

April 17, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Don R. Pippin Chair
Susan Y. Dorsey
L.F. Payne
John R.M. Rodney
Terence P. Ross
E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr.
John O. Wynne
Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

William G. Crutchfield, Jr.	Glynn D. Key
Thomas F. Farrell, II	Mark J. Kington
G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr.	Warren M. Thompson
W. Heywood Fralin	Thomas A. Saunders, III
Georgia M. Willis	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational Policy
Committee on April 17, 2004

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 8:35 a.m., Saturday, April 17, 2004, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Don R. Pippin, Chair, presided. Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Lewis F. Payne, John R.M. Rodney, John O. Wynne, and Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Rector, were present.

Also present were Thomas F. Farrell, II, William G. Crutchfield, Jr., G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr., W. Heywood Fralin, Ms. Glynn D. Key, Warren M. Thompson, and Ms. Georgia M. Willis.

James W. Head, the Student Member-elect, was there also.

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., Arthur Garson, Jr., M.D., Robert E. Davis, Shandy S. Husmann, James V. McGee, and Ms. Jeanne Flipppo Bailes.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

The first two items on the Agenda were Consent items.

MERGER OF GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Mr. Block explained that at present, the University offers the Masters of Architectural History in the School of Architecture, the Ph.D. in Architectural History in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the M.A. in the History of Art in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and the Ph.D. in the History of Art, also in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

The School of Architecture and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences propose to amend these in the following way: Masters of Architectural History (M.Ar.H.) to be continued in the School of Architecture; M.A. in the History of Art and Architecture, to be offered in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; and Ph.D. in the History of Art and Architecture, to be offered in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

The new joint programs, Mr. Block said, will strengthen the existing graduate programs and will meet needs voiced by faculty, current and former students, and outside evaluators. The present successful and very popular Master of Architectural History program in the School of Architecture will remain in place.

The merged programs will require no new faculty or support staff. If approved by the Board of Visitors, the new programs must be approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; Mr. Block foresaw no difficulty in obtaining this approval from Richmond.

On motion, the Committee adopted the following resolution and recommended it to the full Board for approval:

APPROVAL TO MERGE THE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE HISTORY OF ART AND IN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY AS PROPOSED BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

RESOLVED that, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the existing graduate programs in the History of Art and in Architectural History be merged as proposed by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Architecture.

PROGRAM CLOSURES

Mr. Block reminded the Committee that the University reviews its academic programs every five years, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) periodically audits the number of enrolled students and the number of graduates in all programs offered by Virginia public institutions.

As a result of these reviews, Mr. Block proposed that four programs in the School of Engineering and Applied Science be closed down. In all four cases, the faculty of the Engineering School voted to end the programs and the Faculty Senate has endorsed the terminations.

The four programs are the B.S. in Applied Mathematics, the M.S. and the M.A.P.M.A. in Applied Mathematics and the Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics. No students are enrolled in the latter three programs, and arrangements will be made to grant degrees to students currently enrolled in the B.S. in Applied Mathematics program.

On motion, the Committee adopted the following resolution and recommended it to the full Board for approval:

APPROVAL TO CLOSE THE B.S., M.S., M.A.P.M.A., AND PH.D. IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

RESOLVED that the B.S., M.S., M.A.P.M.A. and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics be closed. After thorough review by the University and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, these programs were deemed no longer viable, and in each instance the Faculty Senate endorsed closure.

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VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Block reported that an extensive curriculum review is underway. A preliminary report on the review has been given to the President; the final report will be shared with the Board at a later date.

In order to help meet the current shortage of nurses, The University of Virginia's College at Wise is expanding its present two-year nursing program to a four-year program. Financial support for the expanded program is coming from the Appalachian Regional Council and from five hospitals in the area.

In connection with the initiatives discussed by the Board for enhancing science at the University, a new laboratory is being planned at the Fontaine Research Park. Mr. Block said that he, Dr. Gomez and Mr. Neuman recently visited laboratories at Stanford University for ideas. One laboratory building there in particular caught their collective eye, and he described it to the Committee.

Mr. Block described a revival of the Diplomat-in-Residence program, an arrangement with the State Department that was established at the University in the early 1950s but has languished in recent years because of lack of funding from Washington. The original program - and its current revived form - places senior Foreign Service Officers, active or retired, in universities for a year or two as visiting faculty. The first person to come to the University under the new program will arrive in the summer.

TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION

Mr. Block introduced members of the Huron Consulting Group, Messrs. Husmann and McGee. Huron was retained to conduct a review of technology commercialization activities at the University, and Messrs. Husmann and McGee reviewed their findings for the Committee.

They told the Committee that they had interviewed some fifty people in the course of their work. Although it is clear that "something is broken" in the University's efforts to translate scientific findings into the marketplace, there are, nonetheless, strong performing units involved in these efforts - and they cited the Patent Foundation and the Office of Sponsored Programs. The missions of the various units are not coordinated and are sometimes conflicted.

Among the recommendations they cited are the "need for a cohesive and unifying University-wide mission for technology commercialization," and the appointment of a visible and strong leader for technology commercialization with responsibility for all University/industry research relations. They suggested, too, that "case managers" would be useful to help faculty and corporate partners navigate the system and to stand as advocates for the "customer."

There was a lively and productive discussion, at the end of which Mr. Block thanked Members for their comments which he said would be incorporated in the final recommendations on the issue.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The Chair of the Faculty Senate, Mr. Robert E. Davis, Associate Professor of Environmental Sciences, gave the report customarily made at meetings of the Committee by the Senate Chair.

Given the constraints of the Committee's schedule, Mr. Davis said his report would be brief. He focused on the Senate's involvement in two student research award programs - the Harrison awards, which are made across the University to undergraduates, and the dissertation fellowship program for graduate research. The latter recognizes both scholarship and teaching and goes generally to help support students in their last year of graduate studies.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 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>