

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
Board of Visitors Retreat
Friday, January 19, 2007**

MINUTES

The Board of Visitors held their annual retreat on Friday, January 19, 2007. Following morning tours at the Langley Full-Scale Wind Tunnel in Hampton, Virginia, and Jefferson Laboratory in Newport News, Virginia, the Board met at 1:30 p.m. at the Applied Research Center in Newport News. Present from the Board were:

Marc Jacobson, Rector
Kenneth E. Ampy
Frank Batten, Jr.
Harold W. Gehman, Jr.
Ross A. Mugler
Robert J. O’Neill
Katherine A. Treherne
Pat Tsao
Patricia M. Woolsey

Absent from the Board:

Robert O. Copeland
Kendra M. Croshaw
David W. Faeder
Conrad M. Hall
James A. Hixon
Pamela C. Kirk
Moody E. Stallings, Jr.
Mark E. Strome

Also present:

Roseann Runte, President	Mohammad Karim
Ali Ardalan	Donna Meeks
Oktay Baysal	Thomas Osha
Matt Bowers (<i>The Virginian-Pilot</i>)	Michael Overstreet
Alonzo Brandon	Geneva Walker-Johnson
Robert Fenning	

CALL TO ORDER

The Rector called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. He thanked the President for arranging the Wind Tunnel and Jefferson Lab tours, commenting on how informative and worthwhile they were. He asked the Board for a moment of silence in remembrance of Robin Hixon.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ODU RESEARCH

President Runte commented that the Board had the opportunity to see examples of both pure (Jefferson Lab) and applied (Wind Tunnel) research on their morning tours, and thought it would be beneficial to spend the second half of the retreat discussing how the University translates its scientific thinking into community outreach.

College of Business and Economic Outreach - Ali Ardalan, Associate Dean of the College of Business and Public Relations, provided an overview of the College and described the economic outreach activities of its Centers and Institutes that not only benefit the region, but also have national and international implications.

Following Dr. Ardalan's presentation, there was a brief discussion on the State of the Region Report and whether its authors have ever been, or should ever be, invited to address controversial economic issues such as light rail, the Oceana relocation, etc. President Runte commented that the report is not an official University document and that the views expressed are that of the authors and not the University. Mr. O'Neill also suggested that there may be potential for the University to address emerging issues on sustainability, and it was noted that a new faculty member in the College of Engineering and Technology is an expert in sustainability. Ms. Tsao suggested cooperative arrangements with international universities as a means of global economic outreach.

Research and Development - Mohammad Karim, Vice President for Research, provided an overview of Old Dominion University's distinctive research facilities, including Innovation Research Park and the new MAST Center in Suffolk and Portsmouth. He also discussed the National LambaRail and Eastern Lite and how these communications pipelines are critical for collaborative research. He provided an overview of the responsibilities of his department, and the goals as outlined in the Strategic Plan. He then provided detailed comparative data on R&D expenditures among Virginia institutions, and included data on Drexel University in order to illustrate how their merger with a medical school impacted research expenditures. Currently, Old Dominion ranks nationally between 181 and 187 in total R&D expenditures, based on FY04 data. Dr. Karim projected a June, 2007 ranking of 151 based on FY05 data, assuming no new growth or merger with EVMS, and a ranking of 142 by June, 2008. The influx of new faculty researchers in FY07 and newer research clusters in transportation and energy could cause that ranking to be even higher.

Development of Research Park and Business Contacts - Tom Osha, Economic Development Consultant, focused his presentation on how ODU's current research capabilities and assets intersects with its economic development initiatives. He reviewed the various economic development efforts that have been undertaken to date, and characterized 2006 as the year that Old Dominion went from involvement to commitment with its economic development partners. He commented that space in the new research building is going quickly, and that the necessary permits are in place to begin construction on the second building at the appropriate time.

Mr. Osha discussed opportunities and strategies for capitalizing on our research infrastructure and positioning the University to fill the void that currently exists in state and local economic development entities and the private sector. He suggested a comprehensive economic

development approach for Old Dominion University that would lead to a multidimensional investment and result in the merging of the University (the pursuit of knowledge) and corporations (the management of knowledge) to achieve economic development (the benefit of knowledge).

Due to time constraints, the presentation on the Higher Education Restructuring Act was deferred until a future meeting. President Runte deferred her presentation on the Legislative Agenda but distributed a handout summarizing Old Dominion's 2007 budget priorities.

The President announced that the Greater Norfolk Corporation has included modeling & simulation in their strategic plan, the Tobacco Commission will fund programs in Southside Virginia, and she is working with Mary Washington University to house five faculty researchers currently at Dahlgren in one of their new buildings once they are displaced from Dahlgren.

Admiral Gehman requested an update on the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center. The President provided a detailed summary of the events that have transpired to date, and indicated that two bills have passed Committee in the General Assembly. The first bill would be an emergency measure that would allow the University to reinstate the spring semester courses at the Center. The second bill is to initiate a study on the need for a four-year institution in Virginia Beach. She expressed her concern that the study would refocus attention away from the immediate issue of the future of the Old Dominion University's role at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.