

**BOARD OF VISITORS COMMITTEE CHAIRS MEETING MINUTES**

April 9, 2024

The Committee Chairs of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University met in open session on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7:45 a.m. at the Inn at Virginia Tech in the Old Guard Salon, 901 Price's Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

**Committee Chairs Present**

Edward H. Baine (Rector)  
 Dave Calhoun (Vice Rector)  
 Carrie Chenery  
 Greta J. Harris  
 Anna L. James  
 L. Chris Petersen

Also present at the meeting were President Timothy Sands, Kim O'Rourke (Secretary to the Board), Bob Broyden, Cyril Clarke, Rachel Gabriele, Sharon Kurek, Nancy Meacham, Ken Miller, and Amy Sebring.

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Rector Baine convened the meeting of committee chairs and explained that the purpose was to select information session agenda items for the June 2024 board meeting. Constituent reports are included in every information session.

The committee chairs selected the following topics for the board's June 2024 information session:

- Briefing on Northern Virginia plan (Julie Ross) – 20 minutes + 10 minutes Q&A
- Innovation Campus – faculty, research, and programs
- Research – global overview including growth in portfolio, extramural expenditures, support from external sponsors, gap analysis/opportunity gap.
- VT's impact on Blacksburg and the surrounding region – economic impact, jobs created, driver of housing costs/affordable housing for students, staff, junior faculty including benchmark of on-campus housing vs. off-campus housing costs (involving Financial Aid, Budget Office, and Student Affairs); Student Life Village? (possibly for August rather than June)

The committee chairs offered the following topics for the August 2024 retreat and suggested Mountain Lake as the venue:

- Discussion building on the work of the Global Distinction Work Group
- Programmatic growth and declines – degrees where demand is growing and declining (becoming obsolete), job outcomes.

President Sands requested that Newport News remain on the rotation as a future retreat venue.

*Approved*

The committee chairs also endorsed the following topics for future information sessions:

- Forestry

Committee agendas should be developed through the lens of the VT Advantage and VT Global Distinction.

The sexual violence prevention initiative (SVPI) was proposed as a topic for the June 2024 ARSA Committee meeting, perhaps as a written report.

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The Innovation Campus has been discussed as a possible site for the November 2025 BOV meeting in coordination with the THE 2025 Innovation & Impact Summit.

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Prior to each board meeting:

1. The IT dashboard will be updated and an IT Transformation PowerPoint including tasks marked as on time, delayed, or completed will be placed in the portal; and
2. An Innovation Campus update report will be placed on the portal.

Also, in-depth presentations about the Innovation Campus will be provided to the board twice a year:

- June - Faculty, research, and programs; and
- November - Students, curriculum, and services.

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Explaining that VT takes more operational items to its board than other universities in Virginia, Amy Sebring presented a proposal for consideration regarding salary increases approved by the General Assembly/Governor. Rather than approving salary increases person by person, she proposed that the board approve a salary plan. The committee chairs were receptive to the proposal but indicated that the board would require a summary that would address how VT compares with SCHEV peers and effectiveness in attracting and retaining this talent. Other institutions delegate this authority through their bylaws, and she was requested to share those bylaws sections from other universities with Carrie Chenery and Anna James, who will work with Kim O'Rourke to develop a proposed change to the VT BOV's bylaws.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.

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Edward H. Baine, Rector

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Kim O'Rourke, Secretary