



**Virginia Commonwealth University**  
**Academic and Health Affairs Committee of the Board of Visitors**  
**Minutes**

Date: September 15, 2016  
Time: 9:20 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.  
Location: James Branch Cabell Library, 909 Park Avenue, Richmond, VA Room 303  
Present: Dr. Carol S. Shapiro, Chair  
Dr. Robert D. Holsworth, vice chair  
Mr. H. Benson Dendy III  
Mr. William M. Ginther  
Mr. Tyrone E. Nelson  
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar  
Mr. Steve L. Worley  
Dr. Michael Rao  
Dr. Gail Hackett  
Ms. Madelyn F. Wessel  
Staff and students from VCU and VCUHS  
Members of the press

Unavailable: Mr. G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 9:22 a.m. by Dr. Shapiro and, on motion made and seconded; the Academic and Health Affairs Committee approved the Minutes of the Meeting held **May 13, 2016**.

The following items were presented for information and after general discussion follow-up requests were made:

Dr. Hackett presented an updated and more detailed version of the committee dashboard. This update had been requested by the committee last year.

Dr. Sybil Halloran provided an update on strategic enrollment management.



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- This fall we welcomed the largest freshman class in VCU's history, with virtually the same middle 50% range of high school GPA and SAT.
- The committee was very pleased to see that enrollment of both African American students and students who are residents of Richmond have increased significantly over the past five years.
- We also had an opportunity to look more closely at financial aid statistics for undergraduate Virginia residents who are eligible for Federal Pell Grants.

Drs. Cathy Howard and Jon DeShazo presented a new Community-engaged Partnership Map- an online, interactive program.

- Provides information on university-wide partnerships in progress in the community
- Provides networking information for faculty researchers to find others doing similar research
- VCU has shared this with other universities so they can use the system to capture and showcase community engagement on their campuses.

Dr. Hackett provided a draft timeline of activities over the next two years as we begin the development of the university's next strategic plan.

Dr. Kevin Allison provided an update on initiatives within the Division for Inclusive Excellence.

- The division is working with stakeholders throughout the university to finalize a Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan. That plan is expected to come to the full board for review later this academic year.



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- Faculty and staff representatives throughout the university are participating in a new train-the-trainer initiative called Building Inclusive Communities to ensure university wide access to inclusiveness training.

Dr. Kathy Bassard led a discussion on the Promotion and Tenure process for tenure-eligible and term faculty at VCU.

- It is a thorough and rigorous process that illustrates the quality of our faculty in their teaching, research and services roles.
- Last May this board approved 106 faculty members for promotion and/or tenure.

The Faculty Senate reported that they continue to focus on shared governance and have been working closely with both the president's and provost's offices.

- They are also looking forward to another opportunity to engage with the Board over another luncheon presentation – hopefully in December.

The Staff Senate continues to focus on opportunities to further engage the staff in activities recognizing the significance of their efforts in the university's focus on student success and patient experience.

- They are also working with other similar staff organizations from around Virginia on a Leadership Forum.

The new Student Representatives attended their first committee meeting this morning.

- Alan Booth and Beth Winslow were reminded by the committee that they and their fellow students are why we are all here – serving on their behalf.



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- They also reported that they have developed a new online method for their student's constituents to voice their concerns so that they, in turn, can bring them to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.