The Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia held a special electronic meeting on Friday, July 31, 2020. James B. Murray Jr., Rector, presided.


Also present were James E. Ryan, Jennifer Wagner Davis, K. Craig Kent, M.D., M. Elizabeth Magill, Michael J. Citro, Margaret S. Grundy, Susan G. Harris, Timothy J. Heaphy, Donna P. Henry, Archie L. Holmes Jr., John C. Jeffries Jr., Patricia M. Lampkin, S. Pace Lochte, Megan K. Lowe, Clark L. Murray, Mitchell H. Rosner, M.D., Colette Sheehy, Costi D. Sifri, M.D., and Debra D. Rinker.

At 3:30 p.m., the Rector opened the meeting by welcoming the participants, congratulating Mr. Blue on his promotion, and reviewing the meeting agenda. Mr. Murray said the exclusive topic for the meeting is reopening.

Mr. Murray posed questions to the administration that had been submitted by members of the Board. The first question asked about providing courses to high risk students and Ms. Magill responded that all students had the option of taking their courses online. Students are responsible for asking for disability accommodation if they need modifications to pursue their education.

Mr. Murray asked how many students are already living in Charlottesville. Ms. Magill said that is difficult to figure out; students will be asked to tell where they are located as part of the onboarding process. The research enterprise has restarted, and medical and nursing students are doing clinical work. Many graduate students and fall athletes are in Charlottesville already.

Mr. Murray’s next question was about taking care of affected students living off-Grounds. Ms. Davis said the first strategy is prevention: pre-arrival testing and quarantine space for students on-Grounds, but if an off-Grounds student needs assistance that will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Ms. Lampkin said Student Health will be involved for both on- and off-Grounds students, and the deans-on-call will respond to issues for all students. Contact tracing is handled by the Virginia Health Department (VDH) and they
will do that for off-Grounds students in the same way as for others living in the community. Ms. Davis said the University is working closely with VDH. Dr. Sifri added that a tracing app will be issued by the VDH and will be utilized by students.

The next question was to explain “Plan B” if there is a large outbreak. Ms. Davis said they have multiple plans to modify operations including returning to only essential operations if necessary.

Plans for the College at Wise were addressed by Ms. Davis and Ms. Henry. Ms. Henry said student athletes are currently moving in as well as others. There are isolation rooms set aside in the dorms and they are working with UVA medical experts and their local department of health. They are prepared to do symptomatic testing. Fall sports have been delayed until October.

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Closed Session

Rector Murray asked for a motion to resume in closed session. After adopting the following motion made by Mr. Clement, duly seconded, and unanimously supported by the voting members present plus Ellen M. Bassett, Faculty Representative, and Mazzen Shalaby, Student Representative, the Board went into closed session at 3:55 p.m. James E. Ryan, Jennifer Wagner Davis, K. Craig Kent, M.D., M. Elizabeth Magill, Michael J. Citro, Margaret S. Grundy, Susan G. Harris, Timothy J. Heaphy, Donna P. Henry, Archie L. Holmes Jr., John C. Jeffries Jr., Patricia M. Lampkin, S. Pace Lochte, Megan K. Lowe, Clark L. Murray, Mitchell H. Rosner, M.D., Colette Sheehy, Costi D. Sifri, M.D., and Debra D. Rinker also participated in the closed session.

“I move that the Board of Visitors go into closed session for discussion with University leadership detailed plans regarding the University’s response to the coronavirus. This discussion will include proprietary, business-related information about the Medical Center’s preparations for testing and clinical response to the COVID-19 emergency, and briefings by University leadership and legal counsel regarding plans to address potential imminent threats to public health and safety of persons on University Grounds or using University facilities including safety issues around students, faculty, and staff returning to Grounds for the fall semester, and related liability issues. The relevant exemptions are Sections 2.2-3711 A (7), (8), (19), and (22) of the Code of Virginia.”

At 5:00 p.m. the Board left closed session, and, on the following motion made by Mr. Clement, all members present certified by roll call vote that the deliberations in closed session had been conducted in accordance with the exemptions permitted by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The members voting in the affirmative were Mr. Murray, Mr. Clement, Mr. Blue, Mr. Bowles, Dr. Britt, Mr. Conner, Ms. Cranwell, Mr. DePasquale, Ms. Fried, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Haddad, Mr. Hardie, Mr. Jones, Dr. Lateef, Ms. Mangano, Mr. Poston, and Mr. Reyes. Ms. Bassett and Mr. Shalaby also voted in the affirmative.
“I move that we vote on and record our certification that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and which were identified in the motion authorizing the Closed session, were heard, discussed, or considered in Closed session.

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Mr. Murray asked members to review the slides about the exposure notification app. This software will be the most effective way of controlling spread. He said he would like to see the app in the hands of faculty, staff, and community members, as well as students.

Mr. Clement thanked the Rector and the leadership team for all of their work this summer. The Board appreciates the efforts of the administrators and medical team.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan G. Harris
Secretary

SGH:ddr
These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors website. http://bov.virginia.edu/public-minutes