

April 4, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Health Affairs Committee:

Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D., Chair
H. Christopher Alexander, III, M.D.
Thomas J. Bliley, Jr.
Vincent F. Callahan, Jr.
William G. Crutchfield, Jr.
William H. Goodwin, Jr.
Terence P. Ross
Thomas A. Saunders, III
Elizabeth A. Twohy
Harry J. G. van Beek
John P. Ackerly, III, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Thomas F. Farrell, II	Timothy B. Robertson
Charles L. Glazer	Benjamin P.A. Warthen
T. Keister Greer	Joseph E. Wolfe
Elsie Goodwyn Holland	Sasha L. Wilson
Gordon F. Rainey, Jr.	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Health Affairs
Committee on April 4, 2002

The Health Affairs Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 4, 2002, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D., Chair, presided. H. Christopher Alexander, III, M.D., Thomas J. Bliley, Jr., William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Terence P. Ross, Thomas A. Saunders, III, Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy and John P. Ackerly, III, were present.

Also present were Thomas F. Farrell, II, Charles L. Glazer, Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Benjamin P.A. Warthen, Joseph E. Wolfe, and Ms. Sasha L. Wilson.

Present as well were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, R. Edward Howell, Gene D. Block, Robert E. Reynolds, M.D., Ms. Jeanette Lancaster, George W. Beller, M.D., and Ms. Jeanne Flipppo Bailes.

Charles H. Crowder, Jr., M.D., President of the Medical Alumni Association, and Herbert Timothy Lovelace, Jr., the Student Member-elect, were present too.

The Chair asked Mr. Block, Vice President and Provost, to present the Agenda.

Mr. Block gave the customary vice-presidential report. He announced the appointment of Dr. Arthur Garson of the Baylor Medical School in Houston as the new Vice President and Dean of the Medical School. Dr. Garson will take up his duties at the beginning of the summer. Mr. Block also paid tribute to the service of Dr. Carey, who was Dean for 16 years.

As for the new Vice President and Dean, Mr. Block reminded the Committee that Dr. Garson will report to him but will also have reporting responsibilities to Mr. Sandridge in his position as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the University. Mr. Howell, the new Vice President and Chief Executive Officer for the Medical Center, will report to the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Sandridge.

Mr. Block then introduced Ms. Jeanette Lancaster, Dean of the School of Nursing and Sadie Heath Cabaniss Professor of Nursing.

Ms. Lancaster began her presentation with comments on the national nursing shortage, the worst in the history of the country. In 2001, for the first time in several years, enrollments in schools of nursing showed a slight increase. She gave the Committee figures comparing admissions statistics for 1999-2001 with the current year. Applications from high school seniors are up considerably; transfer applications from within the University are about the same but those from outside are up; applications from students seeking a second degree are up significantly. She projected a yield this year from offers made at 48 high school seniors, 8 internal transfers, 7 transfers from outside the University and 36 students seeking second degrees.

Of the "traditional" - that is, high school seniors - first-year offers this spring, 61% are residents of the state. Their credentials are impressive: an average high school grade point average of 3.99, an average SAT score of 1217, 70% of them are in the top fifth of their class and almost all have had at least two years experience as volunteers in some sort of health care setting.

Ms. Lancaster said she is particularly pleased with the strength in the applicant pool for second degrees, both in the numbers of applicants and their qualifications. Some 90% of these this year are Virginia residents, their average undergraduate gpa is 3.35 and 86% have had health care experience as a volunteer or as an employee. The second degree program, one of the first in the country, is particularly important in that the students have the highest potential of all students in the School of Nursing for staying in Charlottesville after graduation.

With its current facilities, both in space and in number of faculty, the School cannot increase in size. There is no more classroom space and there is an acute national shortage of nursing clinical faculty. Ms. Lancaster said an immediate solution might be a Summer Session, but the current budget cuts preclude that. If the additional classroom space the School has asked for becomes available, she estimated that around 30 students could be added, assuming the necessary faculty can be hired.

The national shortage of nurses, meanwhile, will continue: by 2020, when it is expected to hit its peak, more than 400,000 nurses will be needed in the country.

The Chair commended Ms. Lancaster both for her report and for her leadership as Dean.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

AGG:lah

These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors website.
<http://www.virginia.edu/bov/healthminutes.html>