



Virginia's Voice for Access

Virginia College Access Network Board September Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 25th
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Hosted virtually via Zoom

Present: Joy Pugh (President); Scott Kemp (Vice President); Paula Crow (Treasurer); Lyons Sanchezconcha (Secretary); Mary Morris; Paula Robinson; Tierney Jackson; Reshaud Rich; Anne Michie; Ashley Woodous; TeCarla Moore; and Erin McGrath.

Absent: Laura Clark.

Guests: Brenda McCafferty (Conference Committee Chair)

- **Joy Pugh calls meeting to order at 2:02pm**
 - Approval of Minutes
 - Motioned by Scott & Seconded by Anne
 - Motion carries
- **Treasurer Report**
 - Account: \$59,046.16
 - CVENT was paid, but otherwise low activity
 - VCAN is currently, financial good
 - ECMC & VA529 still giving their annual 10K each
 - We are paying Revolution Prep for Virtual Conference
 - Inexpensive
- **Realizing the College Dream**
 - Two events that surpassed prior attendance
 - 94 attendees for the first seminar
 - 109 attendees for the second seminar
 - Great feedback received
 - All attendees were sent a recording and handouts
 - Second round of feedback was also positive
 - Other thoughts
 - Well-time and of stellar quality
 - We should consider keeping a virtual option once things are “normal”
 - timing the combination of offerings in the future
 - programatically addition to Realizing College Dream
 - Virtual fall classes vs in-person spring
 - 1,2,3, Go saw same numbers as last year despite being virtual

- **VCAN Listserv**
 - Cleaning up and clearing out
 - Switch platform?
 - Currently Google Groups houses members
 - Collecting First, Last, E-mail, Organization
 - Do we need to add questions to our listserv collection
 - Mail Chimp or Constant Contact
 - Could allow opportunity for Newsletter
 - Virginia's Access Bulletin Board
 - Current Intake is in a Google Form format that
 - Let's first fix listserv
 - even if it lowers numbers
 - Cleanup & Update
 - **Brenda joins the call at 2:25pm**
 - Tierney, Colin, and Lyons will convene to come up with a solution
- **Conference**
 - Revolution Prep is our vendor for our virtual conference
 - Registration Link created
 - You must register to attend
 - Registration will auto-generate an email confirmation
 - Detailed agenda is on the website
 - Virtual Bingo will be taking place
 - A Trivia alternative will be offered
 - Sessions
 - Webinar style
 - Breaks throughout
 - Zoom platform links are created
 - breakout rooms available
 - Quick survey each time a session closes for instant feedback
 - 4 sessions happening simultaneously
 - GoFundMe greeted for Scholarship
 - Givify is also being looked into by Joshua
 - Everyone please be available for the 2nd day's morning sessions
 - Coffee w/the Board
 - VCAN Virtual Background
- **Governance Committee**
 - Paula Robinson is transitioning out
 - Erin McGrath transitioning in on her behalf
 - Mary Morris is transitioning out
 - Andrea Feirstein potential VA529 replacement
 - What other perspectives do we want on the board
 - School Counselor
 - Someone from VDOE
 - VSCA, VASFA, VACRAO
- **Executive Committee**
 - Nothing to report

- **VCAN Around the Horn**

- Reshaud Rich
 - Tracking GEAR-UP VA's 1st year cohort
 - Ambassador Program - student check-in and student perspectives
 - Personal Updated - stand-up comedy on YouTube
- Tierney Jackson
 - A space to vent about recent events
 - Academic Common Market progress
- Anne Mitchie
 - GRASP has moved offices
 - First 100 Days complete for new President & CEO
 - Streamlined advising online and reaching a lot of parents too
- Erin McGrath
 - GEAR UP Higher Ed partnership Wednesday w/40 institutions
 - Supplemental Grant for 5+ years
 - 93 HS for 123Go and first FAFSA night coming 10/1, VCAW 10/8
- Lyons Sanchezconcha
 - Appointed to Virginia Latino Advisory Board
 - Virtual Education continues, some hybrid in surrounding counties
 - Varied schedules all across the commonwealth cause some challenges
- Paula Robinson
 - Raising up insights on the digital divide for both rural and urban
 - SCHEV strategic plan w/equity lens, BOV orientation, mental health
 - New Grant for closing gap involving some schools like ODU, VCU, PHCC
 - Student Advisory Committee
- Scott Kemp
 - Shout out to Tierney
 - Executive Action: relief till December and more things as they come
 - Ombudsman meet: FSA to centralize all info, consistent borrower services
- Ashley Woodous
 - Shift in person model to virtual w/interactive approaches (Padlet, Etc.)
 - City-wide Virtual financial aid event
 - Shifting forms from PDFs to Forms for intake
- Paula Craw
 - Opportunities coming next week.
 - Mock-up version being sent to Tierney for SCHEV use
- TeCarla Moore
 - Colleges are on track, hybrid mostly, 60% online, working 90% remote
 - Virtual Recruitment taking place and looking at outreach changes
 - Panels on equity and diversity to increase access, panel on conference

Paula C. leaves the call at 3:43pm
- Mary Morris
 - Working exclusively from home, as normal as can be
 - New GEAR UP process and moving scholarship money
 - SOAR VA is all virtual, folks still saving for college
- Joy Pugh
 - Valerie Gregory retired & new Vice Provost from Chapel Hill
 - New Administrative Position opening w/hiring freeze
 - 42 advisors across the Commonwealth, CAC model recognized

- **Adjourn Meeting at 3:58pm**

- Next Meeting: December 16th 2-4pm

The mission of the Virginia College Access Network is to support and enhance post-secondary education access and attainment for residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia. To accomplish this mission, VCAN will support access programs and foster new initiatives; develop information and financial resources for students and families; and promote the benefits of greater access to postsecondary education.