4. Greater Happens Here Recap/Case Study
- Institutional Advancement
 - 1. VSU National Alumni Association Update..... Mrs. Laurie Carpenter
President, National Association of Alumni

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Edward Owens, Chair, called the meeting of the Institutional Advancement Committee to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the Gateway Dining & Events Center.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Valerie K. Brown, Rector
Mr. Edward Owens, Chair
Mr. Victor K. Branch, Vice Chair
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Ms. Verndell Robinson
Mr. Robert Thompson
Mr. Kishore S. Thota (*absent*)

BOARD APPOINTEES:

Professor Tracy Jackson, Faculty Representative
Mr. Yousif Omer, SGA Representative (*absent*)

Legal Counsel

Mr. Nathan Moberly

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Joseph A. K. Chase, Jr.
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove
Dr. Harold Green, Jr.
Mr. Peter McPherson
Mr. Jon Moore (*arrived @ 2:14 p.m.*)

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Tia A. Minnis, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Kevin Davenport, Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration/CFO,
Ms. Tonya S. Hall, Vice President for Advancement and External Engagement
Ms. Shawri King-Casey, Vice President for Institutional Integrity and Compliance
Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Dr. Annie Redd, Chief of Staff/Director, Board of Operations & Relations

INVOCATION:

Chair Owens called Dr. Joseph A.F. Chase, Jr., to deliver the invocation.

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MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Committee approved the agenda by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The Committee approved minutes from the February 6, 2025, meeting by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/ PRESENTATION:

President Abdullah greeted and thanked the Board members for returning to the VSU campus. The President thanked the Committee of Institutional Advancement for their dedication.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

President Abdullah presented an overview of the Office of Institutional Advancement's fundraising dashboard as of April 12, 2025.

Mr. Eldon Burton gave a brief update on the General Assembly updates, budget updates, and the Virginia Gubernatorial Debate at the VSU Multi-Purpose Center on September 16, 2025. This debate is sponsored by AARP Virginia and produced by Richmond's WTVR-CBS 6. The People's Debate is Virginia's oldest and most widely broadcast statewide debate.

Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge gave an amazing presentation on how "GREATER HAPPENS HERE" was established at Virginia State /University. Dr. Dandridge also gave a brief overview of VSU on Where the Food Comes From, VSU Customer Service Initiative Communications Update, and Greater Happens Here Recap/Case Study.

Ms. Laurie Carpenter, President of the VSU National Alumni Association, provided an update on the Association's activities and announced Ms. Cicily Marsh had been selected as the Alumna of the Year. Ms. Marsh addressed the Board and expressed gratitude for the recognition of her contributions to her below alma mater.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chair, Mr. Edward Owens, 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 2:26 p.m.

Chair

Date