

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
Academic and Research Advancement Committee Minutes  
Friday, December 6, 2024**

**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Academic and Research Advancement Committee of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University was held on Friday, December 6, 2024, from 8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. in the Board of Visitors Room in the Kate and John R. Broderick Dining Commons on the Norfolk campus. Present from the Committee were:

Andrew Hodge, Chair  
Brian K. Holland, Vice Chair  
P. Murry Pitts (*ex officio*)  
Dennis Ellmer  
Juan M. Montero, II  
Bruce L. Thompson  
Rick Wyatt

Also present from the Board:

Brian E. Campbell  
Jerri F. Dickseski  
E.G. (Rudy) Middleton, III  
Ross A. Mugler  
Dr. Stanley Goldfarb

Also present were:

President Brian O. Hemphill  
Brian Payne  
Ken Fridley  
Barbara Blake  
Luanne Bowman  
Alonzo Brandon  
Annamarie Ginder  
Stephanie Jennelle  
Mary Jo Karlis  
Amber Kennedy  
Brandi Hephner LaBanc  
Tatayana Lobova  
Chrysoula Malogianni  
Donna Meeks  
Tom Odom  
Kimberly Osborne  
Stacey Purcell

Chad Reed  
Nina Rodriguez Gonser  
September Sanderlin  
Ashley Schumaker  
Amanda Skaggs  
Bonnie Van Lunen

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:30 a.m.

### I. APPROVAL OF THE September 12, 2024, MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Mr. Ellmer and seconded by Mr. Pitts, the minutes of the September 12, 2024, meeting were approved by unanimous vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, and Wyatt; Nays: None*).

### II. CLOSED SESSION

The Chair recognized Mr. Wyatt, who read the following motion: “Mister 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 the presentation of a candidate recommended for tenure. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pitts and approved by unanimous vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, Wyatt; Nays: None*). In addition to the Board members present, the following individuals were present during closed session: President Hemphill, Interim Provost Payne, Vice President Fridley, Luanne Bowman, Annamarie Ginder, Nina Rodriguez Gonser, Mary Jo Karlis, Brandi Hephner LaBanc, Kimberly Osborne Chad Reed, September Sanderlin, Ashley Schumaker, and Bonnie Van Lunen.

### III. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND FOIA CERTIFICATION

At the conclusion of the closed session, the Chair reconvened the meeting and 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 matter 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 roll-call vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, and Wyatt; Nays: None*).

Upon a motion made by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Ellmer the committee approved the recommendation of tenure to Dr. Yuhong Li from the Department of Information Technology and Decision Sciences by unanimous vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Holland, Ellmer, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, and Wyatt; Nays: None*).

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, committee members approved five faculty appointments and three emeriti appointments by unanimous vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, and Wyatt; Nays: None*).

#### V. REGULAR AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Wyatt, committee members approved the proposed Ph.D. in Data Science by unanimous vote (*Ayes: Hodge, Ellmer, Holland, Montero, Pitts, Thompson, and Wyatt; Nays: None*).

#### VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

Brian K. Payne, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs presented an update an overview of ongoing activities in the Division of Academic Affairs including updates on ongoing dean searches and academic success initiatives. Specific attention will be given to program-level student retention plans developed by department chairs. Also, the new director of the School of Supply Chain, Logistics, and Maritime Operations, will present on his vision for the school.

Ken Fridley, Vice President for Research & Economic Development, provided an overview of internal seed funding programs offered by DivRED to support faculty and of the AI Research Initiative.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.