

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
Virginia State University, Virginia 23806

BOARD MEETING
Thursday, November 19, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Harry Black, Rector, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (“VSU”) Board of Visitors (“Board”) to order in Room A of the Gateway Dining Event Center at 9:39 a.m.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Harry Black, Rector
Mr. Willie C. Randall, Vice Rector
Ms. Daphne M. Reid, Secretary
Ms. Thursa Crittenden
Dr. Daryl Dance
Dr. Robert E. Denton, Jr. (*absent*)
Mr. Michael Flemming
Mr. Charlie Hill
Dr. Alma Hobbs
Mr. Frederick S. Humphries, Jr. (*absent*)
Ms. Jennifer Hunter
Mr. Xavier Richardson (*arrived 9:45 a.m.*)
Mr. Glenn Sessoms
Mr. Wayne Turnage
Mr. Huron Winstead
Dr. Milton O. Faison, Faculty Representative to the Board
Mr. Marshawn Shelton, Student Representative to the Board

Administration Present:

Dr. Pamela V. Hammond, Interim President
Dr. Letizia Gambrell-Boone, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. W. Weldon Hill, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Garvin Maffett, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Dr. Anthony Thompson, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mr. Hubert Harris, Chief of Staff
Ms. Joanne Curtis Taylor, Chief Audit Executive
Mr. Thomas Reed, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Legal Counsel Present:

Mr. Ronald C. Forehand, Office of the Attorney General
Ms. Ramona L. Taylor, University Legal Counsel
Ms. Christy G. Brown, Paralegal, University Legal Counsel
Ms. Bonnie J. Holmes, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel

Other Attendees:

Dr. Robert Corley, III, Interim Dean, College of Education
Mr. Charles Brockett,
Mr. Henry DeBose, Student Affairs
Mr. Travis Edmonds, Office of Information Technology
Ms. Sandra Evans, University College
Ms. Jane Harris, Capital Outlay
Ms. Melanie Hubbard, Campus Ministries
Mr. Franklin Johnson, Jr., Virginia State University Alumni Association
Mr. Frank Jones,
Ms. Karen Kapsidelis, Richmond Times Dispatch
Mr. Victor Landry, Spectra Venue Management
Dr. Andrew Kanu, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Science
Mr. Chad Logan
Mr. Trent Merritt, Spectra Venue Management
Ms. Kienna Morris, Residence Life
Mr. Monroe "Bud" Moseley, Isaacson, Miller
Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun, Dean, College of Business
Mr. Millard "Pete" Stith, Real Estate Foundation
Ms. Tendai Tevera
Ms. Chris Wallace, Office of the President
Mr. Ephfrom Walker, Internal Audit
Ms. Marshai Walters, Student Government Association
Mr. Ronald O. White, Governmental and External Relations
Mr. Derek Wiggins
Ms. Michelle Cruz Williams, Isaacson, Miller
Mr. Johnathan Young

OPENING REMARKS

The Rector asked Melanie Hubbard of United Campus Ministries, Virginia State University, to lead the invocation.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with §§ 2.2-3711(A)(1), (19), and (29) of the *Code of Virginia*, Ms. Reid moved to go into closed session at 9:40 a.m. for consultation with legal counsel, more specifically, all related to presidential contracts. The motion provided that Attorney Forehand, Attorney Taylor, Ms. Holmes, Ms. Cruz Williams, Mr. Mosley, Mr. Young, Dr. Faison, Mr. Jones, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Reed, and Ms. Brown attend the closed meeting as their presence was deemed necessary to aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randall, and carried by voice vote.

The Board reconvened in open session at 11:15 a.m. in accordance with § 2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Reid conducted the poll in which all board members certified that the Board only consulted with legal counsel. All board members present certified compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Ms. Hunter moved for approval that the Rector be authorized to negotiate and execute a contract as President of the University with the individual or individuals discussed in closed meeting and under the terms discussed. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hobbs, and carried by roll call voice vote.

Mr. Randall moved for approval that the Rector be authorized to negotiate and execute an amended contract with Interim President Hammond consistent with the terms discussed in closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winstead, and carried by roll call voice vote.

Attorney Forehand made the following statement on behalf of the Virginia State University Board of Visitors:

The Board of Visitors will meet at an undisclosed time and in an undisclosed location within the next fifteen days to interview candidates for the presidency.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Interim President Dr. Pamela V. Hammond highlighted items from her transition report to include: the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) warning and the University's responsive reports; the strategic course set for her three priorities: the three areas stabilizing the finances, stabilizing enrollment and enhancing the brand; and promotion and new hires within the Office of Institutional Advancement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee

(Committee members present: Black, Crittenden, Hill, Randall, Turnage, Winstead)

Mr. Huron Winstead, Chair of the **Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee**, asked that Mr. Davenport provide an update on: management of the Multi-Purpose Center by Spectra Venue Management; first quarter budget report ending September 30, 2015; legislative requests; campus cross-functional partnerships; dining hall renovation update; campus security improvements; and the Dixon, Hughes Godman progress report on the Auditor of Public Accounts findings.

Mr. Trent Merritt, Regional Vice President for Spectra Venue Management introduced Mr. Victor Landry, the Spectra Venue General Manager for the Virginia State University's Multi-Purpose Center. Mr. Landry discussed: broad scope of the company; company background; regional presence; company relationships; quality standards; creative entrepreneurial ship; and next steps.

Mr. Davenport highlighted the first quarter budget report ending September 30, 2015.

Mr. Davenport discussed the legislative requests that were a part of the decision package of the 2016-2018 biennium package. Legislative requests include: \$1,565,000 in additional General Funds appropriation to increase financial assistance to students; \$1,000,000 the first year and \$2,000,000 the second in additional General Fund appropriation to support increased student financial assistance; \$727,000 in fiscal year 2017 and \$816,000 in fiscal year 2018 and beyond in additional General Fund appropriation to support increased operating and maintenance costs for three new buildings; \$272,000 in fiscal year 2017 in additional General Fund appropriation to support the relocation of admissions staff demolition of vacant buildings; funding for contractual services and maintenance support to fully deploy the Enterprise Banner Document Management (BDM) system; replacement of Daniel Gymnasium \$31,135,000; replacement of Harris Hall 27,800,000; and infrastructure improvements for campus safety, security and system reliability \$20,184,000.

Ms. Curtis-Taylor highlighted the Corrective Action Plan as of September 30, 2015, the Internal Audit September 2015 Quarterly Report, and current audit staffing levels.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with §§ 2.2-3711(A)(7), and (10) of the *Code of Virginia*, Ms. Reid moved to go into closed session at 1:15 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel, and for discussion or consideration of honorary degrees. The motion provided that Dr. Hill, Mr. Harris, Dr. Hammond, Attorney Forehand, Attorney Taylor, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Holmes attend the closed meeting as their presence was deemed necessary to aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randall, and carried by voice vote.

The Board reconvened in open session at 1:28 p.m. in accordance with § 2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Reid conducted the poll in which all board members certified that the Board only consulted with legal counsel and for discussion or consideration of honorary degrees. All board members present certified compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Academic and Student Affairs

(Committee members present: Dance, Flemming, Green, Hill, Hobbs, Turnage)

Dr. Daryl Dance reported on behalf of **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**, and presented and moved for approval the honorary degrees as discussed during closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randall.

Dr. Hill highlighted the Test Optional Policy criteria. The policy would allow students with a minimum high school grade point average of 3.0 to be admitted to VSU without submitting Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores.

Dr. Hill provided an update on: the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's (SCHEV) five-year rolling quantitative program productivity review of university academic programs; budgeted and actual spring enrollment; Complete College America (CCA) partnership; changes to the SCHEV program approval policies; Virginia Gubernatorial Executive Order Number 47: Governor's Council on Youth Entrepreneurship; and predictive analytics.

Mr. Harris discussed: completed Information Technology (IT) projects; inflight IT projects; data-driven decisions; business intelligence tools; moving the needle from: reporting to predicting; predictive analytics lifecycle; resources needed; year-to-date crime statistics; historical crime data 2013-2014; Department of Police and Public Safety (DPPS) issues; DPPS resources needed; and body camera considerations.

Dr. Gambrell-Boone acknowledged Ms. Kianna Rodrigues, a senior Management major in the Department of Management and Marketing who lost her life in a tragic automobile accident on October 24, 2015. She provided an update on: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) compliance requirements and the results of the 2014 and 2015 fiscal year financial aid audits, which resulted in no audit findings; all federal and state financial aid reporting requirements have been met; completion of the Department of Education's required biennial review of the University's 2013-2014 Drug and Alcohol Policy; meeting the SCHEV sexual assault certification requirement; residence hall occupancy strategy; student activities and programming; graduation exit survey; reinvigorating the VSU brand; 2015 Family Weekend; Homecoming 2015-2016; Welcome Week recap and Spring 2016 orientation.

Institutional Advancement

(Committee members present: Dance, Flemming, Hobbs, Hunter, Reid, Richardson, Sessoms)

Ms. Jennifer Hunter, Chair of the **Institutional Advancement Committee**, highlighted the committee meeting held in October 2015, foundation relationships, government relations strategy, approach and accomplishments, and Institutional Advancement follow-up items.

Dr. Maffett discussed the management process, relationship-building; the Institutional Advancement organization and structure, short term strategic focus, long term strategic focus, the Fiscal Year Comparison Summary Report through September 2015, and private major gifts received as of September 30, 2015.

Mr. Reed provided an update on the integrated 2015-2016 Communications Plan, the elevator speech, the message, communications toolkit, audiences, prospective student and families, funders (government) and donors, alumni, internal (including Board of Visitors), and crisis communications.

Mr. White discussed the two governmental and external relations priorities: secure the funding to support the needs of the students; and building relationships. Mr. Randall inquired as to a strategy concerning issues and areas of focus related to Virginia State University, discussion ensued. A clearer strategy will be presented to the Board during the January 2016 meeting as well as General Assembly activity; discussion ensued.

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting of the Board at 3:57 p.m. The reports of matters considered by the committees are included in the minutes of the Board's meeting held Friday, November 20, 2015.

**BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Friday, November 20, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Harry Black, Rector, called the meeting of the Virginia State University (“VSU”) Board of Visitors (“Board”) to order in Room A of the Gateway Dining Event Center at 9:37 a.m. Committee meetings were held Thursday and the reports of matters considered by the Board’s committees are included in these minutes.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Harry Black, Rector
Mr. Willie C. Randall, Vice Rector
Ms. Daphne M. Reid, Secretary
Ms. Thursa Crittenden
Dr. Daryl C. Dance
Dr. Robert E. Denton, Jr. (*absent*)
Mr. Michael Flemming
Mr. Charlie Hill
Dr. Alma Hobbs
Mr. Frederick S. Humphries, Jr. (*absent*)
Ms. Jennifer Hunter
Mr. Xavier Richardson
Mr. Glenn Sessoms
Mr. Wayne Turnage
Mr. Huron Winstead (*absent*)
Dr. Milton “Omar” Faison, Faculty Representative to the Board
Mr. Marshawn Shelton, Student Representative to the Board

Administration Present:

Dr. Pamela Hammond, Interim President
Dr. Letizia Gambrell-Boone, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. W. Weldon Hill, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Garvin Maffett, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Dr. Anthony Thompson, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Mr. Kevin Davenport, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mr. Hubert Harris, Chief of Staff
Ms. Joanne Curtis Taylor, Chief Audit Executive

Legal Counsel Present:

Ms. Ramona Taylor, University Legal Counsel
Ms. Christy G. Brown, Paralegal, University Legal Counsel
Ms. Bonnie J. Holmes, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel

Other Attendees:

Mr. Peter Blake
Mr. Henry Debose, Office of Student Affairs
Mr. Travis Edmonds, Office of Information Technology
Ms. Melanie Hubbard, Campus Ministries
Ms. Jane Harris, Capital Outlay
Mr. Thomas Reed, Director of Public Relations and Marketing
Mr. Leonard Sandridge
Mr. Kevin Schindler
Mr. Ronald Tillett, Managing Director and Head of Mid-Atlantic Public Finance
Mr. Ephfrom Walker, Internal Audit
Ms. Chris Wallace, Office of the President
Mr. Ronald O. White, Governmental and External Relations

OPENING REMARKS

The Rector asked Melanie Hubbard of United Campus Ministries, Virginia State University, to lead the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rector Black called for approval the minutes of the Board meeting held April 16-17, 2015. A motion for their approval was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Randall and the minutes were approved by roll call voice vote.

Rector Black called for approval the minutes of the Board meeting held September 17-18, 2015 (as amended). A motion for their approval was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Randall and the minutes were approved by roll call voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic and Student Affairs

(Committee members present: Dance, Flemming, Green, Hill, Hobbs, Turnage)

Dr. Daryl Dance reported on behalf of **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**. On behalf of the committee, Dr. Dance presented and moved for approval the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (LHD) for the Honorable Roslyn Dance. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Dr. Dance presented and moved for approval the posthumous award of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Management to Ms. Kianna Rodrigues. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Dr. Dance presented and moved for approval the Honorary Doctor of Science for Dr. Pamela V. Hammond. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Dr. Dance presented and moved for approval the Virginia State University Test-Optional Policy. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

Faculty Representative to the Board Report

Dr. Milton O. Faison highlighted program and faculty awards and Faculty Senate concerns regarding the Presidential Search process.

Student Representative to the Board Report

Mr. Marshawn Shelton, Student Government Association (SGA) President, provided an update on the SGA's engagement with upcoming commencement locations, safety forums, surveys focused on cultural change, maintaining the SGA fund, "Make-a-Wish on a Lofty Hill" initiative, "Be Heard Days" allowing students to engage with campus leadership, and the "Forward Press" publication.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with § 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the *Code of Virginia*, Ms. Reid moved to go into closed session at 10:07 a.m. for consultation with legal counsel. The motion provided that Dr. Hammond and Attorney Taylor attend the closed meeting as their presence was deemed necessary to aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randall, and carried by voice vote.

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:23 a.m. in accordance with § 2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Reid conducted the poll in which all board members certified that the

Board only consulted with legal counsel. All board members present certified compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Mr. Hill discussed board assessment and the continuous work being done to move forward in the assessment process.

Ms. Crittenden discussed the research and continuous work being done to move the board forward in the formal presidential evaluation process. Ms. Crittenden looks to share recommendations in January 2016.

There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting of the Board at 10:35 a.m.




Harry Black, Rector



Daphne Maxwell Reid, Secretary



Date



Date

**RESOLUTION OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS**

APPROVING AN HONORARY DEGREE

WHEREAS, § 23-165.8 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Board of Visitors shall have the right to confer degrees; and

WHEREAS, the University attempts to recognize persons who, by their efforts, concerns and contributions impact positively upon the pursuit of its mission — such individuals represent public officials, community service individuals, faculty, staff and alumni; and

WHEREAS, the Honors and Honorary Degrees Committee is the extension of the President through which all nominations should be submitted, and the Board of Visitors has established that all recommendations for honors and awards shall be submitted to the Honors and Honorary Degrees Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Roslyn Dance is a resident of Petersburg, Virginia, who in 1986 earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Virginia State University and a master's degree in public administration in 1994 from Virginia Commonwealth University, and has been named a distinguished alumnus by both institutions; and

WHEREAS, during Senator Dance's public service career she worked at the Southside Virginia Training Center for 34 years, serving as a Psychiatric Nurse's aide, Interim Facility Director, and retired as the Assistant Director of Residential Services; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Senator Dance was elected Mayor of Petersburg, Virginia, and retained that office for 12 years, during which time she initiated the citywide, "Petersburg: A City of Readers Program," and helped reduce Petersburg's incarcerated youth population while playing an instrumental role in securing Virginia's first Governor's School, the Appomattox Regional Governor's School which opened in Petersburg in September 1999; and

WHEREAS, in April 2005, Senator Dance was elected to the Virginia General Assembly and immediately assisted Governor Mark Warner to obtain millions of dollars to fund education and public safety, including a \$500,000 state grant to help with the Appomattox River Dredging Project with the hopes of spurring tourism and economic develop on the waterfront in Petersburg, as well as numerous bills and budget amendments to improve the 63rd District during the 2006 to 2014 sessions of the Virginia General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dance became the first African American female senator from Petersburg and currently serves on numerous government-related boards, led a myriad of civic endeavors, and has remained loyal to the mission and principles of Virginia State University through the entirety of her career; and

WHEREAS, the University Committee on Honors and Honorary Degrees has unanimously approved the nomination for an honorary degree which was subsequently approved by the University President;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the awarding of the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters (LHD) to Senator Roslyn Dance with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.



Harry Black, Rector



Daphne Maxwell-Reid, Secretary

11-20-15

Date

11-20-15

Date

**RESOLUTION OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS**

APPROVING AN HONORARY DEGREE

WHEREAS, § 23-165.8 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Board of Visitors shall have the right to confer degrees; and

WHEREAS, the University attempts to recognize persons who, by their efforts, concerns and contributions impact positively upon the pursuit of its mission—such individuals represent public officials, community service individuals, faculty, staff and alumni; and

WHEREAS, on January 1 2015, Dr. Pamela V. Hammond began her tenure as the Interim President of Virginia State University, the first woman in the 133 year history of the University to serve as its Chief Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Old Dominion University in Urban Services with a concentration in Educational Leadership, a Master of Science degree in maternal-child health and nursing education from the University of Maryland at College Park, and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Tuskegee University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond's post-doctoral experiences include Harvard Institute for Educational Management; the Millennium Leadership Initiative sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities; and the Academic Leadership Institute sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond is a career educator and health professional whose experiences have transcended the public and private sectors and the academy—from instructor to professor, department head, assistant dean, research associate, dean, provost, and President; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond, in only one year became acutely attuned to the entirety of the University's programs, personnel, and operations, demonstrating uniquely personable, exuberant leadership acumen which elevated the University's profile with government and private entities and individuals via a highly successful three-tiered plan to enhance the University brand and stabilize finances and enrollment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond's work as the University's Chief Executive Officer reached its zenith in the form of the development and submission of an aggressive six-year plan and general-fund requests totaling over \$100 million in capital, financial aid, and educational-program funding; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hammond's background of distinction in science, education, and healthcare have been vitally significant to the perpetuation of the Virginia State University mission through relationship and consensus-building among students, faculty, staff, and other

internal and external stakeholders over the course of her remarkable career as a consummate leader, academician, and visionary;

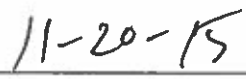
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the awarding of the honorary degree Doctor of Science (DSci) to Pamela V. Hammond, with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.



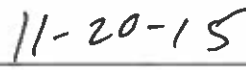
Harry Black, Rector



Daphne Maxwell-Reid, Secretary



Date



Date

**RESOLUTION OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS**

APPROVING A POSTHUMOUS DEGREE

WHEREAS, § 23-165.8 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Board of Visitors shall have the right to confer degrees; and

WHEREAS, the late Ms. Kianna Rodrigues, a senior Management major in the Department of Management and Marketing in the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business, lost her life in a tragic automobile accident on Saturday, October 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rodrigues was an honors student who maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.59 and was highly regarded by her peers, faculty, and staff alike; and

WHEREAS the faculty of the Department of Management and Marketing have unanimously recommended to, and received the approval of, the Dean of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business the awarding of a posthumous degree to Ms. Rodrigues; and

WHEREAS, the University Committee on Honors and Honorary Degrees has unanimously approved the posthumous-degree recommendation submitted by the faculty of the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business, and their recommendation was approved by the University President;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the posthumous award of a Bachelor of Science degree in Management to Ms. Kianna Rodrigues.



Harry Black, Rector

11-20-15
Date



Daphne Maxwell-Reid, Secretary

11-20-15
Date

**RESOLUTION OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
APPROVING THE SAT/ACT TEST-OPTIONAL POLICY**

WHEREAS Article III, Section 1.5 of the Board of Visitors Bylaws provides that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee shall have control and oversight over all academic and student programs and activities. Academic and student programs and activities of the University include curriculum, land-grant, faculty appointments, promotion, tenure and compensation, recruitment, admissions and registration, residence life, health services, cultural affairs, student organizations, athletics, and such other related matters as shall be so recognized by the Board; and

WHEREAS the Admissions and Retention Committee has recommended and receive approval from the Faculty Senate that the Office of Admissions conduct a two-year pilot (2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years) of the “Test Optional Policy” with all requirements as listed in the original proposal (listed below), including a GPA cut-off of 3.0, in order to allow data to be collected and analyzed for consideration of implementing the policy permanently. The Admissions and Retention Committee’s continued support of this pilot is contingent upon the following:

- ♦ By March 1, 2015 the Office of Admissions provides to the Admissions and Retention Committee data from 2009 through 2014 on current VSU students including high school GPA, SAT scores, current VSU GPA with correlations. And that the Office of Institutional Effectiveness provide to the Admissions and Retention Committee matriculation data for students from 2009 through 2014;
- ♦ During Fall Semester of 2015, the Office of Admissions reports to the Admissions and Retention Committee on the number and profile (high school GPA, high school courses, and high school class rank) of students that were accepted under this policy;
- ♦ During Fall Semester of 2016, the Office of Admissions reports on the success of students that were accepted under this policy during the first pilot year based on their freshman performance at VSU. This data should consist of the student’s high school GPA and current VSU GPA;
- ♦ During Fall Semester of 2016, the Office of Admissions reports to the Admissions and Retention Committee on the number and profile (high school GPA, high school courses, and high school).

WHEREAS the Virginia State University Faculty Senate has approved the following Test-Optional criteria:

- ♦ A minimum cumulative HSGPA of 3.0 scale (grades 9-11);
- ♦ Evidence of strong performance in a challenging academic curriculum, as demonstrated by a grade of B or better in at least four IB, AP, dual/concurrent enrollment and/or Carnegie classes;

- ♦ An actual or estimated class rank in the top 25 percent of the high school class;
- ♦ Reference letters documenting leadership, extracurricular, work, and/or service learning experiences;
- ♦ Students who wish to be reviewed by the test optional program may be considered for merit based scholarships upon submissions of their SAT or ACT test scores;
- ♦ Freshmen students who desire to be considered for merit-based scholarships (Presidential and Provost and STEM) are not eligible for the test optional program and must submit their SAT or ACT test scores;
- ♦ Selection for review by test optional program does not guarantee admission to VSU.

WHEREAS the Virginia State University Council and University President have approved the recommendation of the Faculty Senate for the Virginia State University Test-Optional Policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University hereby approves the Test-Optional Policy for immediate implementation.



Harry Black, Rector

11-20-15

Date



Daphne Maxwell-Reid, Secretary

11-20-15

Date