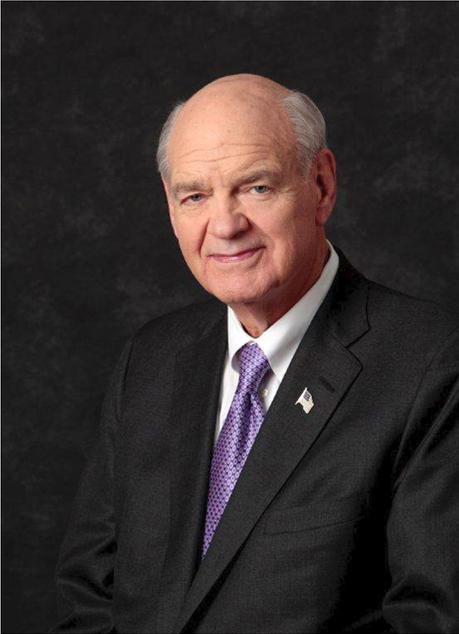


Welcome from Chairman Minor



It is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 2016 Boards of Visitors Orientation.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia has presented orientations for new members of the governing boards of Virginia's public colleges and universities for many years. Since 2013, new members' participation in these orientations has been mandated in statute.

We hope you will find today's sessions interesting and informative. Our speakers and panelists are well versed in their subjects. These sessions will cover a wide range of topics across Virginia higher education. Whether the subject is fiscal responsibility, the rules around public meetings, safeguarding the safety and well-being of our students, or affordability and access, we know from long experience that the topics we discuss today will play a direct role in your work as a leader of one of Virginia's storied institutions of higher learning. The decisions you make as board members will affect economies, businesses, students and families across Virginia, the nation and the world.

BOARDS OF VISITORS ORIENTATION

October 18 - 19, 2016

It is a great responsibility. What you learn over these two days will give you many of the tools you will require in the years to come. In addition, you and your fellow board members hold a wealth of knowledge and experience upon which you will draw. We encourage you to learn from each other. Please speak up, ask questions and express your points of view in a timely manner.

In Virginia, we are fortunate to have one of the nation's great communities of public and private colleges and universities. Thank you for your willingness to serve. The Commonwealth will be stronger as a result. I look forward to sharing this time with you as you prepare to lead Virginia forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gilmer" with a stylized flourish at the end.

G. Gilmer Minor III
Chair, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia