NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY
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BOARD OF VISITORS
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DRAFT

Board of Visitors New Member Orientation
Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2026
11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Campus Location: *President's Conference Room, Suite 530, 5th Floor*

Board of Visitors Members Present
Dr. Tamara Jones

Board of Visitors Member Participated Virtually
Dr. Kim W. Brown, Rector

University Structure and Executive Leadership
Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, University President
Ms. Pamela F. Boston, University Counsel and Senior Assistant Attorney General
Dr. Aurelia T. Williams, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Gerald Ellsworth Hunter, Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Justin L. Moses, Vice President for Operations and Chief Strategist for Institutional Effectiveness
Dr. Tanya White, Vice President and Chief of Staff
Dr. Melody Webb, Vice President/Athletics Director
Dr. Leonard Brown, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Melissa J. Barnes, Interim Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management
Mrs. Derika Burgess, Chief Audit Executive

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

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Dr. Kim W. Brown introduced himself and extended a warm welcome to Dr. Jones as a member of the Board of Visitors. He also shared his expectations of the Board Members and highlighted the importance of understanding the Board's role within the university. Dr. Brown emphasized that Board Members serve as representatives of the Board of Visitors.

Dr. Adams-Gaston expressed her gratitude and thanked everyone for their willingness to serve the university. She emphasized that the Board of Visitors plays a critical role in the institution's success. Dr. Adams-Gaston also shared that she is extremely proud of her Cabinet members.

Ms. Pamela F. Boston distributed a hard copy of her biography and provided an overview of her role as University Counsel and Special Assistant Attorney General. She informed that she plans to meet individually with each of the newly appointed Board Members if it is not convenient for them to meet together. Ms. Boston also discussed her professional background and experience, highlighting that she has served Norfolk State University since 2006.

Dr. Aurelia T. Williams shared that she is a proud alumna of Norfolk State University and is excited about serving in her role as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. She emphasized that student retention remains a top priority and highlighted the university's ongoing commitment to student success and academic achievement.

Dr. Gerald Ellsworth Hunter extended a warm welcome and reflected on his 13 years of service to Norfolk State University. He highlighted the significant progress the university has made. Dr. Hunter discussed the campus renovations, the construction of new facilities, increased state support, and enhanced fundraising efforts.

Dr. Justin L. Moses reviewed the areas and departments which he collaborates across the campus. He also discussed Policy Management and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Dr. Moses informed that the University is approaching the final stages of its Strategic Planning process.

Dr. Tanya White shared that she oversees the Department of Human Resources, the President's Office, and the Board of Visitors. She discussed her goals and priorities for the Human Resources Department and expressed her availability and commitment to providing support and assistance as needed.

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Dr. Melody Webb shared that she has been with the university for 12 years and discussed the growth that has taken place over the past five years. Dr. Webb also highlighted Norfolk State University's Athletics Program, which currently has 17 sports including the Women's Flag Football and Women's Golf. Dr. Webb recognized Head Football Coach Michael Vick and shared that he is entering his second season with the program. She expressed her excitement about the future of Spartan athletics.

Dr. Leonard Brown shared highlights of his professional background and informed that he joined Norfolk State University in the summer of 2020. He discussed the university's shift from an activity-oriented approach to one focused on building partnerships across the institution. Dr. Brown discussed that a key objective is to enhance students experience and support student retention through graduation.

Dr. Melissa Barnes shared highlights of her professional background and informed that she has been a member of the Norfolk State University community for 45 years. She shared of her commitment to student success.

Mrs. Derika Burgess provided an overview of her responsibilities and discussed her role as Chief Audit Executive. She also discussed the function of the Office of Internal Audit

Dr. Tamara Jones shared that she is pleased to be back at Norfolk State University and expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to give back. As a proud member of the Class of 1996, Dr. Jones also provided her biography and expressed her enthusiasm for supporting and contributing to the continued success of NSU.

Minutes prepared by Ms. Sher’re S. Dozier, M.Ed. Clerk to the President for the Board of Visitors