



**BOARD OF VISITORS
ACADEMIC AND HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
9:20 A.M.
December 8, 2017
JAMES BRANCH CABELL LIBRARY
901 PARK AVENUE, ROOM 303, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Carol S. Shapiro, Chair
Dr. Robert D. Holsworth, vice chair
Mr. H. Benson Dendy III
Mr. William M. Ginther
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar
Mr. G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NOT PRESENT

Mr. Tyrone Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Gail Hackett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Stephanie Hamlett, University Counsel
Dr. Francis Macrina, Vice President for Research and Innovation
Dr. Marsha Rappley, Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO VCU Health
Ms. Jamie Stillman, Director of Strategic Communications, Office of the Provost
Staff and students from VCU and VCUHS

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Carol Shapiro, Chair of Academic and Health Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee approved the Minutes of the meeting held **September 14, 2017**. A copy of the minutes can be found on the VCU website at the following webpage
<http://www.president.vcu.edu/board/committeeminutes.html>.

ACTION ITEMS

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee recommended that the Board approve the following three academic program proposals:

- Proposal to change the name of the School of Allied Health Professions to the College of Health Professions
- Proposal to change the name of the School of Engineering to the College of Engineering
- Proposal to create a new graduate certificate in public history

REPORTS

Dr. Hackett provided an update on the committee dashboard. The dashboard included updated financial aid data, which showed that VCU students continue to have significant unmet need. VCU Development and Alumni Relations works to help close this gap. Nearly \$60 million in philanthropic scholarship funds have been raised since 2010 to fund more than 500 philanthropic scholarship accounts.

Dr. Hackett and Dr. Rappley provided an update on the progress toward the new strategic plan, which will be called *Quest 2025: Together we Transform*. Preliminary goals for the new strategic plan were reviewed. Several committee members recommended that the steering committee ensure that the plan clearly addresses the university of the future as well as the challenges of both the cost and value of higher education.

Dr. Monica Orozco, executive director of Online@VCU, presented a preliminary strategy for moving forward in online academic programming, which includes a thorough review of vendors that can provide an infrastructure that is flexible for supporting our courses.

Mr. Ed McLaughlin, vice president and director of athletics, noted in his annual report about the status of student athletics that VCU has been diligent over the last five years with building an NCAA compliance culture to avoid issues that are often headlines for other universities.

Ms. Holly Alford, the faculty representative, updated the committee on faculty matters. The Faculty Senate will be sponsoring a symposium on academic freedom and freedom of speech in early April. The tentative title of the symposium is "Academic Freedom vs. Freedom of Speech: How do we think about it? How do we live it?"

Ms. Lauren Katchuk, the staff representation, updated the committee on staff matters. One crucial objective is surrounding bylaws updates and conceptualizing what the Staff Senate will look like in the newly designed HR model, through which many of the current administrative and professional faculty will become Staff Senate constituents. Their goal is to continue focusing on fostering inclusivity to ensure that Staff Senate is an organization that will embrace new university and academic professionals and ensure that those employees who choose to remain classified staff will continue to have a place where their voices are heard.

Ms. Katie Pumphrey, a student representative, reported on the work of the students and provided an overview of several areas including the Qatar Leadership Exchange, in which a group of VCU students travel to the Qatar campus and are hosted by VCUQatar students and later the Qatar students are hosted by the VCU students in Richmond. She also discussed the Mini-Medical Family Day, which engages community members with medical professionals to help reduce anxiety during medical visits.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion made and seconded, the meeting of the Academic and Health Affairs Committee convened into closed session pursuant to **Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1)** of the Freedom of Information Act personnel matters, more specifically relating to the performance evaluation, and evaluation of performance of certain Departments within the University and **Section 2.2-**

3711(A)(7) to discuss potential litigation with University Counsel; and **Section 2.2-3711(A)(29)** to discuss the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically related to requests for proposals issued in connection with OnLine Education at VCU.

RECONVENED SESSION

Following the closed session, the public was invited to return to the meeting. Dr. Shapiro, Chair, called the meeting to order. On motion duly made and seconded the following resolution of certification was approved by a roll call vote:

Resolution of Certification

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Academic and Health Affairs Committee certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

<u>Vote</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Dr. Carol S. Shapiro, Chair	X	
Dr. Robert D. Holsworth, vice chair	X	
Mr. H. Benson Dendy III	X	
Mr. William M. Ginther	X	
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar	X	
Mr. G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.	X	

All members responding affirmatively, the resolution of certification was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Shapiro asked for a motion to recommend to the full Board approval of the academic program item discussed in closed session and to authorize the Provost and/or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract on the terms discussed in closed session. After motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the motion to recommend to the full Board approval of the academic program item discussed in closed session and to authorize the Provost and/or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract on the terms discussed in closed session .

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Carol Shapiro, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.