



VCU

Board of Visitors

**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
ANNUAL RETREAT**

October 24, 2025

8:30 a.m.¹

**Activation Capital
800 E. Leigh Street
Richmond, VA**

“AN ENGAGED RESEARCH 1 UNIVERSITY - UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITY”

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER & OPENING REMARKS
8:30 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. (10 minutes) | Ms. Ellen Fitzsimmons, Rector |
| 2. PRESIDENT’S OPENING REMARKS
8:40 a.m. - 8:55 a.m. (15 minutes) | Dr. Michael Rao, President |
| 3. INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS AN ENGAGED RESEARCH 1 UNIVERSITY?
8:55 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. (20 minutes) | Dr. Beverly Warren, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Marlon Levy, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO of VCU Health System |
| 4. STUDENT FOCUS
a. UNDERGRADUATE
9:15 a.m. -10:15 a.m. (1 hour) | Dr. Hernan Bucheli, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success
Dr. Aaron Hart, Vice President for Student Affairs |

Student Panelists: Alexander Campbell, Jacqueline Nguyen, Alana Nicotera, Joseph Hernandez, Jaila Hendricks

¹ The start time for this meeting is approximate only. The meeting may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as Board members are ready to proceed.

b. **GRADUATE**

10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. (1 hour)

Dr. Beverly Warren, *Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Dean Panelists: Manu Gupta, Ph.D.; Catherine Ingrassia, Ph.D.; Kelechi C. Ogbonna, Pharm.D., MSHA; Arturo Saavedra, M.D., Ph.D.

c. **AN ENGAGED R1 UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY**

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (45 minutes)

Mr. William Nelson, *Senior Vice Provost for Academic Administration and Operations*

Dr. Hernan Bucheli, *Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success*

Mr. Grant Heston, *Vice President for Enterprise Marketing and Communications*

Dr. Jill Blondin, *Vice Provost for Global Initiatives*

5. **LUNCH**

12:00 p.m. -12:45 p.m. (45 minutes)

a. **THE FUTURE OF ATHLETICS**

(15 minutes at the beginning of lunch)

Mr. Edward McLaughlin, *Vice President and Director of Athletics*

6. **RESEARCH FOCUS**

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. (1 hour)

Dr. Srirama Rao, *Vice President for Research and Innovation*

Faculty Panelists: F. Gerard Moeller, M.D., David D. Limbrick, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.; Puru Jena, Ph.D.; Chris Gough, Ph.D.; Radhika Barua, Ph.D.

7. **INNOVATION FOCUS**

1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (45 minutes)

Dr. Andrew Arroyo, *Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Interim Dean of University College*

Dean/Associate Deans Panelists: Amy Darragh, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA; Catherine Ingrassia, Ph.D.; Carol Scotese, Ph.D.; Gary Tepper, Ph.D.

8. **WRAP UP**

2:30 pm- 3:15 pm (45 minutes)

Ms. Ellen Fitzsimmons, *Rector*
Dr. Michael Rao, *President*

Dr. Beverly Warren, *Interim Provost
and Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs*

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ellen Fitzsimmons, *Rector*

In accordance with the Board's operating procedures and in compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, there will be no opportunity for public comment at this meeting.