

The University of Virginia's College at Wise  
College Board Minutes

2020

**February 28, 2020**

**May 8, 2020**

**August 28, 2020**

**November 6, 2020**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD**

Friday, February 28, 2020

Library, Sixth Floor

Marcia A. Gilliam  
Chair

Lewey K. Lee  
Vice Chair

**9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS Marcia A. Gilliam**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2019 Board Meeting
- Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting

**REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR Lewey K. Lee**

**REMARKS BY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE Joseph R. Carico**

**REMARKS BY STUDENT MEMBER Logan S. Baker**

**ACTION ITEM**

**NAMING OPPORTUNITY Donna P. Henry  
Valerie S. Lawson**

**REPORT ITEMS**

**RESEARCH BLITZ PRESENTATIONS UVA Wise Students**

**EDUCATION MAJOR PROGRAMS Mark Clark**

**INNOVATE2ELEVATE Rachael Hulme**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING Donna P. Henry**

**REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**11:30 a.m. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS All**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIR Marcia A. Gilliam**

**12:00 p.m. LUNCH**

## Minutes

### The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

February 28, 2020

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met on Friday, February 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the UVA Wise library. Members present were Mike Allen, Logan Baker, Paul Buchanan, Joseph Carico, Jim Gott, Don Green, Leton Harding, George Hunnicutt, Fran Hunt, Lewey Lee, Karen Mullins, Ruby Rogers, Joe Frank Smiddy, Jeffery Sturgill, Mike Thomas, Roger Viers and Dawneda Williams. Dave Martel of the UVA Administration was also in attendance. Members absent were Katheryn Curtis, Marcia Gilliam, Marvin Gilliam, Jim Humphreys, and Robert Stallard.

Vice Chair Lewey Lee presided over the meeting, and Huda Aden recorded minutes. Mr. Lee opened the meeting by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Dawneda Williams to approve the agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Dawneda Williams to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2019 meeting of the College Board as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Don Green to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2019 meeting of the College Board Executive Committee as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Remarks by Vice Chair: As co-chair of the Honor the Future Campaign, Mr. Lee discussed highlights and milestones of the recently launched campaign including new scholarships and other endowed funds. To date, \$57,000,359.00 have been raised in support of the Campaign. The endowment stands at approximately \$110 million at the end of February 2020. Mr. Lee thanked Chancellor Henry, Valerie Lawson and the Advancement staff for their work to advance the College. Mr. Lee announced the next Campaign Cabinet meeting on April 2, 2020.

In his series on UVA Wise faculty and staff, Mr. Lee highlighted Paul Kilgore, a member of the UVA Wise housekeeping staff. Mr. Kilgore's housekeeping portfolio includes the field house, Greear Gym, the tennis courts, the press box, and the Chancellor's residence. Mr. Kilgore enjoys interacting with students and loves to assist with Late Night Breakfast for students during finals week. Mr. Kilgore serves as the unofficial chaplain of the football team. His other volunteer and community service activities include support to Union High School, driving his church's bus, and working with the Humane Society. He is a regular at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. march and celebration. His fondest memory at UVA Wise includes receiving an honorary championship ring from the winning Lacrosse team. Throughout his career, Mr. Kilgore has consistently demonstrated the quality and dedication of the College's staff.

Remarks by Alumni Association Representative: Mr. Carico stated that the Alumni Association Board of Directors held a regular board meeting in November 2019. Its next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2020 and its Annual Meeting of Membership is scheduled

on April 21, 2020. Planning is underway for the 25th Annual Community Spring Swing on April 24, 2020 at Lonesome Pine Country Club. Ballad Health has confirmed its continued title sponsorship and the committee is working to confirm other sponsors. This is the third year of the “Countdown to Commencement” program, the Alumni Association’s outreach initiative to graduating seniors. Special activities and events are planned for the 100-day, 50-day, and 25-day mark before commencement.

Remarks by Student Member: Mr. Baker reported that student Peyton Johnson attended the SCHEV Student Advisory Council meeting on behalf of student representative, John Fansler. During the session, Mr. Johnson reported on mental health and food insecurity on college campuses. Nationally, one-third of college students face food insecurity, he said. Mr. Baker stated that students are often unaware that they may qualify for federal and state programs to address hunger such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. In his closing remarks, Mr. Baker highlighted recent and upcoming spring events including Day of Service, TedX, and Cavapalooza. He also highlighted an event hosted by the Multicultural Center’s intern, Vallen Ellis. The program, titled “I am not my hair,” celebrated diverse beauty and emphasized the importance of positive self-image. Dr. Smiddy thanked Mr. Baker for his remarks on SNAP and expanded Medicaid.

#### ACTION ITEMS

Naming Opportunity: The Naming Policies and Procedures for the University of Virginia’s College at Wise provides for naming opportunities for businesses, foundations, corporations and individuals who have had long, close and valued associations with the college. Naming of designated facilities or areas of campus may be made for specific financial support or in honor of an individual, business, foundations, or corporations.

The Committee on Names met on Thursday, January 30, 2020, and passed a resolution to recommend to Chancellor Henry, that Commonwealth Hall be renamed the Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann “Delores” Roark Still Hall.

Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann “Delores” Roark Still have been devoted benefactors of the College at Wise. They have attended many events interacting with faculty, staff, students, alumni and fellow supporters. At the 2019 Benefactors Celebration and Campaign Launch, the Stills were honored with the Benefactor of the Year award.

A motion was made by George Hunnicutt and seconded by Dawneda Williams to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

#### REPORT ITEMS

UVA Wise Research Blitz Presentations: Academic Dean Amelia Harris discussed the undergraduate research program at UVA Wise. She said students are participating in undergraduate research in increasing numbers. Many of these research engagements result in publications – a rare and unusual achievement at the undergraduate level. Dean Harris discussed the benefits of undergraduate research. A form of experiential learning, research facilitates critical thinking skills; it helps build confidence in students and their abilities; it helps students understand the importance of research; and it encourages them to make connections between the classroom and research. The experience also enhances their

resumes and their admissions applications to professional and undergraduate schools, she said.

To showcase undergraduate research, UVA Wise has hosted a “Research Blitz” for several years. The blitz is a 50-minute program during which nine students each present their research in five minutes or less. In the session, student researchers are asked to discuss their topics, methodologies, results and how their research experience has benefited their learning. A central goal of Research Blitz is to pique the interest of other students to undertake undergraduate research.

Dean Harris invited three students to preview their research blitz presentations with the College Board. The students included Georgia Horne, a history major and women’s studies minor. She presented “A History of Folk Healing in Appalachia.” Her faculty mentor is Brian McKnight, a Professor of History.

Kendall Morse is an environmental science major and earth science minor. Her research about a local cave is titled, “Longitudinal metabarcoding analysis of the aquatic prokaryotic microbiome of a karst Appalachian cave in Natural Tunnel State Park in Virginia, USA.” Her faculty mentor is Bruce Cahoon, John C. Buchanan Professor of Biology.

Joshua McCray is a biochemistry and history major. His research paper is titled “An Investigation of Ruthenium Supramolecular Hexamers.” His faculty mentor is Floyd Beckford, Van Daniel III Endowed Chair in Chemistry.

Mr. Harding recommended that student researchers showcase their work on social media. Mr. Lee thanked the students for their presentations, saying “your work is very impressive and it makes us feel proud to be members of this Board.”

UVA Wise Education Programs: Interim Provost Mark Clark discussed new majors in the Department of Education. The Department will now offer separate majors in Sports Management; Exercise Science; and Health and Wellness. Sports Management had previously been a concentration within the Health and Physical Education major, but now stands as its own major. Faculty in the department believe the new majors will appeal to aspiring teachers interested in health, wellness and athletics. The new majors also provide an alternative pathway to health careers. The new fields of study will begin in fall 2020.

Mr. Baker asked if the introductory courses in Public Health are a requirement for the new health and wellness majors. Provost Clark will follow up on this question. Mr. Baker also inquired into the process for curriculum development. Provost Clark responded that members of the department reviewed courses and course requirements for similar programs at other colleges and universities. In addition, the curriculum was vetted by the UVA Wise Academic Programs Committee and the Faculty Senate. Provost Clark added that this initiative represented a faculty response to student needs and concerns.

Innovate2Elevate Apple iPad Initiative: Rachael Hulme, Apple Specialist, greeted members of the College Board, and then introduced Bob Whicker, an executive member of the Apple Education team. Mr. Whicker commended Chancellor Henry and the senior team for the visionary leadership to invest in digital literacy and to improve digital access.

In her presentation, Ms. Hulme discussed the implementation of the innovate2elevate program. She has led campus workshops, whole department workshops, small group sessions, planning sessions, and coaching and mentoring sessions. She offered several examples of faculty and students who are using the iPads. Her examples included a Human Anatomy class, several courses in the Social Sciences, and in Music. Music students have learned to create a digital portfolio of their work. A Socratic App is in use in Philosophy classes. There are also countless uses in Athletics, she said. She also reported that student feedback has been very positive. Students report being able to plan better, to save money on text books, and to reduce paper waste.

Mr. Harding asked whether part-time students have access to the program. Chancellor Henry said at this time, due to cost, the iPads are available to full time employees and students. On a case-by-case basis, adjunct faculty receive loaner iPads.

Mr. Baker said the iPad has been transformational. He asked if iPads would be collected from students who do not return to the College after summer. Chancellor Henry said students can keep their iPads over the summer. The College maintains the ability to lock the iPad if it is lost or stolen.

Mr. Lee asked if the innovate2elevate program helps to attract new students. Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Chris Dearth said the Admissions staff reference the iPads in their presentations with prospective students. Prospective students are excited when they learn of the program, but the impact on recruitment may be more apparent until Fall.

UVA Wise Strategic Planning: The process for UVA Wise's current strategic plan, Envisioning 2020 (E2020), launched nearly ten years ago, in October 2010. A seventeen member committee was established. The committee represented the teaching faculty, general faculty, staff and students and was chaired by the immediate past Provost Sandy Huguenin, Ph.D.

The Board of Visitors formally adopted the plan in November 2013. Since that time, the College has fulfilled the strategic objectives of E2020, charted new territory, and responded to national higher education opportunities, trends and challenges.

In the months ahead, the College community will undergo an exercise to define UVA Wise's future. The University of Virginia's broader strategic plan, "A Great and Good University – the 2030 Plan," will serve as a reference point during the process.

Chancellor Henry outlined next steps for the upcoming strategic plan. She announced the members of the Strategic Planning Committee. The committee members represent a cross-section of faculty and staff. The Committee also includes one student member and a College Board member, Leton Harding. All members will represent the interests of the College at large and not solely their department or role. In addition to the work of the Committee, UVA Wise has engaged a consulting firm to source data and insights that will be considered in the process.

Mr. Harding recommended that the College cast a broad net to capture feedback from various stakeholders. Dr. Smiddy encouraged the Committee to account for the College's

location in Southwest Virginia. He said there is a need and an opportunity to develop solutions and intellectual property in response to public health challenges in the region.

Report of the Chancellor: Chancellor Henry invited Shannon Blevins, Vice Chancellor for Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives, to share news about a new January-term program. The new program is intended for UVA and UVA Wise students. Its focus is on “Impact investing in Appalachia.” This year, participating students spent time in Southwest Virginia, Eastern Kentucky and Charleston, West Virginia. The course was designed to expose students to economic, social and cultural issues in three states in the context of impact investing. Students described the experience as eye-opening. This collaborative J-term course also represented an exciting partnership between UVA Wise and UVA.

Valerie Lawson, Vice Chancellor for Advancement and Alumni Engagement, and Chancellor Henry shared updates related to Advancement. Chancellor Henry stated that more than 70% of endowed funds are earmarked for scholarships.

Chancellor Henry shared the following updates. The College is closely monitoring COVID-19 and specifically whether to proceed with or cancel the Spring Break trip to Venice, Italy. The College is undergoing a search for a new Department of Nursing chair, an endowed position. Chancellor Henry also shared updates from the 2020 legislative session, including news that funding for the Willey renovation is reflected in the budget.

Associate Professor of Biology Ryan Huish was one of thirteen faculty members in the Commonwealth who received the Outstanding Faculty Award. According to SCHEV, the award is the highest honor for faculty in Virginia’s colleges and universities.

In the Athletic program, student athletes have broken records. Many of them have been recognized as players of the week. Cynita Webb became the 21<sup>st</sup> player in the Women’s Basketball program history to score 1,000 points.

Chancellor Henry shared an enrollment update and also described upgrades to the student management system. The College purchased a new module in Jenzar which will help streamline communications, analysis, and insights in the Admissions lifecycle. The new module is expected to be live in May 2020. The staff will receive training in the coming months.

In terms of Admissions, Mr. Harding recommended continued outreach and coordination with local vendors, banks, hotels and retailers. Specifically, he said many of them are willing to put up banners and make College students feel welcome.

Mr. Baker asked for an update on the new online RN to BSN and asked if it had been marketed yet. Genna Kasun, Director of Marketing, responded that her team is just beginning to form the basis of a marketing strategy for the online nursing program. She said they will pursue a targeted marketing strategy based on “geo-locating” the College’s marketing with healthcare facilities. Currently, the Marketing team is in the information-gathering phase, she said. Mr. Dearth responded that his team is partnering with community colleges to enroll students in the online RN program. Chancellor Henry said the College is trying to identify barriers to entry stemming from the core curriculum requirements.

Chancellor Henry continued her report to discuss the Oxbow Center. Phase II is scheduled for completion in April 2020. All drywall is up; plumbing and electrical rough-ins are complete; prime paint, doors, frames, and ceiling grids are also planned.

In closing, Chancellor Henry reviewed upcoming dates and events of interest to the College Board. As a memento, she shared a gift with the Board members: an Athletics “V” pin which was designed as a result of the College’s new marketing and branding work.

Member Comments: Mr. Baker recognized Ms. Neva Bryan, UVA Wise Director for Career Planning and Discovery, for enabling access to the UVA career services platform, “Handshake.” This access has opened up new career opportunities for UVA Wise students, he said.

Mr. Lee invited Dave Martel, UVA Vice President for Marketing and Communications, to offer remarks. Mr. Martel recognized the UVA Wise Marketing team, led by Genna Kasun, for advancing aggressive marketing projects like the College website; admissions and recruitment; David J. Prior Convocation Center; and a number of other goals and projects in pipeline. Mr. Martel said he expected to see all the hard work to come to fruition.

There being no additional business or comments, the meeting adjourned and Mr. Lee thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Mullins, Secretary



Resolutions Approved by The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

1. Naming of the Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann Roark Still Hall

**Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann Roark Still Hall**

WHEREAS, Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann "Delores" Roark Still have become steadfast supporters of the College at Wise, its faculty, staff and students; and

WHEREAS, the Stills have inspired others to also support the College at Wise through the Honor the Future Campaign;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Virginia's College at Wise Board does hereby endorse this resolution of support in the renaming of Commonwealth Hall, a residential facility, to Andrew J. Still and Lois Ann Roark Still Hall.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD**

Friday, May 8, 2020

Electronic Meeting

Livestream available: <https://youtu.be/X-o3wOw8aDo>

Marcia A. Gilliam  
Chair

Lewey K. Lee  
Vice Chair

**9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS** **Marcia A. Gilliam**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of February 28, 2020 Board Meeting

**REMARKS & Q&A WITH UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT** **James E. Ryan**

**REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR** **Lewey K. Lee**

**REMARKS BY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE** **Joseph R. Carico**

**REMARKS BY STUDENT MEMBER** **Logan S. Baker**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**PROMOTION AND TENURE** **Donna P. Henry**  
**Mark W. Clark**

*RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**PROMOTION AND TENURE** **Donna P. Henry**  
**Mark W. Clark**

**UVA WISE PROPOSED BUDGET 2020-2021** **Donna P. Henry**  
**Sim E. Ewing**

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP** **Marcia A. Gilliam**

**BOARD MEETING DATES 2020-2021** **Marcia A. Gilliam**

**ELECTION OF THE BOARD CLERK** **Marcia A. Gilliam**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION** **Marcia A. Gilliam**

**REPORT ITEMS**

**REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR**

**Donna P. Henry**

**10:30 a.m. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR**

**Donna P. Henry**

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

**All**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR**

**Marcia A. Gilliam**

## Minutes

### The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

May 8, 2020

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met electronically on Friday, May 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Mike Allen, Logan Baker, Joseph Carico, Elizabeth Cranwell, Katheryn Curtis, Marcia Gilliam, Marvin Gilliam, Jim Gott, Don Green, Leton Harding, Fran Hunt, Lewey Lee, Karen Mullins, Joe Frank Smiddy, Jeffery Sturgill, Roger Viers and Dawneda Williams. President Jim Ryan was also in attendance. Members absent were Jim Humphreys, George Hunnicutt, Ruby Rogers, Robert Stallard, and Mike Thomas.

Chair Marcia Gilliam presided over the meeting, and Huda Aden recorded minutes. Ms. Gilliam opened the meeting by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Roger Viers to approve the agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Dawneda Williams to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2020 meeting of the College Board as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Remarks by the President: Ms. Gilliam invited remarks from President Ryan. President Ryan reported on university operations and the financial impact of the pandemic. The UVA Health System has experienced significant financial loss and has attempted to mitigate the impact with a hiring freeze, employee furloughs, and other steps. The University is cognizant of the financial strain of the pandemic on both employees and students. Employee assistance funds and student relief funds were made available this spring to offset financial hardship on individuals and families.

Although a formal announcement of the University's academic plans had not yet been announced, President Ryan said he anticipated a hybrid academic format consisting of both in-person and online instruction in fall 2020.

President Ryan has worked closely with Chancellor Henry on UVA Wise's strategic planning efforts. He said conversations about UVA Wise's future, its strategic options, and numerous possibilities have been stimulating and heartening. He also said that he is encouraged by gains in freshman and transfer admissions.

President Ryan commended Chancellor Henry for her outstanding chairmanship of the Council of Presidents, comprised of the chief executive officers of Virginia's public colleges and universities. Chancellor Henry has helped presidents plan and coordinate their institutional and collective responses during a unique and challenging era. Chancellor Henry is a phenomenally strong leader and the UVA Wise Board should be enormously proud of her exemplary leadership, he said.

Mr. Harding asked President Ryan for his thoughts on the future of education given the disruption to higher education this past spring. President Ryan said the pandemic had opened the eyes of many to the potential of online learning. The quality of teaching, even amidst a rapid shift to virtual formats, was excellent this past spring, he said. We are likely

to see more courses offered on a fully or partially online basis even for students in residence. The possibilities with technology are endless, on the one hand. On the other hand, this experience has also reinforced how valuable the residential experience is, he said.

Mr. Gott asked what advice President Ryan might share with the Board of Visitors or with the UVA Wise Board. The Board's continued engagement is one of the most important resources that Board members can offer, President Ryan said. It is important that Board members understand the complexity of challenges that are faced by colleges and universities. Boards have an essential role to play in helping university leaders think creatively about how to respond to this pandemic.

Mr. Harding asked how UVA and UVA Wise might collaborate in this new environment. There are numerous ways the University and the College at Wise can continue to collaborate including online programming, he responded.

Mr. Gilliam asked about unanticipated costs to the College due to the global pandemic and what these costs might mean for the College's sustainability. Initial projections for the Commonwealth's revenue were grim, but the economic toll of the pandemic may not be as seismic in Virginia as once feared. Hopefully, enrollment will remain stable and strong at the College.

Ms. Mullins asked about the role of the UVA Health System in responding to the pandemic. UVA was the first to create a COVID-19 test in Virginia and the Health System has been scaling up the production and delivery of tests. These tests are now available to hospitals, clinics and other venues. Additionally, the UVA Bio Complexity Institute is helping the Commonwealth model various scenarios for the purposes of public health and financial planning.

President Ryan concluded his remarks and thanked the College Board for its time and its support. Ms. Gilliam thanked President Ryan for his remarks.

Remarks by Chair: Ms. Gilliam thanked Director of Communications Kathy Still for her work to highlight the College in local papers and on the College's website. Ms. Gilliam encouraged everyone to watch the video honoring the impact of donors in lieu of the Scholarship Luncheon event, which was cancelled due to COVID-19. Ms. Gilliam also introduced the new student member of the Board, Madelyn Lawrence, who was interviewed and selected from among a competitive pool of students. Ms. Gilliam spoke of the student member's critical role on the Board. College Board members said they looked forward to working with Ms. Lawrence.

Remarks by Vice Chair: Mr. Lee acknowledged the pandemic's negative economic impact on UVA Wise and the surrounding region. He urged members of the College Board to continue to take care of themselves, their families and their friends during these most trying times.

Remarks by Alumni Association Representative: Mr. Carico reported that the Alumni Association Board of Directors held its regularly scheduled board meeting by Zoom on April 21, 2020. The General membership meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Board elected John Avery Fansler '20 and Elizabeth "Opie" Booth Craft '95 to fill board

positions beginning July 1, 2020. Alumni Hall is undergoing renovations and will reopen in August.

Remarks by Student Member: Mr. Baker expressed gratitude to the faculty for their work to transition classes and labs to an online format. He complemented the faculty for their willingness and ability to adapt well to new technology and to respond to student inquiries and needs throughout the process. Mr. Logan concluded by thanking the College Board for giving him a seat at the Board table and affording him this unique leadership opportunity. Mr. Baker will move to Los Angeles to work on digital health transformation at a healthcare consulting firm.

#### CLOSED SESSION

As required by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 a motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Fran Hunt to convene in closed session for the purpose of considering promotion and tenure candidates. A motion was made to reconvene in open session by Kathy Curtis and seconded by Dawneda Williams. The motion received unanimous approval.

As required by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3712(d), a roll call vote was taken in open session noting only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only public business as identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting of the public body.

#### RECONVENE IN SESSION

#### ACTION ITEMS

Promotion and Tenure: Each year certain faculty members undergo the process for promotion and tenure. Faculty rank and promotion are based on criteria adopted by the College Board and listed in the Faculty Handbook. These criteria include academic qualifications, years of experience, and demonstrated achievement in the areas of teaching, service and scholarship. The faculty member submits a portfolio which is reviewed by the academic department, the department chair, and the Faculty Committee on Evaluation. The Faculty Committee on Evaluation reviews all portfolios and submits their recommendations to the Academic Dean and Provost, who also make recommendations. The final approval at the College lies with the Chancellor prior to being submitted to the College Board for review and the Board of Visitors for approval. Interim Provost Mark Clark presented faculty promotion candidates.

A motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Karen Mullins to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

UVA Wise Proposed Operations Budget Fiscal Year 2020-2021: The budget for 2020-2020 Fiscal Year has been prepared with instructions from the University's Budget Office and with participation from a number of campus constituencies. This year's process was

more extensive as it followed the zero-base budget methodology and required all departments to evaluate and justify non-personnel items within their budgets.

The 2020-2021 operating budget for UVA Wise using the approved state appropriation in the Commonwealth's budget is projected to total \$49.48 million.

Ms. Curtis asked whether the College has modeled other financial and budget scenarios in the context of COVID-19. Mr. Sim Ewing said various scenarios are under review; revisions to the budget, which reflect COVID-19 realities, will be shared with the College Board at a later date.

A motion was made by Don Green and seconded by Lewey Lee to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

UVA Wise College Board Membership: The following slate of members, officers and Executive Committee members were recommended:

Recommended for Appointment or Reappointment to the College Board

Marcia A. Gilliam  
Jonette Dixon Carpenter (new appointment)  
Don M. Green  
George E. Hunnicutt Jr.

Recommended for Appointment or Reappointment to the Executive Committee

Marcia A. Gilliam, Chair  
Lewey K. Lee, Vice Chair  
Karen S. Mullins, Secretary  
Jeffery A. Sturgill, Member-at-Large (new appointment)

A motion was made by Fran Hunt and seconded by Katheryn Curtis to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

UVA Wise College Board Meeting Dates 2020-2021: At the end of each academic year, the meeting dates are set for the following year. These dates are chosen based upon the academic calendar, major events and activities of the college, and the schedule of the Board of Visitors. The following dates were recommended.

**Friday, August 28, 2020**  
**Full Board**

**Friday, November 6, 2020**  
**Full Board**

**Friday, February 5, 2021**  
**Full Board**

**Monday, April 12, 2021**  
**Executive Committee**  
(Interviews for Student Board Member)

**Friday, May 7, 2021**  
**Full Board**  
(Commencement is May 8, 2021)

A motion was made by Katheryn Curtis and seconded by Leton Harding to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Election of the UVA Wise College Board Clerk: As required by the bylaws, The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board, upon recommendation of the Chancellor, shall elect annually a member of the College to serve as Clerk of the Board. The Chancellor recommends that Huda Aden be re-elected as Clerk of the Board.

A motion was made by Lewey Lee and seconded by Kathy Curtis to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Special Recognition: A resolution recognizing Logan S. Baker for his service as Student Member of the Board was read. A motion was made by Karen Mullins and seconded by Fran Hunt to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by George Hunnicutt and seconded by Dawneda Williams to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

REPORT ITEMS

Report of the Chancellor: Chancellor Henry reported on the College's response to the pandemic. She praised UVA Wise faculty for the bold and swift action to transition all courses to a virtual format. Faculty have embraced teaching from a distance and have been creative. The iPad initiative, which launched in August 2019, was a saving grace in moving to a fully remote and online platform. All students, faculty and staff had the ability to engage remotely because they were equipped with iPads.

Chancellor Henry also praised the Student Affairs team, led by Jewell Worley. The Office of Residence Life worked closely with residential students when residence halls suddenly closed during spring break. Students were allowed to collect their belongings. Other students who were unable to travel to campus received their valuables via mail. The Residence Life team also accommodated students who remained on campus due to extenuating circumstances. Throughout the pandemic, student services remained uninterrupted. Mental health counseling sessions continued via Zoom and FaceTime. Additionally, academic advising, tutoring, and financial aid support have remained intact.

Chancellor Henry introduced incoming Provost Trisha Folds Bennett, Ph.D. A Developmental Psychologist, Provost Folds-Bennett serves as the Dean of the Honors College at the College of Charleston. Her official start date as Provost at UVA Wise is July 1, 2020. Professor Mark Clark has served as the Interim Provost since January 2020, and Chancellor Henry thanked him for his service.

The UVA Wise community of students and employees has fortunately remained healthy and well during the pandemic. The academic progress of students remains stable and student retention is holding strong through the pandemic. UVA Wise has supported students



by honoring payment of student wages for federal work study students even when students were unable to work or be on campus. Many of these students rely on these wages to pay rent, purchase groceries, and pay bills. A special COVID-19 fund and the Chancellor's Success Fund have also provided financial support to students who need it. Faculty were instrumental in identifying students in distress and referring them to appropriate offices for resources. Additionally, students who qualified and applied for funds are eligible to receive a grant from the Federal CARES Act. Smiddy's Cupboard, a campus food pantry, has been open for students to access food pantry items.

Admissions activity remains strong. The UVA Wise Admissions Office extended the enrollment deposit deadline from May 1, 2020 to June 15, 2020. In addition, the College has waived standardized test requirements for fall 2020 applicants who did not have opportunity to sit for tests in March, April, May or June of this year. Visitors to the Admissions website will now have access to a "contact us" form which permits prospective students to select the best day, time and method to be contacted. Methods of contact for both prospective and admitted students include text, email, phone, and Zoom. The Office of Admissions launched and now hosts "Virtual Information Sessions" every Friday for admitted and prospective students to interact with faculty and current students. The Office of Financial Aid continues to process awards for new and returning students. More than 600 new students have received financial aid packages.

Chancellor Henry explained different operational and reopening options under review for fall 2020. A fall 2020 Steering Committee and several subcommittees, comprised of UVA staff, faculty, and students evaluated multiple options and have been leading the way to prepare our path forward. We are currently considering the timing of the academic calendar and the configuration of classrooms, dining halls and residential spaces to ensure optimal safety and health protocols.

Ms. Cranwell asked whether the College has discussed testing plans with the University. Chancellor Henry said that the College has been in touch with the multiple partners at the University including the Health System. The College has had the benefit of the Student and Employee Health Clinic on campus which is operated by the UVA Health System. The clinic follows UVA protocols and will receive guidance on operations for the summer and fall. At this time, screening and testing strategies continue to evolve across higher education. UVA Wise will coordinate with the University and the Virginia Department of Health on a testing strategy.

Dr. Smiddy asked whether students would have to wear masks on campus. At this time, the public health and safety plan is under development, Chancellor Henry said. Wearing face coverings and masks is one consideration. The College is also evaluating classroom size and social distancing abilities within classrooms.

Ms. Curtis asked for an update on athletics. Chancellor Henry responded that multiple options are on the table. Chancellor Henry has been nominated to serve on the national president's council of the NCAA by the South Atlantic Conference Commissioner. UVA Wise will have the opportunity to participate in strategic athletic planning discussions.

In closing, Chancellor Henry reported on strategic planning. A consulting group has been engaged with the College. The team visited campus in February 2020 and engaged in

interviews of faculty, staff, and students. The team plans to issue a survey to prospective students as well. Their recommendations and findings will inform the work of the College's strategic planning process.

There being no additional business or comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m. and Ms. Gilliam thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Mullins, Secretary

Resolutions Approved by The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

1. Promotion and Tenure

**APPROVAL OF PROMOTION AND TENURE**

RESOLVED that The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board supports the recommendations regarding promotion and tenure as presented.

2. 2020-2021 Budget for The University of Virginia's College at Wise

**APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE**

RESOLVED that the 2020-2021 budget for The University of Virginia's College at Wise be approved as recommended.

3. 2020-2021 College Board Membership and Appointments

**APPROVAL OF COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS**

RESOLVED that membership appointments for The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board be approved as recommended.

4. Meeting Dates for 2020-2021

**APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES FOR 2020-2021**

WHEREAS, The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board Executive Committee must propose the meeting dates for the following academic year; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting dates, as presented, be approved for The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for 2020-2021.

5. Election of Board Clerk

**APPROVAL OF BOARD CLERK**

RESOLVED that Huda Aden be elected as Clerk of The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for the 2020-2021 academic year.

**The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board**

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**Logan S. Baker**

WHEREAS, Logan S. Baker has served as the student member of The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board during the 2019-2020 year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has been an able and astute member, always prepared and willing to do his best; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has spent many hours listening to fellow students so that he could give voice to their ideas, accomplishments and needs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has spoken eloquently to The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board about these issues and worked to make a difference in the lives of his peers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has embodied The University of Virginia's College at Wise's mission and has represented the College and fellow students in many settings including the University of Virginia Board of Visitors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker's service as a leader in many activities and organizations including the Pre-Professional Club and Honor Court; and his recognition as a Chancellor's Scholar and a Napoleon Hill Scholar; as well as his membership in the Darden Honor Society and the Sigma Zeta Science and Math Honor Society; are just a few of the many ways he has excelled at the College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker, by his intelligence, strength of character and stewardship epitomizes the College's student body;

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has served as a model student board member for all of the students who follow his in service; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board, on behalf of the faculty, staff, and students, extends to Logan S. Baker its profound gratitude and best wishes for all future endeavors.

Adopted in Wise, Virginia, by The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board on May 8, 2020.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD**

Friday, August 28, 2020

Electronic Meeting

Livestream available: [https://youtu.be/S511iY\\_VvVg](https://youtu.be/S511iY_VvVg)

Marcia A. Gilliam  
Chair

Lewey K. Lee  
Vice Chair

**Tentative Agenda**

**9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS Marcia A. Gilliam**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of May 8, 2020 Board Meeting

**REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR Lewey K. Lee**

**REMARKS BY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE Joseph R. Carico**

**REMARKS BY STUDENT MEMBER Madelyn Lawrence**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**UVA WISE REVISED BUDGET 2020-2021 Donna P. Henry  
Sim E. Ewing**

**UVA WISE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN Sim E. Ewing**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION Marcia A. Gilliam**

**REPORT ITEMS**

**UVA WISE STRATEGIC PLAN Donna P. Henry  
Trisha Folds-Bennett**

**REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**11:00 a.m. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS All**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIR Marcia A. Gilliam**

## Minutes

### The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

August 28, 2020

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met on Friday, August 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. In light of safety precautions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held in a hybrid format. Members were given the option to participate in-person or electronically. Members who were present in-person were Mike Allen, Joseph Carico, Marcia Gilliam, Marvin Gilliam, Don Green, Leton Harding, Karen Mullins, Jeffery Sturgill, and Roger Viers. Members who were present electronically were Elizabeth Cranwell, Katheryn Curtis, Jonette Dixon Carpenter, Jim Gott, Fran Hunt, Lewey Lee, Ruby Rogers, and Robert Stallard. Members absent were Jim Humphreys, George Hunnicutt, Joe Frank Smiddy, Mike Thomas and Dawneda Williams.

Chair Marcia Gilliam presided over the meeting, and Huda Aden recorded minutes. Ms. Gilliam opened the meeting by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Katheryn Curtis and seconded by Leton Harding to approve the agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Lewey Lee and seconded by Fran Hunt to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2020 meeting of the College Board as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Remarks by Chair: Ms. Gilliam introduced and welcomed Jonette "MJ" Dixon Carpenter to the UVA Wise College Board. The UVA Board of Visitors elected Ms. Dixon Carpenter as a Board member on June 4, 2020. Ms. Dixon Carpenter graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Virginia's College at Wise in May 2001. While at UVA Wise, she was an active student leader serving as Student Government Association President, among other leadership roles. She was the recipient of the UVA Wise Student Leadership Award, the Wall Street Journal Award and honored with membership in the Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. Ms. Dixon Carpenter continued her education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University where she earned a Master of Business Administration degree in June 2003. She is currently employed at Pfizer. She is a member of the UVA Wise Campaign Cabinet and member of the Foundation Board of Directors.

Ms. Gilliam announced and congratulated Chancellor Donna P. Henry for her recognition by the Virginia Network of Women in Higher Education as the 2020 Outstanding Woman Leader in Higher Education Award.

Ms. Gilliam also announced a number of fall events, many of them virtual, and encouraged Board remembers to remain engaged.

Remarks by Vice Chair: Mr. Lee recognized UVA Wise student, Jesse French. Ms. French grew up in Dumfries, Virginia and is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Communication. In addition to her impressive student leadership in organizations and clubs, Ms. French is a three-time captain on the women's lacrosse team which has won back-to-back conference championships. She is a leading member of the Lacrosse team

where she broke the program's individual career points record, totaling 215 career points before the season was suspended due to COVID-19. She was a critical participant when her team won the second consecutive Mountain East Conference season and tournament title where she garnered the Most Valuable Player.

Remarks by Alumni Association Representative: Mr. Carico reported that Santana Vasquez '07 is the Alumni Association President. He said that a Homecoming Committee, including Ms. Vasquez and other Board members, will meet to discuss options for Homecoming. Homecoming is a collaborative event hosted each year by the Alumni Engagement Office, Alumni Association, Student Government Association, Student Affairs and Athletics.

Remarks by Student Member: The new student member of the Board, Madelyn Lawrence, was unable to attend the College Board meeting due to her class schedule. Chancellor Henry read remarks on her behalf. Ms. Lawrence submitted the following statement for the record:

“Good Morning Members of the College Board!”

“Unfortunately, due to my busy class schedule, I am not able to join you all this morning in person or via zoom. Although I am not in attendance, I still wanted to share a few remarks. First, I wanted to reiterate what an honor it is to have been chosen for this position and how grateful I am to act as a representative of our amazing student body. As we have seen in these past few challenging months, the students of UVA Wise have proven themselves a resilient bunch. We have battled with the switch to online classes mid-semester, faced the unknown of whether we could come back to campus, and adapted to a lot of changes for this upcoming year. I know I speak for many students when I say we are extremely thankful for all the time everyone has spent in meetings and with preparations in order to get us back to campus.”

“With that being said, it is sure to be an interesting and exciting year. I am eager to get this semester going, and I hope to get some feedback from my peers on how they feel about all of the changes as well. Thank you for your time and I hope to see you all sometime soon!”

## ACTION ITEMS

UVA Wise Revised 2020-2021 Budget: At its May 8, 2020 meeting, the UVA Wise Board approved the College's proposed \$50.3 million baseline operating budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. At its June 4, 2020 electronic meeting, the Board of Visitors approved the baseline operating budget for the College at Wise in the 2020-2021 year. Since the prior approvals, UVA Wise has revised its budget planning assumptions due to new revenue and expenditure projections given the COVID-19 pandemic. The revised 2020-2021 operating budget for consideration is \$48.91 million.

The revised budget planning assumptions include: an annualized decrease in full-time UVA Wise enrollment of four percent (or 995 full-time students); a five percent reduction in state operational funding; and summer 2020 auxiliary losses due to operational restrictions from the pandemic. Together, these reductions create a 2.8% operational reduction amounting to \$1.41 million.

UVA Wise has developed an operating budget which is fiscally conservative while protecting the core mission of the College. In addition, the College has been performing scenario-based budget and enrollment forecasting on a weekly basis. The College is evaluating the option of restructuring of auxiliary debt financing.

UVA Wise has also evaluated potential personnel actions as a lever in budget management including early retirements, pay reductions for employees earning more than \$35,000 and furloughs.

Mr. Harding asked how the CARES Act supports higher education. Mr. Ewing responded that some CARES Act funding has been distributed to Title IV eligible students. The remainder of the funding was intended for COVID-19 expenditures. For example, the College expanded broadband internet access and purchased Zoom licenses for online instruction and operations. The College also purchased hotspots for students without access to reliable internet at home. The College purchased Plexiglas for use in classrooms and high traffic, high contact offices. The College has stocked classrooms with sanitizing wipes and disinfecting products.

Mr. Hunt asked whether potentially furloughed employees would retain benefits during their furlough period. Mr. Ewing responded affirmatively. Furloughed employees would maintain their benefit package. They would also be eligible to apply for an unemployment package. Mr. Ewing said personnel actions such as furloughs or pay reductions would be a last resort option for the College.

Is the Early Retirement program predicated on not replacing retirees, Ms. Curtis asked? She also expressed concern regarding the fair distribution of workload after retirees vacate their positions. Chancellor Henry responded that the College would review all vacancies in a holistic manner. Re-hiring decisions will be made with a number of factors in mind, including the strategic direction of the College to be outlined in Strategic Plan. The College will carefully assess and evaluate individual and intuitional needs as well.

A motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Mike Allen to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

UVA Wise Emergency Operations Plan: As outlined in Virginia Code Section 23-9.2:9 (B) each institution of higher education shall review internally its Emergency Operations Plan at least on an annual basis and updated as necessary. According to Virginia Code 23-9.2:9 (B) every four years the College shall conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the crisis and emergency management plan to ensure the plan remains current.

A motion was made by Roger Viers and seconded by Fran Hunt to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Special Recognition: A resolution recognizing College Board Member Paul D. Buchanan was read by Marvin Gilliam. A motion was made by Ruby Rogers and seconded by Lewey Lee to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.



## REPORT ITEMS

UVA Wise Strategic Plan: In February 2020, Chancellor Henry appointed a strategic planning committee to work with college stakeholders to envision and define UVA Wise's future. Chancellor Henry and Provost Trisha Folds Bennett reported progress on the strategic planning process and provided a preliminary update on emerging themes and insights from recent surveys and focus group interviews.

Provost Folds-Bennett said emerging themes included: a sense of place; a sense of identity; and a sense of community. Stakeholders have also expressed an endorsement of masters and certificate programs. There has also been some expression of interest in incorporating professional skills into the liberal arts core.

Mr. Harding serves on the Strategic Planning Committee. He commended Chancellor Henry and Provost Folds-Bennett's leadership. "So many things have impressed me about this effort. The commitment to the students is remarkable including their deep belief for the historic and continuing mission of this school," he said.

Remarks by Chair of the Board of Visitors: Ms. Gilliam invited remarks from Elizabeth Cranwell, Chair of the UVA Board of Visitors Committee on UVA Wise. Ms. Cranwell commended Chancellor Henry, the UVA Wise administration and faculty for their agility in deploying COVID-19 testing for UVA Wise students. She said she was hopeful that a successful model would be identified to fulfill the College's mission.

Report of the Chancellor: Chancellor Henry said she was thrilled to see College Board members on campus again. Chancellor Henry also welcomed Ms. Dixon Carpenter to the College Board.

The College has been off to a great start this fall. The beginning of the academic year is normally marked by Convocation, which was a virtual event this year. Despite the virtual nature, some faculty members wore regalia to their freshman seminar courses to allow freshmen a glimpse into a normal Convocation day. President Ryan addressed the incoming Class virtually, as well. The support of the President Ryan has been wonderful, Chancellor Henry said. She also commented on Dr. Mitch Rosner's support. He has advised Chancellor Henry directly on public health matters throughout the spring and summer.

In further remarks regarding the pandemic, Chancellor Henry acknowledged the persistence of UVA Wise faculty and staff in ensuring the normalcy of operations. For instance, four new full-time faculty members joined UVA Wise this fall. She praised UVA Wise faculty for the bold and swift action to transition all courses to a virtual format. Faculty have embraced teaching from a distance and have been creative.

Chancellor Henry briefed the Board on enrollment figures. As of the College Board meeting date, enrollment had increased 1.01% compared to last year. In addition to a strong freshman class, 125 new transfers have enrolled this fall – the largest transfer class since 2012.

When asked, “what would you attribute this success to,” Chancellor Henry responded that the collective efforts of Chris Dearth’s leadership along with effective marketing leadership by Genna Kasun have been immensely valuable. The Within Reach financial aid program has also been a big boost, she said. This year, the uptick in transfer students may also be due to the pandemic which resulted in locally-based College students choosing to stay close to home.

Ms. Curtis asked about COVID operations and how faculty are responding to students returning to classrooms. Chancellor Henry summarized the rigorous planning efforts throughout the summer to ensure the safety and health of the campus community. Additionally, provisions have been made for both faculty and students who need to teach or learn at a distance for health and safety reasons. The College’s connection to the UVA Health System has also been an asset during the pandemic.

In terms of COVID-19 containment, Mr. Ewing discussed confidence levels of the testing kits. Ongoing surveillance testing will continue into the school year to monitor infection rates on campus.

Chancellor Henry congratulated Ms. Valerie Lawson and the Advancement team on a successful fundraising year.

Mr. Harding asked for information on the sustainability of the Within Reach program and how it is funded. Mr. Chris Dearth responded to the question by explaining the ways a student’s federal and state financial aid can be packaged to offer free tuition and fees. Mr. Dearth said that he was working with Ms. Lawson to identify enhancements to the program to benefit more students.

Mr. Lee asked whether any students are participating in the Year in Wise program. Chancellor Henry responded that 28 students were enrolled in the program this year.

There being no additional business or comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. and Ms. Gilliam thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Mullins, Secretary

Resolutions Approved by The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

1. UVA WISE REVISED BUDGET 2020-2021

**2020-2021 REVISED OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE**

RESOLVED that the 2020-2021 revised budget for the University of Virginia's College at Wise be approved as recommended.

2. UVA WISE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

**EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE**

RESOLVED that the University of Virginia's College at Wise Board does hereby officially adopt the University of Virginia's College at Wise emergency operations plan, to include plans and procedures for both natural and human caused disasters.

I, Huda Aden, Clerk of the UVA Wise Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true, correct copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the University of Virginia's College at Wise Board at a meeting held on August 28, 2020.

3. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

**The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board**

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**Paul D. Buchanan**

WHEREAS, Paul D. Buchanan attended Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia for two years before transferring to the University of Virginia in the fall of 1959 and graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1961;

WHEREAS, while a student at Clinch Valley College, Mr. Buchanan was the recipient of both the M. A. Riggs Memorial Scholarship and the WNVA Weather Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buchanan was also a member of the Honor Court, president of the German Club and a member of the Liberal Arts Seminar and received the Outpost Award which recognized outstanding students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buchanan dedicated his career to teaching in the Dickenson County School System and retired from Clintwood High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buchanan's leadership as Executive Director of the Columbus Phipps Foundation has been transformational to Dickenson County and to the far southwest region of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, with the members of the Columbus Phipps Foundation Board of Directors, Mr. Buchanan has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to Dickenson County students to pursue technical and trade certifications, community college degrees, undergraduate and graduate degrees; and

WHEREAS, his meticulous leadership of the Foundation far exceeded the founders' hopes and will ensure a lasting legacy which will live on in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan have personally supported UVA Wise through gifts of the greatest need and the College Board Fund; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buchanan has served with distinction as a member of the UVA Wise Board from 2011 until 2020;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Virginia's College at Wise expresses its sincere appreciation to Mr. Buchanan for his contribution to the growth and success of UVA Wise;

FURTHERMORE RESOLVED, that the UVA Wise community of students, faculty and staff extends to Mr. Buchanan its profound gratitude and best wishes for his continued happiness and good health for years to come.

Adopted in Wise, Virginia, by the University of Virginia's College at Wise Board on August 28, 2020.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD**

Friday, November 6, 2020

Electronic Meeting

Livestream Available: <https://youtu.be/GZRxmcqIPzl>

Marcia A. Gilliam  
Chair

Lewey K. Lee  
Vice Chair

**Tentative Agenda**

**9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS Marcia A. Gilliam**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of August 28, 2020 Board Meeting

**REMARKS BY VICE CHAIR Lewey K. Lee**

**REMARKS BY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE Joseph R. Carico**

**REMARKS BY STUDENT MEMBER Madelyn Lawrence**

**ACTION ITEM**

**UVA WISE MISSION STATEMENT Donna P. Henry  
Trisha Folds-Bennett**

**REPORT ITEMS**

**UVA WISE OPERATING BUDGET 2020-2021 Donna P. Henry  
Sim E. Ewing**

**EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM Donna P. Henry  
Sim E. Ewing**

**UVA WISE STRATEGIC PLAN Donna P. Henry  
Trisha Folds-Bennett**

**REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**11:00 a.m. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR Donna P. Henry**

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS All**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIR Marcia A. Gilliam**

## Minutes

### The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

November 6, 2020

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. In light of safety precautions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held in a hybrid format. Members were given the option to participate in-person or electronically. Members who were present in-person were Joseph Carico, Marcia Gilliam, Marvin Gilliam, Leton Harding, George Hunnicutt, Madelyn Lawrence, Lewey Lee, Karen Mullins, Jeffery Sturgill, and Roger Viers. Members who were present electronically were Mike Allen, Jim Gott, Don Green, Fran Hunt, Ruby Rogers, Joe Frank Smiddy and Dawneda Williams. Members absent were Katheryn Curtis, Jonette Dixon Carpenter, Robert Stallard and Mike Thomas.

Chair Marcia Gilliam presided over the meeting, and Huda Aden recorded minutes. Ms. Gilliam opened the meeting by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Mike Allen to approve the agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Roger Viers and seconded by Jeffery Sturgill to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2020 meeting of the College Board as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Remarks by Chair: Ms. Gilliam shared the announcement that UVA Wise continues to rank competitively in the U.S. News and World Report. The College recently ranked sixth nationally for improving social mobility among students of economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Ms. Gilliam also remarked on the October Pro-Art recital entitled "Amazing Grace" at Cantrell Hall featuring pianist Bomin Park. She said events like these are especially needed during a challenging pandemic. Bailey, Shark and Goldie of the Henry family were recently beautifully photographed in the paper, also spreading cheer in the community, she said. Ms. Gilliam also expressed best wishes for Don Pippin's recovery following surgery.

Remarks by Vice Chair: Mr. Lee commented on recent updates to the UVA Wise website. He said the new website is fantastic and user-friendly. Mr. Lee said the website featured a number of noteworthy items. Mr. Lee joined Ms. Gilliam in commending the college for its social mobility ranking in U.S. News and World Report. UVA Wise has ensured that students have immense opportunities. The College ranked sixth just ahead of Berea College of Kentucky which ranked seven. Berea has been historically known for its accessibility and affordability model.

Remarks by Alumni Association Representative: Mr. Carico reported on Homecoming which was held virtually during the week of October 19, 2020. Events included an alumni career panel, two virtual bingo games, UVA Wise Trivia and a virtual 5K. Events engaged students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members.

Remarks by Student Member: Ms. Lawrence said she felt it important to convey the resilience of the UVA Wise student body during the pandemic. She reported that UVA

Wise students have proven themselves to be strong during unprecedented times. She provided details of a typical day in the life of two students – herself and a friend. Ms. Lawrence’s anecdotes made clear that students are juggling everything from academics to athletic training to graduate and professional school applications. She also spoke of challenges related to learning in the pandemic, including acclimating to new technology, new schedules, and new expectations. Although there have been difficulties, she said, there were a number of bright spots. “As a college I believe that we have adapted to everything that has been thrown at us and it has only made us more prepared for whatever the future holds,” she said. For example both professors and students have learned how to leverage technology in the classroom. She especially credited professors who had to climb a steep learning curve in order to transition classes online. She said the pandemic has taught everyone important lessons in caring and being a selfless community. “We have followed strict guidelines with masks, social distancing, and frequent testing in order to protect not only ourselves but others. Overall, we have not only grown as students and professors, but as people as well,” she said.

Ms. Gilliam thanked Ms. Lawrence for sharing both the bright spots and the challenges of the fall semester.

## ACTION ITEMS

UVA Wise Strategic Plan: Chancellor Henry and Provost Trisha Folds-Bennett proposed a revised mission statement and outlined objectives within the strategic framework for the College. The mission statement and strategic framework are informed by recent surveys of College stakeholders, focus group interviews, and insights from an external strategic partner. The revised institutional mission statement reflects input and feedback from all data sources. The proposed mission statement reads:

“Through excellence in teaching, personalized attention, and commitment to individual growth, the University of Virginia’s College at Wise prepares students to be engaged citizens. Drawing upon its foundation as a public liberal arts institution in the Appalachian region, the College strives to build a diverse community of learners with the drive to serve and lead in their communities, the nation, and the world.”

The mission statement continues to place the UVA Wise student at the center of the College’s mission and purpose. The revision received endorsement from the UVA Wise faculty on October 14, 2020.

Mr. Harding, who serves on the Strategic Planning Committee, said he found the conversations regarding the College’s future to be refreshing. He said he was privileged to be a part of the conversation. The materials that Provost Folds-Bennett presented to the Board today reflect a broad and dedicated effort, he said.

Mr. Hunt inquired into the last sentence of the proposed mission statement which states that the College’s diverse community of learners would “serve and lead in their communities, the nation and the world.” He asked whether there was a specific reason for omitting the Commonwealth from the sentence. Provost Folds-Bennett said that the term Commonwealth was not omitted or overlooked. The concepts in the mission

statement will be enhanced and expanded in the rest of the strategic plan, including in the Chancellor's vision letter, which will highlight the future and the broader context in which we are operating. Mr. Harding said there was nothing done to intentionally exclude the Commonwealth from the statement.

Provost Folds-Bennett presented the strategic objectives. Students are the central focus in the College's vision. Once students arrive at the College, we need to ask ourselves what services and support structures students will need to succeed academically and in all aspects of their undergraduate experience. How do we prepare students for their first job as well as their tenth job, she posed. Based in part on the work of an external strategic partner, the College's aim is to integrate professional development into the curriculum. This concept resonated well with stakeholders and connects nicely with the liberal arts curriculum.

Professor Mark Clark co-chairs the Strategic Plan Steering Committee as well as the Liberal Arts Core Committee. The Liberal Arts Core Committee was given its charge a few years ago to reexamine general education core requirements in conjunction with departments. Its committee members have considered ways to revise the academic core for the contemporary situation. The work that is being done with both committees – Liberal Arts Core and Strategic Planning – blends well together and dovetails nicely with the strategic options from the external partner, he said.

Mr. Harding said the College's ultimate goal is to maintain a mission of developing good citizens and thinkers.

Mr. Viers requested information on the joint programs with the Appalachian School of Law and the Appalachian School of Pharmacy. Chancellor Henry discussed the two joint programs allowing students to complete requirements in just six years for terminal degrees in law and pharmacy, respectively. Ms. Mullins asked whether specific majors were required to participate in the programs, to which Chancellor Henry responded that specific courses are required but not specific majors.

Dr. Smiddy said that every opportunity to encourage students into the healthcare fields is valuable. Southwest Virginia is a healthcare desert in the middle of a medical crisis, an opioid crisis and a mental health crisis, he said. Nurse practitioners are the future of the healthcare industry in the mountains. They are going to be the primary caregivers in the central Appalachian Mountains. The College should look at increasing the number of nurses in the region because there is significant need. Provost Folds-Bennett said there is a lot of room for growth in the nursing program and interest from students. Additionally, the College will explore the feasibility of introducing programs in social work and counseling psychology to address the aforementioned crises. The College also wants to help prepare students for dental, medical and pharmacy schools.

Chancellor Henry added that significant investments are being made into the nursing program including the renovation of Wyllie Hall which will house the program. Additionally, a new dental clinic will open in Knoxville and there may be opportunities for partnership.

A motion was made by Leton Harding and seconded by Joseph Frank Smiddy to approve the resolution as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.



## REPORT ITEMS

UVA Wise Operating Budget: Mr. Sim Ewing provided an update on the UVA Wise operating budget. At its June 4, 2020 electronic meeting, the Board of Visitors approved a \$50.3 million baseline operating expenditure budget for the University of Virginia's College at Wise in the 2020-2021 year. Following that meeting, UVA Wise, along with the University, revised its budget planning assumptions due to new revenue and expenditure projections given the COVID-19 pandemic. On August 28, 2020 and September 11, 2020, the College Board and the Board of Visitors, respectively, approved the College's revised 2020-2021 operating budget totaling \$48.91.

Many of the College's budget decisions have been dependent on actions taken by the Virginia General Assembly, which has now completed its revised budget for submission to the Governor of Virginia for approval. Within this budget is an additional \$1.0 million for the College for pandemic-related expenditures.

Based on the Commonwealth's budget and the current revenue forecast, the College does not anticipate a five percent state budget reduction, which was previously assumed in the budget model. Furthermore, the temporary salary reductions and furloughs previously outlined will be taken off the table based on the availability of additional state funds, savings from the Early Retirement Incentive Program, and adherence to strict spending and budgetary guidelines. A key assumption in the plan is also in-person instruction in spring 2021.

Throughout the pandemic, the College has striven to lessen the impact of the pandemic on students and to realize its core mission. These considerations have been the driving force in developing fiscal and academic plans in light of the pandemic.

Early Retirement Incentive Program: UVA Wise implemented an Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP) for current full-time University Staff, Classified Staff, and Administrative and Professional Faculty that was effective August 31, 2020. Twenty-six eligible employees have elected to participate in the program.

The College also developed an ERIP for Teaching and Research Faculty. This program adheres to Code of Virginia § 23.1-1302. Governing boards; additional powers; voluntary early retirement and the Appropriations Act. The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors authorized the ERIP for teaching and research faculty at the College at Wise on October 7, and the program has been reviewed for legal sufficiency by the Office of the Attorney General. The program now awaits approval from the Office of the Governor. Thirty-three UVA Wise faculty members will be eligible for the program once all approvals are obtained.

Positions that are vacated as a result of the ERIP shall remain vacant for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2021, unless the Chancellor determines that an interim replacement should be named to maintain vital continuity of College operations. It is anticipated that, as positions become vacant through the implementation of this program, positions may be re-aligned to support specific College priorities, including identified programmatic enrollment or strategic initiatives.

Report of the Chancellor: Chancellor Henry announced the retirements of two members of the UVA Wise senior administration: Mr. Sim Ewing, Vice Chancellor Chief Operating Officer, and Ms. Jewell Worley, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Additionally, three members of Chancellor Henry's immediate team will retire in April 2021 including Debra Wharton, Senior Director of Institutional Events; Kathy Still, Director of Communications and College Spokesperson; and Susan Mullins, Assistant to the Directors of Communications and Institutional Events. Linda Miller, Assistant to the Chancellor, will retire in December. Chancellor Henry read a letter of appreciation from Ms. Miller.

In regards to COVID-19 management, Chancellor Henry expressed pride in UVA Wise students, faculty and staff for their steadfast compliance with all policies, procedures and protocols. Quarantine and isolation spaces for residential students have been well managed and are currently empty, Chancellor Henry reported.

The College administers COVID-19 prevalence testing on 7.5 percent of students and employees who come to campus. Prevalence testing participant lists are generated randomly on Monday morning. Notifications are sent to members of the community who are to receive a test. A summary of results is available on the UVA Wise website. The case count of positive tests has been very low and in the low single digits. Student-athletes are tested according to NCAA and SAC rules. All students will be required to receive a COVID-19 test prior to their return to campus in January 2021.

Dr. Smiddy said the College "could not have done a better job . . . and is an example for the rest of the nation and the rest of higher education."

Chancellor Henry said that the community's support has been significant. The College has partnered with Dr. Potter for antigen testing and will work with the Health Wagon in the near future. Dr. Sue Cantrell from the Virginia Department of Health has been very supportive and engaged as well.

In other updates, the Academic Affairs team is preparing for the five-year mid-term report due to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) in September 2021. The Honor the Future Campaign is progressing well and has just crossed the \$60 million mark. In Finance, UVA Wise achieved a perfect score of 100% in the review of the Financial and Administrative Institutional Performance Standards.

Regarding Athletics, men's and women's basketball is slated to start in late November. In consultation with the South Atlantic conference, a determination will be made on whether to accommodate fans and spectators at the game.

Chancellor Henry applauded the creativity and innovation on display by the Student Affairs team which has developed pandemic-friendly recreational activities for students. The first Cavs Week of Service was held this fall, and it was a great success.

The fifth annual SWVA Economic Forum was held virtually on September 2-3, 2020. Although the forum has attracted approximately 350 participants each year, the

virtual format allowed for wider exposure and reach. More than 8,700 individuals from 10 states and three countries viewed forum content.

### COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Several members of the College Board expressed concern with, and disapproval of, signs, including an upside-down United States flag, that are displayed in a faculty member's office window in the Visual and Performing Arts academic building. A member of the Board questioned whether the upside-down flag would constitute hate speech. Another raised concerns that the signs, deemed offensive, would cause the College to lose support from donors, alumni and friends. Another member asked whether the College's policies prohibit certain signs from being displayed on public property. Another asked whether the College should engage legal counsel. The Board was informed by Chancellor Henry that, on this and all legal and regulatory matters, the University of Virginia's College at Wise receives counsel from the UVA Office of the University Counsel. A Board member shared that while they found the display disturbing, a love of the College and the region makes their commitment to the institution everlasting. Chair Marcia Gilliam reminded Board members that their role is as an advisory board.

There being no additional business or comments, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. and Ms. Gilliam thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Mullins, Secretary

Resolutions Approved by The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board

1. UVA WISE REVISED MISSION STATEMENT

**UVA WISE'S MISSION STATEMENT**

RESOLVED that the University of Virginia's College at Wise Board does hereby endorse the following mission statement for the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

*"Through excellence in teaching, personalized attention and commitment to individual growth, the University of Virginia's College at Wise prepares students to be engaged citizens. Drawing upon its foundation as a public liberal arts institution in the Appalachian region, the College strives to build a diverse community of learners with the drive to serve and lead in their communities, the nation, and the world."*