

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, January 31, 2022**

**MINUTES**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University met at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 31, 2022, in the Board Room of the Kate and John R. Broderick Dining Commons on the Norfolk campus. Present from the Committee were:

R. Bruce Bradley, Rector  
Yvonne T. Allmond  
Robert S. Corn  
Unwana B. Dabney (via Zoom)  
Jerri Dickeski (via Zoom)  
Toykea S. Jones  
Omotomilola Jegede (*Student Representative*)

Absent from the Committee: Larry R. Hill

Also in attendance from the Board: Kay Kemper (via Zoom)  
Murry Pitts  
Maurice Slaughter  
Lisa B. Smith

Board member, Armistead D. Williams, observed the meeting via Zoom.

Also present were:

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Brian O. Hemphill, President | Donna Meeks         |
| Austin Agho                  | September Sanderlin |
| Morris Foster                | Ashley Schumaker    |
| Annie Gibson                 | Don Stansberry      |
| Todd Johnson                 | Allen Wilson        |
| Casey Kohler                 |                     |

Also present were David Church and Margaret Stover of Price Waterhouse Cooper.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Rector called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.2, the following Committee members participated in the meeting via Zoom:

- Unwana Dabney, from her home in Richmond, Va, due to a medical condition
- Jerri Dickeski, from her home in Newport News, VA, due to a medical condition

A quorum of the Executive Committee was physically present.

The Rector congratulated President Hemphill and Vice President Morris Foster on the University's designation as an R1 Research University. He also recognized Vice President Don Stansberry on his election as president of the Southern Association of College Student Affairs.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Prior to asking for approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on October 25, 2021, the Rector asked that the results of the focus groups sessions referenced in the President's report be shared with the Board members. Upon a motion by Ms. Jones and seconded by Ms. Allmond, the minutes were approved by roll-call vote (*Ayes: Allmond, Bradley, Corn, Dickeski, Jones; Nays: None*).

### **RECTOR'S REPORT**

The Rector indicated that he had no report for the Committee.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hemphill provided an update on the following:

R1 Research Classification – As already mentioned by the Rector, achieving R1 research classification from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education is a significant achievement for the institution, one of 137 institutions or just 5% in the nation. It is a testament to the work researchers, faculty and staff have been engaged in for a number of years. Both Vice President Morris Foster and Provost Austin Agho should be commended for their leadership in this area. He asked Vice President Foster to provide a summary of what this designation means for the University and what it will take to maintain it.

Vice President Morris enumerated the many transformational advantages of being an R1 institution, including attracting better faculty candidates and more graduate students, benefits for undergraduate students, new peer group of R1 institutions, joining UVA, Va. Tech, VCU and GMU as the fifth Virginia R1 institution, and raising the standards on which we are being compared. He shared the criteria on which the R1 Carnegie classification is based, which are research expenditures, number of research doctorate grants issued, and the number of non-faculty Ph.D. researchers, and the continuing efforts to increase investments in each of those areas. In response to a question from the Rector, he noted that there are ten different variables that fall within those three categories. There are no reputational categories and no absolute thresholds as it involves comparisons with other institutions. Whenever institutions have fallen back to R2 after having R1 status, it is usually due to the research doctorate category.

Vice President for University Communications & Chief Marketing Officer - President Hemphill provided an update on the national search for the University's inaugural Vice President for

University Communications & Chief Marketing Officer, one of the recommendations of the Branding, Marketing & Communication Task Force. The search committee has been formed and held its first meeting earlier this month. The search firm Greenwood Asher is assisting with the search and has started its recruitment efforts. Following the recruitment phase, the first round of initial interviews are anticipated for mid-March, campus visits by finalists in mid-April, and the new vice president on board by July 1. A small work group from the broader Task Force has been formed to review some of the its recommendations, including the structure and staffing of the new division. He thanked Ashley Schumaker and Brian Payne for co-chairing the Task Force and continuing their leadership on the work group. He also thanked Toykea Jones for beginning conversations with the Board that led to this effort.

COVID-19 Update – In accordance with the Governor's latest directive, ODU will no longer require vaccines for faculty and staff, nor will testing be required for those not vaccinated. However, vaccines will continue to be encouraged. A letter announcing the new directive was sent out to faculty and staff on January 18. Most recently, the Attorney General issued an opinion no longer requiring the vaccine as a requirement for students being enrolled or on campus. Required testing for those not vaccinated is no longer required as well. However, vaccines are still being offered and encouraged. At this point, over 99% of students have been vaccinated and 31% have received the booster. Masking is still required in all indoor facilities. Testing is also still available on campus, but only to those exhibiting symptoms due to the regional and national shortage of tests. Additionally, those who have been tested within the last 90 days are asked not to be tested. President Hemphill recognized Vice President Don Stansberry and his team for the outstanding job they are doing in partnership with others on campus to monitor and address the situation.

### **MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

The Rector recognized Ms. Allmond, who made the following motion, "Mr. Rector, I move that this meeting be convened in closed session, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A), subsections (1) and (6) for the purposes of discussing the appointment and performance of specific employees, and the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the University would be adversely affected." The motion was duly seconded and approved by roll-call vote (*Ayes: Allmond, Bradley, Corn, Dickeski, Jones; Nays: None*).

In addition to the Board members present, President Brian O. Hemphill, Austin Agho, Ashley Schumaker, Morris Foster, Allen Wilson, Annie Gibson, David Church and Margaret Stover were present during all or part of the closed session.

### **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND FOIA CERTIFICATION**

At the conclusion of closed session, the Rector reconvened the meeting and the following Freedom of Information Act Certification was read: "Any person who believes that the Board discussed items which were not specifically exempted by law or not included in the motion, must now state where they believe there was a departure from the law or a departure in the discussion of matters other than that stated in the motion convening the closed session. I shall now take a vote of the

Board. All those who agree that only lawfully exempted matters and specifically only the business matter stated in the motion convening the closed session were discussed in closed session say “aye.” All those who disagree say “nay.” The certification was approved by roll-call vote (*Ayes: Allmond, Bradley, Corn, Dabney, Dickseski, Jones; Nays: None*).

### **RESOLUTION ON ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER PARTNERSHIP**

Upon a motion made by Ms. Dickseski and seconded by Ms. Jones, the following resolution was approved by the Executive Committee by roll-call vote (*Ayes: Allmond, Bradley, Corn, Dabney, Dickseski, Jones; Nays: None*).

**Now Therefore Be it Resolved**, the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Visitors, hereby approves the University’s exploration and work regarding the establishment of an academic health sciences center with Eastern Virginia Medical School through support from Sentara Healthcare and the Commonwealth of Virginia and in collaboration with Norfolk State University and Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters to address the health and health disparities facing our region and its people by strengthening health-focused academic program offerings, world-class research in both existing and new specialty areas, and state-of-the-art clinical care, as well as expanding the workforce pipeline for needed healthcare workers.

### **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no old or unfinished business to come before the Committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to come before the Committee.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.