

April 5, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

T. Keister Greer, Chair  
Elsie Goodwyn Holland  
Elizabeth A. Twohy  
Joseph E. Wolfe  
Sasha L. Wilson  
John P. Ackerly, III, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Thomas J. Bliley, Jr.	William H. Goodwin, Jr.
Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D.	Gordon F. Rainey, Jr.
William G. Crutchfield, Jr.	Timothy B. Robertson
Thomas F. Farrell, II	Terence P. Ross
Charles L. Glazer	Thomas A. Saunders, III
Benjamin P.A. Warthen	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational Policy  
Committee on April 5, 2002

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 10:45 a.m., Friday, April 5, 2002, in the Board Room of the Rotunda; Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy presided in the absence of the Chair, Mr. Greer.

Ms. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Joseph E. Wolfe, Ms. Sasha L. Wilson and John P. Ackerly, III, Rector, were present.

Also present were Thomas J. Bliley, Jr., Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D., William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Thomas F. Farrell, II, Charles L. Glazer, William H. Goodwin, Jr., Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Timothy B. Robertson, Terence P. Ross, Thomas A. Saunders, III, and Benjamin P.A. Warthen.

Present as well were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Gene D.

Block, Ms. Colette Sheehy, Robert E. Reynolds, M.D., Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, R. Ariel Gomez, M.D., William W. Harmon, David W. Breneman, Robert M. Grainger, and Steven H. Kaplan.

BECAUSE OF A FAILURE IN THE RECORDING EQUIPMENT, THESE MINUTES ARE A PARTIAL RECONSTRUCTION

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

The first items were four Consent resolutions.

CONSENT AGENDA: Conflict of Interest Exemption (DVTI, Inc.)

The University is negotiating a research contract with Directed Vapor Technologies International Incorporated (DVTI, Inc.), a Delaware company created in 2000, to support research related to directed vapor deposition. Four members of the University faculty - Messrs. James F. Groves, Douglas T. Queheillalt, Derek Haas, and Haydn N. Wadley - own equity in the company in excess of three percent. According to state law, the Board must approve the conflict created by their equity interests.

Mr. Block said none of these faculty will be involved in the University's negotiation, approval, or procurement of contract terms with DVTI, Inc., and an oversight team appointed by the Chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering in the School of Engineering will manage the contract to ensure that the best interests of the University are served.

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia approved and recommended to the full Board the Conflict of Interest Exemption (DVTI, Inc.) (see the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors dated April 5-6, 2002).

CONSENT AGENDA: Conflict of Interest Exemption (AVIR, LLC)

The University is negotiating a sponsored research contract with AVIR, LLC, a Virginia limited liability company created in 1997, to support research aimed at remote sensing of chemical agents.

One member of the University faculty, Gabriel Laufer, is president of AVIR and owns sixty percent equity in the company. The Board must approve the conflict created by his equity interest.

Mr. Laufer will not be involved in the University's negotiation, approval, or procurement of contract terms with AVIR, and an oversight team appointed by the Chair of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering of the School of Engineering will be responsible for managing and overseeing the contract to ensure that the continuing best interests of the University are served.

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia approved and recommended to the full Board the Conflict of Interest Exemption (AVIR, LLC) (see the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors dated April 5-6, 2002).

CONSENT AGENDA: Conflict of Interest Exemption (YABKO, LLC)

Mr. Block told the Committee that the University is negotiating a sponsored research contract with Amersham Health in Princeton to evaluate a contract agent for use in echocardiography. Amersham will contract with YABKO, LLC, a Virginia limited liability company, to develop specialized software for data imaging. A member of the University faculty, Mr. Jiri Sklenar, and a University employee, Ms. Irena Sklenar, own eighty-six percent of the equity in YABKO, LLC.

The Board must approve the conflict of interest created by their equity ownership. Neither Mr. or Ms. Sklenar will be involved in the University's negotiation, approval, or procurement of contract terms with Amersham.

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia approved and recommended to the full Board the Conflict of Interest Exemption (YABKO, LLC) (see the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors dated April 5-6, 2002).

CONSENT AGENDA: Approval to Change the Name of a Degree in the McIntire School of Commerce from the Master of Science in Management Information Systems to the Master of Science in the Management of Information Technology

Mr. Block told the Committee that the McIntire School proposes to change the name of the Master of Science in Management Information Systems degree to the Master of Science in the Management of Information Technology. The new name, he said, more accurately reflects the current emphasis of the program.

The proposal has been forwarded to the State Council of Higher Education; there, it will receive automatic approval from Council Staff because it will be treated as an item "for purposes of internal management only."

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia approved and recommended to the full Board the Change in the Name of a Degree in the McIntire School of Commerce (see the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Visitors dated April 5-6, 2002).

Vice President's Remarks

Mr. Block reported on funding for graduate students, comparing the stipends offered to some students at the University in a variety of disciplines with the stipends offered at other universities. He concluded by saying that from 1998 to 2001, 1,206 graduate students were admitted and enrolled. In the same period, 3,960 students were admitted but declined the University's offer. Some 26% of those who did not matriculate responded to a survey conducted by the University; of these, 56% said financial aid was an important or very important factor in their decision not to attend.

Division Name Change: Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures

The College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences has proposed that the Division of Asian and Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures be changed, in status and name, to the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures. Mr. Block explained that Asian and Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures has made "significant strides" in recent years, including creating an official major and minor last fall. He said the curriculum is rigorous, its enrollments are rising, and its faculty are deeply committed to maintaining high standards of teaching and research. He pointed out that the change will not require additional resources, and that the proposal has been forwarded to the State Council whose staff will grant automatic approval - it will be treated as an item "for purposes of internal management only."

No action is required, either by the Committee or by the full Board: the item is a report to the Board of an action taken.

Report on the Curry School of Education

Mr. Block introduced Mr. David Breneman, Dean of the Curry School, who gave a brief report on the School. His remarks centered on a strategic planning effort and on a Carnegie Corporation project, "Teachers for a New Era."

Report by the Chair of the Faculty Senate

Mr. Block introduced Mr. Robert Grainger, Professor of Biology and Chair of the Faculty Senate, and asked him to give the Chair's customary report.

Mr. Grainger transmitted the Senate's urgent requests to prevent faculty from leaving the University during the current state budget crisis. The Senate, he said, urges that raises be provided for promoted faculty, that resources be generated for faculty retention, and that the University seek all possible means for keeping faculty salaries competitive. Other urgent Senate priorities are that as many 2020 recommendations as possible be initiated, that a University-wide fundraising campaign be begun, and that the serious problems in graduate student funding be addressed.

Mr. Grainger said that the dissertation year fellowships for outstanding Teacher Scholar programs has been a resounding success. There were sixty applicants for eleven fellowships; the applicants were from Arts & Sciences, Engineering, the Darden School, Architecture and Education, and their quality was "extraordinary." The response, he said, highlighted the urgent need for further graduate student support.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

AGG:lah

These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors website.

<http://www.virginia.edu/bov/educationalminutes.html>