

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

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 L. Thompson

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

Also present were:

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

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. Kedar Lavingia and seconded by Rector P. Murry Pitts, the minutes of the October 9, 2025 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Secretary D. R. (Rick) Wyatt and seconded by Rector Pitts, the Committee members approved seven faculty appointments and four emeriti appointments by unanimous vote.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Secretary Wyatt and seconded by Dr. Lavingia, the Committee members approved the resolution for the closure of the BA program in Asian Studies and the closure of the BA/BS programs in Women's Studies by unanimous vote.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report from 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, the following people presented on the General Studies major: Dean of the College of Arts and Letters Dr. Laura Delbrugge.; Assistant Dean for Student Success and Academic Excellence in the College of Arts and Letters Tanisha Bradley; Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and Master Lecturer in English Dr. Virginia Tucker; and undergraduate student in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program Mr. John Bush.

B. Report from 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 (TTRI), 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.