December 18, 2020 25.0% 20.0% 15.0% 10.5% 8.2% 6.5% 6.3% 5.1%

Boards of Visitors Orientation: Report of the 2020 Event



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OVERVIEW

Section 23.1-1304 of the Code of Virginia requires that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) "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 to the General Assembly and the Governor 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." A 2013 amendment to the Code stipulated that new board members "shall participate in an orientation session at least once during their first two years of membership." In 2015, the statutory language was amended to provide boards a process whereby members who do not participate may be removed.

In accordance with this requirement, SCHEV staff held a mandatory orientation session for newly appointed board members on October 22-23, 2020. A copy of the agenda summarizing the topics covered in these meetings is included with this report.

Planning Group

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 nine-member planning committee that included one college vice rector, one board member, two Council members and two college representatives. The Secretary of Education, Deputy Secretary of Education and the Secretary of the Commonwealth also participated in the planning sessions, as well as two representatives from the Office of the Attorney General.

Attendance

BOV appointments (45 reappointments)	64
New board member attendees (from 2020 and new appointments who were not able to attend in 2019)	24
Rectors	3
Presidents	3
Board professionals	7

There were two new board members who were unable to attend and are required to attend in 2021. The dates for the orientation in 2021 have been communicated to the institutions.

Survey Results

Following the orientation session, SCHEV staff provided attendees with an evaluation survey. Results of the electronic poll indicate that, of the 18 new members who responded, the majority rated the sessions as extremely valuable, very valuable or valuable.



Public-Institution Governance in Unprecedented Times: AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR RECENT BOARD APPOINTEES

October 20, 2020

1:15 – 1:20pm	 Welcome and Recognitions Peter Blake, Director, State Council of Higher Ed (SCHEV)
1:20 – 1:25pm	 Overview of Event and Introduction of Cabinet Officers Marge Connelly, Chair, SCHEV Council
1:25 – 2:10pm	 Perspectives on Board Service from the Executive Branch The Honorable Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth The Honorable Atif Qarni, Secretary of Education The Honorable Megan Healy, Chief Workforce Officer The Honorable Janice Underwood, Chief Diversity Officer The Honorable Aubrey Layne, Secretary of Finance Conclusions and Instruction of Next Session: Katie Webb, Secretary, SCHEV Council
2:10 – 2:45pm	 How Service on the Governing Board of a Public Institution of Higher Ed is Unique from All Other Board Service [Board members are asked to review in advance the relevant resources provided under the "2020 Pre-Reading Materials" heading at https://schev.edu/index/institutional/Boardsofvisitors Introduction: Tom Slater, Vice Chair, SCHEV Council Presenter: Henry Stoever, President and CEO, Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Conclusions and Introduction of Next Session: Ken Ampy, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee, SCHEV Council

2:45 - 3:15pm Legal and Ethical Considerations for Board Service in Virginia

[Board members are asked to review in advance the relevant resources provided under the "2020 Pre-Reading Materials" heading at https://schev.edu/index/institutional/Boardsofvisitors]

Presenter: Deb Love, Chief, Education Section, Office of the **Attorney General**

- Presenter: Alan Gernhardt, Executive Director, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Council
- Conclusions and Instructions regarding the Break: Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV
- 3:15 3:25pm BREAK
- 3:25 4:15pm The ABCs of Higher Ed Finance: State Budgeting (and Cutting);
 Institutional Budget Planning; Board Tuition-and-Fee Setting;
 Student-debt Trends
 - Introductions and Moderator: Victoria Harker, Chair, Resources and Planning Committee, SCHEV Council
 - Presenter: Michael Maul, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Budget
 - Presenter: Amy Sebring, Chief Operating Officer, William & Mary
 - Conclusions and Transition to Next Session, Peter Blake
- 4:15 5:15pm Overcoming Systemic Racism in Higher Education: Toward Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 - Introduction: Alex Arriaga, Member, SCHEV Council
 - Speaker: Toya Barnes-Teamer, Principal, Higher Education Team, HCM Strategists
 - Conclusions: Alex Arriaga
- 5:15 Reflections on Day 1 and Preview of Day 2
 - Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV

October 21, 2020

- 8:00 8:30am **VOLUNTARY** *Virtual Coffee (Half) Hour*
 - Board members, SCHEV Council members and Speakers
- 8:30 8:35am *Welcome*
 - Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV
- 8:35 8:40am *Overview of the Day and Introduction of the Governor*
 - Marge Connelly, Chair, SCHEV Council
- 8:40 9:00am *Perspectives on Board Service from the Governor*



- The Honorable Ralph Northam, Governor of the Commonwealth
- Appreciation and Introduction of Next Session: Marge Connelly, Chair, SCHEV Council

9:00 – 10:05am

A Perfect Storm of Challenges for Virginia Boards: Demographic Change, Economic Uncertainty and Social Unrest Before, During and After a Pandemic

- Moderator: Marge Connelly, Chair, SCHEV Council
- Discussant: Stephen Moret, President and CEO, Virginia Economic Development Partnership and Member, SCHEV Council
- Discussant: Anne Holton, former Secretary of Education and former interim president, George Mason University
- Conclusions: Rosa Atkins, Member, SCHEV Council; Superintendent, Charlottesville City Schools
- Instructions for the Break: Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV

10:05 - 10:20am

BREAK

10:20 - 11:25am

Timely Topics in Student Life, Wellness and Campus Safety

- Introductions and Moderator: Fran Bradford, Deputy Secretary of Education
- Discussant: Kelly Crace, Associate Vice President, Health and Wellness, William & Mary
- Discussant: Kevin Foust, Associate Vice President, Safety and Security, Virginia Tech
- Respondent: Reena Medavarapu, Undergraduate Student, Virginia Tech; Co-Chair, SCHEV Student Advisory Committee
- Conclusions and Introduction of Next Session: Thad Holloman, Member, SCHEV Council

11:25am – 12:15pm Reflections on the Lessons of 2020: Conversation with **Board Rectors and Institutional Presidents**

- Moderator: Alvin Schexnider, Senior Fellow, Association of Governor Boards; former Chancellor, Winston-Salem State University
- Discussant: James Hazel, Rector, George Mason University
- Discussant: Huron Winstead, Rector, Virginia State University
- Discussant: Glenn DuBois, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System

12:15 – 12:25pm

Synthesis and Appreciation

Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV



Information on Presentation of Appointment Commissions 12:25 - 12:30pm

Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth

12:30pm **ADJOURNMENT**

Attendees - 2020 Boards of Visitors Orientation

Christopher Newport University

Regina Brayboy* Steven Kast Terri McKnight Gabe Morgan Christy Morton* Judy Ford Wason Junius Williams

George Mason University

Jon Peterson*

James Madison University

Chris Falcon*
Matthew Gray-Keeling
Lucy Hutchinson
John Lynch
Lara Major, Rector
Deborah Tompkins Johnson
Craig Welburn

Norfolk State University

Pamela Boston Jim Dyke Harry Watkins

Old Dominion University

Toykea Jones Murry Pitts* Lisa Smith Armistead Williams*

Radford University

James R. Kibler Nancy A.Rice Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham Susan Whealler Johnston

University of Mary Washington

Charles Reed Jr.*

University of Virginia

Louis Haddad* Angela Hucles Mangano* Babur B. Lateef James Murray (Rector)

Virginia Community College System

Dana Beckton*
Brenda Calderon*
Darius Johnson*
Ashby Kilgore*
Peggy Layne
Richard Reynolds*

Virginia Commonwealth University

Ben Dendy
Peter Farrell*
Todd Haymore*
Carmen Lomellin*
Keith Parker, Rector
Alexis Swann
Tonya Parris-Wilkins*
Shantaram Talegaonkar

Virginia Military Institute

Lester Johnson, Jr.* Grover C. Outland, III*

Virginia State University

Christine Darden* Shavonne Gordon* Bill Murray* Glenn D. Sessoms James Stegmaier

Virginia Tech

Carrie Chenery* Charles Hill Chris Petersen

*New Board Member

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Ken Ampy
Alex Arriaga
Rosa Atkins
Peter Blake, Director
Marge Connelly, Chair
Victoria Harker
Thaddeus Holloman
Henry Light
Stephen Moret
Thomas Slater
Katharine Webb, Secretary

Board Professionals

University
Donna Harper, James Madison
University
Susan Harris, University of Virginia
Jeffrey McClurken, University of
Mary Washington
Rose Marie Owen, Virginia Community
College System
Kim O'Rourke, Virginia Tech
Annie Redd, Virginia State University

Chelsea Gray, Virginia Commonwealth

Student Advisory Committee

Reena Medavarapu, Virginia Tech

Governor

The Hon. Ralph Northam, Governor of Virginia

Cabinet Members

The Hon. Fran Bradford, Deputy Secretary of Education

The Hon. Megan Healy, Governor's Chief Workforce Development Advisor

The Hon. Aubrey Layne, Secretary of Finance The Hon. Atif Qarni, Virginia Secretary of Education

The Hon. Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth

The Hon. Janice Underwood, Virginia Director of Dive Equity and Inclusion, Governor's Office

Other Participants

Toya Barnes-Teamer, Principal, Higher Education Team, HCM Strategists

Kelly Crace, Associate VP for Health & Wellness, William & Mary

Glenn DuBois, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System

Kevin Foust, Associate VP, Virginia Tech Alan Gernhardt, Executive Director, FOIA Advisory

Council

James Hazel, Rector, George Mason University

Anne Holton, George Mason University Bethany Letiecq, American Association of University Professors

Deb Love, Senior Assistant Attorney General/Chief, Office of the Attorney General

Michael Maul, Associate Director, Department of Planning & Budget

Daniel Richards, American Association of University Professors

Amy Sebring, Chief Operating Officer, William & Mary

Alvin Schexnider, Senior Fellow, Association of Governing Boards

Henry Stoever, Association of Governing Boards Ramona Taylor, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

Evie Terrono, American Association of University Professors

Gregory Washington, President, George Mason University

Huron Winstead, Rector, George Mason University