

APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

RESOLVED, the Board of Visitors approves the Statement of Visitor Responsibilities – Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, dated December 7, 2018; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Statement of Visitor Responsibilities shall be provided to new appointees to the Board of Visitors within 30 days of notification to the University of their appointment.

Statement of Visitor Responsibilities Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia December 7, 2018

This statement of responsibilities was adopted by the Board of Visitors (“Board”) of the University of Virginia (“University”) on December 7, 2018 to inform newly appointed Visitors of the expectations of Board service, and to serve as a reference point for self-evaluation of performance of the Board and its committees.

The Board is the governing body of the University, a Virginia public corporation under the name and style of “The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia”. By statute, the 17 voting members of the Board are appointed by the Governor of Virginia. Broadly, the Board has oversight responsibility for advancing the University’s mission and goals, for assuring the proper stewardship of the University’s resources and assets, and for monitoring the implementation of institutional strategy and policies. Among the Board’s primary and most important duties are appointing and evaluating the University’s president.

As the Board of the University, we are committed to effective governance accomplished through a Board culture characterized by dedication, diligence, collaboration, teamwork, candor, transparency, and accountability.

Every member of the Board is expected to fulfill the following responsibilities:

Dutifully Serve as a Member of the Board

- Visitors make service to the University a high priority and commit the time and effort to educate themselves about University matters, prepare for and attend meetings of the Board and its committees, and engage constructively in the work of the Board.
- Visitors actively seek leadership roles on the Board, and carry out the responsibilities associated with those roles.
- Visitors work collegially with other Visitors, the president, and as appropriate, faculty, students, staff, and other University constituents.

- Visitors promote the role of the Board as a policy-making oversight body that supports the president, senior administration, and the faculty in their management of the University's operations and implementation of institutional strategy and policies.
- Visitors understand and act consistently with the principle that they serve the University as a whole and not any particular school or constituent.

Advance the Values and Mission of the University

- Visitors understand that they owe a fiduciary obligation to act in the best interests of the University.
- Visitors support the University's broader public mission and promote the values of a public university, including serving as conduits for conveying the interests of citizens and political leaders of the Commonwealth to the University.
- Visitors participate in the life of the University, including attending major University events (e.g. Fall Convocation, Final Exercises).
- Visitors respect the concept of student self-governance and the University's Honor System.
- Visitors actively safeguard principles of academic freedom for the University and its faculty and endeavor to protect the University from outside influences seeking improperly to shape it.
- Visitors help the University obtain the resources it needs to support its mission.

Uphold the Integrity of the Board

- Visitors understand and adhere to the Manual of the Board of Visitors, University policy, and applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including the Virginia State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- Visitors adhere to the highest standards of personal and professional integrity, including avoiding real or perceived conflicts of interests. Visitors do not use service on the Board, or information obtained through service on the Board, for personal advantage or for the advantage of family members, friends, or business associates.

- Visitors abstain from asking the president or others for special treatment for anyone beyond that which is generally available, and understand that the president and the Board office are the primary contacts within the University with regard to Board business. This section does not prohibit routine letters of recommendation for admission or employment.
- Visitors do not speak on behalf of the University or the Board unless designated by the rector and/or the president to do so.