

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
2021 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, January 1, 2021-December 31, 2021

Author

Old Dominion University

Enabling Authority

[§§23.1-1300 through 1310](#)

[§§23.1-2000 through 2004](#)

Executive Summary

Pursuant to [Virginia Code §23.1-1303\(13\)](#), the governing board of each public institution of higher education shall submit to the General Assembly and the Governor and make publicly available on the institution's website an annual executive summary of its interim activity and work no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.

Among the highlights of this past year are the following:

- Hired Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D., as the ninth President of Old Dominion University
- For the second consecutive year there was no increase in tuition
- Grew fall 2020 enrollment by 2.7%, achieving second highest ranking of Virginia public four-year institutions. Among only four of the 15 public institutions to increase the number of enrolled freshmen
- Completed the initial work in examining the opportunity for a collaboration among Sentara/EVMS/ODU
- Successfully made the transition from Conference USA to the Sun Belt Conference for ODU's athletic programs

During 2021, the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University held eight meetings on February 3 (Special Meeting), February 4-9 (Special Meeting), February 11 (Special Meeting), April 22 (Quarterly Meeting), May 11 (Special Meeting), June 17 (Annual Meeting), September 14 (Quarterly Meeting), and December 10 (Quarterly Meeting). Four meetings of the Board's Executive Committee were held on March 22, May 17, August 9, and October 25. The special meetings held in February were for the purpose of interviewing and selecting Old Dominion University's ninth President, Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D. The Board's annual retreat was held on September 15.

The Board has six standing committees that address key functions within the University: Academic & Research Advancement, Administration & Finance, Athletics, Audit & Compliance, University Advancement, and Student Enhancement & Engagement. These committees meet in conjunction with the quarterly board meetings. The seventh standing committee, the Governance Committee, provides oversight of functions relating to board governance and conduct of business and met nine times during

2021. Moving forward, this committee is scheduled to meet in conjunction with the meetings of the Board's Executive Committee. The Board's *ad hoc* Marketing Subcommittee met once in September.

At its meeting on March 22, 2021, the Board held an open comments session for students and other interested parties to comment on the administration's proposed 2021-2022 tuition and fees. Two students registered in advance and shared their comments following a briefing by the Vice President for Administration & Finance.

With the exception of the in-person interviews with presidential candidates in February, all meetings held through May 2021 were held electronically pursuant to §4-0.01(g) of Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly. The public was invited to comment on the agendas of the meetings held via Zoom and recordings of the meetings were posted to the University's website.

The Board returned to in-person meetings for its annual meeting in June using a hybrid approach, and, once the Governor's Emergency Order was lifted on July 1, resumed in-person meetings. Individual Board members were allowed to participate electronically, if requested and approved by the Rector, in accordance with [Virginia Code §2.2-3708.2.A](#). The Annual Report of Electronic Communications Meetings was submitted to the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council in accordance with [Virginia Code §2.2.3708.2](#).

Board members completed the annual self-assessment survey in early 2021 and the results were presented and discussed at the Board's meeting on April 22, 2021.

The Board met with President Brian O. Hemphill twice, in closed session, on September 14 and December 10, to discuss the progress report on his 2021-2022 performance plan.

During 2021, the Board received briefings and/or held discussions on the following topics:

- Proposed 2021-22 Tuition & Fees
- Proposed 2021-2022 Operating Budget & Plan
- Board's E&G and discretionary operating budgets
- Enrollment updates
- Tech-Talent Pipeline
- Prioritization of academic degree programs and support services
- \$250M fundraising initiative
- "Building Our Dominion" Week
- Title IX
- Hampton Roads Maritime Collaborative for Growth & Innovation (HRMC)
- Hampton Boulevard median improvement project
- NextGen Administrative System initiative
- Succession planning
- COVID-19 response efforts
- Capital Projects Updates
- Educational Foundation investment updates
- University Records Management Program

- Reports from the University Audit Executive:
 - Updates from the Office of State Inspector General
 - Annual risk assessment and proposed audit plan
 - Open Audit Issues from Prior Audits
 - Audit Reports:
 - Academic Affairs
 - Information Technology
 - College of Business
 - Office of the President FY2021 Expenditures
 - Enterprise Service Bus
 - Facilities Events and Equipment
 - Police Department Clery Act Compliance
 - Police Department Fiscal Activities FY2021
- Comprehensive Bylaws Review
- Overview of the Code of Student Conduct
- Student Government Association initiatives
- Peer Major Mentors program
- Donor Relations program
- Alumni Relations programs
- Results of the Board's Self-Assessment Survey
- Opening of campus for the fall semester
- Virtual and in-person Commencement ceremonies
- Opening of the Owens House and the new Chemistry Building
- Hampton Roads Biomedical Research Consortium
- Online Virginia Network
- ODU-NSU-EVMS Joint School of Public Health
- Digital Neighborhoods Health-Equity project with the City of Norfolk
- Hampton Roads Health Sciences Ecosystem Work Group with NSU, EVMS, Sentara and CHKD
- Monarch Esports Arena (MEA)
- Cares Act funding update
- Standard & Poor's affirmation of ODU's A+ long-term rating
- Salary equity review
- Facilitator Certification Program for faculty and administrators for Bold Inclusive Conversations
- Juneteenth remembrance activities
- Research funding, partnerships, and initiatives
- 2011-2020 faculty and student demographic data
- Jefferson Lab/DOE supercomputing facility
- Community policing
- Information Technology security briefing
- University's Naming Task Force and process for reviewing proposed names of university buildings and areas on campus
- Experience Guaranteed initiative
- Updates from the student representative to the Board
- EAB Advancement Investment and Performance Initiative
- Budget impact due to COVID-19
- National Name, Image and Likeness initiative for student-athletes

- President Hemphill's Monarch Nation Tour
- Six-Year Plan initiatives
- President Hemphill's open forums with students, faculty, and staff
- President Hemphill's community and donor engagement activities
- Marketing, Branding, and Communication Task Force
- ODU Online Task Force
- Strategic planning process
- Promotion and tenure review process
- Annual Debt Management Report
- The "Start by Believing Campaign" designed to improve campus-wide response to and support of students who have been sexually assaulted
- Student wellness initiatives Hypnotic Intoxication, Great American Smoke-out, and Octsoberfest
- College Advisory Boards' selection processes and memberships
- "Forward Focused: A Bold and Innovative Journey" – President Hemphill's plan for leading the University
- Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience
- Membership in the Sun Belt Athletic Conference
- Inaugural "Deepening the Partnerships" event focusing on healthcare initiatives with EVMS and Sentara and the Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony and public announcement
- Legislative visits and institutional priorities
- ODU's Football team's participation in the Myrtle Beach Bowl
- Change of name of the University Librarian to Dean of University Libraries
- Center for Secure and Intelligent Critical Systems
- Athletics Fundraising Update
- Student-Athletic Advisory Committee update
- Red-Flag Rule affirmation
- 10-year enrollment patterns
- Spring enrollment initiatives, including Open Houses, First Fridays, Scholars' Day, Admitted Students' Day, and campus tours
- New student recruitment portal, "Handshake," and Experience Guaranteed" initiative
- New alumni database software, "Blackbaud"
- Fundraising efforts for the Thurmond School of Professional Sales and Negotiation in the Strome College of Business
- Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2021
- Executive Order 77, "Virginia Leading by Example to Reduce Plastic Pollution and Solid Waste"
- Enterprise Risk Management

An exit conference with the Auditor of Public Accounts on the University's audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, was held with the Board's Audit & Compliance Committee on June 17, 2021.

The following actions were taken by the Board during 2021:

- Appointed Old Dominion University's ninth President, Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.
- Created the new position of Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Operations and the appointment of Ashley Schumaker to that position

- 92 faculty appointments, 87 administrative faculty appointments, six faculty appointments with tenure, one mid-year tenure appointment, 26 emeritus/emerita appointments, two dual employments, three honorary degrees, and granted tenure to 13 faculty members
- Appointed the Batten Endowed Chair of Counseling
- Named Kate Broderick First Lady Emeritus
- Renamed the Department of Women's Studies to Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Appointed the student representative to the Board
- Approved 2021-2022 Tuition and Fees and the 2021-2022 Operating Budget and Plan
- Approved revisions to Board Policies 1801 (Development Policy), 1413 (Evaluation of Tenured Faculty), 1411 (Tenure), 1412 (Promotion in Rank), 1101 (Board of Visitors Governance), 1301 (University Governance), 1610 (Charter of the University Audit Department), 1107 (Board of Visitors Meeting Scheduling and Procedures), 1104 (Representation to the Board of Visitors), 1102 (Communications with the Board of Visitors), 1103 (Recommended Qualifications and Competencies for Members of the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors), 1110 (Editorial Revisions to Board of Visitors Policies and Procedures), and new policies 1108 (Board of Visitors Conflict of Interests Policy) and 1451 (Faculty Code of Conduct)
- Approved the rescission of Board policies 1105 (Participation in Board of Visitors Meeting by Electronic Means of Communication in the Event of Emergency of Personal Matter or Certain Disabilities), 1403 (Academic Freedom), 1404 (Professional Ethics), 1405 (Faculty Performance Period), 1406 (Guidelines for Named Chairs), 1407 (Guidelines for Named Professorships), 1409 (Joint Appointments), 1410 (Academic Rank and Criteria for Rank), 1413 (Evaluation of Tenured Faculty), 1417 (Evaluation of Lecturers, Senior Lecturers, Master Lecturers and Promotion of Lecturers and Senior Lecturers), 1421 (Outside Employment), 1422 (Policy on Tenure-Track Positions Funded by Research Grants), 1426 (Policy, Procedures and Timeline for Responding to Allegations of Misconduct in Scientific Research and Scholarly Activity), 1430 (Sick Leave Policy), 1431 (Military Leave Policy), 1432 (Leave of Absence Without Compensation), 1433 (Civil and Administrative Leave Policy), 1434 (Bone Marrow and Organ Donor Leave Policy), 1435 (Emergency/Disaster Leave Policy), 1436 (Recognition Leave Policy), 1437 (School Assistance and Volunteer Services Leave Policy), 1440 (Retirement Incentive Program for Faculty), 1443 (Voluntary Phased Separation Program for Tenured Faculty), 1471 (Faculty Grievance Committee and Hearing Panels: Composition and Procedures), 1480 (Guidelines for Appointment and Promotion of Librarians), 1491 (Annual Leave Policy for Administrative and Professional Faculty and Eligible Instructional and Research Faculty on Twelve-Month Contracts), 1492 (Compensation and Personnel Administration Plan for Administrative and Professional Faculty), 1493 (Extra Compensation for Administrators With Faculty Rank), 1494 (Outside Employment Policy for Administrative and Professional Faculty), 1633 (Quasi-Endowment and Current Funds Reserve Portfolio Pool A and Pool B), 1635 (Authority to Expend Quasi-Endowment Income for University Operations), 1636 (Current Fund Portfolio), 1639 (Transfer of University Funds), 1801 (Development Policy), 1802 (Acceptance of Gifts-in-Kind to the University), 1850 (Recognition of the Alumni Association).
- Affirmed the President's authority to decide, in his sole discretion, whether to require vaccinations for COVID-19 as a condition of in-person attendance by students
- Appointed faculty representatives to the Board standing committees
- Approved the 2022 Audit Plan and a modified 2021 Audit Plan
- Approved revisions to the Board's Bylaws

- Authorized the members of the Governance Committee to serve as the Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers to serve through June 30, 2022
- Approved a Resolution of Appreciation for immediate past Rector Kay A. Kemper
- Approved the renaming of Elkhorn Avenue to Broderick Way
- Approved recommendations of the Governance Committee that the President lead a review of the University's Mission Statement and a proposed process for the continued review of Board policies
- Elected new Board officers to serve through June 30, 2022
- Approved revisions to the former President's contract
- Approved the University's move to the Sun Belt Athletic Conference
- Approved a new Doctor of Occupational Therapy degree program
- Approved revisions to the Audit & Compliance Committee Charter
- Approved 9(d) Bond sale in an amount not to exceed \$5.2M in support of the Student Health and Wellness Addition
- Approved the appointment of Chad A. Reed as Vice President for Administration and Finance, effective March 10, 2022
- Approved payment as part of President Brian O. Hemphill's 2021-2022 annual performance plan and incentive payments.

The Old Dominion University Board of Visitors continues to operate in a transparent manner, to the extent required by law, in all Board actions. All 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 and its committees.

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. Section 3.06 of the Bylaws requires that all meetings of the Board be conducted in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, as set out more specifically in [Board Policy 1107, Board of Visitors Meeting Scheduling and Procedures](#). Policy 1107 also states that University Counsel shall attend all open and closed meetings of the Board and its committees, 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).