

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
Student Enhancement and Engagement Committee  
Wednesday, December 9, 2020**

**MINUTES**

Pursuant to Executive Amendment 28 to HB29 (2020), the Committee met by electronic communication means, without a quorum of committee members physical assembled at one location, to discuss or transact business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Board and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities.

The meeting of the Student Enhancement and Engagement Committee of the Board of Visitors was held on Wednesday, December 9, at 11:00 am. Present from the committee were:

Robert Corn, Chair  
Robert Broermann, Vice Chair  
Yvonne Allmond  
Kay Kemper (Rector)  
Ross Mugler  
Murry Pitts  
Maurice Slaughter  
Armistead Williams  
James Rhoades (Faculty Representative)  
Bridget Groble (Student Representative)

Also in attendance from the Board: Lisa Smith

Also present were:

Austin Agho	Donna Meeks
Alonzo Brandon	George Pearson
Grant Deppen	September Sanderlin
Greg DuBois	Amanda Skaggs
Scott Harrison	Don Stansberry
Jeremy Iber	Jay Wright

**APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 MINUTES**

Ross Mugler moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Robert Broermann and approved by roll-call vote (*Aye: Allmond, Broermann, Corn, Kemper, Mugler, Pitts, Slaughter, Williams; Nay: None*)

## **REPORT OF VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ENROLLMENT SERVICES**

Dr. Don Stansberry, Interim Vice President for Student Engagement and Enrollment Services reported on the results of a student survey administered in October gauging the effects of COVID on students' experiences. The majority of students' comments were negative, but the positive comments indicated they felt safe, comfortable, happy, and independent. Students who had been taking all courses online before COVID reported no change in their experiences. Students indicated what they missed most during this time was in-person social interaction with peers and faculty; on-campus student activities and student organizations; in-person programs and sporting events; and a structured schedule. Seventy-one percent said the ability to access academic resources had been somewhat or significantly impacted. Dr. Stansberry reported on the COVID Care Team that supports all ODU students who have tested positive for the virus or who were in close contact with someone who tested positive. This team coordinates transportation to and from isolation and quarantine spaces, notifies faculty of student absences from class, coordinates meal delivery and the cleaning and disinfecting of rooms, and provides resources to help students succeed during their time in isolation or quarantine. Numerous live and virtual events and activities were scheduled throughout the semester, concluding with a semester send-off of activities just before Thanksgiving.

Grant Deppen, Assistant Director of Intramural Sports and Esports, provided an overview of the Varsity Esports program at ODU, the Esports facility under construction in Webb Center, and recruitment for the program. Two students active in the Esports program discussed their interest in Esports and how it has personally affected their lives.

## **REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD**

Bridget Groble, student representative to the Board, provided a semester update from the students' perspective regarding online and hybrid classes, reporting that 75.3% of fall classes were online and 12% were hybrid; 40% of freshmen were fully online. Voter registration efforts on campus included a debate watch party, a dedicated social media page, and three voting drives conducted by student organizations. ODU COVID cases for the fall semester remain low. The Monarch Food Pantry received a \$50,000 donation in July and assists those in the ODU community facing food insecurity. Bridget provided updates on the four initiatives she introduced in September. Flyers and applications were distributed for the Peer Major Mentors program, in which upperclassmen will serve as mentors to freshmen or transfer students; decisions will be made in December and training and matching will be completed in January. Fifteen on-campus study rooms were available for small group study sessions and/or online class viewing. The rooms were used 536 times during the semester by students. Applications for Public Health Ambassadors are being reviewed and training will be conducted in December. The student-led social media committee, co-chaired by Bridget Groble and Deondre Wise, SGA director of public relations and recruitment, is a COVID-focused effort that launched on December 7. The purpose is to provide effective peer-to-peer communication encouraging the observance of COVID guidelines.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:59 am.