

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 24, 2023**

**UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
BY ZOOM
9:00A.M.**

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Attorney Henry C. Smock, Chair
Ms. Oran C. Roebuck, Vice Chair
Dr. David Hall, President and Secretary
Dr. Kyza A. Callwood, BOE
Mrs. Nisha Clavier, Alumni Trustee
Mrs. Erica Johnson Creamer
Dr. Lois Hassell-Habtes
Dr. Sharon Honore, Faculty Trustee
Dr. John A. Quelch
Mr. Reginald Vigilant

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. John P. de Jongh, Jr.
Ms. Nashanta Lindsey-Farrell, Student Trustee
Dr. Dionne Wells Hedrington, DOE

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Camille McKayle, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Mitchell Neaves, VP Institutional Advancement
Ms. Sharlene Harris, VP Information Services & Institutional Effectiveness
Ms. Earlyn Casimir for VP Administration and Finance & CFO
Attorney Marie ThomasGriffith, UVI Legal Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smock at 9:15am.

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE.....Henry C. Smock
Election of Officers**

The Governance Committee conducted its annual meeting for nominations as outlined in the Nomination Process adopted by the Board of Trustees. Nominations were received for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. A slate of candidates was obtained and approved as required

Submitted by Gail T. Steele
Approved by the Board of Trustees October 2023

by the process. The slate was presented to the Board of Trustees for their deliberation and action.

A motion was made by Trustee Callwood which was seconded by Trustee Quelch to accept the slate of Henry Smock for Chair and Oran Roebuck for Vice Chair. The vote on motion was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Kyza A. Callwood which was seconded by Trustee Quelch to approve the regular session minutes of March 4,, 2023. The vote on motion was unanimous. The minutes were approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Callwood which was seconded by Trustee Quelch to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The vote on the motion was unanimous. The consent agenda was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President's Report for this reporting period is organized into two sections. Part I provides highlights of new and ongoing presidential initiatives and institutional accomplishments since the last report. Part II highlights major accomplishments within the framework of *Greatness Through Innovation*, the University's current strategic plan.

This framework has been adopted to ensure that all Components and Departments across the University are focused on areas that the University has determined are critical to our future success. I continue to be extremely impressed with the productivity and commitment of our university's students, faculty, staff and administrators.

Highlights of the President's report included student achievements, faculty achievements, institutional achievements, and the Presentation of his Presidential award.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- On April 21, the Student Government Association (SGA), in collaboration with the Office of the Dean of Students on the Orville E. Kean Campus, hosted the annual Miss UVI Ambassadorial Competition. As the only candidate for the Miss UVI title, **Eunisha Lawrence** was crowned the queen. She will represent the University of the Virgin Islands in the Miss NBCA Hall of Fame Competition. **Alkai Flemming-Heywood** was crowned the new Mr. UVI out of four male candidates and will represent UVI in the Mr. HBCU competition in Spring 2024.
- The Office of the Dean of Students on the Orville E. Kean Campus hosted the

annual Student Engagement Awards on April 24th in the 13D Research and Innovation Center. Over 150 awards were presented to students in recognition of their efforts to enhance campus life and encourage others to be engaged in various clubs and organizations. Student employment awards were also presented. **Deanna Hunte** received the award for Student Employee of the Year 2022-2023.

- Two incoming UVI Hospitality and Tourism Management program students were awarded scholarships from Wyndham Destinations, the parent company of Margaritaville Vacation Club. The students – **Nikaya Nibbs** and **Shenique Sealey** each received a check for \$10,000 during the presentation held on Thursday, February 2, 2023. Margaritaville has been a steadfast partner and has continued supporting scholarships to the University since 2014. Additionally, Margaritaville has extended the opportunity to the UVI hospitality or business students to apply for a paid 40-hour internship at the resort. If selected, students will serve from June 1 – July 31, 2023, and can rotate through all departments to get a working knowledge of resort operations.
- Three UVI students won awards at the 41st International Sea Turtle Symposium in Cartagena, Colombia that occurred March 18-24, 2023. Approximately 600 attendees participated in the conference, which had 80 student presentations. UVI's students had an exceptional showing, winning three of the eight awards, an impressive feat for a single institution.
 - **Makayla Kelso** won the Best Student Oral Presentation in Sea Turtle Conservation for her presentation on the increase in hawksbill nesting trends at Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuge on St. Croix.
 - **Katie Ayres** won the first runner-up prize for Best Student Poster Presentation in Sea Turtle Conservation, depicting her research on the critical male-producing habitat of hawksbills in St. Thomas beaches.
 - **Taylor Brunson** won the first runner-up prize for Best Student Poster Presentation in Sea Turtle Biology for her poster on identifying the space use and foraging patterns of juvenile green sea turtles in a *Halophila stipulacea*-dominated bay.
- Communication major **Michael Bell** represented UVI in Washington, DC, as one of the top HBCU student journalists invited to the first in-person White House Press Briefings. This session featured Presidential Senior Advisor Keisha Lance Bottoms and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris. Communication students have participated in all three previous briefings conducted in a hybrid format. **Michael Bell** also competed in the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) 2023 NABJ-HBCU Scholarship Initiative Program in February.

- Golden Key International Honour Society Induction Ceremony on the Orville E. Kean Campus was held on Sunday, April 2, 2023. A total of twenty-six students were inducted into the Society. Two honorary members, Lieutenant Governor Tregenza Roach and Ariel Stolz, were inducted into the Society. Interim Dean of Student Affairs, *Dr. Leslyn Tonge* served as the keynote speaker. Inductees were:

○ Kishanna Anselm	LaMonee Morris
○ Makeba Baron	Ahkayla Petersen
○ Cherri Carty	Ryan Querrard
○ Celestial Dazle	Teh'Rhon Rabsatt
○ Alexia Edward	Chaenelle Ravariere
○ Leteshia Fahie-Breedy	Catharine Seabrookes
○ Jackeima Flemming	Shayla Solomon
○ Edric Francis	Anya Stuart
○ Laverne Francis	Eva Taylor
○ Denny Gonzalez	Shanya Taylor
○ Dhakiya Liburd	Angelina Thomas
○ Ocena Liburd	Mi'Kaylah Thomas
○ Sheneice McKelly	Moriex Webster

- Six students across both campuses were recruited to participate in the summer 2023 Washington Center Summer Internship Program. **Shamianna Crosse, Allana Julien, Allana Jackson, Jedell Titus, JayCrislie Boon** and **Kaidrian Ottley** will spend 10-weeks in Washington, DC completing an internship and academic course work. Students will have the opportunity to network with over 500 other students participating in the program as well as test drive careers for their future through their internship experiences. The Washington Center program is coordinated by *Dr. Leslyn Tonge*.

- **Dishon She'coy Jones** (saxophone) performed his Student Senior Recital on Sunday, April 9, 2023, at the Nisky Moravian Church. He was accompanied by *Carlton Holmes* and *Aboris DeJesus* on piano. Special guests included: **Nayeli O'Shaughnessy** – Tenor Sax, **Tisean Paul** – Bari Sax, **Kayla Fontaine** – Alto Sax, Uriel Rogers – Bass, Jairay Petty – Piano, Eljhaie Brathwaithe – Steel Pan and **Howard Peters** (UVI Class of 2018) – Drums. *Professor Brian Boland* was the sound engineer for this event.

- **Omari Auguste** (trumpet) performed his Student Senior Recital on Sunday, April 15, 2023, at the Nisky Moravian Church. He was accompanied by *Carlton Holmes* and *Aboris DeJesus* on piano. Special guests included: Javan Davis – Alto Sax, Malachi Maillard – Piano, Kevoungh Grant – Bass, and Elijah Motta – Drums. *Professor Brian Boland* was the sound engineer for this event.

- **Kyra Edwards** and **Gimel Pinto** are two of nine student journalists selected from nationwide applicants to serve as foreign respondents for the Center for African Studies-HBCU Africa Correspondent Corps. sponsored by Howard University. They receive professional development exposure and experience and are mentored by international correspondents and/or political commentators. Contingent on program resources, **Kyra** and **Gimel** will join students from Morgan State, Xavier, Howard, and Hampton and travel to Japan at the completion of this grant cycle.
- **Kyra Edwards**, Communication minor, won first prize at the Institute of Theatre Journalism Advocacy (ITJA) and will represent UVI and Region IV in Washington, DC, at the national convention.
- UVI students participated in the 2023 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) and Institute of Theatre Journalism Advocacy (ITJA) project. Attendees included **Carlos Eton, S'yniah Roberts, Keanu Jacobs, Kyra Edwards, Shugga Rosenbloom, Shaneya Forbes, Knema Willett, Michael Bell,** and **Gimel Pinto.**
- UVI physics program and the Etelman Observatory held a “Public Observing Night” open house (April 21) using the UVI Etelman Observatory. Approximately 120 students and adults attended. *Dr. Dario Carbone, Dr. David Morris, Dr. Brice Orange,* and students **Kiwanee Smith, Ryan Querrard, Denny Gonzalez, Malvern Williams, Brenique Dawson,** and **Asimian Edmead** all participated in the event.
- Communication students won 10 awards in various categories at the 2023 Southern Regional Press Institute (SRPI) in Savannah, GA. SRPI is the third-oldest scholastic journalism institute founded at an HBCU after the establishment of Press Association. **Carlos Eton, Michael Bell, Gimel Pinto, Kyra Edwards, Keanu Jacobs,** and **William Steyer** placed in the following categories:
 - *Best Overall News Website-* <https://uviabj.org/uviabj/>
 - *Best News Articles (2nd),*
 - *Best Features Story (1st, 2nd)*
 - *Best Features Photography (1st)*
 - *Best Editorial or Opinion Column (2nd and 3rd)*
 - *Best Communications Campaign- 2022 Caribbean Film and Arts Festival-* [https:// caribfilm.net/ carib.net](https://caribfilm.net/carib.net)
 - *Best Sports Story (2nd)*
 - *Best Mini-Documentary (2nd)*
- Nine students from the HOS 120 – Food Production and Safety class taught by *Dr. James Storey* completed a 4-hour Back-of-House Job Shadowing

Field Work Experience. In addition, seventeen students successfully passed the ServeSafe Food Handler Certification and AHLEI. Front Desk Professional Certification.

- **Nadege Barber**, senior Bachelor of Arts Business Administration Major and Communications minor, will intern with Altria, Group Inc. in Louisiana as a Sales Intern from May - July 2023. Ms. Barber's opportunity to earn this internship was because of her participation in the virtual Thurgood Marshall Leadership Institute in October 2021 and her exemplary performance as an intern with Altria Group Inc. in May 2022.
- The Office of the Provost hosted the 59th Annual Academic Achievement Awards ceremonies on both campuses. This event celebrates and recognizes the exemplary academic achievements of students within their schools and colleges and within their various majors and disciplines. Over 200 awards were presented to students at the ceremonies.
- The USVI Storm Strong Program continued in the Spring with visits to three schools on St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix, during this reporting period. Graduate student **Sierrah Mueller**, Lyft student **Ella Troutman** and **Allie Durdall** made 9 visits to 6 classes, reaching 85 students in grades 5-8, teaching about hurricanes, hurricane preparedness, and natural ecosystems for storm protection, using engaging, hands-on activities.
- The Society of Women Engineering (SWE) is a new student organization created by students in the College of Science and Mathematics with the support of Faculty Advisor *Dr. Sanlin Robinson*. The group held a brunch recruitment event on March 28, 2023, at Charlotte Amalie High School for females interested in STEM Education. Seven UVI students organized the event, including a Q&A panel between the students and faculty, a fun engineering challenge, and a catered brunch. The event attracted 20 students from Charlotte Amalie High School and 17 students from Ivanna Eudora Kean High School. Heavy Materials sponsored the event.
- The Mangroves in the Classroom Project (funded by the Schmidt Ocean Coalition) continued this spring, engaging three classes at Charlotte Amalie High School (1 Marine Biology class and 2 Biology II classes). Master in Marine & Environmental Services graduate student **Laura Palomino** and undergraduate student **Amanda Boissiere** worked on this project, including classroom visits, experiments with mangrove grow-out best practices with red mangroves in the classroom, and field trips. Approximately 72 individuals, including students, participated in this project.

SIGNIFICANT INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- SUCCESSFUL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES AWARD CLOSE TO 300 DEGREES
- FORBES MAGAZINE NAMES UVI AMONST TOP HBCU's WITH ONLINE DEGREES
- GRAND OPENING OF 13D RESEARCH AND STRATEGY INNOVATION CENTER
- UVI 61ST CHARTER DAY CEREMONY & EMANCIPATION COMMEMORATION
- COMMITTEE JOIN FORCES TO CELEBRATE 175TH EMANCIPATION ANNIVERSARY
- DEAN'S LIST RECEPTION & AWARD CEREMONIES RESUMES IN-PERSON POST COVID
- AFTERNOON ON THE GREEN FUNDRAISER ATTRACTS THOUSANDS
- FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS
- FIRST COHORT OF STUDENTS FROM CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM
- UVI HOSTS NEW YORK FEDERAL RESERVE BANK PRESIDENT'S
- FIRESIDE CHAT
- MARYLAND PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE TELEVISION MARYLAND PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE TELEVISIONFEATURES SPECIAL CONCERT SERIES
- OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCES
- EXPAND AFFORDABLE LEARNING INITIATIVE
- UVI STUDY AWAY PROGRAMS OFFER STUDENTS UNPRECEDENTED EXPERIENCES AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
- COSTA RICA GLOBAL LEARNING PROGRAM

PRESIDENT'S APPRECIATION AWARD

The President's Appreciation Award for this term was presented to the UVI Passport to the World Travel-Learning Program. Since its inception in 2015, the UVI Passport to the World Travel-Learning Program has visited China, India, South Africa, Ghana, Peru, Spain/Morocco, and most recently, Egypt. Each program offers various educational opportunities and experiences that focus on one or more of the program's four core tenets: education, community service, cultural immersion, and recreational activities. Housed in the Office of the Provost led by Dr. Camille McKayle, and under the supervisory leadership of Dr. Leslyn Tonge, the Passport to the World Travel-Learning Program is open to UVI students, faculty, staff, and members of the UVI alumni community and extended family.

The Summer's edition of the Passport to the World Travel-Learning Program was both successful and safe while providing a unique and enriching experience for all participants to witness the ancient wonders of Egypt firsthand and gain a deeper understanding of its culture, history, and traditions. The program was well-organized and led by expert guides who provided in-depth knowledge and context for each site and iconic landmark visited. This Egypt program was not only the largest traveling group with 77 participants but also included the largest number of students of any of the programs. Fourteen of the 77 participants were students ranging from undergraduate to doctoral levels. The inclusion of students from undergraduate to doctoral levels highlights the Program's accessibility and appeal to a diverse range of learners.

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Approved by the Board of Trustees October 2023

Moreover, the expansion of the Program to include other global learning opportunities in areas such as Costa Rica and other places underscore that UVI continues to provide rich and meaningful learning and study abroad experiences for our students.

BOARD COMMITTEE ITEMS

Academic, Research, and Student Affairs.....Dr. John Quelch

Associate of Applied Science in Renewable Energy Technology

The proposal for the Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Renewable Energy Technology, as approved by the faculty, was presented by Provost McKayle and Dr. Greg Guannel, Director of the Caribbean Green Technology Center, on behalf of the College of Science and Mathematics.

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Renewable Energy Technology (RET) is designed to educate students and future professionals in basic electrical concepts, various renewable energy technologies, and installing and repairing photovoltaic (PV) systems. The degree will generate an educated labor force that can assist the United States Virgin Islands, the Caribbean region, and the United States in accelerating the transition to renewable energy. It is necessary for the workforce in the territory to be prepared for this transformation and to receive the essential training in the design, construction, installation, and maintenance of these systems.

The ARSA Committee voted unanimously to accept the proposal to approve the Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Renewable Energy Technology. The committee's recommendation is forwarded to the full Board for review and action at its June 24, 2023 meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Callwood which was seconded by Trustee Vigilant to approve the Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Renewable Energy Technology. The vote on motion was unanimous. The resolution was approved.

Bachelor of Science in Animal Science

Provost McKayle and Dr. Usman Adamu, Dean and Director of the School of Agriculture, presented the proposal for the Bachelor of Science degree program in Animal Science as approved by the faculty.

This program is designed to prepare students for careers in various animal science-related fields. Graduates will be prepared to work in livestock operations, feed/pharmaceutical sales, barn/ranch management, livestock procurement, food processing, meat inspection/grading, and quality control throughout the agriculture production sector. The curriculum consists of courses in Animal Science, Animal Nutrition, Anatomy and Physiology, Breeding, and Genetics, Animal Behavior and Welfare, and Animal Health and Disease.

The ARSA Committee voted unanimously to accept the proposal to approve the Bachelor of Science degree program in Animal Science. The committee's recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for review and action at its June 24, 2023, meeting.

Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business

Provost McKayle and Dr. Usman Adamu, Dean and Director of the School of Agriculture, presented the proposal for the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agricultural Business as approved by the faculty.

This program prepares graduates for a wide range of career opportunities in agribusiness. The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business degree program provides students with a solid foundation in agriculture, finance, management, and economics. It enables them to make risk-aware business decisions utilizing applied mathematics and statistics to examine prices and markets. Coursework focuses on farm management and planning, finance, marketing, international agricultural trade, economics, and agriculture-related subjects, which prepares students for careers in agricultural business and agriculture-related fields, including but not limited to Financial and Policy Analyst, Loan/Credit Officer, Extension Agent and Specialist, Commodities Inspector, Farm Manager, and Consulting in agriculture-related businesses.

The ARSA Committee voted unanimously to accept the proposal to approve the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agricultural Business. The committee's recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for review and action at its June 24, 2023, meeting.

Bachelor of Science in Agroecology

Provost McKayle and Dr. Usman Adamu, Dean and Director of the School of Agriculture, presented the proposal for the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agroecology as approved by the faculty.

The Bachelor of Science in Agroecology prepares students for careers in sustainable agriculture, sustainable development, natural resource management, and food policy. It may also encourage them to continue their education in graduate school and pursue academic careers. This program's curriculum provides a broad foundation for the School of Agriculture's and other department's course offerings.

The ARSA Committee voted unanimously to accept the proposal to approve the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agroecology. The committee's recommendation is forwarded to the full Board for review and action at its June 24, 2023, meeting.

After all three degrees were presented to the Board, a motion was made by Trustee Callwood which was seconded by Trustee Vigilant to approve the Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science, the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agricultural Business, and the Bachelor of Science degree program in Agroecology en masse. . The vote on motion was unanimous. The resolutions were approved.

Planning Committee.....Dr. Lois Hassell-Habtes

Submitted by Gail T. Steele

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Key Performance Indicators

The Planning Committee received a report on the KPIs as linked to UVI's Strategic Plan: Greatness Through Innovation. The report focused on Graduation Rate, Degrees Awarded, DFW Rates, Financial Aid, NSSE High Impact Practices, Enhancing the Student Experience, and Development Indicators.

Executive Session

At 10:45am, a motion was made by Trustee Vigilant which was seconded by Trustee Callwood to move into Executive Session discuss the following matters which could be reasonably expected to result in the disclosure of information of personal nature wherein public disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, commercial information obtained where public disclosure may cause substantial injury to the competitive position of another to whom the information relates or premature disclosure that would seriously frustrate implementation of the proposed action(s), and for the Board to obtain legal advice on those matters:

1. Approve Executive Session Minutes
2. Receive a report from the ARSA Committee
3. Receive a report from the Finance and Budget Committee
4. Receive an Update on Personnel Matters
5. Receive an Update on Legal Matters

Return to Regular Session

Upon return to the Regular Session of the meeting 12:12pm,, the Chair reported the following actions taken by the Board in Executive Session:

- Approved Executive Session Minutes
- Approved amendment to Eliminate COVID-19 Policy for residence Hall Students
- Approved Tenure for Faculty Members
- Approved UVINEXT Recommendations
- Approved UVI HBCU Loan Financing
- Received Update re Personnel Matters
- Received update re Legal Matters

Adjournment

Submitted by Gail T. Steele

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Having no other business, a motion was made by Trustee Callwood which was seconded by Vice Chair Roebuck to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.