

Report from March 27-28, 2015, Board of Visitors Meeting Audrey Church

The March meeting of the Board of Visitors was held in the Stallard Board Room, Lancaster Hall, on Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28. The agenda for the meeting can be found at http://www.longwood.edu/assets/president/March_2015_BOV_Schedule.pdf; materials for the meeting can be found at <http://www.longwood.edu/president/fileshare/BOV%20Spring15WEB.pdf>.

Friday, March 27 Session:

- Rector Colleen Margiloff called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone, noting that she had been able to attend the recent Foundation Board retreat, Alumni Awards ceremony, and Relay for Life. She said they were all wonderful events and encouraged other Board members to attend events on campus whenever possible.
- Minutes from the December Board meeting were approved.
- Three items from the consent agenda were discussed prior to its approval.
 - Timely Warning Policy: Question regarding who issues timely warning if the Vice President of Student Affairs is not available. The policy states “or designee,” and protocol is in place to address this.
 - Master of Business Administration: Question regarding the viability of the program due to low enrollment. Board members indicated that they would like to revisit the issue in two years.
 - Sexual Misconduct Policy: Question regarding the need for a section on false claims.
- President Reveley gave brief remarks to answer the question, “How is the University doing?” He shared that he had recently examined SCHEV data, noting that most Virginia public institutions have experienced a loss of enrollment over the last two years. JMU is up 4.6%, due to increasing the size of the freshman class. Longwood is at the top with a 5.4% increase in enrollment, achieved through an increase in retention while holding freshman class enrollment steady. Longwood has also had a 7.8% increase in full-time faculty during this time period. Next, President Reveley noted the successful conclusion of the search for a new provost with the hiring of Dr. Joan Neff and thanked Dr. David Lehr for leading the search committee. President Reveley then called Chief of Police Bob Beach to give an update on our student, Anjelica Hadsell, who has been missing from her home in Norfolk since the Monday of spring break.
- Chief Beach reported that the Norfolk Police Department is in charge of the investigation, that our Police Department has assisted in every way possible, and that the investigation is ongoing.
- President Reveley then explained logistics for the time frame of 10:00 AM to noon: three Strategic Priority Task Forces (as outlined under #15 in Board materials, linked above) met from 10:00 to 11:00; the remaining three met from 11:00 to noon. During the hour in which their Task Force was not meeting, Board members were given a tour of the Maugans Alumni Center. A grand opening is anticipated in September around the time of convocation.
- Over a working lunch, John Kirk of Cooper, Robertson, & Partners reported on the analysis phase of the master plan, noting the planning and design principles that will

drive the process and future decisions. We are now moving into the options phase. Board members will receive an update at their June meeting.

- Joe Gills, SGA president, thanked President Reveley and Board member Marianne Radcliff for their attendance at the memorial service held for Riley Cole and shared that the students are upset and concerned about our missing student, AJ Hadsell. He reported that the SGA had worked on its constitution, bylaws, and budget. He also mentioned the success of the recent Social Justice in Action Leadership Summit and the Relay for Life which raised over \$68,000. The Big Event, a day of service to the local community, will be held on March 28. Finally Joe indicated that he had enjoyed serving on the provost search committee.
- As faculty representative to the Board of Visitors, I shared the following in my report:
 - Our continued work in the areas of teaching, service, and scholarship as the semester draws to a close;
 - Our continued attention to Title IX issues and faculty role in the process;
 - Concern that our average salary is now the lowest of reporting Virginia public institutions, as noted in the AAUP salary study presented at the general faculty meeting on March 26;
 - Thanks to the Board for their continued efforts to address compensation and salary issues;
 - Excitement regarding the revision to general education as the Academic Core Curriculum Committee continues its work;
 - Anticipation of working with our new provost, Dr. Joan Neff; appreciation for the role that faculty members played in the search process; and happiness regarding Dr. Ken Perkins' position in Advancement working to raise funds for academic enterprises;
 - As a highlight of curriculum updates, the new NeuroStudies minor; upcoming faculty events on campus: the call for proposals to develop and teach a research/inquiry enhanced course, due March 27; the first Mid-Atlantic Canvas Conference to be held April 25; and the 2015 Teaching and Learning Institute scheduled for May 21, "Integrating Undergraduate Research into Pedagogical Practice."
- Allison Allgood, staff representative to the Board of Visitors, reported their successful holiday silent auction fundraiser and noted the upcoming staff recognition ceremony.
- Kathleen Early, president of the Alumni Board, requested nominations for 2016 alumni awards; noted that they are working on a scholarship in honor of Nancy Shelton; shared that they have several reunions coming up and that they are working closely with Athletics; and noted that a search committee has been set up to fill Nancy Shelton's position and that they hope to have the position filled by September.
- Rector Colleen Margiloff reported for Bart Mitchell, president of the Foundation Board, who could not be present. Assets are at \$51 million. The Foundation Board is working on a strategic plan for the future with an eye at creating additional scholarships. Research has shown that the retention rate from spring of freshman year to fall of sophomore year for students without scholarships is 79%; 94% for those students with scholarships.
- Dr. Paul Barrett addressed the Board in response to questions raised earlier in the day regarding the MBA program. He pointed out that enrollment in the program has increased and that there is future academic fundraising potential with graduates of the

program. He also noted that he felt that program could grow with additional funds for marketing and recruitment.

- Dr. Bill Abrams presented the results of the AAUP faculty salary study (available at http://www.longwood.edu/assets/senate/SalaryStudy_2014-15.pdf). Discussion and questions followed with several Board members stating, “We have work to do.” Joe Gills commented that he supported faculty salary increases but asked the Board to also work to keep tuition as low as possible. Rector Margiloff stated that the Board would be working on tuition issues at tomorrow’s meeting.

Saturday, March 28 Session:

The Board of Visitors came out of Executive Session at approximately 10:45 AM and briefly discussed the following items:

- Tuition and fees for 2015-2016 (Press release is now available at http://www.longwood.edu/2015releases_60754.htm.)
- Longwood’s application to host a 2016 Presidential debate
- Change of bank with which Longwood has loans in order to save \$2 ½ million over a seven-year period
- Naming of the archives collection in the Maugans Alumni Center

Architects updated Board members on the Upchurch University Center, sharing floor plans and artistic renderings of the building.

Rector Margiloff reported that she, Jen Fraley, Cameron O’Brion, and President Reveley had discussed the question from yesterday morning regarding Title IX and false claims. At this time, the Title IX policy stands as it is; the Honor Code is in place, and the Honor Board would handle false claims.

The June meeting of the Board of Visitors will most likely be held in northern Virginia.

The meeting adjourned, and Board members participated in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Upchurch University Center.

I am truly honored to serve as your representative to the Board of Visitors. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions.

Audrey Church, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of School Librarianship
churchap@longwood.edu