

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
Academic and Research Advancement Committee Minutes  
Thursday, October 9, 2025**

**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Academic and Research Advancement Committee of the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors was held on Thursday, October 9, 2025 from 1:37 PM to 3:02 PM in the Board Room of the Kate and John Broderick Dining Commons on the main campus of Old Dominion University.

Present from the Committee were:     Andrew Hodge, Chair  
  Leslie Henderson Murphy  
  Kedar S. Lavingia  
  Juan M. Montero, II  
  P. Murry Pitts (*ex officio*)  
  Bruce L. Thompson  
  D.R. (Rick) Wyatt  
  David Burdige (*Faculty Representative*)

Absent from the Committee:           Brian K. Holland, Vice Chair  
  Dennis Ellmer

Also, in attendance from the Board:   E.G. (Rudy) Middleton, III  
  Gregg Eure  
  Claire Wulf Winiarek  
  Darcy Judd (*Student Representative*)

Also present were:	President Brian O. Hemphill	Susan Kenter
	Alfred Abuhamd	Chrysoula Malogianni
	Austin Agho	Tom Odom
	Luanne Bowman	Kimberly Osborne
	Alonzo Brandon	Brian Payne
	Zachary Borgerding	Yvette Pearson
	David Flanagan	Chad Reed
	Kenneth Fridley	Mark Rehfuss
	Annie Gibson	Shannon Robinson
	Nina Rodriguez Gonser	Romina Samson
	Brandi Hephner LaBanc	September Sanderlin
	Stephanie Jennelle	Ashley Schumaker
	Marissa Jimenez	Wie Yusef
	Latoya Jordan	Wood Selig
	Mary Jo Karlis	Allen Wilson
	Petros Katsioloudis	
	Amber Kennedy	

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Andrew Hodge, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:37 PM.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hodge and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, the minutes of the June 12, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous vote (*Aye: Hodge, Pitts, Murphy, Lavingia, Montero, Thompson, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Holland, Ellmer*).

**III. CLOSED SESSION**

The Chair recognized Mr. Wyatt, who read the following motion: “Mr. Chair, I move that this meeting be recessed, and, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1), we reconvene in closed session for the purpose of discussing the recommendations for the initial appointment of eight faculty members with tenure and two appointments of the Batten Endowed Chair.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Hodge and approved by unanimous vote (*Aye: Hodge, Pitts, Murphy, Lavingia, Montero, Thompson, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Holland, Ellmer*).

In addition to the Board members present, the following individuals were present during the closed session: President Brian O. Hemphill, Alfred Abuhamad, Luanne Bowman, Alonzo Brandon, Kenneth Fridley, Annie Gibson, Nina Rodriguez Gonser, Marissa Jimenez, Brandi Hephner LaBanc, Latoya Jordan, Kimberly Osborne, Brian Payne, Yvette Pearson, Chad Reed, September Sanderlin, and Ashley Schumaker.

**IV. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND FOIA CERTIFICATION**

At the conclusion of the closed session, the Chair reconvened the meeting. The following Freedom of Information Act certification was read: Any person who believes that the committee discussed items which were not specifically exempted by law or not included in the motion must now state where they believe there was a departure from the law or a departure in the discussion of matters other than that stated in the motion convening the closed session. I shall now take a roll-call vote of the committee. All those who agree that only lawfully exempted matters, and specifically only the business matters stated in the motion convening the closed session, were discussed in closed session say “aye.” All those who disagree say “nay.” The certification was approved by a roll-call vote. (*Aye: Hodge, Pitts, Murphy, Lavingia, Montero, Thompson, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Holland, Ellmer*).

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hodge and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, the committee approved the initial appointment of eight faculty members with tenure and two appointments of the Batten Endowed Chair by unanimous vote. (*Aye: Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Hodge, Thompson*).

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hodge and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, the Committee members approved 45 faculty appointments by unanimous vote. (*Aye: Hodge, Pitts, Murphy, Lavingia, Montero, Thompson, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Holland, Ellmer*).

**VI. REGULAR AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Ellmer, the committee members approved the resolution to terminate the agreement to participate in the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology by unanimous vote (*Aye: Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Hodge, Thompson*).

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hodge and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, the Committee members approved the resolution for proposals for new programs in an M.S. in Criminology, and M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering, a Ph.D. in Biology, and a proposal for the closure of the Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology by unanimous vote (*Aye: Hodge, Pitts, Murphy, Lavingia, Montero, Thompson, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Holland, Ellmer*).

**VII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Report from Dr. Brian Payne, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Dr. Payne discussed updates on SCHEV actions, a planned search and select achievements in Academic Affairs, the Tech Talent Investment Pipeline, and the Academic Affairs Leadership Academy. Dr. Mark Rehfuss, Professor and Chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Services degree program, gave a presentation on ODU's Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program.

**B. Report from Dr. Kenneth Fridley, Vice President for Research and Economic Development**

Dr. Fridley provided updates on Old Dominion University's continued efforts to strengthen its research enterprise through strategic initiatives and national engagement, including the new federal model for indirect cost recovery in grantmaking, recent and pending legislation on research security and foreign influence, ODU's expanding collaborations as an R1 institution, and progress within the University's strategic research thrust areas.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 PM.