VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS

ACADEMIC AND HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHARTER

I.   PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the Academic and Health Affairs Committee is to provide oversight and make recommendations to the Board on all policies and plans regarding strategic enrollment management; academic quality; student matters; faculty matters; athletics; inclusive excellence and research consistent with the stated goals and objectives of the University and with its academic health center, including its affiliation with the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority. Areas of responsibility include:

- Strategic enrollment management
    - Admissions
    - Retention
- Academic quality
    - Quality
    - Degrees, programs and structure
    - Trends
    - Strategic priorities
    - Academic program review
    - Online education
    - SACS/accreditation
- Student matters
    - Academic Success
    - Rights and Responsibilities
    - Concerns
    - Safety, satisfaction and engagement
- Faculty matters
    - Employment, rights and responsibilities, and professional development
    - Salaries
    - Recruitment and retention
    - Benchmarks and best practices
- Athletics
    - Academic success of student athletes and compliance with NCAA guidelines
- Research
- Inclusive Excellence
- Coordination of academic activities of health sciences schools and affiliation with the VCU Health System Authority

In addition, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee provides oversight and counsel toward the achievement of the mission, vision and goals of the Virginia Commonwealth University strategic plan.

The function of the Academic and Health Affairs Committee is primarily oversight. University management, under the auspices of the President, the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System, is responsible for the development, implementation, and measurement of success regarding these areas of responsibility, as well as the policies and procedures for maintaining these programs and activities.

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II.　COMPOSITION AND INDEPENDENCE

The Academic and Health Affairs Committee will be comprised of three or more Visitors. Each member must be free from any financial, family or other material personal relationship that, in the opinion of the Board or Academic and Health Affairs Committee members, would impair their independence from management and the University.

III.　MEETINGS

The Academic and Health Affairs Committee will meet at least four times annually. Additional meetings may occur more frequently as circumstances warrant. The Committee chair should communicate with the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System prior to each Committee meeting to finalize the meeting agenda and review the matters to be discussed.

IV.　RESPONSIBILITIES

In performing its oversight responsibilities, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee shall:

A. General
1. Adopt a formal written charter that specifies the Committee's scope of responsibility. The charter should be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.
2. Maintain minutes of open session portions of meetings.
3. Report Committee actions to the Board of Visitors with such recommendations as the Committee may deem appropriate.
4. Consistent with state law, the Committee may communicate in closed session (with or without members of senior management present) with general counsel and/or the executive director of assurance services present to discuss matters that the Committee or any of these groups believe should be discussed privately.

B. Academic degrees and structure
1. Review and approve academic program proposals when required by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) policy, and monitor existing programs.
2. Review and approve proposals for the organization of the University's academic health center, including the affiliation between VCU and the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority.
3. Review and approve proposals for the organization of the academic structure of the University when required by SCHEV policy.

C. Coordination of academic activities of health sciences schools and affiliation with the VCU Health System Authority
1. Receive reports on the relationship and affiliation between the University and the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority and other institutions, organizations, laboratories, and clinics involved in the University's academic health center, including reviewing program coordination between the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority and academic and research programs.

D. Academic research activities
1. Review and approve research policies deemed to require Board of Visitor action.

92	2. Receive reports on research advances of faculty, interdisciplinary groups, and VCU institutes and centers.
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94	3. Receive reports on the relationship of research activities to local, regional, national, and international economic development.
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96	4. Report annually on the state of the VCU research enterprise including the total research awards, expenditures, trends, and outlook.
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Line numbers appear in the left margin. Content follows:

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93   and centers.
94   3. Receive reports on the relationship of research activities to local, regional, national, and
95   international economic development.
96   4. Report annually on the state of the VCU research enterprise including the total research
97   awards, expenditures, trends, and outlook.

98   E. <u>Faculty and staff employment, rights and responsibilities, and professional development</u>
99   1. Review and approve policies governing the compensation, tenure, promotion, recruitment,
100   retention, rights and responsibilities, and development of the faculty.
101   2. Review and approve policies and programs on equal employment opportunity and affirmative
102   action.
103   3. Afford an opportunity for direct communication between Board members and members of the
104   faculty and staff.

105   F. <u>Admissions and retention</u>
106   1. Review and approve policies governing the admission and retention of undergraduate,
107   graduate and professional students to all divisions of the University.

108   G. <u>Accreditation</u>
109   1. Review and approve policies and reports related to departmental, school, and institutional
110   accreditation.

111   H. <u>Academic Success of Students</u>
112   1. Review nominations and make the final selection of the recipient(s) of the Board of Visitors
113   Award at a regularly scheduled meeting in the spring of each year.
114   2. Review topical areas of interest related to the student experience.
115   3. Review major fall and spring activities.
116   4. Review and monitor student academic success.

117   I. <u>Academic Success of Student Athletes</u>
118   1. Review and oversee matters relating to the intercollegiate athletic program.

119   J. <u>Student Rights and Responsibilities</u>
120   1. Review matters (including approving policies) relating to student rights, responsibilities,
121   conduct, concerns and discipline, including matters relating to the VCU Honor System, and
122   Student Code of Conduct.
123   2. Review and oversee matters relating to student government, and appropriate student
124   participation in University governance.
125   3. Review and oversee matters relating to student organizations and extracurricular activities.
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127   K. <u>Student Services</u>
128   1. Review and oversee matters relating to financial aid, housing services, counseling, student
129   health, safety and other student services.
130   2. Review and approve policies relating to student records.
131   3. Review report on campus safety that provides awareness of federal reporting requirement,
132   general overview of VCU safety-related statistics, and ongoing efforts to improve safety.

133   L. <u>Student Communications</u>
134   1. Afford an opportunity for direct communication between Board members and students.

135   M. <u>International Partnerships and Collaborations</u>
136   1. Review and approve international partnerships