

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
9:00 a.m.; THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023
Gateway Dining & Events Center
(on the campus of Virginia State University)
(No Public Comment Period Scheduled)**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER..... Dr. Leonard Haynes, III, Chair

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION (*Pastor Seth Ahmad-McQueen, Director of Campus Ministries*)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (if any)

- September 14, 2023, Committee Meeting

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS..... Dr. Makola M. Abdullah

CLOSED SESSION (if any)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Expanding VSU Athletics... Ms. Peggy Davis
Associate Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletic
- College of Agriculture... ..Dr. Robert Corley
Dean, College of Agriculture/Director of Land-Grant Programs
- Enrollment Management Report..... Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter
VP, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
- Extended Education and Professional Studies... . Dr. Tracy Barley
Vice Provost for Distance Learning and Extended Studies
- Career Services .Mr. Joseph Lyons
Executive Director, Career Services

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Leonard Haynes, Chair, called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held in the Gateway Dining & Event Center on Virginia State University's campus.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Leonard Haynes, III (Chair)
Mr. Thomas Cosgrove (*Electronic Communication*)
Mr. Edward Owens
Thomas Cosgrove
Dr. Robert Denton, Jr.
Ms. Daphne Meeks
Dr. Valerie Brown, Rector (ex-officio)

Board Appointees:

Dr. Leonard Githinji, Faculty Representative
Ms. Kailyn Haye, Student Representative

Other Members Present:

Mr. Victor Branch
Dr. Joseph A. F. Chase, Jr.

Administration Present:

Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President
Dr. Tia Minnis, Interim 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

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Other Attendees:

Dr. Robert Corley, Dean of the College of Agriculture/Director of Land-Grant Programs
Dr. Gwendolyn Dandridge, Asst. Vice President/Director of Communications
Dr. Michelle Corley, Special Assistant to the Provost
Mr. Maurion Edwards, CIO/Technology Services
Dr. Tracey Barley, Vice Provost for Digital Learning & Extended Studies
Chief David Bragg, Asst. Vice President/Chief, VSU Police and Public Safety
Yourdonus James, Director of Conference Services
Rodney Hall, Deputy Chief of Staff
Danette Johnson, President's Office
Debbie Jefferson, President's Office
Tina Cabrera, President's Office
Kendra White, Office of Compliance/Policy Analyst
Sylvia Jones, Office of the Provost
Derrick Jennings, Technology Services
Adrian Petway, Associate VP/Finance

INVOCATION

Chair Haynes invited Pastor Seth Ahmad-McQueen to offer the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The committee approved the agenda by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The committee approved the minutes from the September 15, 2023 meeting by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Abdullah welcomed and acknowledged the board members back to the campus and thanked them for their service to VSU.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Expanding VSU Athletics

Dr. Minnis presented Ms. Peggy Davis to give an overview of Expanding VSU Athletics. According to Ms. Davis, VSU knows that athletics are an adjunct to academics and the University's objective. This academic year, VSU has added men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, and women's soccer. VSU will introduce men's soccer as a sponsored sport the following year. The addition of these sports will aid in enrollment. With the addition of the sports, VSU could enroll eighty additional athletes. The financial aspect has benefited VSU with the enrollment.

College of Agriculture

Dr. Robert Corley, Dean of the College of Agriculture, gave a brief overview of VSU College of Agriculture's updates and impacts, where "Greater Grows Here." VSU's Strategic Plan Priority Six is to To elevate the Agricultural Research, Cooperative Extension Operations, and Agricultural Academic Areas to carry out the land-grant mission for the University throughout the community, the Commonwealth, nationally, and globally. Dr. Corley explained that The United States Department of

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Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has Strategic Goals to expand and strengthen academic opportunities and create and conduct national and international agricultural research programs. Dr. Corley briefly summarized Agency 212 "Growing Greater Academic Programs," such as accreditations and certificates. Student Success, experimental learning, and workforce will enhance the student experience through engagement. Dr. Corley also expanded on the Agricultural Research Station (234), Animal Science, International Programs, Food, Ag Systems, agroforestry, and the Integrated well-being of Youth, Families, and Communities. Extension and Research Funding by source: Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Research Station received \$51,023,962 from federal, state, and local government, as well as from grants, contracts, and other sources.

Enrollment Management Report

Dr. Minnis presented Dr. Alexis Brooks-Walter to give an overview of Housing. VSU has submitted the Enrollment numbers to SCHEV and all the reporting agencies where, in Housing, there will be Policy updates (priority deadline for first-year students only), Public/Private Partnerships, and Minor renovations to the residence halls. In 2024, VSU will implement a Roommate Matching System.

Extended Education and Professional Studies Program

Dr. Tracy Barley gave an overview of digital learning and extended studies, including dual enrollment, off-campus sites, VSU Online, Trojan Advance Degree Completion, and continuing education and professional studies. For specific populations, VSU offers workforce credentials and develops degree pathways. To fit with its goals, the Program hired and transitioned additional workers. A \$315,000 USDA Distance Learning Technology Grant has been awarded to VSU to expand Distance Education in rural Virginia. Additionally, we engaged Procure Encoura Digital Services to increase enrollment and Procure EduVentures Research to generate portfolios. VSU hired the Parish Group to handle prospects, awarded Anthology OI to align the curriculum with the workforce; and awarded Everspring, an OPM, to create 81 online courses.

Dr. Barley gave an overview of the Fort Gregg Adams and VSU Military Friendly Initiative to be the nation's leading military-friendly University, providing veterans, service members, and their families with the highest quality education and support to achieve their academic and professional goals.

Career Services

Mr. Joseph Lyons gave an overview of Career Services; the mission is to empower students and alumni to achieve their career and educational goals by providing outstanding career development programs and services. Mr. Lyons stated that in Career Services, VSU empowers our students to develop themselves professionally by providing Experiential learning and support for short- and long-term career goal development, Liaison services to private and government employers, resume and cover letter development, and general and discipline-specific career expo.

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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Haynes 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 11:23 a.m.

APPROVED:

Lemuel L. Haynes
Chair

2/8/24
Date