

## BOARD OF VISITORS INFORMATION SESSION MINUTES

An information session (open session) for the Board of Visitors was held on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. in the Latham Ballroom at The Inn at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia. There was no public comment period.

### **Board Members Present**

Horacio Valeiras (Rector)  
Ed Baine  
Shelley Barlow  
Greta Harris  
C. T. Hill  
Letitia Long (Vice Rector)  
Sharon Martin  
Melissa Nelson  
L. Chris Petersen  
Jeff Veatch  
Preston White

### **Absent**

Carrie Chenery  
Mehul Sanghani

### **Constituent Representatives Present:**

Camellia Pastore, Undergraduate Representative to the Board  
Sabrina Sturgeon, Graduate Representative to the Board  
Tamarah Smith, Staff Representative to the Board  
Eric Kaufman, Faculty Representative to the Board

Also present at the meeting were: President Timothy Sands, Kim O'Rourke (Secretary to the Board), Mac Babb, Whit Babcock, Eric Brooks, Lori Buchanan, Cyril Clarke, Lance Collins, Al Cooper, Karen DePauw, Jon Deskins, Michele Deramo, Corey Earles, Kari Evans, Jack Finney, Ron Fricker, Amy Fridenberger, Mike Friedlander, Bryan Garey, Martha Glass, Derek Gwinn, Rebekah Gunn, Kay Heidbreder, Rachel Holloway, Elizabeth Hooper, Byron Hughes, Chris Kiwus, Sharon Kurek, Jack Leff, Elizabeth McClanahan, Nancy Meacham, Scott Midkiff, Ken Miller, Laurel Miner, Phil Miskovic, Mike Mulhare, April Myers, Michael Nizidel, Justin Noble, Kim O'Rourke, Mark Owczarski, Roan Parrish, Dwayne Pinkney, Ellen Plummer, Menah Pratt-Clarke, Robin Queen, Chris Rahmes, Frank Shushok, Ken Smith, Daniel Sui, Tracy Vosburgh, Robert Weiss, Lisa Wilkes, Serena Young

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Rector Valeiras convened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the Information Session. The agenda included:

- Update on the Innovation Campus – Lance Collins, Vice President and Executive Director of the Innovation Campus, briefed the Board on recent activities, including the recent, historic gift from Boeing, strides being made to recruit a diverse student body, and plans for faculty, curriculum, facilities, and staffing.

- Presentation on Research – Dan Sui, Vice President for Research and Innovation, provided an overview of the research enterprise, the current status, and strategic priorities. He discussed the internal and external environment and the four “frontier areas” which are being focused upon: health, artificial intelligence, security, and the quantum leap. He also discussed external partners and recent engagement with national labs.

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### **Motion to Begin Closed Session**

Ms. Long moved that the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University convene in a closed meeting, pursuant to § 2.2-3711, Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body,

The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris and passed unanimously.

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### **Motion to Return to Open Session**

Following the Closed Session, the doors were opened and Rector Valeiras called on Ms. Long to make the motion to return to Open Session. Ms. Long made the following motion to return to open session:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Visitors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law 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 convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board of Visitors.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Martin and passed unanimously.

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Following a motion by Rector Valeiras, second by Mr. Baine, and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

*(Copies of the presentations and reports are filed with the permanent minutes and attached.)*