

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
Student Enhancement & Engagement and Digital Learning Committee
Friday, October 10, 2025**

MINUTES

The Student Enhancement & Engagement and Digital Learning Committee of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University was held on Friday, October 10, 2025 at 9:45 AM in the Board Room of the Broderick Dining Commons on the main campus of Old Dominion University.

Present from the committee were:

Susan Allen, Chair
Claire Wulf Winiarek, Vice Chair
P. Murry Pitts (ex officio)
Andrew Hodge (ex officio)
Greg Eure
Leslie Henderson Murphy
Florencia Segura
Tatyana Lobova (faculty representative)

Absent from the committee:

Elza H. Mitchum

Also present from the Board:

William Giandoni
Kedar Lavingia
E.G. (Rudy) Middleton, III
Juan M. Montero
Robert (Bob) Tata
D.R. (Rick) Wyatt

Also present were:

Abuhamad, Alfred	Jennelle, Stephanie	Osborne, Kimberly
Agho, Austin	Jordan, LaToya	Payne, Brian
Andrewlavage, Karen	Judd, Darcy (student rep)	Pratt, John
Ashley, Evelyn	Karlis, Mary Jo	Purcell, Stacey
Belin, J.	Kennedy, Amber	Reed, Chad A.
Brandon, Alonzo	Kenter, Susan	Rodriguez Gonser, Nina
Dewyea, Kirk	Kivin, Lisa	Sanderlin, September
Easton, Brian	Ledger, Kate	Schumaker, Ashley
Fridley, Kenneth	Little, Rylie	Selig, Wood
Gannon, Kenyon	Malogianni, Chrysoula	Shelton, Garrett

Gibson, Annie	Martin, Victoria	Smith, Dwayne
Ginder, Annamarie	Miller, Ashley	Tugas, Fred
Graham, Melanie	Miller, Tony, Jr.	Whitehead-Cooper, JaRenae
Hemphill, Brian O.	Moore, Megan	Wilson, Al
Henken, Adam	Myers, Mitchell	Yusef, Wie
Hephner LaBanc, Brandi		

Chair Susan Allen called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 12th MINUTES

The minutes of the June 12, 2025 meeting were approved by all members present and voting.

Chair Allen then asked Dr. Hephner LaBanc to begin the presentation.

REPORT OF VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AND CAMPUS LIFE

Vice President Hephner LaBanc introduced the new division organizational structure and name, Student and Campus Life, which reflects an integrated approach to supporting students throughout their university experience. She reported an increase in ODU's Fall 2024 first-time, full-time retention rate to 78.67 percent, representing a four-percentage point gain since Fall 2021. She highlighted key retention initiatives, led by the Center of Retention and Enrichment (CORE), including success coaching, targeted interventions, and family engagement efforts. The Monarch Very Important Parents and Supporters (VIPS) program continues to grow and is the division's most intensive family engagement model. Housing and Residence Life reported 99.2 percent occupancy on Main Campus and 100 percent at the Medical Campus, with graduate housing growing from 23 spaces in 2023-24 to 160 spaces in Fall 2025. Strategic investments in residential safety included lobby renovations in three residence halls and targeted training for students and professional staff.

Vice President Hephner LaBanc presented data on The Monarch Experience (TME), which featured nearly 100 events drawing just shy of 8,500 student engagement touch points. She reported high engagement with student organizations, including membership in 280 student organizations and significant increases in participation in sports clubs and Panhellenic Council organization membership. Notable trends included strong career and leadership interest among first-year students, a 503 percent increase in food pantry visits since Fall 2020, and the fourth year of Monarchs Give Back, aiming to collect 100,000 items.

Chief of Police and Assistant Vice President for Public Safety Garrett Shelton then provided the Public Safety report. He highlighted the department's national and international certifications, placing it in the top one percent of university police departments. Chief Shelton discussed first-year post-EVMS integration progress. He also highlighted expanded community partnerships to strengthen collaboration as well as the successful implementation of the ODU Safe App.

REPORT OF VICE PRESIDENT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Vice President of Digital Transformation & Technology Nina Rodriguez Gonser presented an overview of the current enrollment landscape. Total student enrollment is 23,423, including both on-campus and online learners. Despite a 1.3% decline in Fall enrollment, this figure is commendable given the ongoing challenges in higher education, particularly relating to returning undergraduates and international students on campus. She then highlighted positive aspects: a 5% increase in total applications, exceeding 28,000, and a remarkable 15% rise in graduate applications, showing strong potential in this population. Transfer applications rose by 13% through the focused efforts of Digital Transformation & Technology (DTT) and Academic Affairs to enhance community college pathways. Additionally, there was a 7% increase in graduate enrollments and a 6% increase in out-of-state online enrollments. The Dominion Scholars Program welcomed 31 new scholars, including twin co-valedictorians, underscoring ongoing success in attracting top academic talent.

Senior Associate Vice President for Digital Innovation Chrysoula Malogianni shared updates and faculty testimonials on the Forward-Focused initiative. Dr. Malogianni highlighted the integration of Monarch Mind into course production and live classes to create course materials and keep students actively engaged. The use of extended reality (XR) is expanding, particularly in Counseling, where students practice client interactions in immersive environments. Dr. Amanda Quillin's video testimony exemplified the essence of Forward-Focused learning—faculty using AI and immersive design to make learning more personal, applied, and effective. Executive Director of Digital Solutions and Innovation Brian Easton, along with Executive Director of Digital Learning Programs, Kenyon Gannon, demonstrated two AI tools available to faculty, staff and students—Google Gemini and NotebookLM. These tools are personalized, content-driven academic assistants that enhance instruction and support student success. Additionally, ODU's integrated AI and cloud environment bolsters the research enterprise, enabling extraordinary gains in speed, scalability, and collaboration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM.