

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

**MINUTES  
Friday, November 9, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Katherine Busser, 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 8:04 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present.

*Board Members Present:*

Ms. Katherine E. Busser, Rector  
Mr. Harry Black, Vice Rector  
Ms. Barbara Steverson, Secretary  
Mr. George K. Anas, II (*absent*)  
Dr. William C. Boshier  
Mr. Allyn Myles Carnam  
Mr. Felix Davis, Jr. (*absent*)  
Dr. Robert E. Denton, Jr.  
Ms. Catherine H. Gillespie  
Mr. Terone B. Green (*departed 11:40 a.m.*)  
Ms. Jennifer Hunter (*departed 12:30 p.m.*)  
Mr. E. Ray Murphy  
Mr. Willie C. Randall  
Ms. Daphne M. Reid  
Mr. James H. Starkey, III  
Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun, Faculty Member Representative  
Mr. Brandon Randleman, Student Government Association Representative

*Administration Present:*

Dr. Keith T. Miller, President  
Dr. W. Weldon Hill, Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mr. David J. Meadows, Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Mr. James Tyson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Mr. Cortez K. Dial, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Elliott L. Wheelan, Associate Vice President for Human Resources  
Ms. Joanne Curtis Taylor, Chief Audit Executive

*Legal Counsel Present:*

Mr. Roscoe C. Roberts, University Legal Counsel  
Ms. Bonnie N. Degen, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel  
Ms. Christy G. Brown, Paralegal, University Legal Counsel

*Other Attendees:*

Dr. Robert L. Turner, Jr., Executive Director, VSU Foundation  
Mr. Michael Wallace, VSU Chief of Police  
Dr. Isis Walton, Associate Professor, Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Milton O. Faison, Assistant Professor, Biology  
Mr. Travis Edmonds, Office of Information Technology

**OPENING REMARKS**

The Rector asked all present to pause for a moment of reverent silence.

Rector Busser discussed a December Executive Committee planning session for the January 2013 meeting, and additional Executive Committee meetings being added to the Board meeting schedule.

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

Following committee sessions, Rector Busser, reconvened the meeting of the full Board in Room A of the Gateway Dining Event Center at 2:02 p.m. The reports of matters considered by the committees are set forth below.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present.

*Board Members Present:*

Ms. Katherine E. Busser, Rector (*departed 2:05 p.m.*)  
Mr. Harry Black, Vice Rector  
Ms. Barbara Steverson, Secretary  
Mr. George K. Anas, II (*absent*)  
Dr. William C. Boshier  
Mr. Allyn Myles Carnam  
Mr. Felix Davis, Jr. (*absent*)  
Dr. Robert E. Denton, Jr.  
Ms. Catherine H. Gillespie

Mr. Terone B. Green (*returned 2:45 p.m.*)  
Ms. Jennifer Hunter (*absent*)  
Mr. E. Ray Murphy  
Mr. Willie C. Randall  
Ms. Daphne M. Reid  
Mr. James H. Starkey, III  
Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun, Faculty Member Representative  
Mr. Brandon Randleman, Student Government Association Representative

*Administration Present:*

Dr. Keith T. Miller, President  
Dr. W. Weldon Hill, Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mr. David J. Meadows, Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Mr. James Tyson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Mr. Cortez K. Dial, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Elliott L. Wheelan, Associate Vice President for Human Resources  
Ms. Joanne Curtis Taylor, Chief Audit Executive  
Mr. Jesse Vaughan, Special Assistant to the President

*Legal Counsel Present:*

Mr. Roscoe C. Roberts, University Legal Counsel  
Ms. Bonnie N. Degen, Legal Assistant, University Legal Counsel  
Ms. Christy G. Brown, Paralegal, University Legal Counsel

*Other Attendees:*

Dr. Robert L. Turner, Executive Director, VSU Foundation  
Dr. Keith Williamson, Dean, Engineering, Science and Technology  
Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, Chair, Language and Literature  
Dr. Joyce Edwards, Chair, Social Work  
Dr. Zoe Spencer, Professor, Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Milton O. Faison, Assistant Professor, Biology  
Dr. Isis Walton, Associate Professor, Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice  
Mr. Frank Jones, President, VSU Foundation  
Ms. Peggy Davis, Director, Athletics  
Mr. Conaway Haskins, Director, Government Relations  
Ms. Patrice Randall, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management  
Mr. Emmanuel Wright, Human Resources  
Mr. Travis Edmonds, Office of Information Technology  
Mr. Oneil Paul, VSU Student

### **RECTOR'S REMARKS**

Rector Busser called for approval the minutes of the Board meeting held September 21, 2012. A motion for their approval was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Black, and the minutes were approved by roll call voice vote.

Ms. Busser expressed sincere appreciation for the work of the committees and the University faculty, staff and students who make it possible for the Board to meet and take care of the needs of the University. Rector Busser then turned the meeting over to Vice Rector Black to preside as she excused herself from the meeting.

### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President Miller highlighted: the University being named one of the top military friendly universities in the United States; student housing; the incoming freshman class; the University's Emergency Response Team's preparations and response to hurricane Sandy; the University College and retention; the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) reaccreditation; the Virginia Logistics Research Corporation (VLRC) partnership; the articulation agreement with the Army Logistics University; and strategic planning and board engagement.

The President introduced Mr. Oneil Paul, senior, double major in Computer Science and Computer Engineering at Virginia State University. Mr. Paul provided a brief overview of why he selected Virginia State University and his experience as a VSU student.

### **Academic and Student Affairs**

Ms. Barbara Steverson, Chair of the **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**, asked Dr. W. Weldon Hill, Provost, to provide an update to the Board. (*Committee members present were: Steverson, Busser, Gillespie, Green, Murphy, Boshier, Denton, Omojokun, Randleman.*)

Provost Hill highlighted: the University's nursing program and the University seeking the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) accreditation in the fall of 2014; the University moving from the RN program to a BSN program; space utilization and classroom capacity; student/faculty ratios; institutional performance measures and new performance standards; and digital platform fees. Discussion ensued.

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Steverson presented and moved for approval the digital course platform fee, with the initial cost not to exceed \$25.00 per course. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Steverson presented and moved for approval the Professor Emeritus recommendation for Dr. Rana P. Singh. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Steverson presented and moved for approval the promotion and tenure recommendations for Paul Alkebulan. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Steverson presented and moved for approval the Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree recommendation for Ralph Everett. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

On behalf of the committee, Ms. Steverson presented and moved for approval the Posthumous Degree recommendation for Jordan Greer-Rogers. The motion carried by roll call voice vote.

Dr. Hill further discussed freshman enrollment and student GPA and SAT scoring. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Brandon Randleman, Student Representative to the Board, highlighted his report discussing: government relations; on-campus non-profit organizational funding; and current grant support data gathering efforts for submission to the General Assembly which will be utilized to illustrate the need for additional grant and financial aid support.

Dr. Omojukun, Faculty Representative to the Board, highlighted his report discussing: faculty international travel; the President's visits to all schools updating faculty and staff on the status of pertinent issues; faculty academic qualifications; the growing strength of the faculty body; and international travel funding.

### **Resource and Governance Committee**

Mr. Harry Black, Chair of the **Resource and Governance Committee**, asked that the Board convene in closed session to discuss several personnel matters requiring board action. (*Committee members present were: Black, Carnam, Starkey, Reid, Randall.*)

### **CLOSED SESSION**

In accordance with § 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the *Code of Virginia*, the Board convened in closed session at 3:05 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The motion provided that Ms. Taylor, President Miller, Dr. Wheelan, Attorney Roberts and Ms. Degen attend the closed meeting as their presence was deemed necessary to aid the Board in its deliberations.

The Board reconvened in open session at 4:20 p.m. in accordance with § 2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia*. Ms. Steverson conducted the poll in which all Board members certified that the Board only discussed personnel matters as authorized by law. All Board members present certified compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Mr. Black presented and Mr. Randall moved for approval the further investigation of the personnel matter discussed in closed session by the Internal Auditor, and for the Internal Auditor to confer with President Miller and Legal Counsel during the process. The Internal Auditor will come back to the Committee and the Board with the investigative findings and recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starkey and carried by roll call voice vote.

Mr. Black presented and Mr. Randall moved for approval the establishment of a Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Chief Operating Officer position by the President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starkey and carried by roll call voice vote.

Mr. Black presented and Mr. Randall moved for approval the ratification of the appointment of Ms. Gillespie to the VSU Research Foundation Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and carried by roll call voice vote.


#### **Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee**

On behalf of the committee, Mr. E. Ray Murphy, Chair of the **Facilities, Finance and Audit Committee**, highlighted: the University's information technology structure and security issues; facility capacity structure of the University; the top three capital projects: new academic building, library enhancements and additions, and the new facility to replace Harris Hall; VFA audit recommendations; classroom space utilization; and hotline procedures and audit resources. (*Committee members present were: Murphy, Black, Busser, Carnam, Green, Steverson, Randall.*)

#### **Institutional Advancement**

Mr. James H. Starkey, III, Chair of the **Institutional Advancement Committee**, provided an update on: economic development, initiatives and costs; the strategic planning process and board engagement; University partnerships; government relations efforts; foundation investments; and the current investment policy. Major gifts total \$191,504.00 as of November 8, 2012. (*Committee members present were: Starkey, Gillespie, Reid, Bosher, Denton.*)

There being no further business, the Vice Rector adjourned the meeting of the Board at 5:14 p.m.

  
Katherine E. Busser, Rector

Date

1/18/2013

  
Barbara Steverson, Secretary

Date

1/18/2013