

**LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, December 1, 2022

******* DRAFT *******

-Minutes-

Call to Order

The Executive Committee of the Longwood University Board of Visitors met on Thursday, December 1 at Longwood House. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Rector Michael Evans.

Executive Committee members present were:

Michael Evans
Katharine Bond

Other Board members present:

Shawn Smith
Fabiola Carter
Polly Raible
Steven Gould
Nadine Marsh-Carter

Also present:

President W. Taylor Reveley IV
Justin Pope, Vice President and Chief of Staff
Cameron O’Brion, University Counsel

The Rector called the meeting to order. President Reveley gave an overview of the Board meeting agenda, matters related to the SACS-COC re-affirmation process, admissions and capital projects. Members and President Reveley discussed the recent meeting between the Rector, Board Secretary Cookie Scott, President Reveley and members of the student group C.H.A.N.G.E, and how best to ensure continued dialogue regarding their concerns is productive, showing responsiveness but within appropriate channels and process. There was discussion also involving Cameron O’Brion regarding the University’s threat-assessment process, particularly in light of the recent tragedy at the University of Virginia. Lastly, President Reveley circulated the language of a statement on Freedom of Expression drafted by the Council of Presidents to reinforce Virginia public higher education’s commitment to free expression and exchange of ideas on campus. There was discussion regarding free expression issues and the statement. Members of the Executive Committee closed the discussion by asking that their endorsement of the statement be noted in the minutes. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5 p.m. The statement is included as Appendix A.

Statement on Free Expression - Virginia Council of Presidents

As presidents of Virginia's public colleges and universities, we unequivocally support free expression and viewpoint diversity on our campuses. Free expression is the fundamental basis for both academic freedom and for effective teaching and learning inside and outside the classroom. Our member universities and colleges are bound to uphold the First Amendment. We are committed to promoting this constitutional freedom through robust statements and policies that are formulated through shared governance processes and through actions that reflect and reinforce this core foundation of education. We value a scholarly environment that is supported by a diversity of research and intellectual perspectives among our faculty and staff. We pledge to promote and uphold inclusivity, academic freedom, free expression, and an environment that promotes civil discourse across differences. We will protect these principles when others seek to restrict them.