

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
Academic and Research Advancement Committee Minutes
Thursday, December 11, 2025**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Academic and Research Advancement Committee of the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors was held on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. 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
 Brian K. Holland, Vice Chair
 P. Murry Pitts (*ex officio*)
 Leslie Henderson Murphy
 Kedar S. Lavingia
 Juan M. Montero, II
 D.R. (Rick) Wyatt
 David Burdige (*Faculty Representative*)

Absent from the Committee: Dennis M. Ellmer
 Bruce Thompson

Also, in attendance from the Board: Susan Allen
 Gregg Eure
 William Giandoni
 E.G. (Rudy) Middleton, III
 Florencia Segura
 Robert M. “Bob” Tata
 Claire Wulf Winiarek
 Darcy Judd (*Student Representative*)

Also present were:	President Brian O. Hemphill	Annie Gibson	Kimberly Osborne
	Alfred Abuhamed	Annamarie Ginder	Brian Payne
	Austin Agho	Nina Rodriguez Gonser	Chad Reed
	Sylvia Ameen	Adam Henken	Shannon Robinson
	Luanne Bowman	Stephanie Jennelle	Romina Samson
	Tanisha Bradley	Latoya Jordan	Ashley Schumaker
	Alonzo Brandon	Mary Jo Karlis	Wood Selig
	John Bush	Amber Kennedy	Jackie Stein
	JaRenae Whitehead-Cooper	Susan Kenter	Virginia Tucker
	Laura Delbrugge	Brandi Hephner LaBanc	Allen Wilson
	David Flanagan	Chrysoula Malogianni	Maite Wilson
	Kenneth Fridley	Emily Olszewski	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andrew Hodge called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Dr. Lavingia and seconded by Mr. Pitts, the minutes of the October 9, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous vote (*Aye: Henderson Murphy, Hodge, Holland, Lavingia, Pitts, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Ellmer, Thompson*).

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wyatt and seconded by Dr. Lavingia, the committee members approved the resolution for the closure of the B.A. program in Asian Studies and the closure of the B.A./B.S. programs in Women's Studies by unanimous vote (*Aye: Henderson Murphy, Hodge, Holland, Lavingia, Pitts, Wyatt; Nay: None; Absent: Ellmer, Thompson*).

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Dr. Payne provided updates on faculty accomplishments, work-based learning initiatives, insights from a recent roundtable with the Virginia Business Higher Education Council, the AI curriculum, and outcomes from the Academic Affairs Summit. In addition, Dr. Laura Delbrugge, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters; Ms. Tanisha Bradley, Assistant Dean for Student Success and Academic Excellence in the College of Arts and Letters; Dr. Virginia Tucker, Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and Master Lecturer in English; and Mr. John Bush, an undergraduate student in the Interdisciplinary Studies program, will deliver a presentation on the General Studies major.

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

Dr. Fridley provided updates on initiatives designed to advance research through strategic planning and transdisciplinary collaboration. These initiatives include investments in faculty research, such as the Early Career Research Development Academy, Faculty Workshops for a Shifting Landscape, the Stimulating Transdisciplinary Research (STaR) program, the Forward-Focused Centennial Research Initiative, the Pre-Seed Program: Teaming for Transdisciplinary Research and Innovation (TTTRI), the Monarch Proof-of-Concept Program: Fostering Research Commercialization Success, and Connecting Arts and Humanities with STEM2. The report will also highlight efforts to expand undergraduate engagement in team-based research through the Vertically Integrated Program for Undergraduate Research (VIPUR).

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.