



VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS COMMITTEE**

**September 15, 2022**

**James Branch Cabell Library  
901 Park Avenue – Room 303  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**

**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Rev. Tyrone Nelson, Chair  
Mr. Todd Haymore, Vice Chair  
Mr. H. Benson Dendy III, Rector  
Ms. Carolina Espinal, Vice Rector (virtual)  
Mr. Anthony Bedell  
Ambassador Carmen Lomellin  
Dr. Clifton Peay

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Edward L. McCoy  
Ms. Alexis Swann

**OTHERS PRESENT**

President Michael Rao  
Mr. Edward McLaughlin, Vice President and Director of Athletics  
Ms. Chelsea Gray, Executive Director for Board and Executive Operations  
Ms. Stephanie Hamlett, University Counsel  
Presidential Cabinet of VCU  
VCU students, faculty and staff  
Members of the Media

**CALL TO ORDER**

Rev. Tyrone Nelson, Chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Rev. Nelson mentioned it was brought to his attention that some previous committee meeting minutes were not approved earlier. All minutes were posted within the statutory requirements. On a motion duly made and seconded the minutes from May 13, 2021; September 17, 2021; December 10, 2021; March 21, 2022; and May 12, 2022 were approved unanimously.

**VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS REPORT**

Mr. Edward McLaughlin, Vice President and Director of Athletics provided an update to the committee on athletics including student academic and athletic success, the future of the Athletic Village progress, NCAA matters related to Name, Image and Likeness and budget and compliance stability. The committee asked Mr. McLaughlin to provide cumulative GPAs at the next meeting.

He reported that for 15 consecutive semesters the average GPA has been at or above 3.0. Spring 2022 the average GPA was 3.289, 40% of student athletes were on the Dean's List (3.5 and higher), 77% on the AD Honor Roll (3.0 and higher), and 66 athletes had 4.0. He spoke about student athletes that have gone professional and that many come back to mentor and practice with current students.

Mr. McLaughlin proceeded to report that the master planning process for the Athletic Village has begun. The MLB deadline is the end of 2025 for the Squirrels ballpark. President Rao acknowledged that this will benefit all students. The committee asked that they be provided what it will look like.

He provided a detailed report on the department's strategic operational plan for diversity, equity and inclusion. This is in line with the Quest goals. The plan was developed in coordination with Institutional Equity, Effectiveness and Success. It outlines the goals and tangible actions needed short-term and long-term objectives to create change in advance of the upcoming Athletics strategic plan. A new operational plan will be developed each year.

Mr. McLaughlin provided an update on Name, Image and Likeness (NIL). There have been a total of 64 transactions with an average value of \$501.39. NIL is influencing where student athletes go. This will continue to be a challenge. Committee members suggested that student athletes be provided training sessions on how to manage this.

A copy of Mr. McLaughlin's presentation is attached and made a part hereof.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Haymore adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.