

**BOARD OF VISITORS FULL  
BOARD MEETING  
October 6, 2023  
MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum**

Mr. Devon Henry, Rector, called the Norfolk State University Board of Visitors meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.

A quorum was established with an 8-0 Roll Call vote. A list of individuals who joined the meeting is provided below.

Recommended approval of virtual participation for The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr., and Mr. Delbert Parks. A motion was made by Mr. Dwayne Blake and seconded by Dr. Katrina Chase. The Board approved with an 8-0 roll call vote.

Participants – Board Members

Mr. Devon M. Henry, Rector  
Mr. Dwayne B. Blake  
Dr. Katrina Chase  
Mr. BK Fulton  
Mr. James Jamison  
Dr. Harold Watkins, II  
Mr. Gilbert Bland  
Bishop Kim W. Brown, Secretary

Virtual Attendance - Board Members

The Honorable James W. Dyke, Jr.  
Mr. Delbert Parks

Non-Participants – Absent Board Members

Mrs. Heidi Abbott  
Mr. Conrad Hall  
Mr. T. Michael Andrews

Participant – Student Representative to the Board

Mr. Zaykori Jones, SGA

Participant – Counsel

Ms. Pamela F. Boston, University Counsel and Senior Assistant Attorney General

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#### Participants – NSU Administrators and Staff

Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, President

Dr. Justin L. Moses, Vice President for Operations and Chief Strategist for Institutional Effectiveness

Dr. DoVeanna Fulton, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Gerald Ellsworth Hunter, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Administration

Dr. Leonard E. Brown, Vice President, Student Affairs

Ms. Melody Webb, Athletics Director

Mr. Eric W. Claville, J.D., M.L.I.S., Executive Advisor to the President,  
Governmental Relations

Mr. Clifford Porter, Vice President, University Advancement

Dr. Tanya S. White, Chief of Staff

Dr. Dawn Hess, Chief Compliance Officer

Mrs. Derika Burgess, Chief Audit Executive

Mrs. Kimberly Gaymon, Scheduler/Financial Services Specialist

Dr. Aurelia T. Williams, Senior Vice Provost, Office of the Provost

Dr. Davida Williams, Director, Auxiliary Services

Ms. Stevalynn Adams, Assistant Vice President Communications and Marketing

Dr. Andrew Carrington, Assistant Vice President Finance and Administration

Dr. Derika Burgess, Internal Audit

Mr. Christopher Stancil, OIT

Mr. Rasool Shabazz, OIT

Ms. Sher're Dozier, Clerk to the President for the Board of Visitors

Ms. Sandra Williamson-Ashe, SW/Provost Office

Ms. Rhonda Fitzgerald- Center for Teaching & Learning

Ms. Saranette Williams, Career Services

Ms. Faye Monroe-Davis, OIT

Ms. Tracey Rogers, OIT

Ms. Tam Tran, OIT

Mr. Linwood Moses, OIT

#### Participants – Non NSU Staff

Sherrif Ford, Phi Beta Sigma

Jaylin Drewry, Alumni of Norfolk State University

Reginald Rice, Phi Beta Sigma

Mr. James Richardson, Apple

Mr. Eric Woud, Apple

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Ms. Josie Guthrie, Apple  
Ms. Katherine Hughes, Apple  
Ms. Anne Van Middlesworth, Apple  
Mr. Shaun Anderson, HPE & EXS  
Mr. Jack Burns, Apple

#### **1. Student Representative.....Mr. Zaykori Jones**

Mr. Zaykori Jones, Student Government Association President; informed of his initiatives which are Transparency, Bridging the Gap, and Increasing Student Engagement. Mr. Jones highlighted each initiative.

- **Transparency:** Keeping an open line of communication with students. By releasing a statement to the student body when events occur on campus.
- **Bridging the Gap:** The Student Government Association is the gap between the students and faculty. Pushing Towne Halls and General Assembly meetings which help students to voice their opinions.
- **Increasing Student Engagement:** Students engagement has decreased since Covid. SGA goal is to encourage students to have events on campus to encourage socialization and campus experience.

Mr. Jones informed us of the Diversity of Inclusion upcoming events, to provide a place for students to be themselves. Items discussed included:

- Campus safety:** Have a campaign partnered with the Police Department. If you see something say something.
- Parking:** Would like a more efficient parking management system.
- Housing:** Student concerns to be fixed as soon as possible

Mr. Jones also highlighted the campus improvements that are taking place. The Police Department are implementing spikes on the one-way street near their building. The Spartan Suites Parking lot will have an ID Scan Gate, coming soon as well.

#### **2. Faculty Representative ..... Dr. Shawn Anderson**

Rector Henry informed that Dr. Robert Perkins would not be present for this meeting, Dr. Shawn Anderson would present his report and speak for the voice of the faculty. The Faculty Senate and Dr. Perkins has put together focus areas and concerns received from Faculty.

- **Create an Institute for Faculty Strategic Plan:** A direction of what the faculty body needs. Ways to operate and clean up the handbook, and objectives of this academic year.
- **Rebuild a long-lasting faculty infrastructure:** Update websites, have an administrative staff, and an overall budget for the operations to operate as a Faculty Senate body.

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- **Strengthen relationships and collaboration across the University:** An Executive Committee member has been assigned to each Vice President to meet with them regularly, to strengthen that line of communication.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Holding ourselves accountable professionally and ethically, and our commitment to be transparent.

#### **Some of the wins includes:**

- The first Faculty Senate Officers initiation ceremony has been held. Which is part of refocusing.
- Being aware of what is needed amongst this body as a part of a procedure.
- The completion of two Faculty Grievances.
- Currently have liaisons to meet with all the Vice Presidents.
- The establishment of two Ad-Hoc Committees for concerns (The Strategic Planning Committee, and Open Education Resource Committee).
- Partnering with Norfolk NAACP Branch.

#### **Areas of Concerns:**

- Security Training
- Delayed Payments for Grants and Rewards
- Increasing Moral overall
- Excessive Annual Evaluation
- Lack of technical support
- Dean appointments and observing that process for qualification of the Deans.

### **3. President's Update/ Presentation .....Dr. Adams-Gaston**

Dr. Adams-Gaston expressed her gratitude to Mr. Zaykori Jones for his presentation. Dr. Adams-Gaston addressed that we are making good progress and spoke on the topic of "Sowing in Good Ground", which gives great results. Mr. Jordan Moody was also highlighted as a 2023 HBCU Scholar at the White House Initiative on Advancing Educational, Equity, and Excellence, and Economic Opportunity.

Dr. Adams-Gaston also presented on twelve students that interned with the Virginia Attorney General Legal Internship Program, six of those students were from Norfolk State University. Dr. Adams-Gaston stressed that student success is our number one opportunity for this institution. A video was presented which showed the experience of attending Martha Vineyard 9-day African American Film Festival, with an exclusive Spartan Screening of "Freedom's Path". Mr. BK Fulton and April Woodard were acknowledged for making this program possible.

Dr. Adams-Gaston addressed the Spartan Security Initiative. Safety is a top priority. Working to ensure that there are no disruptive events on or surrounding areas of campus. A moment of silence

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was acknowledged for Jahari George. For safety we have acquired “Shot Spotters” gunshot detection technology. The Police Department is also fully staffed, and there is a reconstruction for gates one and eight.

A meeting was held with Student Leaders and Staff, at the University House to discuss how we can come together to make a difference. Also, a meeting with staff and parents to hear of their concerns.

The University offers escort information for students to be provided with individuals to be available to walk with students if needed. The shuttle services routes and times are provided through the app which students are encouraged to utilize for tracking the shuttle.

**The future plans include:**

- Walking Beats around the campus
- Training provided for directing students for shelters to be in place
- Addressing Parking concerns
- Placing mobile police camera at the Spartan Suites

**Dr. Adams- Gaston spoke on the topic “Access to a World-class Education.” Norfolk State University offers students:**

- Teaching Excellence
- Degree Programs
- Support

Dr. Adams-Gaston highlighted Norfolk State University athletics, accomplishments, and 81 % graduation success rate.

Mental health counseling is also provided for students. Many students have been using the after hours opportunities. Faculty and Staff also have the same opportunities to utilize Timely Care.

Dr. Adams-Gaston extended gratitude of thanks to everyone.

Members of Apple recognized Norfolk State University as an Apple Distinguished School. Through the use of tools for educational advancement, this program was built in two years.

**4. MOTION-CLOSED MEETING ..... Rector Devon Henry**

Closed Session: Bishop Brown read the following motion, seconded by Dr. Watkins, and with an 8- 0 Roll Call Vote the Board unanimously approved.

**Motion – (by Board member)**

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Mr. Rector, I move that we adjourn and reconvene in Closed Meeting pursuant to:

Section 2.2-3711(A) 1, 4, 7, and 8 of the Code of Virginia, for the following purposes, pursuant to the noted subsections:

(1): To discuss personnel matters, including more specifically, appointment, performance, salaries, and the evaluation of performance of specific employees, including discussion of compensation of a high-level university employee at Norfolk State University; and

(4): Evaluation of performance of departments or schools, where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals and certain university employees; and

(7) and (8): A. For the purpose of consultation and briefing by staff members; and B. Consultation with legal counsel regarding specific matters requiring the provision of legal advice pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the university, including more specifically for legal counsel to give a status update on pending and potential litigation of which the Board should be made aware; along with any necessary consultation with legal counsel regarding matters noted in this motion; and further that the following remain for or attend, when called, the Closed Meeting, and that any member of the NSU Board of Visitors be permitted to virtually attend or by phone to listen in on the Closed Meeting.

**5. Reconvene in Open Meeting.....Rector Devon Henry**

Having reconvened in Open Meeting, we will now take a roll call vote on certification that (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the Board. Any member of the Board who believes that there was a departure from the requirements as stated above, shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that in his, or her judgment, has taken place. Please call the Roll. With a vote of 8-0 Roll Call Vote the Board unanimously approved.

Mr. Blake motioned, that the Board approve the actions discussed to regarding a high-level University employee at Norfolk State University, which includes discussion of the subject matter of job performance in the matter of consistence for the discussion in closed session. Second by Bishop Brown the motion was unanimously approved with an 8-0 roll call vote.

**6. New Business**

Dr. DoVeanna Fulton, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided a copy of “The

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Beautiful Struggle,” written by Ta-Nehisi Coates. The University will be graced with his presence on October 19, 2023, at 12:00 pm, at the L. Douglas Wilder Center.

Mr. Bland informed of the Urban League hosting a reception on October 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. located at the Wilder Center.

Mr. BK Fulton informed of the film Freedom Fast will be dropping today.

Bishop Brown commended on the bus loads of football players from local High Schools, which received their jackets at Norfolk State University.

Former Board Member and SGA President Mr. Jaylin Drewry provided an update post-graduation since leaving the board.

7. Old Business – there was none

8. Public Comments-there was none

9. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bishop Kim Brown, Secretary  
Board of Visitors

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Sher're S. Dozier Clerk to the  
University President for the Board of  
Visitors

# NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS

## ROLL CALL VOTE October 6, 2023

### DRAFT

Item	Rector Devon Henry	Mrs. Heidi Abbott	Mr. Dwayne Blake	Mr. Glibert Bland	Mr.T. Michael Andrews	Bishop Kim Brown	Dr. Katrina Chase	The Honorable James Dyke, Jr.	Mr. BK Fulton	Mr. Conrad M. Hall	Mr. James Jamison	Mr. Delbert Parks	Dr. Harold “Harry” Watkins	Totals
Quorum	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present (Virtual)	Present	Absent	Present	Present (Virtual)	Present	8-0
Approval of Virtual Participation; The Honorable Mr. Dyke, and Mr. Parks	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	8-0
Motion to go into a Closed Meeting	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	8-0
Motion to Reconvene in an Open Meeting	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	8-0
Actions discussed to regarding a high-level University employee at Norfolk State University, which includes discussion of the subject matter job performance in the matter of consistence for the discussion in closed session	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	8-0



