

Board of Visitors Meeting Minutes December 5, 2025

Submitted by: JoEllen Pederson, Professor of Sociology and Faculty Representative to the BOV

Attendance

Two Board of Visitors (BOV) members were unable to attend: Kathryn Roberts and Vellie Dietrich-Hall. Five members attended in person, and five participated via Zoom due to inclement weather.

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Rector Ronald White opened the meeting with remarks about the weather and referenced the grand opening of the Persimmon Market, where he had lunch.

President Reveley continued with opening comments.

Before consideration of the consent agenda and prior meeting minutes, Provost Smith provided an overview of two new academic programs submitted for approval:

1. **Bachelor of Science in Data Science**, housed in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.
2. **Master of Science in Information Technology (online)**, offered through the College of Business and Economics.

No questions or comments were raised. The consent agenda and previous minutes were approved unanimously.

II. President's Report

President Reveley continued his remarks, highlighting the following:

- Four Virginia public higher education institutions experienced enrollment growth this year: James Madison University, the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, and Longwood University.
- Early Decision applications to Longwood have increased significantly: 1,715 in 2019 versus 3,937 this year.

- Longwood is increasingly becoming a top-choice institution for Virginia high-school students.
 - The endowment currently stands at \$117 million (up from \$69 million pre-COVID).
 - Dr. Lee Bidwell's class recently presented to the Prince Edward County School Board on absenteeism. This was an example used by President Reveley demonstrating growing collaboration among Longwood, Hampden-Sydney College, and Prince Edward County.
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III. Vice Presidential Reports

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to discussion of reports submitted by the Vice Presidents. Full reports are available in the [BOV meeting materials](#). Highlights are summarized below.

A. Student Affairs – Mr. Cam Patterson

- Noted the passing of **Jasmine Gullixon (Class of 2026)**, a loss that has deeply affected campus. The Department of Art, Theater, and Graphic Design is developing a memorial featuring her artwork.
- Reported on the recent visit of First Lady of Virginia, Mrs. Susan Youngkin.
- Provided updates on Lip Sync, Academic Integrity Week, and the Lancer Leadership Summit.

B. Administration & Finance – Mr. Matt McGrager

- Revenues are trending better than forecast for the current academic year.
- Referenced the approved increase to room and board rates.
- Cox Hall is anticipated to return to service next year with 150 single rooms.
- Rotunda roof repairs will begin in January and continue through the semester.
- The Student Government Association purchased a new Christmas tree for the Rotunda.
- In response to questions, Mr. McGrager confirmed that reopening Cox Hall will increase revenue.

C. Academic Affairs – Provost Smith

- Discussed the new Gear Up grant (PI: Dr. Paula Leach).
- Highlighted the symbolic significance of the upcoming unveiling of the Barbara Johns statue in Washington, D.C., for the Longwood–Moton Museum partnership.
- Addressed questions about artificial intelligence. All faculty will be required to include an AI statement in their syllabi going forward.
- Mr. Fagan encouraged faculty use of agentic AI.

D. Enrollment Management – Dr. Green

- Reported that admitted students are learning earlier about acceptance status, merit scholarships, and Honors admission (when applicable).
- The Dean of Admissions is writing handwritten notes to all admitted students.
- Campus visits are up 2% over last fall.

E. Athletics – Mr. Hall

- Men’s basketball is off to a strong start.
- Women’s soccer coach Todd Dyer achieved his 300th win.
- Tennis is also beginning the season successfully.
- Discussed the SCORE Act (H.R. 4312)—intended to standardize NIL regulations and include antitrust protections—which has been tabled in Congress.
- In response to questions, Mr. Hall noted that his primary challenge at the moment is budget-related.

F. University Advancement – Mrs. Hodges

- Annual giving is performing well early in the fiscal year.
- Love Your Longwood Day is being rebranded as Day of Giving, now in its 11th year. The event will run from noon on February 18 to noon on February 19.

- Seven of eight proposed endowed chairs have been funded, including chairs in Business, History, Teacher Education, and one unrestricted chair.
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IV. Representatives' Remarks

Cameron Lowery (SGA President) and JoEllen Pederson (Faculty Representative) presented remarks summarizing their reports.

V. Board Member Questions and Comments

- A BOV member shared highly positive feedback about attending the Virginia Children's Book Festival, noting her and her daughter's excellent experience.
 - Dr. Michael Poliakoff inquired about the cost of the new degree programs and whether consortium-style resource sharing had been considered with other state institutions.
 - Provost Smith responded that:
 - The MS IT program's new faculty line will be funded through program enrollment revenue.
 - The Data Science position will be a repurposed line following a retirement in Mathematics.
 - Dr. Poliakoff had additional comments, but his Zoom connection deteriorated.
 - Mr. Ian Bradley asked about external resources to support faculty in AI adoption.
 - Provost Smith referenced CAFE's Teaching and Learning Institute and noted that SCHEV has also offered opportunities.
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VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. to allow additional travel time due to hazardous road conditions. I reformatted these minutes using AI.