

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
2020 Interim Executive Summary of Activities**

Document Title

Annual Executive Summary of the Interim Activity and Work of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University

Author

Old Dominion University

Enabling Authority

[§§23.1-1300 through 1310](#)

[§§23.1-2000 through 2004](#)

Executive Summary

As stated in [Virginia Code §23.1-1303\(12\)](#), the governing board of each public institution of higher education shall submit to the General Assembly and the Governor an annual executive summary of its interim activity and work no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.

During 2020, the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University held eight meetings, all of them electronically (via Zoom) pursuant to §4-0.01(g) of Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly. The meetings were held on March 23, April 13, April 23 (regularly scheduled quarterly meeting), May 21, June 18 (regularly scheduled annual meeting), August 17, September 17 (regularly scheduled quarterly meeting), and December 10 (regularly scheduled quarterly meeting). Seven meetings of the Board's Executive Committee were also held on February 10, April 16, May 18, June 12, July 28, October 8, and November 14. All but the February 10th meeting were held electronically pursuant to §4-0.01(g) of Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly.

With the exception of the April 23rd meeting, when only the Academic & Research Advancement Committee met prior to the meeting of the full Board, the Board's standing committees (Academic & Research Advancement, Administration & Finance, Athletics, Audit & Compliance, Student Enhancement & Engagement, and University Advancement) met in advance of the June 18, September 17 and December 10 quarterly board meetings. At its meeting on September 17, the Board revised its Bylaws to add the Governance Committee, and its first meeting was held on December 1. The Board's annual retreat, scheduled for April 22, was canceled due to COVID; the Nominating Committee met on June 15, an orientation for new Board members was held on September 11; the Board's *ad hoc* Marketing Subcommittee met on October 8, and the Presidential Evaluation & Compensation Committee met on December 2.

At its meeting on April 23, 2020, the Board held an open comments session for students and other interested parties to comment on the administration's proposed 2020-2021 tuition and fees, prior to acting on the proposal. Three students registered in advance and shared their comments following a briefing by the Vice President for Administration & Finance. The public was also invited to comment on the agendas of the meetings held via Zoom. Additionally, recordings of all meetings held via Zoom were made available on the University's website.

The Board completed an annual self-assessment in late December 2019. The results of the self-assessment were to be presented at the Board's retreat that was canceled, so that presentation and discussion occurred at the Board's meeting on December 10, 2020. A Board Governance Audit was also conducted during 2020; the final report was issued in June and the results were shared with the Board's Audit & Compliance Committee in September. The proposed Action Plan was reviewed and approved by the Board on December 10.

During 2020, the Board received briefings and/or held discussions on the following topics:

- COVID-19 Preparedness and CARES Act Funding Distribution
- Enrollment Updates
- Board's E&G and Discretionary Operating Budget
- Faculty and Staff Diversity and Initiatives to Recruit, Train and Retain Minority Faculty
- Strategies to Evaluate Teaching Effectiveness
- Fall Opening of Classes
- Campus-wide Culture of Care
- Virtual "We Can't Breathe" Event
- Rise to the Challenge Fund
- Virtual Events and Use of Social Media to Engage Students and Alumni
- Proposed Creation of a Board Governance Committee
- Presidential Search Updates
- Initiative to Identify Strategies and Approaches to Develop as a Leadership Team to Better Serve and Reflect the Changing Needs of the Campus Community
- Research Funding, Partnerships, and Initiatives
- School of Cybersecurity
- Educator Preparation Program Accreditation
- Remote Experience for Young Engineers and Students (REYES)
- New Dining Options
- "Pack the Pantry" to Combat Food Insecurity
- Annual Debt Management Report
- Fall Semester Preparations Under COVID-19 Restrictions
- Public Safety Updates
- First Virtual Convocation and Week of Welcome Activities
- Owens House Opening
- SEES Innovation Program
- Varsity Esports Program
- Student Government Association Goals
- Manatt Study Recommendations
- 2023 Reaccreditation Visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Program Prioritization Initiative
- 2020 Special Session of the General Assembly
- Funding Mitigation Strategies and Reallocation of Funds
- Interim Title IX Policy
- Vice President for Student Engagement & Enrollment Services Search
- SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award Winners
- COVID Operation Plan for Spring 2021 Semester

- Planned In-person Commencement Ceremonies for Spring and Fall 2020 Graduates
- Energy Savings Performance Contract
- Football Briefing by Coach Ricky Rahne
- Athletics Racial Equity Task Force
- Athletics Climate Survey
- Athletics Community Service and Volunteerism
- Athletics Competition Schedule for Spring 2021
- 2021 Tuition & Fees and Budget Planning Update
- Fundraising Initiatives
- Reports from the Internal Auditor:
 - State Inspector General’s Performance Audit on Chemical Inventory management and fraud, waste, and abuse investigations.
 - Annual risk assessment and proposed audit plan
 - Quality Assurance Improvement Program
 - Validation of the University Audit Office’s conformance to the Institute of Internal Audit’s professional standards
 - Fraud Waste and Abuse Investigations
 - Open Audit Issues from Prior Audits
 - Audit Reports:
 - Board Governance
 - Police Department Fiscal Activities
 - Office of Research
 - Active Directory
 - NCAA Compliance with Financial Aid
 - Office of the President FY20 Expenditures
 - Design and Capital Construction
 - Police Department FY20 Fiscal Activities
 - Office of Research (Operational)
- Educational Foundation Investment Reports
- Capital Outlay Projects Progress Reports
- Proposed 2000-2021 Tuition & Fees
- Proposed 2020-2021 Provisional Operating Budget & Plan
- Student Athlete Academic Success
- Conference USA’s COVID-19 Cost Containment Plan
- NCAA’s Name, Image & Likeness Initiative
- Annual Debt Management Report
- Annual “Red Flag” Report
- Unaudited Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2020
- Reports from Student Representative to the Board
- Proposed Methodology for Review of Board Bylaws and Policies
- University Development and Educational Foundation Website Updates
- Summary of Responses to Student Survey on COVID-19 Experiences
- Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement
- Excite the Dream Program
- Foundations Financial Update
- House and Senate Amendments to the Governor’s Budget

An exit conference with the Auditor of Public Accounts on the University's audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, was held with the Board's Audit & Compliance Committee on June 18, 2020.

The following actions were taken by the Board during 2020:

- Forty-seven faculty appointments, 69 administrative faculty appointments, six appointments with tenure, three mid-year tenure appointments, 29 emeritus/emerita appointments, one posthumous emeritus appointment, four dual employments, and granted tenure to 31 faculty members
- Appointed three Batten Chairs in the Batten College of Engineering and Technology
- Appointed Head Football Coach
- Upheld President's decision to impose a several sanction on a faculty member
- Revised Bylaws to Add Governance Committee
- Authorized Governance Committee to revise annual self-evaluation survey and make recommendations to the Board on future board meeting schedules
- Approved Board Governance Audit Action Plan
- Established the Presidential Search Committee
- Authorized Presidential Search Committee to recommend three finalists to the Board of Visitors and to select the presidential search firm
- Approved the presidential search budget
- Approved the addition of a classified staff member to the Presidential Search Committee
- Revised four Board policies and reaffirmed Board policies 1001 and 1002, the Mission of the University and the Major Goals of the University
- Authorized the President to use the emergency hire process for the women's head basketball coach position
- Discontinued four degree programs:
 - BA in Economics
 - BS in Modeling and Simulation Engineering
 - MA in Applied Sociology
 - MS in Occupational and Technical Studies
- Discontinued nine certificate programs
 - Public Administration and Policy, Strome College of Business
 - Modeling and Simulations – Business and Public Administration, Strome College of Business
 - Healthcare Executive, College of Health Sciences
 - Nurse Executive, College of Health Sciences
 - Modeling and Simulation – Educational and Training, Darden College of Education
 - Modeling and Simulation – Biological Sciences, College of Sciences
 - Modeling and Simulation – Computing and Informatics, College of Sciences
 - Modeling and Simulation – Mathematics/Statistics, College of Sciences
 - Modeling and Simulation – Oceanography, College of Sciences
- Appointed faculty representatives to the Board standing committees
- Appointed student representative to the Board
- Approved 2020-2021 Tuition and Fees
- Approved 2020-2021 Provisional Operating Budget and Plan
- Approved the 2021 Audit Plan and a modified 2020 Audit Plan
- Approved President's Compensation Package

- Approved 9(c) bond financing of up to \$10,961,000 for a Student Housing Renovation Phase II project
- Approved authorizing the restructuring of indebtedness with the Virginia College Building Authority in response to financial conditions created by the pandemic
- Renamed the School of Community and Environmental Health Office to School of Public Health
- Renamed the Department of Women's Studies the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Renamed the Center for Cybersecurity Education and Research and School of Cybersecurity
- Named residence halls for former rectors Carlton Bennett and Lisa Smith
- Elected Board of Visitors Officers
- Affirmed the Audit & Compliance Committee Charter

The Old Dominion University Board of Visitors continues to operate in a transparent manner, to the extent required by law, in all Board actions. Each of the meetings noted above were open to the public and notice was provided pursuant to [Virginia Code §2.2-3707](#). The agendas and minutes of the meetings are published on the Board's website and the Commonwealth Calendar. Business conducted in closed session during any of these meetings was done in compliance with [Virginia Code §2.2-3711](#). The University's Assistant Attorney General & University Counsel attends all meetings of the Board.

The [Bylaws of the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors](#) are posted on the Board's website and note the requirements of the Board in order to ensure the transparency of its actions. Sections 3.07 and 3.08 of the Bylaws require that all meetings of the Board be conducted in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, the Bylaws and Board policies and procedures. This is more specifically addressed in [Board Policy 1107, Board of Visitors Meeting Scheduling and Procedures](#). Section 3.07 also states that the Board shall request the presence of the University legal representative at all open and closed meetings and committee meetings, except those where the President is being evaluated or presenting portions of his/her Annual Report dealing with the evaluation of University officers (unless otherwise directed by the Attorney General).

The Board of Visitors met twice during 2020 in closed session with President John R. Broderick to discuss his evaluation and compensation. His annual evaluation was discussed at the meeting on June 18, 2020, and his compensation package was discussed and approved at the meeting on December 10, 2020.