



**BOARD OF VISITORS  
ACADEMIC AND HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
9:20 A.M.  
March 22, 2018  
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  
Mr. Ed McCoy  
Mr. G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Mr. Tyrone Nelson  
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ms. Elizabeth L. Brooks, Associate University Counsel  
Dr. Gail Hackett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
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 9:30 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee approved the Minutes of the meeting held **December 12, 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>.

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee approved the following six academic proposals: 1) modify the Criminal Justice, M.S., 2) modify the M.Ed. in Counselor Education, 3) offer a new Graduate Certificate in Sustainability Planning, 4) create a new Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Cybersecurity, 5) create a new Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Data Science, and 6) change the degree designation of the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Sport Leadership to the Master of Sport Leadership (M.S.L.) in Sport Leadership, and recommended that the full Board of Visitors approve same.

## **REPORTS**

Dr. Hackett presented the committee dashboard, noting that there were not many new metrics to report. It was also noted that new Quest peers have been identified and their metrics are now included on the dashboard.

Dr. Hackett and Dr. Shapiro then provided a brief update about the new strategic plan, Quest 2025: Together we Transform, noting that the mission and vision statements were not newly drafted, but updated versions of the current statements. Committee members engaged in discussion around the use of the phrasing “the preeminent” and suggested adding a more feasible clause, such as “one of the preeminent”, to which Dr. Hackett emphasized VCU’s distinctiveness as an R1 research university dedicated to access, inclusion and excellence and preeminence among universities with those characteristics is achievable. The Committee also suggested separating the values from the mission to make it more succinct. Dr. Shapiro revealed the plan had reduced the number of themes from five to four and have ensured that inclusion and efficiencies are included in each. The committee offered several suggestions for themes, including the development of a business-aligned theme that outlined the funding and support of the plan, and the integration of higher education issues, such as affordability, into the plan. Dr. Shapiro concluded this discussion by thanking the committee and ensuring their comments would be passed on to the steering committee.

Ms. Holly Alford, the faculty representative, updated the committee on shared governance efforts, including their updated by-laws and an on-going partnership with Staff Senate to ensure proper shared governance throughout the university. Ms. Alford also updated the committee on their upcoming symposium, "Academic Freedom vs. Freedom of Speech: How do we think about it? How do we live it?" and invited the board and members of the university to attend. Finally, Ms. Alford highlighted the faculty’s work on the general education undergraduate curriculum and their excitement to work with Navitas on international recruiting.

Ms. Lauren Katchuk, the staff representative, provided the committee with an update regarding Staff Senate’s recent actions to empower the university’s employees, Employee Appreciation Week, where over 600 dozen doughnuts were handed out. Ms. Katchuk expressed thanks to many senators who participated in the event and in various committee memberships.

Ms. Sarah Izabel and Ms. Katherine Pumphrey, the student representatives, highlighted student activities on both campuses, including the Undergraduate Alternative Spring Break and the Graduate Student Dinner with Dr. Michael Rao, where students had the opportunity to engage with the President and discuss important topics.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The committee requested an update on general education. Dr. Hackett will be meeting with that committee soon and will be able to provide an update at the May meeting. Committee members also requested an update on career services.

**CLOSED SESSION**

On motion made and seconded, the Academic and Health Affairs Committee of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University convened a closed session under **Section 2.2-3711(A)(2)** and **(11)** for the discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any Virginia public institution of higher education or any state school system, specifically regarding the selection of the Board of Visitor Student Scholarship recipient which requires disclosure of scholastic records.

**Resolution of Certification**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 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.

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

All members present for voting responding affirmatively, the resolution of certification was adopted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dr. Carol Shapiro, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.