

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

**Meeting of
Thursday, November 30, 2023
Merten Hall, Hazel Conference Room (1201)**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Vice Rector Jon Peterson, Secretary Michael Meese and Visitor Reginald Brown.

ABSENT: Rector Horace Blackman and Visitor Marquez.

ALSO, PRESENT: Visitors James Hazel and Robert Pence; Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Faculty Representative; Will Gautney, Staff Liaison; Paul Wyche, Undergraduate Student Representative; Vikas Velagapudi, Graduate Student Representative; Gregory Washington, President; Ken Walsh, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President; Deb Dickenson, Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance; Anne Gentry, University Counsel; and Sarah Hanbury, Secretary pro tem.

I. Call to Order

Vice Rector Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and relayed that Rector Blackman directed him to serve in his place for this meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2023 (**ACTION ITEM**)

Vice Rector Peterson called for a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2023. Visitor Brown **MOVED** the motion. The motion was **SECONDED** by Secretary Meese. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Yes – 3

Absent – 2 – Rector Blackman & Visitor Marquez.

III. Rector's Comments

Vice Rector Peterson reminded those in attendance of the renaming celebration that evening for the Donald G. Costello School of Business.

IV. President's Comments

Dr. Washington reserved his comments for the full board meeting.

V. Closed Session

- A. Honorary Degrees and Special Awards (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.11)
- B. Public Contract (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.29)
- C. Consultation with Legal Counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.7)
- D. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.8)

Vice Rector Peterson relayed that the committee did not need to go into closed session and would do so during the full board meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Vice Rector Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:03 a.m.

Prepared by:

Sarah Hanbury
Secretary pro tem

**BOARD OF VISITORS
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

**Meeting of
Thursday, November 30, 2023
Merten Hall, Hazel Conference Room (1201)**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Vice Rector Jon Peterson, Secretary Michael Meese, Visitors Reginald Brown, Lindsey Burke, Anjan Chimaladinne, Dorothy Gray, James Hazel, Wendy Marquez, Robert Pence, Nancy Prowitt, Jeffrey Rosen, Charles Stimson and Robert Witeck.

PRESENT VIRTUALLY: Rector Horace Blackman and Visitor Armand Alabay.

ABSENT: Visitor Dolly Oberoi.

ALSO, PRESENT: Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Faculty Representative; Will Gautney, Staff Liaison; Paul Wyche, Undergraduate Student Representative, Vikas Velagapudi, Graduate Student Representative; Gregory Washington, President; Ken Walsh, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President; Deb Dickenson, Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance; Anne Gentry, University Counsel; Sharnnia Artis, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer; Rose Pascarell, Vice President of University Life and Sarah Hanbury, Secretary pro tem.

I. Call to Order

Vice Rector Peterson called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m.

Vice Rector Peterson informed the Board that Rector Blackman requested to participate remotely due to a personal matter and directed the Vice Rector to serve in his place for this meeting. In accordance with the Electronic Meeting Policy, Vice Rector Peterson approved Rector Blackman's remote participation request due to his need to be in Norway for a personal matter related to his work.

Vice Rector Peterson relayed that Visitor Alabay also requested to participate remotely. Because of Visitor Alabay's need to remain at home, due to a medical condition, Vice Rector Peterson approved his remote participation request in accordance with the Electronic Meeting Policy.

Vice Rector Peterson noted that when members of the board participate remotely voting is accomplished by roll call.

Vice Rector Peterson stated that the board is accepting public comments at this session and that registration for making oral comments was open until 9:30 a.m. on Monday, November 27 through the form on the Board of Visitors website. Three (3) registrations for oral comments were received. No written comments were received. In addition, written comments will be accepted on the same form until the full board meeting adjourns.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Full Board Meeting Minutes on September 28, 2023 (ACTION ITEM)

Vice Rector Peterson called for any corrections to the minutes for September 28, 2023 that were provided for review in the board meeting materials. Hearing no corrections, Vice Rector Peterson **MOVED** to approve the minutes. The motion was **SECONDED** by Secretary Meese. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**
Yes – 14

Absent – 2 – Visitors Chimaladinne & Oberoi.

III. Rector's Report

Vice Rector Peterson reported the following items:

- Each Board member is required to file an annual financial disclosure through the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council portal. The filing period to submit the financial disclosure through the portal is January 1 through February 1, 2024, covering the reporting cycle of January 1 through December 31, 2023.
 - Vice Rector Peterson gave Visitor Gray the floor who disclosed that her spouse, Judge Douglas Ginsburg, is a faculty member of the Antonin Scalia Law School. Visitor Gray relayed that if there are any specific board actions that pertain to her husband, she will recuse herself. Visitor Gray informed the board that she has contacted the Virginia's Conflict of Interest Office, who advised her that she may vote on any proposal involving three or more individuals at the law school or the law school as an institution.
- The Business School Renaming Celebration is this evening and is located in Dewberry Lobby and Hall of the Johnson Center on the Fairfax Campus.
- The Mathy House Holiday reception, hosted by the Washingtons, is Friday, December 8, 2023.
- Winter Commencement is Thursday, December 14, 2023, at EagleBank Arena and the ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m.
- The Vice Rector concluded the report by addressing the topic of SCHEV Orientation attendance. He relayed that in accordance with the Virginia Code, new Board members are required to attend a SCHEV Orientation during the first two years of their service. If they are unable to comply, the matter is to be brought to the full Board. Visitor Brown was unavailable to attend the orientation last year and was deterred this year due to a work conflict. Vice Rector Peterson recommended that the Board find sufficient cause for Visitor Brown missing the November 2023 orientation with the understanding that he commits to attend the orientation in Fall 2024. Visitor Brown confirmed this to be the case.

A. SCHEV Orientation Attendance (ACTION ITEM)

Visitor Witeck **MOVED** that the board finds sufficient cause for Visitor Brown to attend SCHEV's Orientation next year. The motion was **SECONDED** by Secretary Meese. Vice Rector Peterson opened the floor for discussion. There was none. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Yes – 13

Abstain – 1 – Visitor Brown

Absent – 2 – Visitors Chimaladinne & Oberoi.

This concluded the Rector's Report.

IV. President's Report

A. University Update

Dr. Washington provided the following highlights:

- Transformation from Good to Great:
 - July 1, 2020:
 - Campus was shut down.
 - Faculty and staff morale was primarily due to compensation.
 - Rankings were stagnant.
 - The vision for the future was unclear due to the pandemic.
 - November 30, 2023:
 - Best management of any Virginia campus relative to COVID-19.
 - Best rankings performance in the history of the university.
 - Launched Mason's first billion-dollar comprehensive campaign.
 - Mason won three (3) Atlantic 10 Conference championships.
 - All of this was accomplished in a short timeframe.

- 2023-2024 Presidential Performance Metrics:
 - Summarized that meeting of his goals is going well. Nine of the 12 goals have been met or know they will be and three have not. Refer to the meeting materials graphic for specifics.
- 2023 GMU Fact Pack:
 - Dr. Washington met with Governor Youngkin the day prior in which they discussed Mason's Fact Pack. The Governor commissioned external consultants to review all Virginia public institutions over a 10 to 12-year period to determine how well or not they are doing.
 - This process has concluded and the data that was published earlier this month has been provided to the board.
 - Dr. Washington highlighted some of the Fact Pack data:
 - Mason has stable and growing enrollment.
 - Mason is cost-efficient.
 - Student debt is decreasing. The net annual borrowing per student is also down.
 - Mason is very efficient.
- FY 2025 E&G Recommendations:
 - The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) completed a study to determine if there are funding disparities. The study reviewed data in four different ways:
 - Compared to Carnegie Tier One Universities.
 - Compared to two sets of SCHEV peers.
 - The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), a separate organization from SCHEV, looked at comparisons of institutions.
 - For there to be a funding disparity, an institution has to be in the bottom 30 percent in at least two of the above categories. Mason was in the bottom 30 percent in all four categories.
- Challenges:
 - The costs associated with being in a high-cost region are a challenge that is being managed through cost reductions.
 - Race, immigration, abortion, freedom of speech, the Israel-Hamas War, China, and climate change have become significantly polarizing issues. Institutions of higher education have a crucial role to play in engaging with these complex issues.
 - Dr. Washington has met with students, faculty, staff, community members and community leaders on both sides of the Israel-Hamas war. This issue has taken the bulk of his time since October 7, 2023.
 - Dr. Washington added that he sent Attorney General Miyares a letter requesting clarification of the state's expectations and recommendations to address threatening language specific to the First Amendment.
- Continued Plan for Success – FY 2024:
 - Engage Everyone
 - Manage Cost Uncertainty:
 - Obtain Retirement Incentive Plan approval.
 - Partner or Perish
 - Potential for a cricket partnership.
 - Establishing a new chief risk officer by repurposing an existing emergency management position.
 - On-going Provost search:
 - Preparation:
 - Interim Provost Walsh appointed.
 - Announced the search committee which Dr. Melissa Broeckelman-Post is the chair of as the Faculty Senate President.
 - Planning:
 - A search firm has been identified.
 - Listening sessions were held and a survey was conducted.
 - Ads placed.

- Evaluation:
 - Moving toward this stage of the search.
- Selection:
 - Is in the final stage and anticipated spring 2024.

B. Cricket Overview (Ken Walsh & Sanjay Govil)

Dr. Ken Walsh, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President provided the following cricket overview:

- The thought behind a cricket partnership is to provide Mason an avenue to develop a state-of-the-art baseball facility as the West Campus facilities have reached the end of their useful life.
- Mason's baseball team has become a competitive asset. From a recruiting standpoint, the field on which they currently compete has become a problem.
- While discussions about improving the West Campus facility have been ongoing for a lengthy period of time, the Cricket World Cup being hosted in the U.S. and Caribbean in the summer of 2024 has recently jumpstarted further conversations on this topic.
- The Washington Freedom has been given the opportunity to potentially host some friendlies, leading up to the Cricket World Cup.
- The Washington Freedom contacted Mason to inquire if there was a way to repurpose grounds on campus to support cricket which would jumpstart the conversation about improving the baseball facilities and become the first element of the redevelopment of West Campus.
- Dr. Walsh then introduced Sanjay Govil, to provide background on cricket and the Washington Freedom. Mr. Govil provided the following information:
 - Cricket has a long history in the U.S. The first international cricket match was held between the U.S. and Canada in 1844.
 - Mr. Govil's background:
 - Owner, Washington Freedom
 - Founder and Chairman of Infinite, a global technology company with about 17,000 employees. The intent is for the Washington Freedom and Infinite to have a close relationship with Mason.
 - Founder and Chairman of Zyter, which is value-based care provider with 34 million members on their platform.
 - The Washington Freedom paired up with the New South Wales Cricket team as a high-performance partner. The New South Wales team is based out of Sydney, Australia. They are one of the leading cricket nations in the world and New South Wales is one of the premier clubs in Sydney. They teamed up with them to provide infrastructure, guidance and external logistics assistance.
 - Major League Cricket (MLC) is the first professional T20 league in the U.S:
 - T20 is the format of the game which is fast-paced and three hours long.
 - The league will consist of six (6) teams:
 - Washington Freedom
 - Kolkata Knight Riders
 - Texas Super Kings
 - San Francisco Unicorns
 - Seattle Orcas
 - Mumbai Indians New York
 - The Indian Premier League (IPL) was the first T20 to start in India. Today the IPL has the second-highest TV rankings in the world after the NFL and 60% of Disney subscribers watch the IPL.
 - Approval has to be given from the International Cricket Council (ICC) to start a league. The MLC is recognized by the ICC.

- Cricket will debut in the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles.
- Mission:
 - Elevate the game of cricket in the U.S. and locally.
 - Host MLC games and international cricket matches at Mason.
 - Engage the next generation of youth and cricketers.
 - Provide opportunities for diverse cultural events.
- 2023 Washington Freedom highlight: Was their first season and finished third.
- Why George Mason University:
 - Shared goal of connecting the community.
 - Exceptionally diverse student population.
 - Athletic fields and existing supporting infrastructure for practices, sports medicine, strength and conditioning.
 - Centrally located.
- 2.5 billion people watched the previous ICC T20 World Cup.
- Proposed Pop-up Stadium is a combination of baseball and cricket with minimal environmental disturbance.
- Additional Benefits for the GMU Community:
 - Exclusive tech recruitment program between GMU and Infinite Computer Solutions.
 - Robust paid internship program between GMU Career Services Office and Infinite Computer Solutions.
- Other teams are looking at a similar model of partnering with a university. Mumbai Indians New York are looking at Rutgers and other schools in New Jersey, and the Unicorns are looking at Stanford.

This concluded the cricket overview. Significant discussion ensued, please refer to the video for specifics:
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.

C. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion University Committee Report (Sharnnia Artis & Rose Pascarell)

Rose Pascarell, Vice President of University Life provided the following highlights:

- At the September board meeting, President Washington and Rector Blackman requested that a university committee come together in response to a Heritage Foundation Report that focused on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) that looked at several Virginia public institutions and particularly Mason's DEI staffing and spending.
- The university committee members included faculty, staff, students and BOV leadership. Please refer to the meeting materials for the detailed list.
- Dr. Sharnnia Artis, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presented the committee's DEI staffing study:
 - MicroStrategy, Mason's internal database, was used to search for DEI-related title terms. For comparison, the Heritage Foundation's search criteria were used by searching for positions with DEI-associated terms in the position titles and unit names. This search resulted in 13 DEI positions which is less than the 69 positions identified by the Heritage Foundation.
 - The majority of the positions identified by the Heritage Foundation report were University Life student positions.
 - Staffing Analysis:
 - 12 of the 13 positions were also identified by the Heritage Foundation report one additional position was found in the staffing analysis that had not previously been reported by the Heritage Foundation.
 - Mason's staff number includes Mason personnel who spend 51% or more of their time on DEI-related responsibilities and functions.

- Breakdown of the positions Mason didn't include:
 - 33 student positions.
 - Six (6) faculty members were excluded whose primary job function was research or teaching.
 - Four (4) positions no longer exist.
 - Five (5) positions are vacant.
 - Eight (8) positions were excluded where the primary job function was not related to DEI.
- The analysis uncovered a lean support structure.
- Less than 1% of Mason's \$1.4 billion FY23 operating budget is used for the 13 DEI positions.
- Primary DEI Responsibilities:
 - Office for DEI:
 - Supports students, faculty and staff in partnership with academic and administrative units.
 - Primary responsibilities center around compliance. Some of these areas are Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Forever GI Bill.
 - Access and Accessibility
 - Digital Access through Technology
 - Physical Accessibility
 - Monitors and Assesses Climate
 - Community Partnerships and Outreach
 - Professional Development/Constructive Dialogue Institute in partnership with SCHEV.
 - Center for Culture, Equity and Empowerment (CCEE) presented by Ms. Pascarell:
 - Student Support
 - Freedom of Expression
 - Discussion ensued, please refer to the video for specifics:
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.
- Mason's National Rankings:
 - The success of Mason's DEI programs has gained the university national recognition in social mobility, free speech, and diversity.
- Risk impact presented by Dr. Artis:
 - Impacts of strategic, compliance, and financial risks may culminate into Reputation Risk whereby Mason's reputation and brand suffer due to negative media, public perception, backlash and attention.
 - Significant discussion ensued, please refer to the video for specifics:
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.
- One question survey presented by Ms. Pascarell on the impact of Mason's DEI efforts:
 - Students, faculty, employers and parents of students were polled. Some of the responses were provided via a slide that's included in the meeting materials.
 - An audio clip was also played from a parent of a Mason student. Please refer to the video for specifics: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.

This concluded Dr. Washington's report. Significant discussion ensued regarding DEI; refer to the video for specifics: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.

V. Committee Reports

A. Academic Program, Diversity and University Community Committee

Visitor Burke briefed the board on the topics presented and discussed during the Academic Programs, Diversity and University Community Committee meeting, which included:

- Interim Provost Ken Walsh highlighted key aspects of Mason’s academic progress in the 2022-2023 academic year and highlighted winter graduation plans. Interim Provost Walsh highlighted Mason’s enrollment growth, outpacing other Virginia universities, with the College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) leading the surge. Freshman applications for fall 2024 have significantly increased from fall 2022. He also affirmed Mason’s status as a top-tier research university in the Carnegie Classification. Collaborative efforts with the University of Mary Washington were highlighted, and Interim Provost Walsh reviewed state appropriations per graduate in Virginia for FY22 and the average annual earnings of Virginia’s college-educated workers. He concluded by celebrating Mason’s faculty and staff service milestones, ranging from 5 to 45 years.
- Vice President for Enrollment Management David Burge and Dean of Admissions Alan Byrd presented a comprehensive review of Mason’s admissions process, focusing on various stages from application to enrollment. They began with an overview of undergraduate application requirements, new student enrollment processes post-admission, and strategies for recruiting Pell-eligible students. The application phase was detailed in three steps: gathering materials, submitting applications by deadlines, and the review and decision release by admissions counselors.
- University Life and Undergraduate Education provided a presentation on the undergraduate student success network at Mason, a compilation of resources that supports every undergraduate student on their path toward graduation and career success. This network continues to be enhanced, and is particularly growing its scale and reach through the implementation of new technology in Salesforce and Stellic, along with further data-informed interventions.

Visitor Burke **MOVED** to approve the following five (5) action items, en bloc, as provided in the meeting materials:

1. Program Actions
 - a. New Degree Programs
 - i. Master of Education (MEd) in Literacy Education (**ACTION ITEM**)
 - ii. Master of Education (MEd) in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (**ACTION ITEM**)
 - iii. Bachelor of Science in Education (BSEd) in Secondary Education (**ACTION ITEM**)
2. Faculty Actions
 - a. Conferral of Emeritus/Emerita Status (**ACTION ITEM**)
 - b. Elections of New Tenured Faculty (**ACTION ITEM**)

The motion was **SECONDED** by Secretary Meese. Visitor Burke opened the floor for discussion. There was none.
MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

Yes – 13

No – 1 – Visitor Pence

Absent – 2 – Visitors Oberoi and Marquez

B. Finance and Land Use Committee

Visitor Pence **MOVED** to approve the following two (2) action items, en bloc, as they are provided for review in the meeting materials:

1. Financial Matters
 - a. State Six-Year Operating Plan (**ACTION ITEM**)
2. Capital Matters
 - a. Schematic Design for Activities Building (**ACTION ITEM**)

The motion was **SECONDED** by Hazel. Vice Rector Peterson opened the floor for discussion. There was none.
MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

Yes – 12

Abstain – 1 Visitor Rosen

Absent – 3 – Visitors Marquez, Chimaladinne and Witeck.

E. Development Committee

Visitor Chimaladinne briefed the board on the topics presented and discussed during the Development Committee meeting, which included:

- Board of Trustees (BOT) – Michael E. Stievater, Foundation Chair:
 - The Foundations is happy to report that the sale of Vernon Smith Hall closed on November 15, 2023. This is a great success for both the Foundation and the University.
 - The GMUF Audit Committee met to review the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The auditors expressed a clean, unmodified opinion on the financial statements. The audited statements reflect \$513M in total assets, \$147M in total liabilities, and net assets of \$366M. Operating expenses were \$85.7M, including \$71.9M in program support for the university.
- Advancement and Alumni Relations Update – Ms. Trishana Bowden, Vice President, Advancement and Alumni Relations/President:
 - As of November 28, \$389.9M was raised towards the \$1B comprehensive campaign goal. Also, \$30.2M was raised towards the FY24 \$100M goal.
 - Fuse at Mason Square has reached an important milestone. Earlier this month, Mason gathered its partners in this pivotal project to celebrate the “topping out” of the Fuse building. The ceremony marked the completion of the structural frame of the building, which will comprise 345,000 square feet of space dedicated to collaboration and digital innovation.
 - This afternoon, we will officially celebrate renaming the business school as the Donald G. Costello College of Business. We welcome you to join us in Dewberry Hall, located within the Johnson Center.
- Intercollegiate Athletics Update – Marvin Lewis, Assistant Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics:
 - Mr. Lewis provided an overview of Intercollegiate Athletics, covering his first 100 days at Mason. The presentation included accomplishments and future action items, fundraising priorities, information on the Basketball and Academic Performance Center, and how the Development committee can help achieve the vision for Intercollegiate Athletics.

There were no action items from the committee to bring before the full board.

D. Research Committee

Visitor Prowitt briefed the board on the topics presented and discussed during the Research Committee meeting, which included:

- Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact, Andre Marshall, reported continued strong advancement in Mason’s research enterprise reflected in the 43% year-over-year increase in July thru October research expenditures. Research dashboard highlights included our top 50 ranking, an important metric for scholarship, and two recent research transdisciplinary sponsored project wins totaling nearly \$3M originating from collaborations between faculty in the College of Engineering and Computing and the Costello College of Business, reflecting Mason’s differentiating research strength.
- Tyler Cowen, Holbert L. Harris Chair of Economics at George Mason University and Faculty Director at the Mercatus Center, provided an overview of the Mercatus Center’s research and academic & student programs. The presentation offered a brief history of Mercatus and its more than 40-year history of support for Mason

students and professors. It also highlighted the center's current projects, including podcasts that bring Nobel Laureates to campus and a new generative book that readers can interact with on multiple AI platforms.

- Alex Tabarrok, Mason Alumnus '94, the Bartley J. Madden Chair in Economics at the Mercatus Center and Professor of Economics at Mason, presented on his work as an educator at Mason, with Marginal Revolution University, and as a textbook author, with "Operation Warp" during the pandemic.

There were no action items from the committee to bring before the full board.

B. Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee

Secretary Meese briefed the board on the topics presented and discussed during the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee meeting, which included:

- The Committee met with David Resnick, Auditor of Public Accounts to discuss the initiation of their annual audit of the university's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023. APA expects to begin its work in January and be completed by May 2024.
- Mason's Interim Chief Information Officer, Charles Spann and Chief Information Security Officer, Curtis McNay provided the Committee with an overview of Mason's information technology environment. The complexity of the environment continues to increase as Mason addresses changes in requirements and growth in volumes and offerings while further defining and clarifying governance roles and responsibilities. It is expected this to remain an area of interest for the Committee and to continue to receive further regular written updates from management at our future meetings. The Committee also met in closed session to discuss the security of university information technology systems.
- The Committee reviewed the annual report of approved waivers of contractual conflicts of interest, the annual information security program status report required by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and the audit, compliance, and information technology status reports included in the meeting materials.

There were no action items from the committee to bring before the full board.

VI. Closed Session

- A. Honorary Degrees and Special Awards (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.11)
- B. Personnel Matter (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.1)
- C. Consultation with Legal Counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.7)
- D. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.8)

Secretary Messe **MOVED** that the Board go into Closed Session under the provisions of Section 2.2-3711.A.11, for Honorary Degrees and Special Awards; Section 2.2-3711.A.29 to discuss a public contract related to a potential cricket stadium; Section 2.2-3711.A.7, for Consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation including briefings on:

Agrawal v. GMU
Amison v. GMU et al.
Ganley and Surber v. GMU et al.
Jeong v. GMU et al.
Morrison v. GMU et al.
Zahabi v. GMU et al.

and Section 2.2-3711.A.8 for Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice concerning the aforementioned items. The motion was **SECONDED** by Visitor Hazel. Vice Rector

Peterson opened the floor for discussion. There was none. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Yes – 13

Absent – 3 – Visitors Marquez, Oberoi & Witeck

Following closed session, Secretary Meese **MOVED** that the board go back into public session and further moved that by roll call vote the board affirm that only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting, and that only such business matters that were identified in the motion to go into a closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting. Any member of the board who believes that there was a departure from the requirements as stated, shall so state prior to taking the roll call, indicating the substance of the departure that, in his or her judgment, has taken place. The **MOTION** was seconded by Visitor Hazel. **ALL PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS RESPONDED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY ROLL CALL.**

Yes – 11

Absent – 5 – Visitors Brown, Burke, Marquez, Oberoi & Witeck

VII. Public Comments

There were three registrations for oral comment and no written public comments were received. Vice Rector Peterson called the following students individually to the podium who all spoke about the Israel– Hamas war: Sarah Karim, Kheira Bekkadja, and Bashar Al-Shaar. Please refer to the meeting’s video recording for specifics: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8557205/video/891065217>.

VIII. Adjournment

Vice Rector Peterson adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Prepared by:

Sarah Hanbury
Secretary pro tem