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January 2, 2014

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell
Governor of Virginia
Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor McDonnell:

Section 23-9.14:1 of the Code of Virginia states that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia “shall develop, in consultation with public institutions of higher education and members of their governing boards, and annually deliver educational programs for the governing boards of such institutions” and “submit an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Council pursuant to this section no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.”

In accordance with this requirement, SCHEV staff held the first mandatory orientation session for newly appointed board members on October 21-22, 2013. A copy of the agenda summarizing the topics covered in these meetings is included as attachment 1.

In order to comply with the mandate to develop the orientation “in consultation with public institutions of higher education and members of their governing boards,” SCHEV created a planning committee that included two college presidents, two Council members, one rector, and one college representative. Representatives from the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of the Commonwealth also participated in the planning sessions. Staff also organized a separate group that interviewed candidates and hired a production company to develop a training video on the Freedom of Information Act.

There were a total of 41 new BOV appointments by the Governor in 2013. Institutions reported a total of 31 new members who attended the orientation in October (see attachment 2). The new members who were unable to attend the 2013 orientation understand that they will be required to attend the 2014 orientation session.

Following the orientation session, SCHEV staff asked attendees to complete an evaluation survey. Results of the survey indicate that of the 28 new members that responded, 25 rated the program as extremely valuable, very valuable, or valuable in providing good examples

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of best practices for board governance. Additionally, of the 28 new members responding, 26 rated the program as extremely valuable, very valuable, or valuable in providing useful information regarding national and state issues in higher education.

If you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance, please contact me at (804) 225-2611.

Sincerely,

Peter Blake

Attachments

c: The Honorable Javaid Siddiqi, Secretary of Education



State Council of
Higher Education for Virginia

BOARDS OF VISITORS ORIENTATION

October 21-22, 2013
Richmond, Virginia

Monday, October 21: Capitol Building

- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING**
House Room 3, Capitol Building (Bank Street entrance)
- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. Welcome, Introductions and Overview**
- Gil Bland, Chair, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)
- 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Perspectives of the McDonnell Administration on Board Service**
- Lisa Hicks-Thomas, Secretary of Administration
 - Janet Vestal Kelly, Secretary of the Commonwealth
 - Laura Fornash, Secretary of Education
 - Robert F. McDonnell, Governor
- 6:00 p.m. RECEPTION**
Rotunda, Capitol Building
- Remarks
- Gil Bland and Governor McDonnell

Tuesday, October 22: Omni Hotel

- 8:00 - 8:15 a.m. REFRESHMENTS, NETWORKING AND LATE-ARRIVAL REGISTRATION**
James River Ballroom, Salons A, B, And C, Omni Hotel
- 8:15 - 8:30 a.m. Greetings and Opening Remarks**
- Gil Bland, Chair, SCHEV Council
- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Perspectives on State Needs and Goals**
Introductions: Gil Minor, Vice Chair, SCHEV Council
- Tom Farrell, Co-Chair, Governor's Higher Education Commission
 - Barry DuVal, President, Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Electronic materials from today's meeting can be found at www.schev.edu/BOV/default.asp

- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.** **Distinctiveness of High-performing, Strategic, Public Higher Education Boards**
Introductions: Keith Miller, President, Virginia State University
- Rick Legon, President, Association of Governing Boards (AGB)
 - Del. Steve Landes, Vice Chair, House Education Committee
- 10:30 - 10:45 a.m.** **BREAK**
- 10:45 - Noon** **Legal, Ethical and Fiduciary Responsibilities of Boards**
Introductions: Penny Kyle, President, Radford University
- Maria Everett, Executive Director, Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council
 - Stephanie Hamlett, Senior Assistant Attorney General
 - Ron Forehand, Senior Assistant Attorney General and Chief, Education Section, Office of the Attorney General
 - Martha Mavredes, Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts
 - Michelle McKinnon, Partner and Endowments Specialist, McGuireWoods LLP
- Noon - 1:30 p.m.** **LUNCH**
James River Ballroom, Salon D
- Keynote Address: Current and Future Issues in Higher Education**
Introductions: Carlyle Ramsey, Member, SCHEV Council and former President, Danville Community College
- Molly Corbett Broad, President, American Council on Education (ACE)
- 1:30 - 2:45 p.m.** **Understanding Costs and Budgeting**
James River Ballroom, Salons A, B, and C
Moderator: Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV
- Scott Pattison, Executive Director, National Association of State Budgetary Officers (NASBO)
 - Betsey Daley, Staff Director, Senate Finance Committee
 - Robert Vaughn, Staff Director, House Appropriations Committee
 - Michael Maul, Associate Director, Department of Planning and Budget
- 2:45 - 3:00 p.m.** **BREAK**
- 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.** **Effective Institutional Governance**
Moderator: Rick Legon, President, AGB and former Member, Virginia State University BOV
- George Martin, Rector, University of Virginia BOV
 - Bruce Meyer, Chair, State Board for Community Colleges
 - Ann Baise, Member, College of William and Mary BOV and former Rector, Longwood University BOV
 - Angel Cabrera, President, George Mason University
 - Charles Steger, President, Virginia Tech
- 4:30 p.m.** **Synthesis, Conclusions and Appreciation**
- Gil Bland and Peter Blake, SCHEV

**BOV orientation attendance as reported by institutions
2013**

Institution	Total new members attended	2013 appointees who will be required to attend 2014 orientation
Old Dominion University	4	0
University of Mary Washington	2	1
Virginia Tech	3	0
Virginia Military Institute	2	0
College of William & Mary	1	2
Christopher Newport University	2	0
Radford University	1	2
Virginia Commonwealth University	2	2
Norfolk State University	2	3
George Mason University	3	0
University of Virginia	2	1
Longwood University	4	0
James Madison University	0 (no new appointees in 2013)	0
Virginia Community College System	3	0
TOTAL	31	11