

BOARD OF VISITORS GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Meeting of December 12, 2019 MINUTES

PRESENT: Rector Davis, Vice Rector Hazel, and Secretary Blackman; Visitors Bhuller, Chimaladinne, Iturregui, Kazmi, Moreno, Moss, Reagan, Rice, Roth, Witeck and Zuccari; Faculty Representative Davis; Student Representatives Gelbvaks and Layton; Interim President Holton; and Secretary pro tem Barton.

ABSENT: Visitors Marquez and Prowitt.

I. Call to Order

Rector Davis called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

II. Approval of the Minutes (ACTION ITEMS)

- A.** Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for October 10, 2019
- B.** Full Board Meeting Minutes for October 10, 2019

Rector Davis called for any corrections to the minutes of the Executive Committee and full Board meetings of October 10, 2019. Rector Davis opened the floor for discussion. There was none. The minutes stood approved as written.

III. Rector's Report

Rector Davis advised the Board of the Commonwealth's requirement to file an annual financial disclosure statement. He noted the filing period for completion would be January 1 to February 1, 2020 and the reporting period was for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Rector Davis advised the Board of the vote on the Resolution to Proceed Tier III. He noted that he would move that vote to the top of the committee reports. He further noted that the resolution required a two-thirds absolute majority in affirmation to pass, he encouraged the Board to remain for the vote.

Rector Davis appointed an Announcement Committee of the Board of Visitors. He noted the committee members as: Carolyn Moss, Paul Reagan, Edward Rice and Bob Witeck; Rector Davis appointed Visitor Rice announced as the Chair. Rector Davis noted that the sole function of the committee pursuant Virginia's Freedom of Information Act is to announce at the appropriate times that the Board would meet at an undisclosed time and location within 15 days of the announcement, for the purpose of interviewing candidates for president of the University.

A. Presidential Search Announcement Committee of the Board of Visitors

Rector Davis called on Vice Rector Hazel to report on the progress of the Presidential search.

[VERBATIM]

Vice Rector Hazel: Thank you, Mr. Rector. One item of business first before we have some comments from myself and my co-chair Shannon Davis. Likewise, we need to appointment an announcement committee of the search committee. So, the Presidential Search Committee will put forth for approval a Subcommittee of the Presidential Search. The only responsibility of the Announcement Subcommittee will be to meet pursuant to requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, to announce at the appropriate times that the Presidential Search will be meeting at some undisclosed time and location within fifteen days of the announcement, for the sole purpose of interviewing candidates for presidency of the University. Pending approval, the recommended committee members of the Search Announcement Committee are: Carolyn Moss, Edward Rice, Carole Scott, and Germaine Louis. And Ed, would you also consider being Chair of that?

[Visitor Rice replied affirmatively]

Vice Rector Hazel: Thank you. I appreciate that.

Vice Rector Hazel: So, the search is proceeding well. I think everybody in the University should be pleased with the interest that we have in the position. From across the country and even internationally, we've had a very high level of people apply or be nominated for the position. We are working our way through that. We were sort of in the receiving end of that, until November. In the middle of November, we have now started to look at candidates more seriously. We had a committee meeting this past Friday, which unfortunately had a mistake in the public notice. There were four places to be advertised and we got three and we missed one, and we apologize for that. We are sorry that happened. We are taking corrective steps, so that it will not happen again. There was very little activity in the open part of Friday's meeting. There was the approval of the previous minutes, and there was the vote on the appointment of the same Announcement Subcommittee that I just read to you all. So, we will be meeting again tomorrow. Hopefully everybody's seen the notice on that. We are still working on candidates. We have...

Rector Davis: Time and place for everybody in the audience there.

Vice Rector Hazel: Yes, it's in this room at 8:00 o'clock tomorrow morning. Scheduled to go from 8:00 to 1:00. The majority of the meeting will be in closed session. But anybody who wants to come is welcome for the open session meeting. We have not yet asked anybody for an interview. I think it's important to understand that. We are still working through on paper only. We are working through CV's and cover letters, and reference letters. We hope to be able to start interviewing in January of next year. I know I've said previously that it would be the goal of the committee to try and have final candidates, and hopefully a decision by the end of February. But I will repeat what I have said before, if it takes more time to do that, we will take more time to do that. We had to have a goal to work against. But I appreciated the participation of everybody who is a member of the Search Committee. We literally had a full committee, and people are doing the work they need to do to make the search produce at the end of it; the best person to lead this University into its next adventures. Shannon, would you like to add comments from your perspective.

Faculty Representative Davis: I do. First of all, I want to say thank you to all of the folks who were able to come out to the Community Session, it was a vibrant conversation. Many of the Search Committee members were able to attend, or were able to watch the video afterwards. And we appreciate the continued interest of everyone. I want to speak for just a moment not only as Co-Chair, but as the Chair of the Faculty Senate. All of the Board members have at their place the Faculty Senate Statement on the Presidential Search Process [Attachment 1]. You may not have had a moment to read it yet, but let me give you the highlights of this Faculty Senate statement on the search. Over the past two months the Faculty Senate and the faculty and University as whole has been engaged in a vibrant discussion and debate about the extent to which that the search process will be consistent with the Faculty Handbook. Currently as you'll note the Faculty Handbook states the search and selection process must include opportunities for the general faculty to meet with candidates before finalist for the Presidency. On November 6 the Faculty Senate asked for a public forum where each finalist is invited to give a presentation to include the general faculty, and or faculty, students and staff to be invited to provide feedback for each finalist. In line with the Faculty Handbook, the Faculty Senate also asked for feedback from the broader faculty community on the extent to which that, folks might be willing to engage with the process if there were options presented forward. And what you see in front of you are the votes, the motion that was voted on by the Faculty Senate. First, the expectation of the faculty as viable methods of engaging faculty include first, that multiple finalist should meet with faculty. Second, that it should be a live synchronous meeting with faculty. Third, that all who engage in meeting with the finalist be provided an opportunity to give feedback to the search committee; which would then be shared with you as the full Board of Visitors. The faculty were also...the Faculty Senate created a working group that it consisted of three faculty members, Bethany Letiecq, Keith Renshaw, and Solon Simmons who, solicited feedback from the general faculty on potential ways in which faculty could participate in the process. Faculty members in the Senate then rank ordered both the format that they would prefer to engage with finalists, to whom the meeting would be open, and the way in which a 'question and answer' session would be presented forward. You see this listed in the handout, first that

the faculty requested as the most preferred option, a completely open meeting with faculty and the finalists. Second, if that is not possible, that those who engage with the finalists be asked to sign a 'Code of Ethics' similar to that which was signed by the Search Committee. And then the least favorable option, but was still an option that was within the realm of possibilities was a live meeting that was held in some way to hide the identity of finalists. And I want to pause for a moment here because this particular option is an option that was brought up during several of the Community Sessions and Listening Sessions and actually was brought up specifically by the students. So, Vice Rector if you don't... if I could, I would like to yield the floor for just a moment to Camden Layton who is the Undergraduate Student Representative on the Board to speak a little about what he heard as a student, in favor of this particular approach.

Vice Rector Hazel: And he is a member of the Search Committee so yes, please.

Student Representative Layton: The student government, the student senate never came out with any official statement or anything. So, speaking as the student representative I know that there is a lot of want to have some kind of interaction. With some students that I have talked to, a live meeting, like a chat room – like it says, was something a lot of people brought up as a possibility and they would like to see if we can't have that in-person meeting. But I definitely would like to see something like that, I really like that option if we couldn't do an in-person one.

Vice Rector Hazel: Thank you Camden, appreciate that.

Faculty Representative Davis: Just a few more specific points that if the meeting were not to be able to be open to the general faculty as designated by the Faculty Handbook, the next order of preference was that the meeting be open to Faculty Senators as by the charter of the Faculty Handbook, Faculty Senate is the representation of the general faculty. And finally, the least preferable option is for a few faculty members to be able to come on a first come first served basis. And then finally as you see in point six, the preference is for an open 'question and answer' session, and then the last favorable option is for a question development process. You have the additional materials in front of you. But to say this very clearly as Faculty Senate Chair, the faculty are engaged in this process, and want to have an opportunity more broadly to be able to speak to you as the Board of Visitors about their thoughts on the next person who will lead the University. And so, I ask that as the Board moves forward in your deliberations around how to proceed and engage in the community, that the faculty interests, desire and commitment to the future of this University be a part of those deliberations.

Rector Davis: Shannon, thank you very much. Look, I think from the outs, having the Faculty Senate present and Co-Chair is something most universities don't do. While allowing the faculty to basically pick their membership on the committee. We're committed to making this as broad as we can, it's just a little early in the process I think at this point to bind ourselves to a certain procedure. But I want to give everybody's assurance that we need faculty input as we move down the road on this thing. We're going to get it, I'm not sure at this point what the best way to do it, but you'll be part of that conversation. We don't want...the last thing we want to do it to pick somebody, then have a faculty uprising. We're all in this thing together, and the same goes for the students. Let's work together as we move through this. I give my assurance, and I think the Board would agree that we want to keep you involved in this. And once we know what we're dealing with and have narrowed this down, we'll have a better idea. We just don't know yet.

Vice Rector Hazel: So, I agree with the Rector. Some of us are more engaged and informed on the search process at the moment than others. Which is why I thought it was important for you all to hear Shannon's comments and presentations about some of the ideas that have been put forward that could be a solution to this situation. What I would like to ask my colleagues on the Board of Visitors to do, take them, think about them, help us find a way to making this work. And I would appreciate your input as you do so.

[Vice Rector Hazel called on Visitor Moreno]

Visitor Moreno: I just wanted to note that the next meeting of the Board is going to be in February. And it may be that we will have to find a way to have a conversation about the process, we'll just have to align

the timeline for the selection with when this Board gets together or find another way of getting input so that we're sure we're answering the request before the Board takes any action. So, it's just a calendar issue.

Rector Davis: Look, and the calendar is not our enemy here. We can be flexible in terms of how we do this, but the last thing we're going to do is just come out with a name, and not have much additional faculty input. Let me just say for myself, and I think for the Board, we appreciate resolutions, we appreciate your thoughts on this, and opening up. We don't consider this adverse or hostile in any way. We want to continue to keep you involved in conversation, and we're just trying to figure out the best way. So, work with us, we are all on the same team, and thank you very much.

Vice Rector Hazel: Nothing further.

[VERBATIM ENDS]

(Attachment 1: Faculty Senate Statement on the Presidential Search Process)

IV. President's Report

Rector Davis called on Interim President Holton to provide the President's Report.

Interim President Holton referred to the report, and noted the changes to the format. She further noted that the first two pages of the report provided a preview of the Board meeting, select campus activities, and an update on key priorities. She solicited Board feedback on the changes to the report, and asked for feedback regarding the usefulness of the content. Interim President Holton noted that her team also worked to deliver more follow up material, she referenced the October 10, 2019 meeting Executive Summary provided at the Rector's behest. She noted that the Board will hear more from her office in-between Board meetings.

Interim President Holton noted a faculty highlight that was not included in the President's Report, she noted that Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, Cynthia Lum was recognized as one of the State Council for Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty awardees. Interim President Holton noted areas of Professor Lum's work. She further noted the yearly SCHEV luncheon to honor the faculty awardees in the spring, and invited the Board to join her.

Interim President Holton spoke to a few student highlights which included an update on the men's basketball team record, ten wins and one loss for the season. She noted that it was the strongest opening the university has had in decades. Interim President Holton noted the university's pep band, the Green Machine, the cheer team, the student section, and invited the Board to join the experience. She spoke to hosting monthly student dinners at the Mathy House with different student groups such as the Early Identification Program (EIP), Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) students, and the Mason DREAMers.

Interim President Holton spoke to key priorities specifically the Arlington Innovation District Project, and the magnitude of the work to be completed. She noted the online education programs, and the expansion of the University's online program which include undergraduate plans. She spoke to the working groups currently involved in collecting necessary data for the potential expansion. Interim President Holton spoke to potentially having the business and financial models early in the new year to potentially discuss and decide upon a launch at the February Board meeting. She noted that the Board will hear more regarding this initiative, especially if action Board was required.

Interim President Holton provided a legislative update. She has met with both executive and legislative branch colleagues in Richmond. She noted that the Governor's budget will be announced December 17, 2019, and further noted receptiveness from the Governor's office and legislative supporters regarding the University's state funding issue. Interim President Holton spoke to the Commonwealth's competing interests for state revenue, and noted a couple of the Governor's education initiatives for preschool and community college. She spoke to the translation of increased state funding for the University into higher student outcomes by supporting the faculty and staff. She noted addressing issues such as faculty to student ratios, and the ability to attract and retain faculty in order to help students succeed.

Interim President Holton recognized Michelle Marks, Vice President for Academic Innovation and New Ventures to present the Board professional development as required by the Commonwealth. Rector Davis welcomed Vice President Marks.

A. Continuing Education (per HB1952 2013) – Michelle Marks

Vice President Marks spoke to the University's invitation to be a member institution in the American Talent Initiative (ATI). She referenced the chart in her presentation regarding a study by the Pell Institute regarding trends in higher education in relation to family income, and discussed the interpretation of the chart. She spoke to the goal of Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Aspen Institute who have share a joint goal of having more students from lower and moderate-income families attend top colleges and universities. Requirement for inclusion in the ATI cohort was a minimum of a 70% six-year graduation rate. She noted that there were 30 institutions who were included in 2016, now there are 123 institutions, and the goal of ATI institutions is to admit an additional 50,000 students into the ATI collective of universities by 2025 with hopes of moving them through. She further noted that for example if each ATI member institute admitted 40 under-represented students through a transfer pathway each year, they would meet their goal. Vice President Marks noted that the University was invited to join the ATI cohort in 2019, and spoke to the differences between the University from the other institutions in the ATI cohort. She further noted that the ATI cohort university presidents gather each year to discuss best practices in the commitment to access to higher education, and different pathways for to serving underrepresented students. Vice President Marks spoke to the benefits for the University in this ATI membership and the access we will have to best practices and information to better serve our student. She noted her expectation is that the University will be a wealth of information to the ATI cohort as we serve a large population of underrepresented students.

Rector Davis thanked Vice President Marks and opened the floor for questions. Visitor Rice shared his interpretation of the chart. Discussion ensued.

Rector Davis recognized Vice Rector Hazel who provided Interim President Holton with a recommendation to invite students conducting undergraduate research. Interim President Holton thanked Vice Rector Hazel for his suggestion and noted that in the fall she mentored an Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research (OSCAR) student. She further noted that the undergraduate students would be displaying their work at a research forum tomorrow afternoon, and invited the Board to attend.

V. Provost's Report

Rector Davis recognized Provost Wu to provide the Provost's report.

Provost Wu spoke to beginning the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reaffirmation process this month. He noted that the University is up for reaffirmation in 2022. Provost Wu spoke to three main priorities that they were tasked by the Board to focus on including the tech talent initiative. He noted that the University has received a commitment from the Commonwealth including \$235 million to increase both undergraduate and graduate student graduation rates in tech talent. Provost Wu shared a related key academic initiative in relation to the tech talent initiative, the establishment of the School of Computing. He noted the recommendation of the working group was to structure the School of Computing and the School of Engineering beneath a "Volgenau College of Engineering and Computing", subsequently elevating the current Volgenau School of Engineering to a college. He further noted an important element of the School of Computing as being multidisciplinary. Provost Wu noted a few programs under the multidisciplinary computing portfolio at the University to include data science, game design, and digital humanities. He spoke to the administrative structure and faculty from across the University will be affiliated with the School of Computing. He further noted that this will be the first school in Virginia to focus on computing. Provost Wu spoke to the University's obligation to deliver on the Commonwealth Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) a specific annual target of additional bachelors and masters degree production. He noted that the School of Computing as being the primary engine for degree production. Provost Wu noted from a financial

management standpoint, the Commonwealth appropriation for the tech talent initiative will partially flow into the School of Computing to support operations and faculty. He further spoke to the administrative structure as outlined in his presentation. Provost Wu spoke to the School of Computing launch, and further noted that the next step was to receive campus-wide input on the draft report submitted by the working group. He noted that the University was on track to successfully launch the School of Computing by Fall 2020.

Rector Davis opened the floor for discussion. Vice Rector Hazel noted that he liked the timeline for the launch, and thanked Provost Wu. Visitor Kazmi added his support, and noted the importance of the separation of computing from engineering. Rector Davis thanked Provost Wu.

VI. New Business

A. Exclusion Resolution (**ACTION ITEM**) - Melissa Perez

Rector Davis recognized Melissa Perez from the office of Research, Development, Integrity, and Assurance, to present the Exclusion Resolution.

Ms. Perez explained that the university holds a facility security clearance which enables the university to perform work on classified contracts. She noted that in order to hold a facility clearance, certain positions at the university must be granted personnel security clearances, or be excluded from this requirement. She also noted that the Senior Management official is one of the positions that must hold a clearance. Ms. Perez added that during the presidential search, Deborah Crawford, Vice President for Research, is the University's designated senior management official, and Vice President Crawford currently holds the required clearance. Ms. Perez spoke to her discussion with the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) representative for the University regarding a potential clearance for Interim President Holton. She noted that the representative advised that the University should not pursue a clearance for Interim President Holton. Ms. Perez explained that the reasoning was that as acting president, Interim President Holton is serving in a short-term capacity, and not seeking a permanent position; combined with the current backlog of security clearance cases, it was highly unlikely that Interim President Holton's clearance application would complete the adjudication process before a new President was selected. Ms. Perez noted that based on the advisement from the University's DCSA representative, the presented Exclusion Resolution excludes Interim President Holton from the requirement to obtain and maintain a security clearance, and further excludes her from accessing any classified information received by the University. Rector Davis thanked Ms. Perez, and asked if there was a monetary cost to the University for obtaining a security clearance. Ms. Perez replied that there was no cost to the University.

It was **MOVED** by Vice Rector Hazel and **SECONDED** by Visitor Moreno to approve the Exclusion Resolution as presented in the Board materials.

Visitor Moreno asked if there were routine or future decisions to be made on behalf of the University that Interim President Holton's would be excluded from. Ms. Perez responded that decision making could still occur provided there was no transfer of classified information. Visitor Moreno spoke to decisions Interim President Holton would need to make which may require reviewing classified information, and if there was a materiality issue. Interim President Holton responded, and noted that she has had discussions with senior management regarding classified work without needing to know the specific classified information. She also noted that in her time as Interim President, she has not experienced a real limitation in the performance of her duties by not having access to classified information. She further noted that she is not aware of any projects, or anything in the foreseeable future that would make the exclusion an issue. Interim President Holton thanked Visitor Moreno for her question. Rector Davis opened the floor for further discussion. There was none.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

(Attachment 2: Exclusion Resolution on Classified Information Access for A. Holton)

B. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Reaffirmation - Janette Muir and Matt Smith

Rector Davis recognized Janette Muir, Associate Provost for Academic Initiatives, and Matt Smith, Director of Accreditation to present on the Board requirements related to the SACSCOC Reaffirmation.

Associate Provost Muir spoke to the importance of the SACSCOC reaffirmation in terms of student success and the reputation of the University. She noted that reaffirmation takes place every 10 years and was a time of reflection. She also noted that the University's reaffirmation process has officially launched, and further that there was much to accomplish. Associate Provost Muir then turned the time over to Matt Smith, Director of Accreditation.

Mr. Smith thanked the Board and spoke to the self-study component required for reaffirmation by SACSCOC. He noted that the University was also preparing a student quality enhancement plan, which is a five-year initiative to enhance student learning, and student success. Mr. Smith also noted that the University has selected dates for reaffirmation, which will take place either the first or second week of April 2022. He spoke to the nine standards directly related to the operations of the governing Board. He addressed two standards not sufficiently addressed in the Board of Visitors (BOV) Bylaws, which are related to Board Member dismissal, and Board self-evaluation. Mr. Smith referred to the proposed action timeline in his presentation, and noted that during this December meeting he would provide considerations, and more information regarding the two standards discussed. He further noted that he would end his presentation with a request to engage with the Board to develop a path forward. Mr. Smith spoke to the timeline, and noted draft text would be provided by the February 2020 meeting for amending the Board Bylaws. He further noted the Board self-assessment provided on the proposed timeline for July 2020.

Mr. Smith provided more details regarding Standard 4.2.e, "The governing board has appropriate and fair processes for the dismissal of a board member." He noted that guidance provided by the SACS President was to adopt guidance provided by the Association of Governing Boards (AGB). He also noted peer institutions in Virginia, which typically adopt the exact language provided in Virginia Code 23.1-1304. He spoke to Standard 4.2.g, "The governing board defines and regularly evaluates its responsibilities and expectation." Mr. Smith noted that the current BOV Bylaws clearly defines their expectations, however there is no requirement for regular self-evaluation. He further noted the recommendation of the SACSCOC President to adopt policies of the Commonwealth. Mr. Smith spoke to the policy adopted by peer institutions, who have adopted language on specifying the frequency of evaluation and how the evaluation process is determined.

Mr. Smith requested of Rector Davis the best way to engage with the Board to determine new language for the Bylaws, the best path forward, and to involve the Board in this process. Rector Davis informed Mr. Smith that he has appointed Visitors Moss and Reagan to work with him on the Board standards. Rector Davis directed Mr. Smith to work with Visitors Moss and Reagan and to report back to the full Board. Mr. Smith asked for any questions. There were none.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Finance and Land Use Committee (ACTION ITEMS)

Rector Davis noted that he would start with the Finance and Land Use Committee.

Visitor Roth reported that the committee was briefed on the following: FY 2019 unaudited

financial statements, FY 2020 Q1 financial report and forecast, FY 2021 financial outlook, “Tier 3” history, key benefits and challenges, the amended Capital Lease with the George Mason University Foundation (GMUF) and the retirement plan investment policy review.

1. Resolution to Proceed to Tier III

Visitor Roth noted the committee voted that the Board of Visitors approve the University’s request to enter into negotiations for additional delegated authority under the Commonwealth’s Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act of 2005. The University requested authority to negotiate a management agreement “Tier 3” or “Level 3” Authority. The Code of Virginia (Code of VA: §23.1-1004. B.2) requires at least an absolute two-thirds vote in affirmation of the resolution in support of the request for restructured operational authority under a management agreement by the Board.

It was **MOVED** by Visitor Roth to approve the Resolution to Proceed to Tier III and **SECONDED** by Vice Rector Hazel. Rector Davis added his comments on the operational freedom provided in moving to Tier III.

Roll call was taken, all 14 members present responded affirmatively.

Visitor Roth thanked the Board, and thanked all those involved who worked to get the University to get this stage.

(Attachment 3: Resolution to Proceed to Tier III)

(Attachment 4: Vote on Resolution to Proceed to Tier III)

2. Capital Lease Resolution
3. PPEA Solicitation

Visitor Roth presented two additional action items voted on by the Finance and Land Use Committee. She spoke to the Capital Lease Resolution and noted that the committee voted that the Board approve the Amendment of the Capital Lease as presented in the Board materials.

Visitor Roth also spoke to the PPEA Solicitation, and noted that the committee voted that the Board approve use of the Public Private Education and infrastructure ACT (PPEA) to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a real estate development partner for the Institute for Digital InnovAtion (IDIA) at the Arlington Campus.

It was **MOVED** by Visitor Roth to approve the Capital Lease Resolution and the PPEA Solicitation in block as provided in the Board materials, and **SECONDED** by Visitor Reagan. Rector Davis opened the floor for discussion. There was none.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

Rector Davis added that he tasked Board liaisons to oversee the Arlington campus initiatives. He noted that Visitor Roth had agreed to serve, and added that another Board member was needed. Rector Davis noted Visitor Iturregui’s interest, and asked if he would be the second Board liaison. Visitor Iturregui agreed. Rector Davis thanked Visitors Iturregui and Roth.

(Attachment 5: Capital Lease Resolution: Amendment – GMUF & PW Housing LLC)

B. Development Committee

Rector Davis recognized Vice Rector Hazel to provide the Development committee report.

Vice Rector Hazel reported that the state of the George Mason University Foundation (GMUF) is

strong. He spoke to the pipeline of new Trustees, 18 have been nominated and they expect to onboard four to six new members. He noted that the Foundation has launched a new website gmuf.org, he and encouraged the Board members to visit the site. Vice Rector Hazel shared that for the first time, GMUF would host a meeting of the Virginia Higher Education Foundation next year. He noted the average returns on the Foundation investment portfolio was at 2.8%, they had exceeded their goal of 2.7%, and further noted a clean audit report. Vice Rector Hazel spoke to the support for the tech talent initiative in Arlington, and the approval by the Foundation of a \$10.5 million gift to help the University meet its obligation to the Commonwealth. He spoke to the post campaign update by Marts and Lundy, he noted that in the \$600.1 million campaign, 88% of the gifts received were donations under \$1,000, and nine gifts were over \$10 million. Vice Rector Hazel noted that as part of their post-campaign study, Marts and Lundy has identified a pool of potential donors for the University with a wealth capacity of \$8 billion. He spoke to fundraising efforts for the Arlington Innovation District Development project, and noted that Robert Bull, President of the Compass Group has been hired as a consultant and would help campaign efforts for this project. Vice Rector Hazel spoke to feedback from the consultant as positive. Rector Davis thanked Vice Rector Hazel for his report.

C. Academic Programs, Diversity and University Community Committee (ACTION ITEMS)

Rector Davis recognized Visitor Witeck to provide the Academic Programs, Diversity and University Community Committee (APDUC) report.

Visitor Witeck reported that much of what was discussed during the APDUC committee was also discussed during the full board. He spoke to a presentation by Provost Wu regarding student initiatives, and an updated on the School of Computing. Visitor Witeck shared that Kim Eby, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development, presented on faculty excellence, and the programs and services in the works to retain and recruit world-class faculty. He noted that the committee also received a SACSCOS reaffirmation presentation from Matt Smith and Janette Muir.

It was **MOVED** by Visitor Witeck and **SECONDED** by Visitor Reagan to approve all Action Items in block as presented in the Board materials, and he briefly noted them. Those Action Items were:

1. New Program Approvals
 - a. MS, Learning Design Technology
 - b. BS, Nutrition
 - c. PhD, Mechanical Engineering
 - d. MS, Kinesiology
 - e. PhD, Kinesiology
2. Program Closures
 - a. MA, History of Decorative Arts
 - b. MS, Management of Secure Information Systems
3. Program Modification
 - a. MEd, Guidance and Counseling to MEd, Counseling
 - b. MS, Computer Forensics to MS, Digital Forensics
4. Faculty Actions
 - a. Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status
 - b. Elections of New Tenured Hires
5. Sci-Tech Campus Renaming Resolution

Rector Davis opened the floor for discussion. There was none.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

Rector Davis thanked Visitor Witeck.

D. Audit Committee

Rector Davis recognized Visitor Rice to provide the Audit Committee report.

Visitor Rice reported that the Audit committee met with representatives from the Auditor of Public Accounts and discussed the initiation of their annual audit of the University's financial statements, he further noted that they expect to complete their work by April 2020. He shared that the committee received a status update on management's work on recommendations for institutional compliance oversight, and integrating those responsibilities with enterprise risk management and University Audit. He further spoke to consultant recommendations and proposals for changes. Visitor Rice shared the committee was briefed on the status of a regulatory audit by the US Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) regarding the University's compliance with laws and regulations regarding non-discrimination. He noted that the audit has been underway since September 2018 and covers the employment process, including sourcing, hiring, promoting, laying off, firing and compensation. Visitor Rice spoke to an update regarding the University's research compliance programs, including financial management, managing outside interests, controlled research, potential misconduct, human and animal subjects, export controls among others. He noted that as the University's research portfolio grows, work will continue to grow as programs evolve. Visitor Rice shared that the committee reviewed the report on the approval of contractual conflict of interest waivers provided by the University Ethics Officer, and the audit status report in the Board materials. Visitor Rice noted that the Audit Committee wished all a Happy Holidays.

Rector Davis thanked Visitor Rice for his report, and opened the floor for discussion. There was none.

E. Research Committee

Rector Davis recognized Secretary Blackman to provide the Research Committee report.

Secretary Blackman reported that the sponsored project expenditures continue to be on track at 15% over last year's performance, and noted that the University is expected to have a record year in 2020 as well. He spoke to the dollar value of proposals submitted which are up over 3%, and the number of research proposals are up 2%, and further spoke to plateauing of research expenditures on the horizon. Secretary Blackman shared two faculty highlights, he noted that Professor Cynthia Lum was recognized as a recipient of the 2020 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty award, and also noted Associate Professor John Dale from the department of Sociology and Anthropology competed in an international competition to win a nine-month fellowship with the Wilson Center's International Fellowship program. Secretary Blackman spoke to a presentation by Professor Shobita Satyapal from the department of Physics and Astronomy, his team's research discovered the need for infrared and x-ray telescopes to uncover feeding supermassive black holes in colliding galaxies. He further noted that their discovery exhibited that this is more common than originally thought. Secretary Blackman shared that there were no committee follow up items, and the only committee action item was the approval of their minutes. Rector Davis thanked Secretary Blackman for his report.

Rector Davis noted the conclusion of the committee reports.

Rector Davis noted that Visitor Bhuller has agreed to be the second of two BOV Online Education liaisons. He further noted that she and Vice Rector Hazel are the current liaisons working with Vice President Marks.

VIII. Closed Session

It was **MOVED** by Vice Rector Hazel and **SECONDED** by Visitor Witeck that the Board go into Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711. A.7 for consultation with Legal Counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation relating to an update on pending litigation and other legal matters. Section 2.2-3711. A.1 to discuss a personnel matter pertaining to a specific employee. Section 2.2-3711. A.29 to discuss the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds pertaining to the discussion of potential partnership. Section 2.2-3711. A.9 to discuss gifts, bequest, and fundraising activities pertaining to the discussion of gifts in support of the law school. And Section 2.2-3711. A.8 for consultation with Legal Counsel employed or retained by the University regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice, concerning the aforementioned issues.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was **MOVED** by Vice Rector Hazel and **SECONDED** by Visitor Reagan that the Board go back into public session and further moved that by ROLL CALL VOTE that:

1. Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements
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.

Rector Davis opened the floor for discussion. There was none.

Roll call was taken, all present members responded in the affirmative.

Rector Davis clarified that those appointed to the tasks discussed to include the online education initiative, the Arlington campus initiative, and the SACSCOC reaffirmation would do so as liaisons. He noted that they would meet and report back to the Board, and were not serving on a formal sub-committee.

Rector Davis opened the floor for any other business to come before the Board. There was none.

IX. Adjournment

Rector Davis adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Barton
Secretary pro tem

- Attachment 1: Faculty Senate Statement on the Presidential Search Process (3 pages)
Attachment 2: Exclusion Resolution on Classified Information Access for A. Holton) (2 pages)
Attachment 3: Resolution to Proceed to Tier III (2 pages)
Attachment 4: Vote on Resolution to Proceed to Tier III (1 page)
Attachment 5: Capital Lease Resolution: Amendment – GMUF & PW Housing LLC (2 pages)
Attachment 6: Sci-Tech Campus Renaming Resolution (2 pages)

FACULTY SENATE STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS¹

With regard to the process of a search for a University president, the Faculty Handbook (Section 1.2.5) states, “The search and selection process must include opportunities for the General Faculty to meet with candidates who are finalists for the presidency.”

On November 6, 2019, the Faculty Senate passed a motion that calls for “...a public forum for each finalist where s/he is invited to give a presentation to include the General Faculty, as well as students and staff, followed by a question and answer period;” for “faculty, students and staff [to] be invited to submit feedback regarding each finalist to the search committee”; and for “this phase of the search ... [to] be of adequate duration to allow for the search committee’s consideration of such feedback.”²

In line with the Faculty Handbook and with this motion, the Faculty Senate views the following as viable methods for meaningfully engaging faculty input in the search process:

1. Multiple finalists should engage in the process of meeting with faculty.
2. Each finalist should have a live (synchronous) meeting with the faculty – this meeting can be held in person and/or remotely.
3. All faculty who participate in a meeting with a finalist should be given an opportunity to provide feedback to the search committee, which the search committee would then incorporate into their final report and recommendations to the BOV.
4. The meeting would be held in one of the following formats, listed in order of preference³:
 - a. Finalists meet with faculty in a completely open meeting
 - b. Faculty who participate in the meeting sign a ‘code of ethics’ similar to that used by the search committee, which includes a statement about respecting confidentiality of finalists.
 - c. Live meeting is held in some way that hides the identity of the finalist (e.g., in the style of a “chat room”)
5. The meeting would be open to one of the following groups of faculty, listed in order of preference⁴:
 - a. Meeting is open to all general faculty (with option to participate remotely)
 - b. Meeting is open to Faculty Senators only (in line with Section 1.3.1 of the Faculty Handbook that states, “The General Faculty delegates by Charter to the Faculty Senate the responsibility for shared academic governance at the university level.”)
 - c. Meeting is open to a set number of general faculty on a “first-come, first-serve” basis, with no option to participate remotely
6. The meeting will include a presentation to the faculty, followed by a Q&A session that is run in one of the following ways, listed in order of preference⁵:
 - a. Open Q&A session after the presentation, where any faculty can ask questions on a “first-come, first-serve” basis
 - b. Engage in a “question development” process, whereby a set of questions is selected and then asked by faculty representative(s) on the Search Committee (or another appropriate faculty representative)

¹ The motion to endorse this statement was passed by Faculty Senate ballot vote on 12/4/19, 22 – 18.

² See Appendix A for the full motion.

³ Order of preference determined by Faculty Senate ballot vote on 12/4/19. See Appendix B for specific vote tally.

⁴ Order of preference determined by Faculty Senate ballot vote on 12/4/19. See Appendix B for specific vote tally.

⁵ Order of preference determined by Faculty Senate ballot vote on 12/4/19. See Appendix B for specific vote tally.

APPENDIX A
RESOLUTION ON PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS⁶

Whereas, the *George Mason University Faculty Handbook* (provision 1.2.5), states, "The Board of Visitors provides for participation on presidential search committees by faculty who are elected by the General Faculty;"

And, whereas the *George Mason University Faculty Handbook* states, "The search and selection process must include opportunities for the General Faculty to meet with candidates who are finalists for the presidency;"

And, whereas "The *George Mason University Faculty Handbook* defines and describes the conditions of full-time instructional, research, and clinical faculty employment; the structures and processes through which the faculty participates in institutional decision-making and governance;"

Now, therefore be it resolved that the George Mason University Faculty Senate calls for a search process consistent with the requirements of the Faculty Handbook to include a public forum for each finalist where s/he is invited to give a presentation to include the General Faculty as well as students and staff followed by a question and answer period;

And, be it further resolved that faculty, students and staff be invited to submit feedback regarding each finalist to the search committee;

And, be it further resolved that this phase of the search should be of adequate duration to allow for the search committee's consideration of such feedback.

⁶ This motion was passed by Faculty Senate ballot vote on 11/6/19, 29-12.

APPENDIX B
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE – FACULTY MEETING OPTIONS BALLOT
VOTE TALLY

Total Number of Ballots = 39⁷

Majority (50%) = 20

Open/Confidential Meeting:

	Top	2 nd	3 rd	Unacceptable
Meeting is completely open	20	6	6	5
Faculty participants sign code of ethics including maintaining confidentiality of finalists	14	8	3	11
Finalist identity is hidden (e.g., chat room)	4	9	5	19

Meeting Participants:

	Top	2 nd	3 rd	Unacceptable
All general faculty, with remote option to accommodate all who want to attend	23	2	4	7
All general faculty, on “first-come, first-serve” basis, with no remote option	0	14	4	16
Faculty Senators, as representative of general faculty (per FH Section 1.3.1)	13	6	7	11

Style of Q&A:

	Top	2 nd	Unacceptable
Open to faculty participants on “first-come, first-serve” basis	20	10	6
“Question development” process to arrive at set of questions, which are then asked by a faculty representative (e.g., one of the faculty representatives to the Search Committee)	17	10	11

⁷ Not all ballots had rankings for each option.

ITEM NUMBER VI.A:

Exclusion of the interim President from the National Industrial Security Program personnel security clearance requirement.

PURPOSE OF ITEM:

This Action Item is required to avoid the requirement for interim President Anne Holton to obtain a personnel security clearance.

BRIEF NARRATIVE:

Under the provision of the National Industrial Security Program, the senior management official and the Facility Security Officer must always be cleared to the level of the Facility Clearance Level (FCL). The University has a Top Secret FCL which allows researchers to work on classified contracts up to and including the Top Secret level. The Facility Security Officer possesses the required Top Secret clearance. During the time that Ms. Holton is serving as interim president while a search for a new president is conducted, Dr. Deborah Crawford, Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact, has been appointed to the role of senior management official. Dr. Crawford possesses the required Top Secret clearance. Both the President and other officials as determined by the "Cognizant Security Agency" (CSA) must be granted personnel security level clearances or be excluded by formal resolution. Our CSA, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, has determined that President Holton must be effectively excluded from all classified information disclosed to the organization. This exclusion must be made a matter of record by the University's executive body.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Board approval

RESOLUTION ON CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ACCESS

WHEREAS, current Department of Defense Regulations contain a provision making it mandatory that the Senior Management Official and Facility Security Officer meet the eligibility requirements for access to classified information established for a contractor facility clearance; and

WHEREAS, said Department of Defense Regulations permit the exclusion of certain officers from the requirements for access to classified information, provided that this action is recorded in the corporate minutes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT DECLARED that Dr. Deborah Crawford, Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact, has been appointed as Senior Management Official while the search is conducted for a new president. Dr. Crawford and the Facility Security Officer possess the required eligibility for access to classified information; and

BE IT RESOLVED that, when a new president is selected that individual, if they do not already possess such, shall immediately apply for the required eligibility for access to classified information; and

BE IT RESOLVED AND DIRECTED that Interim President Anne Holton shall not require, shall not have, and can be effectively and formally excluded from access to all **CLASSIFIED** information disclosed to the University and shall not affect adversely University policies or practices in the performance of classified contracts for the Department of Defense or the Government contracting activities (User Agencies) of the National Industrial Security Program.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of George Mason University, this day of 12 December 2019



Horace L. Blackman – Secretary
Board of Visitors
George Mason University

ITEM NUMBER IV.A.:

**RESOLUTION FOR BOARD OF VISITORS TO
 AUTHORIZE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TO ENTER
 INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOVERNOR AND
 APPROPRIATE CABINET SECRETARIES TO
 DEVELOP A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT
 UNDER THE RESTRUCTURED HIGHER
 EDUCATION FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
 OPERATIONS ACT (ACTION)**

PURPOSE OF ITEM:

Mason is requesting to enter negotiations for additional delegated authority under the Commonwealth's Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act of 2005 ("the Act").

APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE: FINANCE AND LAND USE

BRIEF NARRATIVE:

The Act affords Virginia institutions of higher education the opportunity to operate at varying levels of authority.

In 2005 Mason was granted delegated authority regarding surplus property, leasing and easements ("Tier 1" or "Level 1"). In 2009, Mason was granted delegated operational authority in the areas of Procurement and Information Technology ("Tier 2" or "Level 2"). In 2016, pursuant to a five-year pilot program, Mason was granted additional delegated authority for capital projects and certain financial operations ("Tier 2.5" or "Level 2.5"). This authority is currently scheduled to terminate on June 30, 2021.

In order to preserve its delegated authority under Tier 2 and 2.5 and to obtain increased delegated authority, Mason is requesting authority to negotiate a management agreement ("Tier 3" or "Level 3" authority).

In October 2019, Mason obtained an issuer credit rating from Moody's of Aa3, fulfilling a Tier 3 prerequisite.

The Code of Virginia requires a Resolution be passed by the Board of Visitors ("Board") showing an absolute two-thirds of the Board support Mason's request for restructured operational authority under a management agreement. The Resolution also authorizes the President and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance to enter into negotiations with the Governor and appropriate Cabinet Secretaries to develop a management agreement with the Commonwealth as provided for in the

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
TO AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATION WITH THE GOVERNOR TO DEVELOP A
MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT UNDER THE RESTRUCTURED HIGHER
EDUCATION FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS ACT OF 2005**

WHEREAS, the 2005 Session of the General Assembly enacted Chapters 933 and 945, Acts of Assembly, known as the Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act (the "Act") now codified at Chapter 10 of Title 23.1, Sections 23.1-1000, et seq. of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2005, the Board of Visitors passed a resolution that committed George Mason University (the "University") to meeting the goals of the Act as set forth in former Virginia Code § 23-38.88.B (now recodified as § 23.1-1002(A)); and

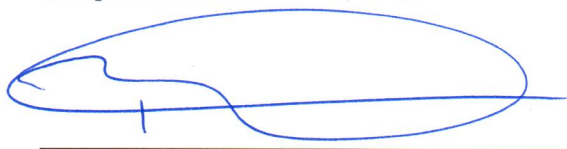
WHEREAS, the Act includes Article 4 (Virginia Code §§ 23.1-1004 et seq.) entitled "Restructured Financial and Administrative Authority; Covered Institutions; Management Agreements," which sets out the requirements for a public university or college of the Commonwealth to gain the greatest degree of authority over financial and administrative operations, subject to certain accountability, audit and reporting measures specified by the General Assembly of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Board of Visitors that the University is qualified to be, and should be, governed by the authorizations and requirements set forth in Article 4 of the Act and as may otherwise be prescribed by applicable law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RECTOR AND VISITORS OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, that the Board of Visitors hereby attests to the ability of the University to manage successfully its administrative and financial operations without jeopardizing its financial integrity and stability; and accordingly authorizes the President of the University to submit to the Governor a written request for the University to be governed by Article 4 of the Act, providing a copy of such written request to the Chairpersons of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Senate Committee on Education and Health. The University's request shall be supported by the documentation called for by 23.1-1004 and 23.1-1005 of the Virginia Code, including documenting the University's expertise and resources to perform successfully its public educational mission and setting forth its performance and accountability standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance are authorized to enter into negotiations with the Governor and appropriate Cabinet Secretaries to develop a management agreement with the Commonwealth as provided for in the Act that will grant the greatest degree of financial and managerial autonomy to the University as provided in Article 4, which management agreement shall be submitted to the Board of Visitors for its review and approval.

Adopted: December 12, 2019




Horace L. Blackman – Secretary
Board of Visitors

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS**

Vote on Resolution to Proceed to Tier III

Meeting Date: December 12, 2019

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT/YES</u>	<u>ABSENT/NO</u>
Bhuller, Simmi	X	
Blackman, Horace	X	
Chimaladinne, Anjan	X	
Davis, Thomas	X	
Hazel, James	X	
Iturregui, Juan Carlos	X	
Kazmi, Mehmood	X	
Marquez, Wendy		Absent
Moreno, Ignacia	X	
Moss, Carolyn	X	
Prowitt, Nancy		Absent
Reagan, Paul	X	
Rice, Edward	X	
Roth, Denise, Turner	X	
Witeck, Robert	X	
Zuccari, Lisa	X	


 Leslie Barton
 Secretary pro tem

December 12, 2019
 Date

ITEM NUMBER IV.B.:**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN
AMENDMENT OF CAPITAL LEASE WITH
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION ("GMUF") PRINCE WILLIAM
HOUSING LLC (ACTION)****PURPOSE OF ITEM:**

GMUF is completing a taxable, fixed rate, refunding of their 2011A tax-exempt and 2011B taxable Prince William County Industrial Development Authority Revenue Bonds (GMUF Prince William Housing LLC Project). GMUF and GMU will be entering into an amended capital lease due to the refunding of the bonds on Beacon Hall, a housing and retail building on Science and Technology campus.

APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE: FINANCE AND LAND USE

BRIEF NARRATIVE:

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires a Resolution be passed by the participating institution's governing body and approval by the Treasury Board prior to the University entering into a capital lease. This capital lease amendment will be executed in conjunction with GMUF's refunding. GMUF's new financing is anticipated to close on or before March 31, 2020. This advance refunding is being executed in order to reduce the University's annual lease payment obligation.

This required resolution will allow the University to enter into an amended capital lease with GMUF Prince William Housing LLC and authorize the President and/or Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance to approve, execute, and deliver all related documents necessary for the University to enter into an amended capital lease with GMUF for this bond refunding.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends BOV approval of this resolution.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
TO APPROVE AMENDMENT OF CAPITAL LEASE FOR
STUDENT HOUSING BUILDING IN PRINCE WILLIAM**

WHEREAS, the Industrial Development Authority of the County of Prince William issued its Tax-Exempt Student Housing Revenue Bonds (George Mason University Foundation Prince William Housing LLC Project) Series 2011A (the "Series 2011A Bonds") in the original aggregate principal amount of \$14,640,000 and its Taxable Student Housing Revenue Bonds (George Mason University Foundation Prince William Housing LLC Project) Series 2011B (the "Series 2011B Bonds" and, together with the Series 2011A Bonds, the "Series 2011 Bonds") in the aggregate principal amount of \$985,000 for the benefit of George Mason University Foundation Prince William Housing LLC (the "LLC") in connection with the acquisition, construction and equipping of a student residence hall consisting of approximately 152 beds and common/support spaces, in approximately 80,858 total square feet of space, plus associated parking, approximately 10,000 square feet of university program space and approximately 15,000 square feet of unimproved shell space (collectively, the "Facilities"), all with respect to a building owned by the LLC and located across George Mason Circle from the Hylton Performing Arts Center at the western edge of the Prince William Campus of George Mason University (the "University"); and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Series 2011 Bonds, the University entered into a capital lease (the "Lease") between the LLC, as lessor, and the University, as lessee, with respect to certain premises, including the Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the LLC has determined to refinance its debt incurred in connection with the issuance of the Series 2011 Bonds (the "Refinancing"), which debt is secured, in part, by an assignment of the rent payments made by the University pursuant to the Lease;

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the Refinancing, the University wishes to enter into an amendment of the Lease (the "Amendment") to adjust the rent payments thereunder and update certain provisions thereof; and

WHEREAS, the proposed terms of the Amendment have been presented to the Board of Visitors of the University (the "Board").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY THAT:

1. The Board hereby authorizes the University to enter into the Amendment consistent with the terms presented to the Board.
2. The President and the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, either of whom may act alone, are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Amendment and all related certificates and instruments and to take all such further action as may be considered necessary or desirable in connection with the Refinancing.
3. The resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: December 12, 2019



Horace L. Blackman – Secretary
Board of Visitors

ITEM NUMBER VI.B.a. :**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY OFF-SITE
CAMPUS NAMING****PURPOSE OF ITEM:**

An organizational change proposal to name George Mason University's off-site campus in Prince William County "George Mason University Science and Technology Campus" has been prepared for the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). Prior to SCHEV submission, Board action is required.

BRIEF NARRATIVE:

George Mason University's campus in Prince William County was established in 1997 with the opening of its first academic building. The campus was established on 120 acres of land donated to George Mason University for the purpose of establishing a new campus located within the Prince William County Innovation Park, dedicated to be the home of research and technology companies. On March 26, 2015, a resolution was approved by the Board of Visitors to name the campus in Prince William County the "George Mason University Science and Technology Campus."

A proposal for the organizational name change was not submitted to SCHEV subsequent to the Board's approval. SCHEV's requirement that Board of Visitors' approval be awarded within two years of SCHEV submission has expired. New approval by the Board of Visitors for the naming is required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Board approval.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF VISITORS OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

Whereas, Prince William County Economic Development promotes the County as the place "Where Technologies Converge," and

Whereas, Prince William County is home to 8,000 businesses and is the location of choice for life sciences companies and forensic research facilities, such as American Type Culture Collection, Coming Life Sciences, Logistech, Virginia Forensics Laboratory, FBI Northern Virginia Resident Agency and Ceres Nanosciences, and

Whereas, the City of Manassas created a "Technology Zone" as part of its economic development strategy, and

Whereas, the City of Manassas is the location of technologically innovative companies such as Lockheed Martin, BAE Systems, Micron Technology and Aurora Flight Sciences, and

Whereas, George Mason University's campus and the Prince William County Technology site – Innovation Park – are both conveniently located off Prince William Parkway with ready access to Interstate 66, State Route 28, and the Manassas Regional Airport, and

Whereas, the campus is a 134-acre comprehensive academic facility that hosts a breadth of disciplines and community activities, and

Whereas, the campus includes many of the University's highly recognized scientific and technological research initiatives, such as the Institute for Advanced Biomedical Research, the Center for Applied Proteomics and Molecular Medicine, and the National Center for Biodefense and Infectious Diseases, and

Whereas, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors donated 120 acres for the establishment of this campus to serve as an academic and research institution to support their economic development initiatives and serve as the anchor institution for northern Virginia's largest technology business site, Innovation Park, and

Whereas, the campus is home to the Governor's School @ Innovation Park, with focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and

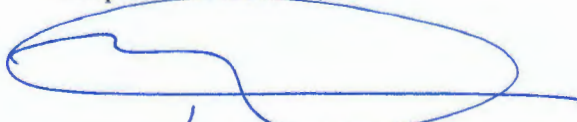
Whereas, the university plans to grow the program offerings and research initiatives in various science and technology disciplines in this campus, and

Whereas, the identification of this campus with scientific and technological academic endeavors, and the development of related businesses and organizations adjacent to the campus, will enhance the reputation of the University and contribute to the economic vitality of Prince William County and the City of Manassas, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the campus in Prince William County is hereby officially designated as the "George Mason University Science and Technology Campus."

Adopted: December 12, 2019



Horace L. Blackman - Secretary
Board of Visitors

Dec. 12, 2019

Date