

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
FULL BOARD MEETING
9:00 A.M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025
Gateway Dining & Event Center, 2nd Floor
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)

DRAFT AGENDA

Rector Valerie K. Brown, Presiding

Call to OrderDr. Valerie K. Brown, Rector

Roll CallMr. Kishore Thota, Secretary

Invocation

Rector’s Remarks

Approval of Agenda

Minutes from Previous Meetings:

- Σ November 15, 2024, Full Board Minutes

President’s Report..... Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

Closed Session (if necessary)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Σ Academic & Student Affairs Committee

- **Approval Item(s):** None

- **Information Item(s):**
 - Summary of Updates
 - Reports from the Faculty and Student Representatives to the Board
 - Tracy L. Jackson, Esq., Faculty Senate Chair
 - Mr. Yousif Omer, Student Government Association President

Σ Facilities & Finance Committee

- **Approval Item(s):** None

- **Information Item(s):** Summary of Updates

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Σ Institutional Advancement Committee

- **Approval Item(s):** None

- **Information Item(s):**
 - Summary of Updates

Σ Audit & Compliance Committee

- **Approval Item(s):** None

- **Information Item(s):**
 - Summary of Updates

Report of Affiliated Foundation(s) Legal

Counsel Update *(if any)*

Board Self-Assessment of its Performance Announcements

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
DRAFT FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 7, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Rector Valerie Brown called the meeting of the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors (Board) to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. in the Gateway Dining & Event Center. The Rector read a statement that the Full Board meeting is available to the general public via livestream in compliance with the Commonwealth of Virginia open meeting laws. The public may access the Full Board meeting on the VSU website homepage (www.vsu.edu) at the link, *VSU Live Events*. There will not be an opportunity for (general) public comment at the meeting. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VSU will provide sign language interpreter (s) during the live stream ([IT Accessibility Laws and Policies ISection508.gov](http://IT%20Accessibility%20Laws%20and%20Policies%20Section508.gov)). If viewers experience a technical interruption, they may contact the VSU Helpdesk at (804) 524-5210. If there is an interruption in the live stream, we will stop the meeting until the interruption is cleared up.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Valerie Brown
Mr. Victor Branch
Dr. Joseph A.F. Chase, Jr.
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove (*arrived @ 9:25am*)
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Ms. Daphne Meeks
Mr. Peter McPherson
Ms. Verndell Robinson
Mr. Robert Thompson
Mr. Dennis L. Via
Dr. Leonard Haynes, III (*Virtual due to inclement weather*)
Dr. Harold Green
Mr. Edward Owens

BOARD APPOINTEES:

Dr. Tracy Jackson, Faculty Representative
Mr. Yousif Omer, Student Representative

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ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

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

LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT:

Nathan Moberly, Assistant Attorney General

INVOCATION

The Chair called Pastor Seth Ahmad-McQueen, to deliver the invocation.

RECTOR'S OPENING REMARKS

Rector Brown welcomed everyone and encouraged everyone to continue to participate and support.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Rector called for the agenda to be approved. The motion was received, properly seconded, and approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Rector called for approval of the November 15, 2024, Full Board Meeting Minutes. The motion was received, properly seconded, and approved by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Abdullah thanked the board members for their time and commitment to the University. He then gave a brief overview of developments at the University since the last board meeting.

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CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into closed session for the discussion or consideration of legal matters pursuant to 2.2-3711 (A)(1), specifically, "...Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals; namely specific items concerning dual employment of immediate family members by public institutions of higher education under Virginia Code § 2.2-3106 (C)(2) and assignment of leadership positions. President Abdullah, Dr. Minnis, Dr. Annie C. Redd and Legal Counsel Nathan Moberly attended.

Upon returning to the open session, the Board certified by roll call vote that during its closed meeting, the Board 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 Board in closed session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Chairs summarized the actions and information items discussed during their meetings. Professor Tracy Jackson, Faculty Senate Chair, gave remarks on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Yousif Omer, the Student Government Association President, gave remarks on behalf of the Student Government. There were no updates from the Staff Senate.

REPORT of AFFILIATED FOUNDATIONS(S)

LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE (IF ANY)

BOARD ASSESSMENT OF ITS PERFORMANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Rector Brown called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was received and properly seconded, and the Committee voted by voice vote. The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:03 am.

Valerie K. Brown, Rector

Kishore Thota, Secretary

Date

Date