



Rector and Visitors

4400 University Drive, MS 3A1, Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Phone: 703-993-8700; Fax: 703-993-8707

George Mason University Board of Visitors 2023 Executive Summary of Interim Activities

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 23.1-1303(B.13), the Board of Visitors of George Mason University provides the following executive summary of its interim activity and work for calendar year 2023.

The Board of Visitors continues to operate in a transparent manner, to the extent required by law, in all Board actions. All meetings were open to the public, and notice was provided pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3707. The agendas and minutes of the meetings listed below are published on the Board's website (bov.gmu.edu) and the Commonwealth Calendar. Business conducted in closed session during any of these meetings was done in compliance with Virginia Code § 2.2-3711. As required by Article IV, Section 8 of the Board's bylaws, the Senior Assistant Attorney General/University Counsel or representative is invited to and attends all meetings of the Board and its Committees.

The Bylaws of the Board of Visitors are posted on the Board's website. Article XIII of the Bylaws requires that all meetings of the Board be conducted in accordance with the Code of Virginia and the Bylaws.

The Board of Visitors met with President Gregory Washington in closed session on July 28, 2023, to discuss his evaluation.

During 2023, the Board of Visitors held the following meetings and took the following actions:

February 23, 2023:

Regularly scheduled sessions of the full board and all standing committees (Academic Programs, Diversity, and University Community Committee; Audit Risk, and Compliance Committee; Development Committee; Executive Committee; Finance and Land Use Committee; Research Committee).

Actions:

- Approval of Board of Visitors Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024
- Approval of New Degree Program: Mechanical Engineering PhD
- Approval of Faculty Actions:
 - Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status
 - Elections of New Tenured Faculty
- Approval of Land Acquisition
- Approval for the Center for the Arts to be renamed the Barry Dewberry and Arlene Evans Center for the Arts (Dewberry Evans Center)
- Approval of Mason Medal Recipient

March 29, 2023 – Special Full Board Meeting:

Special full board meeting to address a naming gift that required Board action before its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Action:

- Approval for George Mason University's School of Business to be renamed the Donald G. Costello School of Business

April 4, 2023:

Meeting of the full board for the purpose of receiving public comment on tuition and mandatory fees, per Code of Virginia § 23.1-307.

April 4, 2023 – Continuing Education Session:

Provided an additional opportunity to meet the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's (SCHEV) continuing education requirement under § 23.1-1304. This session was designed for Mason's Board with the assistance of the Association of Governing Boards (AGB), and in consultation with SCHEV.

May 4, 2023:

Regularly scheduled session of the full board and standing committees (Academic Programs, Diversity, and University Community Committee; Audit Risk, and Compliance Committee; Development Committee; Finance and Land Use Committee; Research Committee).

Actions:

- Approval of Proposed Revisions to the Faculty Handbook
- Approval of Closed Degree Programs:
 - Information Security and Assurance MS
 - Astronomy BA
- Approval of Faculty Actions:
 - Promotion and/or Tenure
 - Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status
 - Elections of New Tenured Faculty
 - Special Rank Change
- Adoption of FY23 University Operating Budget, Tuition and Fees
- Approval of Six-Year Capital Plan

July 27, 2023 – President's Annual Planning Conference:

The Board engaged with university administration to discuss prioritized elements of the university's strategic mission. This meeting was held in person, in accordance with the provisions and requirements in the Code of Virginia.

July 28, 2023 – Board of Visitors Annual Meeting:

Regularly scheduled annual meeting of the Board of Visitors, including meeting of the Executive Committee. The Board received a legal overview from University Counsel that included briefings on Virginia FOIA and COIA laws and protocols. The Board met with President Washington in closed session to discuss his evaluation.

Actions:

- Election of Vice Rector
- Election of Secretary
- Election of Members-at-Large to the Executive Committee (2)
- Committee Chair and Vice Chair Appointments
- Approval of President Washington's FY24 Goals
- Approval of renaming the Donald G. Costello School of Business to the Donald G. Costello College of Business
- Approval of Faculty Actions: Election of New Tenured Faculty
- Approval of Classified Information Access Resolution
- Approval of Document and Records Request Policy
- Approval of President Washington's Performance Bonus
- Approval of Base Salary Increase for President Washington

September 28, 2023:

Regularly scheduled sessions of the full board and all standing committees (Academic Programs, Diversity, and University Community Committee; Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee; Development Committee; Executive Committee; Finance and Land Use Committee; Research Committee).

Actions:

- Approval of President Gregory Washington's Updated FY24 Goals
- Approval to Appoint Board of Trustee Member for the Online Virginia Network Authority
- Approval of Faculty Actions: Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status
- Approval of FY24 Amended Budget
- Approval of Incentive Retirement Plan
- Certification of Land Use
- Approval of Honorary Degree Recipients
- Approval of Base Salary Increase for President Washington

November 30, 2023:

Regularly scheduled sessions of the full board and all standing committees (Academic Programs, Diversity, and University Community Committee; Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee; Development Committee; Executive Committee; Finance and Land Use Committee; Research Committee).

Actions:

- Approval of SCHEV Orientation Attendance
- Approval of New Degree Programs:
 - Master of Education (MEd) in Literacy Education
 - Master of Education (MEd) in Inclusive Early Childhood Education
 - Bachelor of Science in Education (BSEd) in Secondary Education
- Approval of Faculty Actions:
 - Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status
 - Elections of New Tenured Faculty
- Approval of the State Six-Year Operating Plan
- Approval of the Schematic Design for Activities Building

December 14, 2023 – Special Full Board Meeting

Special full board meeting to address a public contract that required Board action before its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Action:

- Approval of a Ground Lease and other documents in furtherance of a shared temporary cricket/baseball stadium

Prepared by:
Sarah Hanbury
Office of the President