

**LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF VISITORS**

**Friday, March 20, 2026**

**Minutes**

**\*\*\*\*\* DRAFT \*\*\*\*\***

**Call to Order**

The Longwood University Board of Visitors met on Friday, March 20 at Stallard Board Room at Longwood University. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Vice Rector Jeff Nottingham.

Members present:

Vice Rector Jeff Nottingham  
Secretary David Rose  
Member at Large Kathleen Early  
Ian Bradley  
Chuck Fagan  
Jackie McCaleb  
Kristie Proctor  
Kathryn Roberts

Also present:

President W. Taylor Reveley IV  
Tim Hall, Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics  
Courtney Hodges, Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Lara Smith, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Matt McGregor, Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Jennifer Green, Vice President for Strategic Operations  
Cameron Patterson, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Matthew McWilliams, University Spokesperson and Deputy to the President  
Cameron O’Brion, University Counsel  
Tammy Bird Jones, Longwood Foundation  
Kathy Fox, Longwood Alumni Association  
JoEllen Pederson, Faculty Representative  
Cameron Lowry, SGA President

**Rector’s and President’s Welcome**

Jeff Nottingham welcomed everyone to Longwood and noted that Rector White, who is with his gravely ill father, is in everyone’s thoughts. He said that it is an exciting time of the year and

remembered NCAA Tournament appearances by both men's and women's basketball teams that showcased the broader strength of the Longwood community. He expressed his gratitude to the Board, Vice Presidents, Board Representatives, and everyone who works to make the university great.

President Reveley reflected on a divided world and said that he takes solace and strength from a long view of history. He noted that April 24 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rotunda fire, and that he has a deep gratitude to President Patty Cormier who worked so hard to rebuild this place. 2026 is also the anniversary of several consequential decisions: full coeducation in 1976 and men first allowed as students in 1946. He said we are in the midst of a formative decade with a lot of momentum on admissions, in Farmville, and philanthropically. He said this will be by far the best year of fundraising that Longwood has ever had, and that the University is on track to raise \$100 million in the 2020s philanthropically, which underscores strength for the long future. He noted that he and David Rose have been working on the debt management policy that is part of the consent agenda, but recommended tabling its vote until June would allow for final revisions.

### **Consent Agenda and Approval of the Minutes**

The Vice Rector asked for a motion to approve the minutes and consent agenda as amended per the President's suggestion. Fagan moved to approve the minutes and consent agenda as amended. Rose seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Vice Presidential Reports**

Dr. Larissa Smith said that it is a great day to be in Farmville. She shared information about the Lancer for a Day program, which brings 4<sup>th</sup> graders to campus for a day to show them what college is like. Lancer for a Day is an award-winning project that underscores our growing partnership between PECPS and Longwood and how important that work is, which will expand. Another collaborative effort is work around microcredentials, which are skill-oriented digital badges that help students articulate to employers what skills they have gained. She said there are badges being developed across all areas of Academic Affairs, including Brock Experiences and internship readiness. She noted that the LCVA has launched a Virginia on Virginians series of portraits in celebration of America 250, and in April the annual CG Gordon Moss Lecture will feature Woody Holton. She also said that this spring will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the student strike at the Moton museum and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the museum.

McGregor said that it took a herculean effort to get campus re-opened after the major winter storm this January. He updated the board on several construction projects ongoing: HVAC replacements on five buildings, repairs to the Eason Hall roof and clock tower, and Rotunda dome refurbishment. He said that the music building site development is progressing and that steel should start to go up this summer, with completion scheduled for Summer 2028. He said that his team is closely monitoring legislative action to predict budget figures for next year. President Reveley added that since Covid the state has often delayed the state budget process, and that legislators are dealing with macro issues that will have an effect on how state budgets work.

Fagan asked if changes to diversity policies at state agencies will affect contracts. President Reveley replied that policy changes affect how we issue contracts, though the state had a robust set of policies around this issue that were in place for decades so we are well set up for accommodating changes. McGregor added that Longwood's procurement team works with general contractors to meet state guidelines.

Proctor asked if the most recent audit available is for FY23. McGregor said that the FY24 audit is in its final stages, and the FY25 audit is well underway, and that we move as quickly as we can to provide the APA everything they need. President Reveley added that the APA works hard to complete audits in a timely way.

McGregor also highlighted the work of campus partners: Aramark, Budd Group, Centers, Follett, and Potomac Health.

Tim Hall provided an update on the strong start to the spring season for baseball, including the previous day's first victory over perennial Big South power Charleston Southern in 13 years. He noted the women's basketball team led the Big South in both total and average attendance, including a record of 2,467 at the Homecoming game. The season saw a number of individual honors for the program, and several for the men. Women's basketball had their second straight 20-plus win season, a standard measure of excellence in college basketball. He highlighted Ronnie Thomas as men's head coach, saying he had a historically good first season. He said that the student-athlete average grade-point average was 3.52 in the Fall. He also highlighted strong performances by the men's tennis team, baseball, and both men's and women's golf teams. He congratulated Faculty Athletics Representative Dr. Tim Coffey, who was voted national FAR of the Year by the NCAA. He offered thoughts on the future of the NCAA more broadly, including federal legislation, NIL, anti-trust exemption, and eligibility questions.

Fagan asked about the recent first-round NCAA Tournament win by High Point University, and Hall said they are investing a great deal of resources into their basketball program. Nottingham asked about attendance figures, and Hall replied that attendance has been increasing each year since the Joan Perry Brock Center opened --- the women are first in the Big South in attendance and men are second.

Cam Patterson recognized our peers at Old Dominion University who are dealing with difficult circumstances following their recent campus shooting. He updated the Board on several events coming up as the Spring semester moves along: the Citizen Leader Award ceremony, Joan of Arc awards, and Mosaic awards among them. He highlighted the work of the office of Residential and Commuter Life, which guarantees housing for all students, helping create a strong sense of community. He said that Lancer Productions is making a change to Spring Weekend while keeping its essence intact: the traditional Friday concert will be held for the first time in the Joan Perry Brock Center. Well-being efforts are underway as well, with a newly redesigned website, initial stages of a financial well-being program, a transition of Elwood's Cabinet to Upchurch University Center, and the opening of the N.H. Scott Center in Lankford Hall.

Fagan commented that financial well-being is a strong need for students, and suggested that community financial institutions would be a likely avenue for strong partnerships. Proctor suggested reaching out to the Virginia Association of Community Banks to explore partnership opportunities.

Jennifer Green highlighted the next day's admitted student event, complimenting staff for overcoming previous weather challenges at other admissions events. There are a lot of regional events for prospective students and families which are drawing larger attendances, and it is more frequent that we are in competition with larger universities for student interest. Driving that is the experience they have on campus and with an institution-wide focus on early engagement. She also highlighted the work the Office of Student Success is doing in the early weeks and months of a student's first semester on campus, working with faculty and career success. She also noted the work that the Office of Marketing, Communications, and Engagement does that drives admissions numbers.

President Reveley pointed out that while the admissions office has a lot of momentum and enthusiasm, it remains a challenging environment for college admissions nationwide, mentioning the "enrollment cliff," changing pressures on international students, and potential changes to Pell Grants. He also said that sophisticated cyber attacks are increasing, and Longwood is fortunate to be part of a larger state effort to combat those.

Courtney Hodges said there is momentum on different fronts within the Advancement Office. Donors are making long-term investments in Longwood's mission, including on scholarships and endowed academic chairs – 7 of 8 of which were committed in the first three months of the opportunity.

Roberts asked about Ellie, the office's artificial intelligence tool, and Hodges said that it is one of many tools that helps staff engage with donors. Ellie never presents herself as a human, and if a donor has a question, they are passed to an advancement staffer, but she is able to help with personalized engagement to donors. President Reveley added that as communication channels change, it is good to experiment with new technology.

### **Reports of Representatives to the Board**

Kathy Fox reported that Lunch Bunch is a new initiative of the Alumni Association that has been very successful, and they are looking to expand into other areas of the state and connecting alumni with people on campus. The Alumni Association seeks meaningful engagement, and writes letters to students and helps with regional admissions events, as well as career fairs and speed networking events. She encouraged all in attendance to make plans for Homecoming Weekend Nov. 6-8.

Tammy Bird Jones shared five years of accomplishments with the Board. She said the Longwood Foundation has created a Director's Report, the highlight of which was growth in scholarship dollars from \$2.2 million in 2020 to \$3.4 million in 2026, with \$1.1 million in programmatic funding. She said they have ensured compliance with donor intent with an annual

audit. The Foundation Board has been working on five areas: overall awareness, governance, personnel, and financial oversight.

Joellen Pederson reported on faculty responses when asked about shared governance and academic freedom, which are critical for faculty morale and student success. Survey responses made it clear that Longwood is doing well on both fronts, and Pederson shared suggestions on how to strengthen both principles, including a larger voice at campuswide events, and academic freedom being put at the center of conversations on artificial intelligence.

Fagan asked how other universities are dealing with the impact of artificial intelligence on academic freedom, and Pederson replied that the discussion is ongoing at a lot of universities.

Cameron Lowry noted that Spring Weekend is imminent. She said that SGA reviewed its bylaws, and budget hearings are coming up next month, where the organization allocates \$570,000 in funding to campus organizations. The Senate passed a resolution that Longwood further enhance outdoor spaces.

Roberts asked how SGA decides to allocate their budget. Lowry said that student organizations propose budgets and senators hold hearings to decide how to allocate funding. President Reveley noted that professionals often have to advance far in their careers before they deal with budgets of this size, and it is great experience for Longwood's elected student officials.

### **Closed Session**

Vice Rector Nottingham asked for a motion pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(1) that the Board convene in closed session to discuss matters related to personnel. Kathryn Roberts so moved, Jackie McCaleb seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

In compliance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the Board returned to open session. David Rose moved that 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. Chuck Fagan seconded and all members in attendance voted by roll call to certify: Proctor, Fagan, Roberts, McCaleb, Bradley, Early, Rose.

The Vice Rector asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Provost and President as presented to the Board regarding promotion, tenure, and emeritus status. As follows:

#### Awarded Emeritus Status

- Dr. William Abrams (Mathematics)
- Dr. David Geraghty (History)
- Dr. David Locascio (Education)
- Dr. Charles Ross (Physics)

Promotion to Professor

Ms. Tammy Hines (Library Science)  
Dr. Brandon Jackson (Biology)  
Dr. Bjeorn Ludwar (Biology)  
Dr. Kat McCleskey (Counselor Education)  
Dr. Lisa Minor (Nursing)  
Dr. Kenneth Pestka (Physics)  
Ms. Lauren Rice (Art)  
Dr. Terri Sabatos (Art History)  
Dr. Ann Bailey Yoelin (Therapeutic Recreation)

Promotion to Associate Professor and Award of Tenure

Dr. Elise Green (English)  
Dr. Tai Johnson (History)  
Dr. Brooke Mathna (Criminal Justice)  
Dr. Gregory Mole (History)  
Dr. Laura Poe (Information Systems and Cyber Security)  
Dr. Sanish Rai (Computer Science)  
Dr. Michael Waddell (Music)  
Dr. Erin Wallace (Communication Sciences and Disorders)  
Dr. Rebecca Wetmiller (Accounting)

Promotion to Senior Lecturer

Dr. Kevin Schattenkirk-Harbaugh (Music)

Early so moved, Rose seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Vice Rector Nottingham adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m. and invited the board to tour the Office of Career Success before a presentation from Dr. Liz Narehood, senior director of career and professional engagement, over lunch, which concluded at 1:45.