

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting held Monday, May 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom - APPROVED

The VSC Board of Trustees Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee met on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Board members present: Shirley Jefferson (Chair), Betsy Bloomer (Vice Chair), Bob Flint, Jason Musal

Others present: Lynn Dickinson

Absent: Megan Cluver, Jim Masland

Chancellor: Beth Mauch

Presidents: David Bergh, VTSU
Joyce Judy, CCV

Liaisons: Marianne Dimascio, CCV staff
Maya Nasta, VTSU staff
Alex Northern, CCV faculty
Michael Reeves, VTSU faculty

Other Attendees: Mary Brodsky, CCV Dean of People and Culture
Kayla Dewey, Executive Assistant
Lisa Hayward, VTSU AVP of Online Programs
Jason Kaiser, Learning Spaces Technology Specialist
Katie Mobley, CCV Dean of Enrollment and Community Rel.
Alison Novak, Staff Writer, Seven Days
Maurice Ouimet, VP for Admissions and Enrollment Services
Dennise Rhodes, VTSU Student Financial Support Specialist
Kathryn Santiago, Associate General Counsel
Paul Suk-Yoon, VTSU Chief Diversity Officer
Sarah Truckle, VTSU Vice President of Business Operations
Patty Turley, General Counsel

1. Call to Order

Chair Jefferson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed new student trustee, Amelia Vlahogiannis who will join the committee when she begins her term on June 1.

2. Comments from the Public

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of March 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Flint moved and Trustee Musal seconded the motion to approve the March 6, 2025 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Welcome to newly appointed DEI Committee Liaisons

Chair Jefferson welcomed two newly appointed DEI Committee Faculty/Staff Liaisons for VTSU, Michael Reeves and Maya Nasta.

5. Update on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion from the Community College of Vermont

Chair Jefferson invited Dean Brodsky to provide an update on Diversity Equity & Inclusion at CCV. Ms. Brodsky shared that those at CCV who engage with DEI are leaning into values including respect for their community and all individuals with their varying backgrounds, cultures and opinions. CCV is continuing to nurture as a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space for all and has hosted monthly discussions, “Chat and Chews,” to support DEI efforts. In the Fall, CCV hired a Coordinator of Teaching and Learning to support multi-lingual learners by bridging the gap between adult language programs offered in the community and college-level learning. CCV hosted an International Food Festival to celebrate the cultures represented at the college. They recently launched a staff survey to measure attitudes and experiences about DEI efforts at CCV. Dean Brodsky attended VBSR’s Annual conference which re-inspired her to continue work to bolster DEI at CCV. She thanked the committee for their interest and support.

6. Update on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice from Vermont State University

Chair Jefferson invited Paul Yoon to provide an update on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice at Vermont State University (VTSU). Mr. Yoon reported that he attended conferences hosted by the National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education and Higher Education Male Achievement Convening, which works to address male recruitment and retention in higher education. VTSU is seeing early signs that they will see an increase of enrollment in the Fall cohort. The University administered an employee survey and will offer this survey regularly to keep a pulse on community opinions on DEI. Mr. Yoon described communications to guide the VTSU community with how to respond to requests from law enforcement. VTSU will continue to monitor actions and developments at the federal level to support the campus community, which prompted discussion by the Committee. Jenn Harden has been hired as the Assistant Director of DEISJ.

7. Additional Business

There was no additional business.

8. Adjourn

Chair Jefferson adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.