

April 16, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Committee on The University of Virginia's  
College at Wise:

William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Chair  
Thomas F. Farrell, II  
G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr.  
Don R. Pippin  
Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Susan Y. Dorsey	Thomas A. Saunders, III
W. Heywood Fralin	Warren M. Thompson
Glynn D. Key	E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
Mark J. Kington	Georgia M. Willis
Lewis F. Payne	John O. Wynne
Terence P. Ross	John R.M. Rodney

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

RE: Minutes of the meeting of the Committee on The  
University of Virginia's College at Wise on  
April 16, 2004

The Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia on The University of Virginia's College at Wise met, in Open Session, at 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 16, 2004, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Chair, presided. Thomas F. Farrell, II, G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr., Don R. Pippin, and Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Rector, were present.

Also present were W. Heywood Fralin, Ms. Glynn D. Key, Mark J. Kington, Lewis F. Payne, Thomas A. Saunders, III, Warren M. Thompson, Ms. Georgia M. Willis, John O. Wynne, and John R.M. Rodney.

James W. Head, the Student Member-elect, was present, as was James M. Gott, Chair of the College at Wise Board.

Present as well were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Steven H. Kaplan, James M. Gott, Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, Robert E. Reynolds, M.D., Ms. Colette Sheehy, R. Edward Howell, Arthur Garson, Jr., M.D., and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

The Chair introduced Mr. Gott, the Chair of the Board of The University of Virginia's College at Wise. The Chair then extended an invitation to the new Members of the Board of Visitors to visit the College at Wise.

The Chair next thanked and commended Mr. Kaplan, the Chancellor, who is leaving Wise to become the President of the University of New Haven. He listed some of Mr. Kaplan's accomplishments - among them efforts to improve the academic standing of the College and to enhance the quality of student life.

Mr. Kaplan thanked the Chair for his comments and gave a brief general report on the College: the retention rate among students is improving; if the offers of admission made earlier in the month are any indication, there will be a record first year class - numbers are up but more important is the improvement in quality in the applicant pool. There were 20% more applicants from outside Virginia this year (partly in response to serious efforts in recruitment made by the College), and more minority applicants. Fund raising is up and the College, in fact, is enjoying a record year in this regard.

Mr. Kaplan thanked the Board for its support and interest and noted that gifts from Members have amounted to just under half a million dollars. He thanked the Chair in particular for his support and dedication and remarked that he had never met a member of a governing board so dedicated to fulfilling his charge.

The Rector expressed appreciation to Mr. Kaplan, on behalf of the Board, for his substantial contributions to the College and wished him every success at New Haven.

The President echoed the Rector's sentiments and said that Mr. Kaplan has done a good job as Chancellor.

The President reminded the Committee that it has been announced that Mr. Ernest H. Ern, retired Senior Vice President and Vice President for Student Affairs of the University, has agreed to be Interim Chancellor at Wise until the search for a new Chancellor has been completed. The President also announced that the search for a Provost and Senior Vice-Chancellor has been

completed and that Mr. Gilmer Blackburn, presently the Provost at Gardner-Webb College in North Carolina, has been appointed to the position and will take up his new duties this summer. Ms. Amelia Harris, who has been Interim Academic Dean at Wise for four years, has agreed to continue in that position for another three years. Ms. Harris' experience and expertise is vital to the College's reaccreditation process, which has begun.

The President noted that the search for a new Chancellor will be conducted by the Wise Board under Mr. Gott.

Mr. Pippin thanked the President for his support and frequent visits to the College in recent weeks.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

AGG:lah

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

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