

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS**

University Advancement and University Communications Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2026

MINUTES

The University Advancement and University Communications Committee of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University was held on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Broderick Dining Commons on the main campus of Old Dominion University.

Committee Present:

Claire Wulf Winiarek, Ph.D., Chair
Juan M. Montero, II, MD, Vice Chair
P. Murry Pitts (*ex officio*)
Peter G. Decker, III, Esq.
Karla Johnson

Committee Absent:

Andrew Hodge (*ex officio*)
Mark T. Fleming, MD
Mahesh Gopinath, Ph.D. (*Faculty Representative*)

Other Board Members Present:

Robert S. Corn
Charlene A. Moring, Esq.
D.R. (Rick) Wyatt
Cade Franklin (*Student Representative*)

Others Present:

Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D., President
Alfred Abuhamad, MD
Sylvia Ameen
Alonzo Brandon
Brian Eubank
Kenneth J. Fridley, Ph.D, F.ASCE
Annie Gibson
Melanie Graham, Ph.D.
Krista Harrell, Ph.D.
Adam Henken
Brandi Hephner LaBanc, Ed.D.
Virginia Hilton
Aaron Hodnett
Stephanie J. Jennelle
LaToya Jordan

Mary Jo Karlis
Susan Kenter, Ph.D.
Mike LaRock
Kate Ledger
Brooks Lively
Manuela Monteilh
Brian Payne, Ph.D.
Chad Reed
Nina Rodriguez Gonser
Ashley Schumaker
Wood Selig, Ed.D.
Francisco Siercke
Fred Tugas, Ed.D.
JaRenae Whitehead Cooper
Allen Wilson, Esq.

Call to Order. Dr. Claire Wulf Winiarek called the University Advancement and University Communications Committee meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes. Dr. Wulf Winiarek asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2026 meeting, and Vice Chair Dr. Juan M. Montero, II moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Rector P. Murry Pitts and unanimously approved by all members present and voting. Dr. Wulf Winiarek then turned the meeting over to Alonzo Brandon, Vice President for University Advancement.

University Advancement Update

Alonzo Brandon, Vice President for University Advancement, provided a year-to-date fundraising update, reporting \$13.2 million in funds raised and highlighting several significant gifts and their impact on the University's priorities and initiatives. He also shared University Advancement's key activities and accomplishments for the quarter, highlighting the division's ongoing efforts to advance fundraising, donor and alumni engagement, and strategic priorities while continuing to plan and prepare for the year ahead.

In addition, Vice President Brandon discussed post-merger engagement plans for the ODU Foundation and Alumni Association, including efforts to strengthen collaboration, build upon opportunities created by the merger, and expand engagement with alumni and other University constituents. These efforts support the division's broader goals of strengthening relationships and advancing University priorities.

University Communications Update

Ashley Schumaker, Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on three key items in University Communications. Included in the updates were a report on the latest edition of the Monarch Magazine, including the publication process and related statistics; research and media and public relations; and University licensing.

Executive Vice President Schumaker presented information on the increasing visibility of Monarch Magazine and future plans to expand distribution readership on a broader scale. This included highlights of a significant increase in digital engagement.

Next, Executive Vice President Schumaker shared how Old Dominion University's expanded research publications are translating capabilities, strategic strengths and regional advantages to position the University for new opportunities, additional partnerships, and greater visibility. She also noted significant media coverage on a number of critical issues, such as Dr. Holly Gaff's TickBot and the significant flooding event in early August.

The last updates provided insight on the success of royalty revenue and scholarship growth, the third annual Fan Fest featuring new product and supported by former Monarch All-American quarterback Taylor Heinicke and the remarkable success of the blue camo football uniform and related jersey sells in honor of Lt. Col. Brandon A. Shah.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.