



VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH
BOARD OF VISITORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2:00 P.M.
February 17, 2022
SCOTT HOUSE
909 W. FRANKLIN ST.
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
& VIRTUAL**

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. H. Benson Dendy III, *Rector*
Ms. Carolina Espinal, *Vice Rector*
Mr. Keith T. Parker
Dr. Gopinath R. Jadhav
Ms. Pamela K. El
Ambassador Carmen Lomellin
Reverend Tyrone Nelson

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Ms. Coleen Santa Ana
Mr. Stuart Siegel

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Todd Haymore, *Secretary*
Dr. Shantaram Talegaonkar

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Jacob Belue, *Interim University Counsel*
Ms. Chelsea Gray, *Assistant Secretary & Board Liaison to the VCU Board of Visitors & Executive Assistant to the President*
Mr. John McHugh, *Director of Procurement Services*
Dr. Meredith Weiss, *Vice President for Administration*
VCU students, faculty and staff and members of the public via livestream

Mr. H. Benson Dendy III, Rector, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Ms. Chelsea Gray, Assistant Secretary and Board Liaison & Executive Assistant to the President, conducted a roll call. The public was able to view the open session of the meeting via livestream at <https://mssvideo.vcu.edu/BOV>.

Mr. John McHugh, Director of Procurement Services, presented the resolution for approval for a contract exceeding \$5 million. He provides background information including the Office of the President issued the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy on May 10, 2019. Pursuant to the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy, contracts with a total actual or anticipated expenditure value exceeding \$5 million require prior approval by the Board. VCU wishes to enter into a contract with Elsevier B.V. to purchase subscriptions to electronic journal collections and electronic books. The total actual or anticipated expenditure value of the contract with Elsevier B.V. will exceed \$5 million. He explained that he and Ms. Karol Kain Gray, Senior Vice President and CFO, are recommending to the committee, on behalf of the board, to approve the contract with Elsevier B.V. and authorize the Senior Vice President and CFO to execute the contract on behalf of VCU. The memo with this information is attached hereto as **Attachment A**.

On a motion duly made and seconded Resolution of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University Approval for Contract Exceeding \$5 million was approved by a roll call vote:

Vote	Ayes	Nays
Ms. Carolina Espinal, <i>Vice Rector</i>	X	
Mr. Keith T. Parker	X	
Dr. Gopinath R. Jadhav	X	
Ms. Pamela K. El	X	
Ambassador Carmen Lomellin	X	
Reverend Tyrone Nelson	X	
Ms. Coleen Santa Ana	X	
Mr. Stuart Siegel	X	

Rector Dendy abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest. The Resolution of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University Approval for Contract Exceeding \$5 million is attached hereto as **Attachment B** and is made a part hereof.

There being no further business, Mr. H. Benson Dendy III, Rector, adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

To: The Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University
From: Procurement Services and University Libraries
Subject: Approval for Contract with Elsevier B.V. Exceeding \$5 Million
Date: February 17, 2022

Recommendation

We recommend that the Board approve the contract with Elsevier B.V. and authorize the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer to execute the contract on behalf of Virginia Commonwealth University (“VCU”).

Background

The Office of the President issued the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy on May 10, 2019. Pursuant to the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy, contracts with a total actual or anticipated expenditure value exceeding \$5 million require prior approval by the Board. VCU wishes to enter into a contract with Elsevier B.V. to purchase subscriptions to electronic journal collections and electronic books. The total actual or anticipated expenditure value of the contract with Elsevier B.V. will exceed \$5 million.

Discussion

By executing the contract with Elsevier B.V., VCU’s students, staff, and researchers will receive instant access to all Elsevier B.V. electronic journal collections and specified electronic books. These peer-reviewed scholarly journals and books are essential to the successful pursuit and completion of undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees. These peer-reviewed scholarly journals and books are also essential to the creation and support of grant applications, as well as the successful completion of research studies, which span the areas of medicine, health professions, psychology, biomedical sciences, engineering, social sciences, and humanities.

The term of the contract with Elsevier B.V. will be three years, and the total cost will be \$6,107,874.75. This scholarly subscription is standard for institutional research libraries across the world, and Elsevier B.V. is the exclusive holder and distributor of such subscriptions. If the contract is approved by the Board, VCU anticipates continuing the subscription with Elsevier B.V., through contract renewal, at the end of the contract’s term.

University Impact

Executing the contract with Elsevier B.V. will support VCU’s [Strategic Research Priorities Plan](#) and further the [Quest 2025](#) goal to achieve preeminence as a 21st century public, urban research university.

ATTACHMENT B

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

APPROVAL FOR CONTRACT EXCEEDING \$5 MILLION

WHEREAS, the Office of the President issued the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy on May 10, 2019;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Delegation of Signatory Authority policy, contracts with a total actual or anticipated expenditure value exceeding \$5 million require prior approval by the Board;

WHEREAS, Virginia Commonwealth University wishes to enter into a contract with Elsevier B.V. to purchase subscriptions to online journal collections; and

WHEREAS, the total actual or anticipated expenditure value of the contract with Elsevier B.V. will exceed \$5 million.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY:

1. The Board approves the contract with Elsevier B.V.
2. The Board authorizes the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer to execute the contract on behalf of Virginia Commonwealth University.
3. This Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption