

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Resolution approving the selection of a new set of Institutional Peers and Aspirational Peers for the University of the Virgin Islands

WHEREAS, over a period of many years, the University of the Virgin Islands (“University”) has used a set of institutional peers to make comparisons between the University and other similar institutions on matters pertaining to enrollment, SAT scores, appropriations as percentages of core revenues, and tuition and fees as percentages of core revenues, among others; and

WHEREAS the existing set of institutional peers have been in use for an extended period and has not been revised for more than five years; and

WHEREAS on January 25, 2013, the President appointed and charged a team of faculty, staff, administrators, and students to work collaboratively with Institutional Research and Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment to guide the process of identifying and selecting a new set of institutional and aspirational peers; and

WHEREAS the team was asked to determine whether there should be one list of institutional peers and a second list of aspirational peers or one combined list of institutional and aspirational peers; as well as to determine the number of peers that are manageable and would best suit the University’s needs; and

WHEREAS an initial list of 565 institutions (peer/aspirational) was generated using the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) data, where criteria for selection included miscellaneous indicators, degree-granting status, highest degree offered, Carnegie Classification 2010, institution size, and full-time first-time undergraduates, among others. And more than fifty variables including academic offerings, institutional control or affiliation, SAT/ACT test scores, enrollment, retention rate, graduation rate, core revenues and core expenses, among others; and

WHEREAS deans of the University’s colleges and schools submitted a separate list of institutions that they viewed, from their perspective, as peers and/or aspirational peers based on their approach to improving their school/college, from which institutional overlaps were identified; and

WHEREAS educational data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was also used (with similar criteria and variables) to identify institutions outside of the United States that may serve as peers and aspirational peers; and

WHEREAS Caribbean institutions together with institutions from among the consortium of Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) were also identified and added to the list; and

WHEREAS a measure order analysis was used to score the institutions and the scores were transformed to ensure that linear measures were produced to provide an objective basis for comparison and ranking; which list was further culled to identify 84 of the institutions that may potentially serve as peers and aspirational peers for the University; and

WHEREAS the list of 84 institutions including a further refined (with input from internal stakeholders) list of 10 institutional peers and 10 aspirational peers was submitted to the University's shared governance process for purposes of review, input, and suggestions; and

WHEREAS the Planning Committee of the Board of Trustees has voted to recommend to the full Board of Trustees that the following lists of new Institutional Peers and Aspirational Peers for the University be approved:

Institutional Peers

Alabama A&M University
Clark Atlanta University
Langston University
Albany State University
University of Guam
University of Turabo, Puerto Rico
University of the West Indies – Cave Hill
Western New Mexico University
Savannah State University
Ohio State University - Lima Campus

Aspirational Peers

SUNY at Purchase College
Wayne State College
Oregon Institute of Technology
Delaware State University
University of Hawaii at Hilo
Alfred University
Andrews University
University of Wisconsin - Superior
University of Montevallo
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS:

The new list of Institutional Peers and Aspirational Peers as appears below are hereby approved.

Institutional Peers

Alabama A&M University
Clark Atlanta University
Langston University
Albany State University
University of Guam
University of Turabo, Puerto Rico
University of the West Indies – Cave Hill
Western New Mexico University
Savannah State University
Ohio State University - Lima Campus

Aspirational Peers

SUNY at Purchase College
Wayne State College
Oregon Institute of Technology
Delaware State University
University of Hawaii at Hilo
Alfred University
Andrews University
University of Wisconsin - Superior
University of Montevallo
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

The President and Provost are authorized to take such actions as are necessary and proper to implement this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a resolution of the Board of Trustees of the University of the Virgin Islands adopted at a meeting on June 15, 2013 as recorded in the minutes of said meeting.



June 15, 2013

Secretary of the Board

Date