



# VCU

## Board of Visitors

### QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Friday, March 21, 2025

11:00 a.m.<sup>1</sup>

The Honorable Benjamin Lambert, III Board Room  
1213 Clay Street  
Richmond, VA

### AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** **Hon. Todd Haymore, Rector**
  
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** **Ms. Chelsea Gray, Executive Director of Board and Executive Operations**  
*15 minutes (11:00 - 11:15 a.m.)*
  
3. **RECTOR REMARKS** **Hon. Todd Haymore, Rector**  
*10 minutes (11:15 - 11:25 a.m.)*
  
4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** **Dr. Michael Rao, President**  
*20 minutes (11:25 - 11:45 a.m.)*
  
5. **CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS** **Hon. Todd Haymore, Rector**  
*5 minutes (11:45 - 11:50 a.m.)*
  - a. December 9, 2024 meeting minutes
  - b. Academic and Health Affairs Committee Action Items:
    - i. Academic Programs:
      1. Create a new Master of Science degree in Cardiovascular Perfusion
      2. Program discontinuance for the Master of Education in Adult Learning
    - ii. Organizational Changes:

---

<sup>1</sup> The start time for the Board of Visitors meeting is approximate only. The meeting may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as Board members are ready to proceed.

1. Reorganize the Department of Endodontics and Oral Diagnostic Sciences to establish two departments - the Department of Endodontics and the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences in the School of Dentistry
  2. Rename the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology to the Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience in the School of Medicine
  3. Reorganize the three DePillars departments into one department in the School of the Arts
  4. Reorganize the Department of Theatre and the Department of Dance and Choreography into one department in the School of the Arts
  5. Rename the Department of Chemical and Life Science Engineering the Department of Chemical, Biomolecular, and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering
  6. Reorganize VCU Life Sciences and the Department of Biology into the School of Life Sciences and Sustainability within the College of Humanities and Sciences
  7. Reorganize the Division of Urology in the Department of Surgery into the Department of Urology in the School of Medicine
- c. Facilities, Real Estate, and Administration Committee Action Items:
    - i. Amendment to the 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan, VCU Catering and Event Space
  - d. Finance and University Resources Committee Action Items:
    - i. Approval to Execute Term Contracts, Professional Architectural and Engineering Services
    - ii. Construction Services Contract Approval, 901 West Franklin Street Renovation
  - e. Governance and Compensation Committee Action Items:
    - i. BOV Statement on Governance and Ethical Leadership
    - ii. Regulation 8VAC90
  - f. Nominating Committee Action Items:
    - i. FY26 Rector
    - ii. FY26 Vice Rector
    - iii. FY26 Secretary
  - g. VCIMCO board appointment
  - h. Memorials and Commemorations
    - i. Resolution to recognize Erich W. Damm, Ph.D., for their commitment to VCU
    - ii. Resolution to recognize Charles Feltcher Christian, M.D., for their contribution to VCU
    - iii. Resolution to recognize Sonia Ylahcevic, Ph.D., for their commitment to VCU

## 6. CONSTITUENT REPORTS

- a. Student Representatives  
10 minutes (11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

**Ms. Tobì Ojo**, *Undergraduate Student BOV Representative*  
**Ms. Guleer Shahab**, *Graduate Student BOV Representative*

- b. Faculty Representative  
5 minutes (12:00 - 12:05 p.m.)

**Dr. Valerie Robnolt**, *Faculty Senate BOV Representative*

- c. Staff Representative  
5 minutes (12:05 – 12:10 p.m.)
- 7. **VCU HEALTH SYSTEM UPDATE**  
10 minutes (12:10 – 12:20 p.m.)
- 8. **CLOSED SESSION – Freedom of Information Act Sections 2.2-3711(A)(1), (2), (3), (7), (8), (9), (11), (19), (23):**  
5 minutes (12:20 - 12:25 p.m.)
  - a. Audit, Integrity and Compliance Committee  
Closed Session Report  
2 minutes (12:25 – 12:27 p.m.)
  - b. Intercollegiate Athletics Report  
Closed Session Report  
2 minutes (12:27 – 12:29 p.m.)
  - c. Facilities, Real Estate, and Administration  
Committee Closed Session Report  
5 minutes (12:29 – 12:34 p.m.)
  - d. Finance and University Resources Committee  
Closed Session Report  
2 minutes (12:34 – 12:36 p.m.)
  - e. Academic and Health Affairs Committee  
Closed Session Report  
5 minutes (12:36 – 12:41 p.m.)
  - f. VCU Health System update  
10 minutes (12:41 – 12:51 p.m.)
  - g. President’s Report  
10 minutes (12:51 – 1:01 p.m.)
- 9. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND CERTIFICATION**  
5 minutes (1:01 – 1:06 p.m.)

**Ms. Maya Rogers, Staff Senate BOV Representative**

**Dr. Marlon Levy, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System**

**Hon. Peter Farrell, Chair**

**Rev. Tyrone Nelson, Chair**

**Mr. Steven DeLuca, Chair**

**Mr. Anthony Bedell, Chair**

**Dr. Dale Jones, Chair**

**Dr. Marlon Levy, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System**

**Dr. Michael Rao, President**

**Hon. Todd Haymore, Rector**

Resolution and Certification  
2 minutes (1:06 – 1:08 p.m.)

**Action Items**  
5 minutes (1:08 - 1:13 p.m.)

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Hon. Todd Haymore, *Rector***

- a. Open Session Reports  
2 minutes (1:13 - 1:15 p.m.)

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Hon. Todd Haymore, *Rector***

# **Virginia Commonwealth University Proposed Program Brief Proposal to create a Master of Science in Cardiovascular Perfusion**

## **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) seeks approval to establish a Master of Science (M.S.) degree program in Cardiovascular Perfusion, to be offered at the MCV Campus in Richmond, Virginia. The program will be administered by the Department of Nurse Anesthesia within the College of Health Professions.

The purpose of the proposed M.S. in Cardiovascular Perfusion program is to educate and train students in the principles and science of cardiovascular support systems. The curriculum will address the physiological and technical aspects of extracorporeal circulation, emphasizing the operation of heart-lung machines and related equipment used during cardiac and pulmonary surgeries and other medical procedures. Students will gain expertise in hemodynamics, pharmacology, and the body's response to mechanical support. The program will provide students with the knowledge and skills to monitor and maintain cardiopulmonary stability during heart and lung surgeries, manage vital signs, administer medications, and ensure patient safety during surgical procedures. Additionally, students will be trained to make critical, informed decisions in high-stakes surgical environments. Graduates of the program will be well-prepared to sit for the certification examination administered by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion, equipping them with the qualifications necessary to excel as cardiovascular perfusionists.

## **Delivery Format**

The proposed program will be offered in a face-to-face delivery format.

## **Target Implementation Date**

Spring 2026

## **Demand and Workforce Development**

No data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) or the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) is available for cardiovascular perfusionists. To address this gap, VCU reviewed data for the closest related occupation: cardiovascular technician/technologist (Classification of Instructional Programs [CIP] code 51.0901). Although this occupation differs significantly in scope and training from that of a cardiovascular perfusionist, it serves as a useful proxy. According to Lightcast, this field is projected to experience a 5% growth rate over six years.

## **External Competition**

A similar or related degree program does not exist at a public or private institution in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

## **Target Population**

The target audience for the MS in Cardiovascular Perfusion program includes young professionals with a bachelor's degree in health sciences or a related field, provided they have completed the required prerequisite courses before applying. This program is also designed for

experienced professionals or recent graduates from allied health fields such as nursing, respiratory therapy, exercise physiology, or biology.

### **Impact on Existing Programs**

The proposed M.S. in Cardiovascular Perfusion will not compromise any existing degree programs at Virginia Commonwealth University. No degree programs will close as a result of the initiation and operation of the proposed degree program.

### **Impact on Faculty**

The Department of Nurse Anesthesia includes two full-time faculty members and one adjunct faculty member who will teach courses in advanced anatomy and physiology, foundational pharmacology, clinical topics, and all research/thesis courses in the proposed degree program. Additionally, core faculty from the Center for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Care will teach two required courses.

### **Funding**

The proposed program will require the addition of three faculty members to teach the ten perfusion-focused courses. These positions include two full-time and one part-time faculty appointment within the College of Health Professions. One full-time faculty member with a doctoral degree will serve as the Program Director, while the second full-time faculty member, holding at least a master's degree, will act as the Director of Clinical Education. The part-time adjunct faculty member, a practicing clinical cardiovascular perfusionist, will teach core and required courses. Instructional effort is projected at 1.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) in the 2025–2026 academic year, increasing to 1.7 FTE by 2027–2028.

Approximately \$1 million in funding support, will ensure the recruitment of qualified faculty and the provision of essential resources. Existing institutional resources—including enrollment services, library access, career services, and faculty support services—will further contribute to the program's successful implementation.

### **Alignment with the VCU Mission**

The proposed degree program aligns with the university's mission of excellence in health sciences by preparing a skilled health workforce to address the primary healthcare needs of Virginians. It emphasizes evidence-based practices to enhance healthcare quality and improve lives in diverse communities. The program also highlights interprofessional practices, supporting the university's commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and community partnerships to address complex health challenges. As the only perfusion program in Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region, it represents a significant academic innovation.

### **Next Steps**

- ~~December 10—University Graduate Curriculum Committee (UGC)~~ **Approved**
- ~~January 30—University Committee on Academic Affairs (UC-AA)~~ **Approved**
- ~~February 6—University Council (UC)~~ **Approved**
- ~~March 3—President's Cabinet~~ **Approved**
- March 21 - Board of Visitor's Meeting (BOV)
- May 1/July 1 – Submission to SCHEV and SACSCOC respectively

## **Virginia Commonwealth University Proposed Program Discontinuance Brief Proposal to close the Master of Education in Adult Learning**

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) seeks approval to discontinue the Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree program in Adult Learning (Classification of Instructional Programs [CIP] code 13.1201). The degree is located in the School of Education.

### **Delivery Format**

The program is offered in the traditional, face-to-face format.

### **Target Implementation Date**

The program is scheduled for discontinuation in fall 2025. Following the implementation of a teach-out plan, the program will be fully closed by the end of the fall 2025 semester.

### **Demand and Workforce Development**

Recent enrollment trends and demand for the M.Ed. in Adult Learning have been insufficient to sustain the program. Additionally, most employment opportunities in the field do not require a master's degree. The department believes that the Bachelor of Arts in Human and Organizational Development, approved in 2021, offers broader appeal and aligns more effectively with market demands.

### **External Competition**

Currently, James Madison University is the only other public institution in the Commonwealth offering a similar program, the Master of Science in Education (M.S.Ed.) in Adult Education/Human Resource Development (CIP code 13.1201).

### **Target Population**

A teach-out plan is in place for the 7 students currently enrolled in the M.Ed. in Adult Learning degree program. All students are expected to graduate no later than spring 2025. The last term that students will be able to complete the M.Ed is fall 2025. There are no "stopped out" students.

### **Impact on Existing Programs**

The closure of the M.Ed. in Adult Learning will not disrupt opportunities for students. Those interested in graduate studies in the field can enroll in the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership with a concentration in leadership studies, which allows for 15 credits of concentration-level coursework in Adult Learning.

### **Impact on Faculty**

The closure will not adversely affect faculty or staff. Faculty teaching efforts in the M.Ed. in Adult Learning program will be redirected to other programs, such as the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership or the B.A. in Human and Organizational Development.

### **Funding**

No funding is needed or requested for the discontinuance of the M.Ed. degree program in Adult Learning

### Next Steps

- ~~Oct 23, 2023~~—University Graduate Curriculum committee meeting -**APPROVED**
- ~~January 30~~—University Committee on Academic Affairs (UC-AA) Meeting-**APPROVED**
- ~~February 6~~—University Council (UC) Meeting-**APPROVED**
- ~~March 3~~—President's Cabinet-**APPROVED**
- March 21 - Board of Visitor's Meeting (BOV)
- April 15 – Submission for SCHEV and SACSCOC approval



## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Reorganize the Department of Endodontics and Oral Diagnostic Sciences to establish two departments - the Department of Endodontics and the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences in the School of Dentistry

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests approval to reorganize the Department of Endodontics and Oral Diagnostic Sciences to establish two new departments: 1) the Department of Endodontics and 2) the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences. The departments will be located in the School of Dentistry.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

The purpose of the proposed change is to establish two separate, discipline-specific departments to clarify the distinctiveness of the academic units and support the administrative vision of the departments.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

Establishment of the Department of Endodontics and the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences will not alter the university's curricular offerings. No academic programs will be changed as a result of the proposed organizational change. The university is committed to maintaining existing curricular offerings and resources to support the needs of the proposed new departments.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed existing resources, personnel needs, and academic programs needed to establish the proposed departments. The Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Dentistry have evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to establish the proposed departments will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the School of Dentistry

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

The reorganization of the Department of Endodontics and Oral Diagnostic Sciences will not alter the university's mission. The proposed organizational change supports the institution's mission. The proposed two new departments will align with the institution's commitment to "Health sciences that preserve and restore health for all people" in each of the disciplinary areas. The proposed two departments will provide "safe, trusting and supportive environment[s]" for faculty and students in the discipline of Endodontics and in the discipline of Oral Diagnostic Sciences.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

The proposed organizational change is executable within the currently authorized funds of Virginia Commonwealth University and the School of Dentistry. All current resources

supporting the existing Department of Endodontics and Oral Diagnostic Sciences will be reallocated and used to support the proposed two new departments. No new resources will be requested from the state to establish or operate the proposed two new departments or implement this organizational change.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Rename the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology to the Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience in the School of Medicine

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests permission to change the name of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology to the Department of Neuroscience and Anatomy. The department is located in the School of Medicine. The proposed change will be in name only and will not impact the organizational structure of the university or the School of Medicine.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

The proposed change is intended to reflect the department's academic activities and programs more accurately. The new nomenclature will more accurately reflect that a significant part of the department's academic focus, and the entirety of its research activity, is related to neuroscience. The name change will also assist in aligning with national trends that acknowledge the changes in the scientific field.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

The proposed organizational change will not impact or alter existing academic programs in the department. No academic programs will be changed as a result of the proposed organizational change to rename the department.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed existing resources, personnel needs, and academic programs needed to change the name of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology. The dean of the School of Medicine has evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to rename the department will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the School of Medicine.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

The proposed organizational change will not alter the university's mission. The proposed new department name will align with the mission of Virginia Commonwealth University. The proposed name corresponds to the "research that expands boundaries" and "health sciences that preserve and restore health for all people" that embodies VCU and is an integral part of the department.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

The proposed name change is executable within the department's currently authorized funds. There will be no changes regarding the department's faculty or support resources. Costs for expenses such as signage (internal to the building), paper products, and marketing are anticipated at \$7,500 and will be accommodated by the

department's funds. No resources will be requested from the state for the proposed name change.

**Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Reorganize the three DePillars departments into one department in the School of the Arts

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests approval to reorganize the Department of Craft and Material Studies, the Department of Painting and Printmaking, and the Department of Sculpture and Extended Media to establish the Department of Fine Arts.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

This proposed reorganization creates a single academic unit to administer three existing programs. This consolidation will improve budget management, scheduling, research opportunities, student services, and technical facilities, ultimately benefiting both students and faculty. The advantages include increased administrative efficiency, unified resources, and cost savings.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

This proposed reorganization supports the university's mission by fostering creative endeavors and interdisciplinary research and cultural production. Aligning with VCU's mission, it will create a Department of Fine Arts, enhancing existing partnerships and collaborations. A shared administrative structure will strengthen the School of the Arts' engagement with the city and region, building on existing interdisciplinary courses. This streamlined department will advance VCU's strategic plan, *Quest 2028*, by supporting student and faculty research and facilitating experiential learning in the arts. The consolidation will enable interdisciplinary research, teaching, and civic engagement by eliminating the duplication of effort.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

The proposed organizational change will not alter or change any existing degree programs in the School of the Arts. No changes will be made to the other departments in the school as a result of the reorganization of the three existing departments to establish one department. The proposed change will impact existing units only in an administrative capacity with reporting to a single Fine Arts Chair. The existing Senior Director, Academic Advisor, Administrative Affairs Coordinator, Academic Affairs Coordinator, and a building manager will be part of the team which supports this new position. Faculty will see limited change in this realignment as the chair will continue to meet with them, convene student and faculty events and meetings, and run the administrative side of the three programs. Students will be able to meet with the Chair of Fine Arts and the chair will continue to work on behalf of the students in the Department of Fine Arts.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed existing resources, personnel needs, and academic programs, and the dean of the School of the Arts has evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to reorganize three departments into one will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the School of the Arts.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

This proposal establishes a 10-month Chair of Fine Arts, eliminating individual chairs for the three existing departments. The resulting cost savings will fund additional support positions, potentially including area heads or coordinators, with minimal financial impact. While a new Academic Affairs Coordinator for the consolidated department has been considered, the position is not yet finalized.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Reorganize the Department of Theatre and the Department of Dance and Choreography into one department in the School of the Arts

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests approval to reorganize the Department of Theatre and the Department of Dance and Choreography to establish the Department of Theater and Dance.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

This proposed reorganization creates a single academic unit to administer four existing academic degree programs and three minors. A merger of the Department of Theatre and the Department of Dance and Choreography into a single department is a logical step, reflecting a common trend in higher education. Both disciplines are collaborative art forms centered on movement, a key element for emotional expression, character development, and audience engagement. Combining the programs will create richer interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students, expanding their career prospects by allowing them to explore diverse production roles. This consolidation will also facilitate cross-programmatic faculty appointments and collaborative research initiatives. Many current faculty and staff are already qualified to teach courses across both disciplines, particularly in technical theater, choreography, and musical theater. Furthermore, a single department requires only one chair, streamlining leadership. Finally, with both programs slated to reside in the new CCIA building in 2027, physical co-location makes administrative unification both feasible and efficient. The advantages include increased administrative efficiency, unified resources, and cost savings.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

This proposed reorganization supports the university's mission. VCU's commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and community engagement, as articulated in its *Quest 2028* plan, aligns perfectly with the creation of the new Department of Theater and Dance. This combined department will foster innovation and creative expression by offering expanded interdisciplinary and inter-programmatic courses, allowing students to explore diverse cultural and community-based works through various performance mediums. Students will benefit from access to a wider range of courses within the department, enriching their learning experience beyond the limitations of the previous two separate departments. The unified faculty will deliver a robust curriculum, enabling cross-programmatic study and preparing students for future careers. Critically, a single department will empower students to develop critical thinking and communication skills across verbal, visual, spatial, and kinesthetic languages, fulfilling Quest 2028's goal of curriculum transformation. This expanded training will open up new career opportunities in the performing arts that blend theatrical and dance expertise.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

The proposed organizational change would not alter or change any existing degree programs in the School of the Arts. The Department of Theatre currently offers three degree programs: (1) the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, (2) the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre, and (3) the Master of Fine Arts in Theatre. The department also offers two minors: (1) minor in Theatre and (2) minor in Musical Theatre. The Department of Dance and Choreography currently offers one degree program: the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and Choreography and one minor: the minor in Dance and Choreography. The program would remain in the proposed new Department of Theater and Dance.

The proposed change will impact existing units only in an administrative capacity with reporting to a single Theater and Dance Chair. Faculty will see limited change in this realignment as the chair will continue to meet with them, convene student and faculty events and meetings, and run the administrative side of the three programs. Students will be able to meet with the Chair of Theater and Dance, and the chair will continue to work on behalf of the students in the Department of Theater and Dance.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed existing resources, personnel needs, and academic programs, and the dean of the School of the Arts has evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to reorganize two departments into one will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the School of the Arts.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

This proposal establishes a Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance, eliminating individual chairs for the two existing departments.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- May 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia



## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Rename the Department of Chemical and Life Science Engineering to the Department of Chemical, Biomolecular, and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests permission to change the name of the Department of Chemical and Life Science Engineering to the Department of Chemical, Biomolecular, and Environmental Engineering. The department is located in the College of Engineering. The proposed change will be in name only and will not impact the organizational structure of the university or the College of Engineering.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

The proposed change is intended to reflect the department's academic activities and programs more accurately. The new nomenclature will more accurately reflect the department's academic focus and its faculty's research activity. The name change will also assist in aligning with national trends that acknowledge the changes in the engineering field.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

The proposed organizational change will not impact or alter existing academic programs in the department. No academic programs will be changed as a result of the proposed organizational change to rename the department.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed the name change's impact on resources, personnel, and academic programs. The Engineering dean has determined that the renaming of the department will not negatively affect existing resources or academic units within the college. The proposed name change requires no additional expenses or new positions. It will not affect department administration, support staff, or space. It is anticipated that the name change will have a positive impact on undergraduate and graduate recruitment for both the department and the College of Engineering. Website updates and other minor changes will be handled by existing staff as part of their regular duties, with costs covered by the department and college. VCU and the College of Engineering have sufficient resources to implement the name change.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

The proposed name change to the **Department of Chemical, Biomolecular, and Environmental Engineering (CBE)** can strongly support the mission and the strategic goals of *Quest 2028* through its focus on innovative, interdisciplinary research and its commitment to addressing real-world challenges. By aligning with the goals of *Quest*

2028, the department can significantly contribute to VCU's broader mission of transformation and societal impact.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

There will be an initial one-time expenditure of \$5,000 for the purchase of stationary, business cards, signage (internal to the building), and other supplies associated with the proposed name change. This cost will be accommodated by departmental operating funds. The costs for publicity and promotion will be accommodated by the existing marketing budget of the Office of the Dean in the College of Engineering. No new resources will be requested from the state to initiate or sustain the organizational change to rename the Department of Chemical, Biomolecular, and Environmental Engineering.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Reorganize VCU Life Sciences and the Department of Biology into the School of Life Sciences and Sustainability within the College of Humanities and Sciences

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University requests approval to establish the School of Life Sciences and Sustainability within the College of Humanities and Sciences. The new school will be populated with faculty and staff who currently reside in the College of Humanities and Sciences' Department of Biology and VCU Life Sciences. All existing academic programs in these two units will be moved to the new school, as is, and the Department of Biology and VCU Life Sciences will both be closed.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is February 1, 2025.

Note. This submission was approved by SCHEV on January 13, 2025. SCHEV updated its guidelines in January 2025 to require that all organizational changes be approved by the institution's governing board. To remain in compliance with SCHEV guidelines, the Board of Visitors must approve the change by July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

The purpose of the proposed organizational change is to establish an academic unit responsible for administering and overseeing biological, environmental, life, and sustainability sciences academic programming, research, and other relevant initiatives at Virginia Commonwealth University. The establishment of the School of Life Sciences and Sustainability will enhance the student experience by providing complementary disciplines in one school while strengthening the collaborative efforts among faculty and staff. The proposed school will maintain curricula offerings while increasing fiscal and administrative efficiency. Establishing the proposed school will create a learning environment that better contributes to the education and workforce needs of the Commonwealth.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

The establishment of the School of Life Sciences and Sustainability will not alter the university's mission. The proposed new school will align with the mission of Virginia Commonwealth University. The establishment of the school provides an academic unit that will allow for greater "interdisciplinary collaboration" among faculty and staff that integrate social sciences, earth sciences, and quantitative and computational data sciences with molecular and cellular biology, evolution, and ecology. The proposed school will expand "boundaries of new knowledge" in multiple areas of life science and sustainability. The proposed school will serve as a focal point for teaching and research involving diverse aspects of life sciences that focus on improving the quality of human life.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

The proposed organizational change will not alter or impact the existing degree programs offered by the College of Humanities and Sciences or the university. VCU Life Sciences offers six degree programs, and the Department of Biology offers two degree programs. The eight degree programs would be relocated to the proposed School of Life Sciences and Sustainability. No academic programs will be changed as a result of the proposed organizational change. The university is committed to maintaining existing curricular offerings and resources to support the needs of the proposed new school.

### **Impact on Resources**

The university has reviewed existing resources, personnel needs, and academic programs needed to implement the change. The Office of the Provost and the Office of the Dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences have evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to establish the proposed School of Life Sciences and Sustainability will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the College of Humanities and Sciences or at the university.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

Resources needed for new faculty positions will be covered by a reallocation of funds in the existing budget of the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Dean in the College of Humanities and Sciences. Projected costs are anticipated at \$900,805 for three new faculty. Resources for two new administrative hires are estimated at \$167,640 and will be covered by a reallocation of funds in the existing budget of the Office of the Dean in the College of Humanities and Sciences. Costs for expenses such as signage (internal and external to the building) will be accommodated by the Office of the Dean in the College of Humanities and Sciences' existing budget for campus facilities. The College of Humanities and Sciences will cover costs for marketing, anticipated at \$6,000 and all other costs totaling \$240,000 associated with the establishment and maintenance of the proposed department. Resources needed for all other costs will come from existing funds in the budget of the Office of the Dean. No new resources will be requested from the state to establish or operate the proposed School of Life Sciences and Sustainability or implement this organizational change.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA) **APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council **APPROVED**
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
  - This submission was approved by SCHEV on January 13, 2025. SCHEV updated its guidelines in January 2025 to require that all organizational changes be approved by the institution's governing board. To remain in compliance with SCHEV guidelines, the Board of Visitors must approve the change by July 1, 2025.

## **Proposed Organizational Change Brief**

Organizational Change: Reorganize the Division of Urology in the Department of Surgery into the Department of Urology in the School of Medicine

### **Overview**

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) requests approval to establish the Department of Urology. The department will be located in the School of Medicine.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The proposed effective date is February 1, 2025.

Note. This submission was approved by SCHEV on January 13, 2025. SCHEV updated its guidelines in January 2025 to require that all organizational changes be approved by the institution's governing board. To remain in compliance with SCHEV guidelines, the Board of Visitors must approve the change by July 1, 2025.

### **Rationale for the Proposed Change**

The purpose of the proposed organizational change is to establish an academic unit that is directly responsible for the administration and oversight of clinical urology operations, education, research and resources at VCU. The proposed Department of Urology will align the unit with guidelines from the American Urological Association, as well as Virginia Commonwealth University's State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) peer institutions. The proposed new department will provide visibility and support to urology programming at the institution. The proposed Department of Urology will establish a standalone unit separate from the Department of Surgery and will demonstrate the university's commitment to urology studies.

### **Alignment with the University's Mission**

The establishment of the Department of Urology will not alter the university's mission. The proposed department will align with Virginia Commonwealth University's mission. The proposed new department will address the "challenges" that the current unit faces regarding the distinction between a division and a department. The proposed organizational change will improve the unit's ability to "seek the cause and cure" of urological diseases.

### **Impact on Academic Programs**

Establishment of the proposed Department of Urology will not alter the curricular offerings of the university or the School of Medicine. There are no degree programs administered by the Division of Urology located in the Department of Surgery. No academic programs will be changed as a result of the proposed organizational change. The university is committed to maintaining existing curricular offerings and resources to support the needs of the proposed new department.

### **Impact on Resources**

The Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and the Dean of the School of Medicine, have evaluated the resources and determined that the organizational change to establish the proposed department will not negatively impact the existing resources or academic units in the School of Medicine.

### **Resources and Funding Plans to Support the Proposed Change**

The organizational change to establish the Department of Urology is executable within the currently authorized funds of Virginia Commonwealth University and the School of Medicine. All existing resources in the Division of Urology in the Department of Surgery will be reallocated and used to establish and support operations of the proposed department. Resources will be needed in the first three years of operation to hire 11 new positions.

The organizational change to establish the Department of Urology is executable within the currently authorized funds of Virginia Commonwealth University and the School of Medicine. All existing resources in the Division of Urology in the Department of Surgery will be reallocated and used to establish and support operations of the proposed department. Resources will be needed in the first three years of operation to hire 11 new positions. Resources for six new administrative hires are estimated at \$933,764 and will be accommodated by funds reallocated from the Dean's Office in the School of Medicine. Resources for one new faculty hire are estimated at \$543,560 and will be accommodated by funds reallocated from the Dean's Office in the School of Medicine. Resources for four additional positions are estimated at \$480,435 and will be accommodated by funds reallocated from the Dean's Office in the School of Medicine. The Office of the Senior Vice President of Health Sciences and funds reallocated from the School of Medicine will cover all other costs associated with the establishment of the proposed department. Costs for expenses such as print materials and marketing are anticipated at \$7,500 and will be accommodated by the Office of the Dean in the School of Medicine. No new resources will be requested from the state to establish or operate the proposed new department or implement this organizational change.

### **Next Steps**

- February 27, 2025 University Council Academic Affairs Committee (UCAA)  
**APPROVED**
- March 6, 2025 University Council
- President's Cabinet will vote electronically
- March 21, 2025 Board of Visitors
- April 1, 2025 Submission to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
  - Note. This submission was approved by SCHEV on January 13, 2025. SCHEV updated its guidelines in January 2025 to require that all organizational changes be approved by the institution's governing board. To remain in compliance with SCHEV guidelines, the Board of Visitors must approve the change by July 1, 2025.

## **Amendment to the 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan**

### **VCU Catering and Event Space**

#### **Background**

VCU seeks authorization to amend the 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan to include a renovation of 17,740 square feet of food service space in the Cary & Belvidere Residential College to serve as VCU Catering and event space. Formerly the location of a Chili's restaurant, Starbucks and AVO Kitchen, the space will be converted into a new home for VCU Catering and feature a catering kitchen with an attached event space.

VCU Catering has outgrown its existing catering and event space in Shafer Court Dining Center, known as the Compass Room. Moving VCU Catering to a larger, dedicated facility will improve efficiency, enhance service capabilities and allow for better support of campus events. Additionally, the relocation of VCU Catering from Shafer Court Dining Center to this new facility aligns with the VCU Dining Master Plan by freeing up valuable space in Shafer Court for expanded student-centered dining options.

#### **Considerations**

Overall foot traffic in the Cary & Belvidere Residential College area of campus has not been strong enough to support traditional retail dining operations. This project aims to repurpose the area into an event space and catering facility, creating a more strategic and efficient use of university resources.

#### **Cost and funding**

The renovation of the space is estimated to be \$8.5M and will be paid by VCU Dining Services auxiliary funds that were set aside for Dining Master Plan projects.

#### **Recommendation**

Authorize the amendment of the university's 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan to include the VCU Catering and Event Space.

## **Approval to Execute Multiple Term Contracts**

### Professional Architectural/Engineering Services

#### **Background**

VCU seeks Board of Visitors (BOV) approval to execute multiple, five-year term contracts for professional architectural and engineering (A/E) services, allowing the university to retain a network of prequalified vendors. These pre-negotiated term contracts are critical to VCU Facilities Management operations and allow for prompt engagement of an A/E firm to provide feasibility studies, cost studies and designs of small capital, non-capital, and maintenance reserve projects when timeliness is necessary. These term contracts are replacing existing A/E term contracts set to expire in April 2025.

In preparation, VCU Procurement Services, in collaboration with VCU Facilities Management, completed a formal request for proposal (RFP) process in compliance with competition requirements. The RFP resulted in the selection of 22 firms for contracts through April 2030.

#### **Considerations**

The Delegation of Signatory Authority Policy requires that all agreements in which the value exceeds or can be reasonably expected to exceed \$5M receive BOV approval. These contracts, collectively, are anticipated to exceed \$5M.

Following a comprehensive evaluation of capabilities, the RFP committee determined that the following contractors are the most qualified to perform the services in the disciplines noted and, if approved, will be awarded a contract.

- **General architectural services:** Ayers Saint Gross; Glave & Holmes Architecture; Hanbury; KEi Architects; PSH+; RRMM
- **Full service A/E services:** Baskervill; Page
- **Building envelope:** Raymond Engineering; WDP
- **Mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services:** 2rw; Affiliated Engineers; CMTA; Engineers Plus; Wiley Wilson
- **Geotechnical engineering services:** Froehling & Robertson
- **Civil, erosion and sediment control, stormwater management, surveying and geographic information systems services:** H&B Surveying; Timmons Group



- **Structural engineering services:** Dunbar
- **Landscape architecture services:** Fall Line
- **Traffic and parking consulting services:** Kimley Horn

### **Cost and funding**

Cost of the services depends on type, scale and scope. Sources of funding vary by project and may include state-appropriated funding, debt, university or auxiliary funds. VCU limits spending with each firm to \$1M per year.

### **Recommendation**

Approve the execution of multiple term contracts for construction services beginning in April 2025.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS  
OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

**APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE CONTRACTS EXCEEDING \$5 MILLION**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Title § 23.1 of the Code of Virginia, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University (the Board) has broad legal authority to make regulations and policies concerning Virginia Commonwealth University (the University);

**WHEREAS**, the Board has the authority to approve and execute agreements with outside entities that bind the University;

**WHEREAS**, under the Board's discretion, the Board delegated authority to the University's Office of the President, as outlined in the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy, as amended on May 10, 2019, to approve and execute contracts with a total actual or anticipated expenditure value of up to \$5 million;

**WHEREAS**, the University has numerous professional architectural and engineering services contracts, covering nine disciplines, for Facilities Management (Facilities), which manages facility renovations, construction, maintenance and repairs.

**WHEREAS**, since these various contracts will expire April 30, 2025, the Requests for Proposal (RFP) planning process was initiated in June 2024 with the relevant solicitation being posted statewide on August 21, 2024.

**WHEREAS**, the University completed the RFP evaluation process and is ready to award several discipline-specific contracts;

**WHEREAS**, the University anticipates that these contracts, collectively, will exceed \$5 million over the course of the contract term ("Subject Contracts");

**WHEREAS**, executing contracts for these specialized services is necessary to support Facilities' mission of campus sustainability and facilities stewardship which has lasting impact on the University's mission of creating a safe learning and working environment for the University's students, faculty, staff and;

**WHEREAS**, the actual expenditures and additional costs for the proposed services will exceed the President's delegated authority for approval and execution of contracts; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**, that the Board approves the execution of the Subject Contracts and any required renewals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board authorizes the President or the President's designee to sign any contract amendments or documents necessary to

implement the anticipated expenditure, in accordance with the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

## **Construction Services Contract Approval**

### 901 West Franklin Street Renovation

#### **Background**

VCU seeks Board of Visitors (BOV) approval to execute a construction services contract for the 901 West Franklin Street Renovation. Located at the corner of Franklin and Shafer streets, the original building was constructed as a home between 1882 and 1892 and is currently used as office space. Additions on the south and west ends of the building were added in the early 20th century.

There have been no significant restorative efforts performed on this facility in recent history. Normal aging and degradation of building material is contributing to moisture infiltration issues that need to be addressed. This renovation project includes tuckpointing (i.e., repairing the mortar joints between the bricks of the entire building), replacing the roof, and adding a fall protection system to the roof.

In December 2024, the BOV approved an amendment to the 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan to include this capital project, authorized its initiation at a cost not to exceed \$7M, and approved project plans.

#### **Considerations**

Woodland Construction was selected following a competitive procurement process. The project is anticipated to begin in 2025 and will take approximately one year to complete.

#### **Costs and funding**

The construction cost is estimated at \$5.5M. The project will be funded by state-appropriated maintenance reserve funds.

#### **Recommendation**

Approve the request to execute a construction services contract with Woodland Construction at a cost not to exceed \$5.5M.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS  
OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

**APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE CONTRACTS EXCEEDING \$5 MILLION**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Title § 23.1 of the Code of Virginia, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University (the Board) has broad legal authority to make regulations and policies concerning Virginia Commonwealth University (the University);

**WHEREAS**, the Board has the authority to approve and execute agreements with outside entities that bind the University;

**WHEREAS**, under the Board's discretion, the Board delegated authority to the University's Office of the President, as outlined in the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy, as amended on May 10, 2019, to approve and execute contracts with a total actual or anticipated expenditure value of up to \$5 million;

**WHEREAS**, the University seeks Board of Visitors approval to execute a contract for construction services for the 901 West Franklin Street Renovation;

**WHEREAS**, the University issued a Request for Proposal to solicit construction services for tuckpointing (i.e., repairing the mortar joints between the bricks of the entire building), replacing the roof, and adding a fall protection system to the roof;

**WHEREAS**, the University is negotiating a contract with Woodland Construction with an estimated cost of \$5.5M (Subject Contract);

**WHEREAS**, the actual expenditures and additional costs for the proposed services will exceed the President's delegated authority for approval and execution of contracts; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**, that the Board approves the execution of the Subject Contracts and any required renewals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board authorizes the President or the President's designee to sign any contract amendments or documents necessary to implement the anticipated expenditure, in accordance with the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.



## Board of Visitors' Statement on Governance and Ethical Leadership

The Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors ("the Board") is composed of 16 voting members ("the Visitors") appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Each member serves a term of four years.

As public trustees the Board has the responsibility and authority, subject to constitutional and statutory limitations, for the continuing operation, development of evolving policies, and financial oversight of Virginia Commonwealth University ("the University").

The Board in executing their duties has adopted the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors Bylaws to provide for the orderly, consistent, and efficient conduct of its business as the governing body of Virginia Commonwealth University. A copy of the Bylaws can be found at <https://bov.vcu.edu/bylaws/>.

In representing and exemplifying the University's mission to advance knowledge and student success, the members of the Board are in the utmost position of trust. This position of trust is inherently accompanied by the highest standards in leadership, responsibility, accountability, and governing authority during service. Incumbent upon the Board members is the modeling and promotion of, and contribution to, an organizational culture of respect, honesty, excellence, integrity, trust, accountability and responsibility, stewardship and compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and the University's policies during service to the public through serving the University.

At VCU, expectations are set high in all endeavors and success is obtained in conjunction with the Visitors' support and commitment to integrity. The ethical expectations set for the Visitors further illustrate commitments to one another, our university community and the citizens of Virginia, all of whom have entrusted the Visitors to act ethically in all dealings.

The expectations set forth herein strongly resemble those ethical standards and expectations incumbent on all VCU employees and serve as a reminder of the obligations of, and challenges in, holding such a position of trust.

Members of the Board of Visitors bring a varied breadth of experiences, both professionally and personally, and all share in the commitment of supporting an environment of uncompromising integrity and ethical conduct. These ethical expectations are the foundation for all decisions and actions during service to VCU.

As representatives the University all Board members' actions shall be guided by these principles and values:

**Loyalty:** The Board will understand and support the University's mission, vision, and values. The Board shall act in good faith and in the best interests of the University and the citizens of the Commonwealth at all times and in a nonpartisan and unbiased manner.

In addition to board meetings, Board members, to the best of their ability, shall participate regularly in events at the University to ensure they are an active part of the University community.

The Board members shall advocate for VCU but speak for the Board or VCU only when authorized to do so by the Rector or the Board..

In maintaining the duties of care, loyalty, obedience, and disclosure, all free from undue influences and thereby protecting VCU from such influences, requires the extension of goodwill to every member and affiliate of the University community

**Responsibility and Accountability:** All decisions and actions reflect upon the reputation of the University; therefore, the commitment to upholding these expectations through Visitors' actions sustains, even when confronted by the challenges of personal, professional, social, or economic pressures.

The Board shall be responsible and accountable for its decisions and actions.

**Integrity and Respect:** The Board will respect individuals, rights, and the dignity of others.

The Board shall make decisions and direct the administration as a board and not as individuals.

The Board shall refrain from requests of the president, faculty, or staff for special consideration or personal prerogative, including admissions, employment, and contracts for business.

The Board shall respect established channels to acquire information from or open communications with faculty, staff or students.

The Board shall maintain confidentiality, as guided by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**Honesty:** The Board shall act and communicate honestly and candidly.

**Stewardship:** The Board shall be good stewards of the resources entrusted to the University.

The Board shall prepare diligently, attend faithfully, and participate constructively in all Board meetings, committee meetings, and related activities.

Individual Board members shall speak openly during the board meetings, but after a vote is taken, will support a decision of the Board.

The Board will extend goodwill to one another, all members of the VCU community, and all educational bodies associated with the University.

Individual Board members shall understand the role of the Board of Visitors as a policymaking and oversight body, and avoid unnecessary involvement in the administration of university policy and daily operation of the University..

**Compliance:** The Board shall understand and comply with the codes, laws, regulations, policies, and procedures that govern our University activities.

The Board shall abide by the Commonwealth of Virginia's State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, avoiding both conflicts of interest as defined by law and the appearance of such conflicts, and shall

report promptly to the Rector any potential conflicts. This includes the timely filing of the annual financial disclosure statement and any other required documents.

The Board shall adhere to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations and Board policies and bylaws, including the requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Individual Board members shall certify that they have read and understand this Statement on Governance and Ethical Leadership by signing an acknowledgement form annually.

Individual Board members have a duty to report their own potential or actual violations of the Code of Ethics or those of other Board members to the Rector immediately upon realization or discovery.

Individual Board members shall participate in all training required by law.

Consistent with provisions of the Board bylaws regarding removal of board members, potential or actual violations of the Board Statement on Governance and Ethical Leadership shall be reviewed in the following manner:

The Rector will consult with the Board member in question and attempt to resolve the potential or actual noncompliance. If that consultation fails to resolve the matter, then

The Rector shall convene the Executive Committee to meet with the board member in question and attempt to resolve the potential or actual noncompliance. If that consultation fails to resolve the matter, then

The Rector shall convene the full Board to determine corrective action, as appropriate. If the Board determines by majority vote of the membership to recommend to the governor that a member be removed, then the applicable provisions of the bylaws relating to removal of a Board member shall be invoked.

The Board strongly agrees, and has received confirmation from the Association of Governing Boards' governance specialist who presented at the FY25 Board Retreat and other best practices resources, that an ombudsman is not necessary to facilitate the process.

## **Definitions**

---

### **During Service**

For purposes of this policy only, this term reflects the membership tenure of a Board member defined as eligible for service for two consecutive terms of four years only (exclusive of the portion of any unexpired term or any term on the board of less than four years to which a Board member has been appointed).

### **Duty of Care**

A requirement that a person act toward others and the public with watchfulness, attention, caution, and prudence that a reasonable person in the same circumstances would.

### **Duty of Loyalty**

A term used to describe a fiduciaries' duty, which requires placing the organization's interests ahead of their own. Fiduciaries may breach their duty of loyalty when they divert assets, opportunities, or information for personal gain.

### **Duty of Obedience**

Refers to the Board member's obligation to advance the mission of the University. It also includes an



expectation that Board members will act in a manner that is consistent with the mission and goals of the institution. Failure of this duty can result in a loss of public confidence in the institution.

**Duty of Disclosure**

Board members have a fiduciary duty to communicate honestly and ensure that any disclosure of information is truthful, accurate, and complete.

#### 8VAC90-60-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Police officer" means a law-enforcement official appointed pursuant to Article 3 (§ 15.2-1609 et seq.) of Chapter 16 and Chapter 17 (§ 15.2-1700 et seq.) of Title 15.2, Chapter 17 (§ 23-232 et seq.) of Title 23, Chapter 2 (§ 29.1-200 et seq.) of Title 29.1, and Chapter 1 (§ 52-1 et seq.) of Title 52 of the Code of Virginia and sworn federal law-enforcement officers.

"University property" means any property owned, leased, or controlled by Virginia Commonwealth University.

"Weapon" means (i) any pistol, revolver, or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind; (ii) any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, razor slingshot, spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack; (iii) any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain; or (iv) any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades that is designed to be thrown or propelled and that may be known as throwing star or oriental dart.

#### 8VAC90-60-20. Possession of weapons prohibited.

Possession or carrying of any weapon by any person, except a police officer, is prohibited on university property in academic buildings, administrative office buildings, medical venues, clinics, laboratories, research facilities, student residence buildings, and dining facilities; or while attending sporting, entertainment, or educational events. Entry upon the aforementioned university property in violation of this prohibition is expressly forbidden. **The Chief of Police with concurrence of the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration may authorize specific university employees with security responsibilities to possess or carry a weapon. Such employees must meet or exceed the training standards of the Department of Criminal Justice Services for law enforcement officers.**

#### 8VAC90-60-30. Person lawfully in charge.

In addition to individuals authorized by university policy, Virginia Commonwealth University police officers are lawfully in charge for the purposes of forbidding entry upon or remaining upon university property while possessing or carrying weapons in violation of this prohibition.



February 4, 2025

Mr. Bruce MacDonald  
Chief Investment Officer  
VCU Investment Management Company  
413 Stuart Circle #210  
Richmond, VA 23220  
*bruce.macdonald@vcimco.com*

Virginia Commonwealth  
University  
**Office of the Rector**

910 West Franklin Street  
Box 842500  
Richmond, Virginia 23284-2500

804 828-9213 • Fax: 804 828-7532  
TDD: 1-800-828-1120  
vcurector@vcu.edu

Dear Bruce:

In accordance with the VCU Investment Management Company (VCIMCO) Articles of Incorporation, Section 5, as approved by the VCU Board of Visitors in May 2015 (attached), on behalf of Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors, I am pleased to appoint Mr. Lawrence Kochard as a member of the VCIMCO Board of Directors. This appointment will be presented to the Board of Visitors in March to be ratified.

With Mr. Kochard's extensive background in investment management, I am confident that he will continue to serve exceptionally well as a member of the board of directors. The VCU Board of Visitors looks forward to continue working with VCIMCO to strengthen our investment strategies to ensure the best possible returns.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts in contributing to our mission in support of our students and the VCU Community.

Sincerely,

Todd P. Haymore  
Rector, VCU Board of Visitors

Attachment

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE ERICH W. DAMM, PH.D. FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO  
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, Erich W. Damm, Ph.D., an international expert in the field of cellular and molecular biology, joined the faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Biology in 2019 as an Assistant Professor.

WHEREAS, Erich W. Damm, Ph.D., demonstrated exemplary leadership in the field of Cellular Biology through groundbreaking research, innovative teaching methodologies and a commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive academic environment; and

WHEREAS, Erich W. Damm, Ph.D., served with distinction as a Full Member of the VCU Massey Cancer Center Cancer Biology Program from 2022 until his passing; and

WHEREAS, in appreciation for his influence, example and potential, graduates of and faculty in the VCU Department of Biology aim to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of one of its most esteemed faculty members by endowing the Erich W. Damm Memorial Award in 2024 to support the educational aspirations of Biology students; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials that this resolution serves to acknowledge the many contributions and untimely passing of Erich W. Damm, Ph.D.; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials approves campus recognition of Erich W. Damm, Ph.D. to honor his accomplishments and lasting impact on the VCU community.

APPROVED, this 8th day of November, 2024

VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE CHARLES FLETCHER CHRISTIAN, M.D.  
FOR CONTRIBUTION TO VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

**WHEREAS**, Charles Fletcher Christian, M.D., is a 1962 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia (now VCU School of Medicine) having achieved the highest academic standing in the 88-member class with marks of 95 of a possible 100 and was denied attendance to some social functions associated with the graduation due to his racial classification as Black to include a dinner at the Commonwealth Club of Richmond, a dance for graduates at Tantilla Gardens and a luncheon for Board of Visitors, faculty, alumni, graduates and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles Fletcher Christian, M.D., throughout the ordeal conducted himself with honor and distinction, refusing to publicly discuss his exclusion from the social functions; and

**WHEREAS**, classmates of Charles Fletcher Christian unanimously voted to not attend graduation events if he could not, which then led to a supportive vote of the School of Medicine Faculty and the enactment of policies established by the Medical College of Virginia Board of Visitors that eliminated discriminatory exclusion of any student at functions sponsored or directed by the Medical College of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Christian served as a faculty member at the Medical College of Virginia for 16 years, having the distinction of being among the first Black faculty members hired at the Medical College of Virginia, and later served the Richmond community as a psychiatrist in private practice; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of Dr. Christian extended beyond the MCV School of Medicine as he dedicated his life to the service of others and was a veteran of ten years' service in the United States Army, achieving the rank of Captain, having seen combat in the Korean War and World War II and having joined the United States Air Force and serving in the Vietnam War as director of medical services and also administered medical care to sick infants in off-duty hours before retiring in 1983 at the rank of Major; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of VCU School of Medicine to honor and perpetuate the legacy of Dr. Christian in a manner befitting his profound contributions to advancement of the VCU Core value of Inclusive Excellence and to the education and training of VCU medical students; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials approves permanent recognition of Charles Fletcher Christian, M.D. by mounting a contextual plaque inside the McGlothlin Medical Education Center building to commemorate his achievements and service.

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE SONIA VLAHCEVIC, PH.D. FOR THEIR  
COMMITMENT TO VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D., an internationally celebrated pianist, joined the faculty of the then Richmond Professional Institute in 1966, serving RPI and Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts for the subsequent 58 years;

WHEREAS, Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D. demonstrated exemplary leadership in the field of contemporary composition and pianistic pedagogy through research, public performance, innovative teaching methodologies, and a commitment to fostering a nurturing academic environment; and

WHEREAS, Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D. served as advisor, mentor, and teacher to generations of piano students and extended her reach beyond VCU by establishing Vlahcevic Contemporary Music Festival as part of the Richmond Music Teachers Association to encourage students' deeper understanding of contemporary piano; and

WHEREAS, Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D. has performed lecture-recitals at international venues including Spain, Thailand, Malaysia, Argentina, Croatia, South Korea, Sweden, and presented over twelve faculty recitals at VCU; and

WHEREAS, Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D. will retire from VCU in 2025.

WHEREAS, the School of the Arts aims to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of one of its most esteemed faculty members by naming the Sonia Vlahcevic Student Recital Hall in the James W. Black Music Center; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials that this resolution serves to acknowledge the many contributions of Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D.; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials approves campus recognition upon the retirement of Sonia Vlahcevic, Ph.D. to honor her accomplishments and lasting impact on the VCU community.

APPROVED, this 12th day of February, 2025

VCU Committee on Commemoration and Memorials



# Undergraduate Board of Visitors Report

*March 21st, 2025*

Tobi Ojo

Undergraduate BOV Representative



**WE ARE THE UNCOMMON.**



# VCU Homecoming





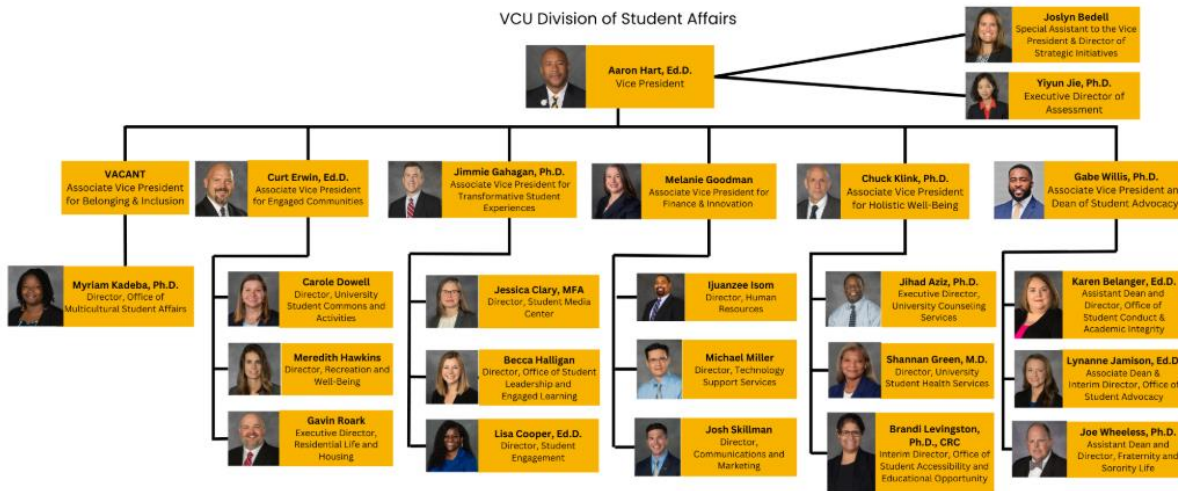
# Student Concerns

- Communication on Snow Days
  - Transportation time of Commuter students
- Accessibility of Buildings
  - Maintenance and Repair of Doors
- Finding/Adjusting Employment
  - Some work study starts are exploring alternative options that fit with class schedule

# Org Chart Progression

# Currently Working On

## VCU Division of Student Affairs Organization Chart



1. Incorporating an interactive component similar to VCU Maps

2. The placement of the chart