

**BOARD OF VISITORS**  
**FULL BOARD MEETING**  
December 9, 2021  
**MINUTES**

Prior to the start of the Board Meeting, we were graced with a visit from The Honorable Governor Ralph Northam, who had just made an announcement at the Lyman Beecher Brooks Library that he has proposed an additional \$277 million to be added towards funding for Virginia's public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), which creates an 87% funding increase for HBCUs in Virginia for the remainder of his term.

The Honorable Grindly Johnson, along with Fran Bradford, both accompanied the governor and presented to Dr. Adams-Gaston the signed MOU that was presented for Level 2 in 22. The Governor thanked everyone for their hard work.

**1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum**

Mr. Devon Henry, Rector, called the NSU Board of Visitors meeting to order at approximately 1:49 p.m. A quorum was established with a 10-0 Roll Call vote. The motion to approve the virtual attendance was made by The Honorable James Dyke, was seconded by Mr. Dwayne Blake, and approved with a 10-0 roll call vote. Below is a list of individuals that joined the meeting.

Participants – Board Members

Mr. Devon M. Henry, Rector  
Mrs. Heidi Abbott  
Dr. Terri L. Best  
Mr. Dwayne B. Blake  
Ms. Mary L. Blunt  
Bishop Kim W. Brown  
The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.  
Mr. BK Fulton  
Mr. Delbert Parks  
Dr. Harold Watkins, II

Participant – Virtual

Mr. Larry A. Griffith

Non-Participants – Absent Board Members

Dr. Deborah M. DiCrocce  
Ms. Joan G. Wilmer

Participant – Faculty Representative to the Board

Dr. Geoffroy de Laforcade, Professor of History and Interdisciplinary Studies

## **BOARD OF VISITORS**

### **Full Board Meeting**

December 9, 2021

Page 2

#### Participant – Student Representative to the Board

Mr. Jaylin Drewry, SGA President

#### Participant – Counsel

Ms. Pamela F. Boston, University Counsel and Senior Assistant Attorney General

#### Participants – Presenters

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam, Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Grindly Johnson, Secretary of Administration

Ms. Fran Bradford, Deputy Secretary of Education

#### Participants – NSU Administrators and Staff

Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, President

Dr. Justin L. Moses, Vice President for Operations and Chief Strategist for Institutional Effectiveness

Dr. DoVeanna Fulton, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Gerald Ellsworth Hunter, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Administration

Mr. Clifford Porter, Vice President, University Advancement\*

Ms. Melody Webb, Athletics Director

Ms. Tanya S. White, Chief of Staff

Ms. Karla Amaya Gordon, Assistant Vice President, Finance and Administration/University Controller

Dr. Juan M. Alexander, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

Dr. Dawn Hess, Chief Compliance Officer

Mrs. Drika Burgess, Chief Audit Executive

Mrs. Kimberly Gaymon, Scheduler/Financial Services Specialist

Mr. Rasool A. Shabazz, Project Engineer, OIT

Mr. Christopher M. Gregory, Information Technology Specialist, OIT

Ms. Inda Walker, Clerk to the University President/Board Liaison

#### Observers – NSU Administrators and Staff

Dr. Andrew Carrington, Assistant Vice President, Finance and Administration

Dr. Tony Atwater, Faculty Senate President

Mrs. Ruby M. Spicer, Director Procurement Services

Mr. Eric W. Claville, J.D., M.L.I.S., Executive Advisor to the President, Governmental Relations

Dr. Leonard E. Brown, Vice President, Student Affairs

Dr. Karen H. Pruden, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources

Dr. Davida H. Williams, Auxiliary Enterprises and Services

## **BOARD OF VISITORS**

### **Full Board Meeting**

December 9, 2021

Page 3

2. **Opening Remarks** – Dr. Adams-Gaston thanked everyone for their hard work in getting NSU to Level 2, stating that it is because of the hard work that we are “Done in 21.” The Rector acknowledged the hard work of Dr. Adams-Gaston and emphasized that the governor said 87% was the increase for funding for HBCUs over the next four (4) years. He thanked the people around the room and anyone who had any part in this great accomplishment. The Rector stated that the Board recognizes the hard work, and they all want to thank Dr. Adams-Gaston for her leadership
3. **Consent Agenda**– The October 14 and 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved with an 11-0 Roll Call Vote, motioned by The Honorable James Dyke and seconded by Mr. BK Fulton.
4. **Auditor of Public Accounts Report** – Mr. David Rasnic was unable to attend, and Mr. Noah Johnson, Audit Supervisor, Auditor of Public Accounts, presented virtually in his place.

Mr. Johnson stated that his purpose for attending was to bring to the Board the 2021 Financial Statement Audit, stating that David Rasnic will be Project Manager, Noah Johnson will return as Auditor In-Charge, Danese Seabourne will be Information Systems Security Auditor, Jailyn Maddox, Staff, Justin Rhodes, Staff, and Matthew Waskin Staff.

The audit period will cover July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, and he does anticipate discussing with the Board the results of the audit at the May Board Meeting. The objectives are to determine if the financial statements are presented fairly, the adequacy of the statements and internal controls, as well as if the university is in compliance. They will follow up on any recommendations from the prior year audit report; they will review some agreed-upon procedures related to intercollegiate athletics, for which they will produce a separate report.

There have been no significant changes in terms from the prior years. Mr. Johnson plans to meet with the Audit Committee Chair during the audit, so if there are any additional questions, they can be entertained during the meeting.

5. **BOV/NSUF Liaison Committee Update** – Dr. Harold L. Watkins, Chair

- A request was approved for additional funding during the October meeting.
- The Foundation finalized the MOU that was brought to the Board.

- It was agreed that the Governance Committee will address the requested changes to the BOV Policy #13.

**6. Academic and Student Affairs Committee – Ms. Mary L. Blunt, Chair**

- A major focus is to develop internships for our students.
- SASCS Accreditation will take place in 2024. NSU needs to focus on what needs to take in order for the university to have a successful report. QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) is a main focus area.
- Ms. Blunt made a motion to vote to discontinue the Medical Technology Program at Norfolk State University. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Abbott, and vote was unanimously approved with an 11-0 vote.

**7. Governance Committee Update – Mr. Dwayne Blake**

Eric Claville will take a look at Policy 13 and propose the appropriate changes for consideration by the Board at the next meeting.

**8. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee Update – Bishop Kim Brown, Chair**

The University's Compliance Ecco System are all referenced in the U.S. Department of Justice's Letter. The goal is to shift from program development to program implementation, and we are at about 80%. The timeline for implementation is 2022.

The Committee has completed the internal assessment and the audit has addressed some additional areas that need improvement:

- The charter has been created and it clearly states the responsibilities, performance, and expectations of the committee.
- We need to hire and train staff to become certified fraud examiners.
- A third party should be hired to audit the Information Technology Department

**9. Strategic Finance Update – Mr. B. K. Fulton, Chair**

- The quarterly financial report of Dr. Hunter shows that the university collected through September 30, 2021, \$106.8 million in revenue and accrued \$46.5 million in expenses.

- Certified on September 30, 2021, there were no weaknesses identified.
- The university has contracted with Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc., Washington, DC, to conduct a critical review of the NSU Master Plan that will include properties contiguous to the campus.

**2 Items for Approval:**

- (1) Mr. B. K. Fulton motioned that the Board of Visitors of Norfolk State University approve the naming of the gymnasium floor at the Joseph E. Echols Memorial Hall as the Charles O. Christian Court. Motion was seconded by Mr. Delbert Parks. The motion was unanimously approved with an 11-0 Roll Call vote.
- (2) Mr. B. K. Fulton motioned that the Board of Visitors of Norfolk State University approve the naming of Suite 111 located on the first floor of the William P. Robinson Building as the Keysight Technologies Education Classroom. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dwayne Blake. The motion was unanimously approved with an 11-0 Roll Call Vote.

**10. Public Comments** – there were no public comments.

**11. Adjournment** – The meeting concluded at 2:38 p.m.

A private event hosted by President Adams-Gaston was held at the University House. No business was discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Inda Walker, Board Liaison

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Devon M. Henry, Rector,  
Board of Visitors