

LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
March 25, 2022
Minutes

Call to Order

The Longwood University Board of Visitors met on Friday, March 25, 2022 in the Stallard Boardroom. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Rector Pia Trigiani.

Members present:

Pia Trigiani
Michael Evans
Eileen Anderson
Katharine Bond
Steven Gould
Larry Palmer
Ricshawn Adkins Roane
Polly Raible
Cookie Scott
Nadine Marsh-Carter
Rhodes Ritenour
Fabiola Carter
Shawn Smith

Also present:

President W. Taylor Reveley IV
Larissa Smith, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Louise Waller, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Victoria Kindon, Vice President for Strategic Operations
Courtney Hodges, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Tim Pierson, Vice President for Student Affairs
Michelle Meadows, Director of Athletics
Cameron Patterson, Moton Museum
Justin Pope, Vice President and Chief of Staff
Anne Patterson, SGP President
Lee Bidwell, Faculty Representative
Burt Hazlewood, Longwood Foundation
John Daniel, Longwood Real Estate Foundation

Rector's Welcome and Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda:

The rector welcomed members and thanked the vice presidents for the hard work reflected in their reports across the university. She remarked it has been exciting time at Longwood, noting the recent success of basketball, Love Your Longwood Day, and many other areas. She thanked President Reveley for his remarks to the recent SCHEV meeting on campus, and commended the Longwood students who presented ably. She said it is clear student anxiety is a critical issue across higher education, and the importance of social connection fits into retention. She said SCHEV's visit to Moton was particularly noteworthy. She also commended Prof. Sean Barry's essay for Longwood's Phi Beta Kappa application, which she said offered valuable historical perspective on the university.

The rector asked for a motion to accept the Minutes, with two minor revisions to the attendance list. Katharine Bond so moved, Shawn Smith seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

The rector asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Eileen Anderson so moved, Cookie Scott seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

President's Report

The president noted this is the first Board meeting in Stallard Boardroom since December, 2019. He noted the world is returning to normal in many respects despite much upheaval continuing. At Longwood, basketball success has been a source of joy on campus. It is also a milestone that this year's seniors will be the first to graduate having fully experienced Civitae. Campus is coming fully back to life. While the General Assembly has not yet completed a budget, appreciation for Longwood is strong in Richmond. He remains hopeful about the Wygal Replacement building, which would be the crown jewel of a remarkable transformation of Longwood's campus along South Main Street over recent years. Regarding Longwood's current year budget, revenue is down a few percentage points compared to projections, which the University will work through over the remainder of the fiscal year. In the years ahead federal stimulus dollars will not be in place, and it will be a source of strength that Longwood in disciplined fashion is building a sustainable budget model.

Reports of Vice Presidents

Courtney Hodges reported on a successful Love Your Longwood Day, which she said by the time of the final tally will exceed last year's record total. She recalled the first Love Your Longwood Day in 2016, which ended with 533 gifts and \$65,000 raised. This year there have already been 2,200 gifts and totals will exceed \$400,000. The goal is not just to grow the daily total, but also to bring new donors into the habit of giving and involve alumni in philanthropy. Ricshawn Roane expressed thanks for assistance with the NCAA Tournament and said the experience in Indianapolis and Raleigh was electric and energized the Longwood community.

Victoria Kindon gave an update on Alumni Weekend. She said recent weeks have been a strong opportunity to put Longwood on the radar screen, and have provided a strong talking point at admissions events, including three in Northern Virginia, Richmond and Tidewater recently attended by President Reveley. She gave an overview of coming admissions events, 12 of which are scheduled before May, of varying sizes. She noted the continuing efforts to expand programming for high school juniors to build the pipeline. In response to a question about how universities have capitalized on basketball success, she said basketball success provides name recognition and a sense of pride in the community. College choices today are a family decision, and parents in particular get excited about the run because it gives them an opportunity to talk about Longwood with pride. She said estimates of media value are still being calculated. President Reveley indicated just based on timing it will likely be next year when any impact on applications would be felt.

Tim Pierson spoke about Spring Weekend and the revival of extracurricular life this year. He said a key element of Spring Weekend is that it is student-planned. He said basketball truly ignited community pride, especially for 1st and 2nd-year students who were able to see Longwood community in full spirit, which will also be the case at Spring Weekend. He said mental health continues to be an important issue on campus. He noted a new grant-funded trauma specialist position in the counseling center. The rector commended the Student Affairs BOV report for bringing out the important student role in leadership of campus organizations.

Larissa Smith gave an update regarding the SACS-COC reaffirmation process and timeline. She also provided an update on the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), including process and timeline, and announced that the new topic for Longwood's QEP: "Preparing for Post-Graduate Success." She said the QEP will help students develop core future readiness competencies, including communication skills, planning, use of technology and other skills. Many skills are of course already developed in Longwood, but the QEP will provide structure and focus for developing these outcomes. She also commended the work of faculty and staff in applying for grants this year. She announced the Moton Museum has received \$500,000 in federal funding for infrastructure improvements to the facility. She also announced that Dr. Kathy Gee, associate professor of environmental science, has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant for a project related to rainwater harvesting, which will also provide opportunities for undergraduates. There was discussion regarding the role of bolstering career services support as an important component of the QEP.

Louise Waller said it is an interesting but stressful time in the construction industry, with significant labor shortages and material price increases. Cost increases for the Joan Perry Brock Center are protected by contracts, but there are supply chain challenges. Having an experienced, well-connected partner like Skanska has helped keep things on schedule to complete the building in August of 2023. She provided updates on other projects in the construction pipeline.

Michelle Meadows thanked the Board for their dinner the night before and also for their visible support of the basketball programs; the visibility of the governing board in support of athletics is meaningful and appreciated. She noted that Longwood's "March Madness" might better be called "2022" Madness because the joint success of the programs built up since the beginning of

the calendar year – and in fact going back four years to the arrival of Coaches Tillett and Aldrich. She also noted extent to which basketball success has galvanized the Farmville community in addition to campus. She recounted a number of stories conveying how proud, thankful and energized alumni were. Lastly, she emphasized how much of a collective effort it is for an institution to fully capitalize on the opportunity, from the SGA to fellow vice presidents and others across the university, all assisting to provide the best possible experience and storytelling. “I can say we as an institution did more in this moment for a school of our size than any institution I’ve ever seen,” she said. Lastly she noted Longwood currently stands No. 3 in the Big South in the Sasser Cup standings for results across all sports, which would be substantially higher than Longwood has ever finished. Polly Raible commended the experience of reconnecting with alumni, as well as the interaction among players, coaches and staff; and also the importance of witnessing the Longwood women playing hard to the end of their final game against North Carolina State. Cookie Scott also noted the importance to the Longwood-community relationship. Courtney Hodges noted how impressively student-athletes came across in the coverage of the university. Lee Bidwell noted the student-athletes she has taught have been outstanding and committed, and impressive in balancing their academic and athletic commitments. Eileen Anderson noted the year had begun with difficult decisions about how to navigate Covid and support student-athletes in the best, most responsible way possible and commended the teams for their selflessness and the example they set. Ricshawn Roane said the success is a byproduct of the people involved, and commended President Reveley for his leadership is helping making this moment possible. She noted in particular the Moton apology, the Freedom Monument, the improved relationship with the community, the improvements to campus, Civitae, and navigating Covid. She said she is deeply proud of Longwood and its leadership. Fabiola Carter noted how much joy and camaraderie she saw among Longwood’s student-athletes during their post-season games. President Reveley said the world abounds with crisis and challenge, so the fact that we can be together in a celebratory moment is especially cherished, and has been made possible by the hard work of so many at Longwood.

Reports of Representatives to the Board

John Daniel said the REF is involved in preliminary discussions about possible ways to bring more renewable energy to campus. He provided an update regarding the Baliles Center and the timeline for moving on to next steps in the master plan.

Burt Hazlewood reiterated the Foundation’s mission, and noted the close working relationships with the University. He noted the Foundation will provide more than \$3 million this year to the University in support of students and programs. He estimates that will increase to about \$3.3 million next year. Total investments in December stood about \$104 million. He estimates the endowment currently stands stable at roughly \$100 million. During a substantially down quarter in most investment classes, the Foundation’s investments have performed somewhat more favorably than major market indices. He reported on a promising recent private investment opportunity Longwood is participating in along with institutions including Stanford, Harvard and the University of Virginia.

Anne Patterson thanked the Board on the occasion of her final meeting. She commended Longwood's student-athletes for their connection to the rest of the student body. She provided an update on SGA budget matters, and reported students have been interested in the Ukrainian conflict and there was strong attendance at an SGA meeting where a political science professor spoke. She noted SGA adopted a resolution in support of Ukraine. She said SGA was closely engaged in the QEP selection process and thanked the committee for involving students. She noted exciting upcoming events such as spring weekend. Justin Pope, Pia Trigiani, Tim Pierson and Eileen Anderson all expressed their gratitude and admiration for Anne and her service to Longwood as SGA president and wished her well for the future.

Lee Bidwell noted she had focused on graduate recruitment and retention in her report. She said she had not appreciated until researching her report the depth of Longwood's graduate programs. She noted 1,184 graduate students are currently enrolled at Longwood, comprising 27 percent of total enrollment. She commended the leadership of Dean Jeannine Perry. She noted how different recruiting and retaining graduate students is compared to undergraduates. There is an intense element of faculty-student interaction, and the strategies and recruiting opportunities naturally differ from field to field. She said graduate students are especially eager for hands-on learning, and faculty report they are pushed to develop unique and innovative pedagogical strategies. She said graduate faculty have different responsibilities, they require different resources, and depend on a network across campus for collaborative help. She said the dedication of graduate faculty should be recognized and applauded. In response to a question about how faculty stay on top of developments in their field, Jeannine Perry gave an overview of how the process works, particularly in education programs, where the practicum experience and other connections keep faculty strongly connected with the K-12 world. Larissa Smith said it is also an important consideration in faculty hiring, and the broad array of connections and experiences faculty bring. She gave as an example Sarah Tanner-Anderson, a Longwood graduate and now faculty member who is a former school teacher, administrator and currently serves on a county school board.

Board members toured the construction site of the Joan Perry Brock Center and ate lunch in Stallard.

The rector asked for a motion pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(1) that the Board convene in closed session to discuss matters pertaining to personnel, for consideration of promotion and tenure as customary at the spring meeting. Cookie Scott so moved, Katharine Bond seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was offered by Mr. Palmer to return to open session. Ms. Bond so moved, Ms. Scott seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

In compliance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the Board returned to open session. The Rector asked the board certify by roll call vote that, to the best of each member's knowledge, 1) only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were discussed, and 2) only matters identified in the motion for closed session were discussed. All members in attendance voted by roll call to certify: Polly Raible, Eileen Anderson, Larry Palmer, Michael

Evans, Nadine Marsh-Carter, Cookie Scott, Pia Trigiani, Katharie Bond, Richawn Roane, Steven Gould, Rhodes Ritenour, Fabiola Carter and Shawn Smith.

The rector asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the President and Provost regarding promotion and tenure, as follows:

Promotion to Professor

- Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust (English)
- Dr. Virginia Lewis (Mathematics Education)
- Dr. Maria Timmerman (Mathematics Education)

Promotion to Associate Professor and Award of Tenure

- Dr. Benjamin Campbell (Science Education)
- Dr. Timothy Coffey (Exercise Science)
- Dr. Hua Meng (Marketing)
- Dr. Kristopher Paal (Communication Studies)
- Dr. Ronda Scarrow (Theatre)
- Dr. Jacqueline Secoy (Music Education)
- Dr. Erin Shanle (Biology)
- Dr. Denis Trubitsyn (Biology)
- Dr. Sarah Varela (German)

Promotion to Associate Professor

- Ms. Jennifer Beach (Library Science) in Greenwood Library
- Ms. Natalie Browning (Library Science) in Greenwood Library
- Ms. Sarah Reynolds (Library Science) in Greenwood Library

Promotion to Senior Clinical Educator

- Ms Elizabeth Park (Nursing)

Approval of Candidates for Emeritus Status

- Dr. B. McRae Amoss (Professor of French)
- Dr. Lily Goetz (Professor of Spanish)
- Dr. Lissa Power-deFur (Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders)
- Dr. Kenneth Perkins (Professor of Sociology)

Eileen Anderson so moved. Mike Evans seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.
There being no further business, the Rector adjourned the meeting at 3 p.m.