

The University of Virginia's College at Wise
College Board Minutes

2025

February 7, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD

Friday, February 7, 2025

David J. Prior Convocation Center/Lakeview Room and Virtual

<https://youtube.com/live/9ndiRmehWmY?feature=share>

Marcia A. Gilliam
Chair

Lewey K. Lee
Vice Chair

(DRAFT) Agenda

9:00 a.m. **CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS** Marcia A. Gilliam

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2024 Board Meeting

REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR Lewey K. Lee

REMARKS BY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE Jimmy Adkins

REMARKS BY STUDENT MEMBER Layne Bush

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(9) for discussion of matters relating to grants and contracts for service.

REPORT ITEMS

**SACSCOC ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY
ENHANCEMENT PLAN (QEP)** Gary Johnson
Sabrina Qureshi

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PLATFORM (GIVEPULSE) Gary Johnson

HOUSING AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT UPDATES Tabitha Smith

BUDGET AND VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATES Donna P. Henry
Joe Kiser
Shannon Blevins

REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry

11:30 a.m. **CLOSING REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR** Donna P. Henry

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS All

CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIR Marcia A. Gilliam

12:00 p.m. **LUNCH**

Minutes

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

February 7, 2025

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met in-person in the David J. Prior Convocation Center and virtual on Friday, February 7, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Mike Allen, Jimmy Adkins, Brian Blanton, Phillip Blevins, Jonette Dixon Carpenter, Valeri Colyer, Kathy Curtis, Marcia Gilliam, Cedric Green, Don Green, Leton Harding, George E. Hunnicutt, Jr, Fran Hunt, Duane Miller, Karen Mullins, Rhonda Perkins, Amanda Pillion and Ruby Rogers. UVA Vice President of Communications and Marketing, Dave Martel was in attendance. Members absent were Lewey Lee, Scott Litton, Marvin Gilliam and Robby Stallard.

Chair Marcia Gilliam presided over the meeting and Dawn Jessee recorded the minutes. Chair Gilliam read the required virtual meeting notice in accordance with 22-3707 and 22-3701.1 of the Code of Virginia. Chancellor Donna Henry opened the meeting by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Rhonda Perkins to approve the agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Brian Blanton and seconded by Mike Allen to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2024 meeting of the College Board as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Remarks by Chair: Chair Gilliam welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2025. The David J. Prior Convocation Center is quickly approaching the one million visitor milestone since opening in 2011. She referenced the many events hosted in the David J. Prior Center since the November meeting (listed in the Board packet on page 11). Upcoming events include the 34th Annual Scholarship Luncheon on March 29, Day of Service on April 5, and Commencement on May 10. The basketball tournament is coming up and congratulations were given to both men's and women's teams for beating Emory & Henry.

Remarks by Alumni Association Board Member: Mr. Jimmy Adkins reported that the next Alumni event is scheduled for February 12 with Eastman Alumni Employees and Retirees. Alumni events in Knoxville, Grundy, Pikeville, Northern VA, and Roanoke are scheduled in the spring. The next board meeting is scheduled for February 11 (virtual). The Alumni Association is soliciting applications for new board members. Please see Jimmy Adkins or Corey Sanchez for an application to share with those who you think would enjoy serving. A digital copy will go out to all board members. The Annual Spring Swing Golf Tournament will be held on April 11 at Lonesome Pine Country Club and the 38th Annual Cavalier Celebration Gala will be held on May 17 at the Lonesome Pine Country Club. A Hoops Hospitality Suite will be held during the Women's and Men's Basketball

Games on February 19 sponsored by Mullins Insurance Agency and a Friday Night Lights Party hosted by Chancellor Henry at the Lila Vicars Smith House will be held on Friday, April 25 prior to the Red & Gray football game on Saturday, April 26. A special recognition for athletics achievements (as listed on page 31) of board packet was given to Kendall Rainey, Athletic Director and her team. Mr. Adkins encouraged everyone to participate in the many upcoming athletic events. Celebration tickets are still available for purchase.

Remarks by Student Member Layne Bush. Student member Bush reported the following: Holiday events held included the traditional Lighting of Crockett Hall with more lights than in previous years thanks to Chancellor Henry's support and 150 toboggans were given out. The late-night breakfast was attended by over 350 students in preparation of exam week. Upcoming study abroad trips in the spring include South Africa, Scotland and the Borderlands and Southern France. This year marked a record year of short-term trips abroad. On January 29, students had the fabulous opportunity to watch men's and women's basketball teams "swat" the Emory & Henry Wasps. The Office of Student Engagement held the activities fair during the game with many prizes and dinner provided. Three lucky students were given the opportunity to win up to \$1,000 in the money machine thanks to sponsor Mr. Harding and Powell Valley National Bank. SGA sponsored the following with allocation funding, Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) spring missionary trip to the Dominican Republic, new competition uniforms for the UVA Wise Cheer Team and travel for six students to attend Student Advocacy Day in Richmond. Updates regarding her initiatives included participation in the MLK event and presenting along with SGA President William Rudeseal at the UVA Board of Visitors meeting in March. The purpose is to strengthen the connection between UVA and UVA Wise by meeting with UVA student leaders and presenting to the Board of Visitors during the Committee on Wise meeting. Nomination forms for the next Student Member of the Board will be distributed to the student body soon. The last item included concerns the Year in Wise students have when transferring to UVA with not all classes transferring smoothly. She recognized her fellow Highland Cavaliers baseball team for their best start in over 30 years (6-0) as well as the basketball teams for their victories.

CLOSED SESSION

As required by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(9), a motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Valeri Colyer to convene in closed session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to grants and contracts for service.

RECONVENE IN SESSION

As required by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3712(d), a roll call vote was taken in open session noting only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only public business as identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting of the public body.

Report Items:

SACSCOC Accreditation and Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP): Gary Johnson, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs presented an update regarding the process required by the College's accrediting body -- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The ten-year visit is scheduled for April 2026. UVA Wise is currently in the process of writing the narrative headed by Sabrina Qureshi and her team and is due in September 2025. Part of the process is a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that is a specific project that will have a demonstrative and positive impact on the institution and students. The QEP for this cycle is the first-year experience which consists of restructuring first year seminar that is required of all first-year students. It is changing from a one-hour course to a three-hour course so more can be done to prepare students academically and life at UVA Wise to build a cohort and community. The goal is to improve/impact our retention, graduation rates and student success. Additionally, SACSCOC involvement is required for new programs. The process varies and sometimes requires substantive change requests submittals. The College currently has two programs at SACSCOC in the approval process – MS in Technology Management and Data Analytics and MS in Nursing: FNP. Academic Affairs is currently recruiting faculty for the new Nursing and Data Analytics programs and Computer Science. These are very competitive searches and a challenge. Additional searches are Sr. Administrative Assistant and Intervention Specialist in the Student Success Center. Revised core general education requirements this year include experiential learning through study abroad, mentored undergraduate research and service learning. The College is using an APP called GivePulse that is a platform for tracking and connecting student activity in experiential learning activities.

Student Affairs Fall 2024 Overview: Tabitha Smith, new Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, shared photos of fall events with students – Counseling Center program focusing on mental health, Blue Light Walk that checks security on campus, new Housing Director, Julie Scott coordinated a RA welcome back to campus snow, Wiffle Ball Championship Team, Chancellor Henry with students decorating Christmas tree and photos of the new gaming hub in Slomp Student Center, and Scary on McCraray. Vice Chancellor Smith presented an update regarding historical data of housing numbers in fall of each year. In 2018 there were 452 heads in beds and steadily increased each year with 640 heads in beds in 2024. Total capacity without flipping/RA's in single rooms is 601. Current spring 2025 housing is at 567 heads. A historical counseling overview also showed an increase each year with 2023-2024 total counseling sessions at 1546 and year to date is 824. Top issues include stress, anxiety, relationships and grief. A request has been submitted for an additional clinician. Historical Intramurals data overview shows Fall 2024 includes over 3,560 team activities. Ely Wellness Center had over 20,300 swipes in fall 2024, 1,500 participants in the Gaming Hub, Office for Advocacy & Opportunity had 75 educational programs, and single day intramural events of 760 for fall.

Legislative Update and 2025-2026 Proposed Operating Budget: Shannon Blevins, Vice Chancellor Strategic Engagement and Government Relations, shared the 2025 General Assembly Calendar with session scheduled to adjourn February 22 and the UVA Wise legislative priorities/budget amendments of Enrollment and Retention and Workforce (undergraduate and graduate programs). General assembly is currently in cross over. A group of UVA Wise students attended Student Advocacy Days in Richmond and D.C. in January that included meetings with local legislators and the Governor. Joe Kiser, Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration, presented an update on current budget assumptions. January 15th was the deadline for uploading proposed into budgeting system with UVA. The budget is prepared with input from the senior leadership team, faculty senate leadership and staff senate leadership. Some revenue assumptions include projected appropriations, VMDSP support, a zero tuition and fee increase, 2% room rate increase, 4.2% board rate increase and revenue calculations based on 1,150 full-time students. Expense assumptions include fringe benefit increase, 3% salary increase, minimum wage increase \$45,514, planning for QEP \$50,000 and re-instatement of principal payments on internal loan. There is a balanced approach to creating the budget.

Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Henry reported that the Honor the Future Campaign to date is \$101,819, 661. The goal was \$100M and the campaign does not end until June 30. A big celebration will be held after June 30. The current endowment total is \$176M with 80% in scholarships. The Robert F. Stallard Fellowship in STEM scholarship was made possible by a generous gift from alumni Jeannie N. Stallard and Robert F. Stallard and will be awarded to a student majoring in a STEM field at UVA Wise. The recipient will have an outstanding academic history and is planning to pursue or is already pursuing an independent study project with a UVA Wise faculty mentor and will be awarded for academic year 2025-2026. The scholarship will cover any gaps in the costs associated with attending UVA Wise: tuition, room, board, and books and will also cover some/all costs associated with their research project. Robby was interested in creating this type of support that he received when he was a college student at Virginia Tech. Spring 2025 enrollment is over 2,000 students in addition there are 74 graduate students. Currently there are 22 undergraduate students also enrolled in the graduate program. Admitted students for fall 2025 is up 11% from last year and confirms are up 8% from last year. The College is currently searching for a Vice Chancellor for Human Resources with in-person interviews in late March/early April. UVA President Ryan wrote an article for the UVA Magazine regarding the unique value of UVA Wise to Southwest Virginia. This recognition is greatly appreciated and an indication of the good work of UVA team and students. Recent accomplishments at the College include UVA Wise experienced a second consecutive year of enrollment growth, the Within Reach program was expanded from \$40,000 income to \$80,000 to cover student tuition and fees, UVA Wise was named Apple Distinguished School for second term, opened a Virginia Humanities at UVA Wise in the fall 2024—one of two off site locations in Virginia with funds to provide grants to the community, received the College's largest single gift and launched LEAD SWVA program to develop leaders within the region. In SWVA and NETN, an organization called STRONG ACC in collaboration with Ballad Health. This is a great resource for community organizations related to health and public health metrics to provide support across SWVA

and NETN. There are currently two backbone partners, Ballad Health representing NETN and UVA Wise representing SWVA.

The next meeting will be May 9, 2025.

There being no additional business or comments the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Mullins, Secretary