

February 3, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Don R. Pippin Chair  
Susan Y. Dorsey  
James W. Head  
L.F. Payne  
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 February 3, 2005

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 4:25 p.m., Thursday, February 3, 2005, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Don R. Pippin, Chair, presided. Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Lewis F. Payne, Terence P. Ross, E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D., John O. Wynne, James W. Head, 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, Mark J. Kington, Warren M. Thompson, and Ms. Georgia M. Willis.

Present as well were John T. Casteen, III, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Gene D. Block, Arthur Garson, Jr., M.D., Robert E. Reynolds, M.D., Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, Ernest H. Ern, Ms. B. Jeanette Lancaster, David W. Breneman, Brig. Gen. Scott C. Black, Ms. Marcia D. Childress, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

BECAUSE OF A TOTAL MALFUNCTION OF THE RECORDING EQUIPMENT IN THE ROTUNDA, THESE MINUTES ARE A RECONSTRUCTION

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Block proposed two resolutions, one creating two new degree programs at The University of Virginia's College at Wise, and the other closing two degree programs, one in the School of Engineering and the other in the School of Medicine.

NEW COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMS AT WISE

The proposed new programs at Wise are part of the College's mission to meet the educational and economic needs of Southwest Virginia, specifically in aspects of computer science. The programs are Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, and Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems. The former would be initiated formally in the fall of 2005 and the latter would combine existing classes in computer science and business.

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

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

WHEREAS, the faculty and administration of The University of Virginia's College at Wise have proposed and approved the inclusion of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree and the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems degree in the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems degrees are expected to attract students from the region who might go elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, these two new programs will provide students with education in areas needed by businesses in the region; and

WHEREAS, such education will assist Wise County and the surrounding counties in attracting new business and industry to the region;

RESOLVED that, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems be approved for addition to the curriculum at the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

#### PROGRAM CLOSURES

Mr. Block explained to the Committee that the University reviews its academic programs on a five-year cycle to assess their relevance and quality. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia does periodic audits of the number of enrolled students and the number of graduates in all programs offered by public institutions in Virginia.

The State Council identified the Masters of Science in Applied Mechanics and the Masters of Applied Mechanics, both offered by the School of Engineering and Applied Science, as programs that fell below the benchmarks for viability. The faculty of the School of Engineering concurred and voted to close the programs effective last May when the last student graduated. The Faculty Senate last fall endorsed these terminations.

The State Council made a similar determination in the case of the Masters of Science in Surgery, which is offered in the School of Medicine. The faculty of the Medical School concurred with the State Council's recommendation and voted to close the program effective May 2009. The Faculty Senate endorsed this termination last fall.

On motion, the Committee adopted a resolution approving the closures, and recommended it to the full Board for approval.

APPROVAL TO CLOSE THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS: M.S. AND M.A.M. IN APPLIED MECHANICS AND THE M.S. IN SURGERY

RESOLVED that the M.S. and M.A.M. in Applied Mechanics in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the M.S. in Surgery in the School of Medicine 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 has endorsed closure.

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Ms. Lancaster, the Dean of the School of Nursing, gave a brief report on the state of the School.

She cited some quick statistics: 554 students were enrolled for the fall semester; of these, 191 are new students. While the majority of these are undergraduates, 113 were enrolled in the MSN program and 24 in the Post-Masters; 35 students were enrolled in the School's PhD program. Last year, the School of Nursing ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in NIH funding, which represents a 47% increase in funding over the previous year. Annual giving to the School in the last fiscal year amounted to \$288,670, an all-time high. Among notable gifts received in the same period were \$1million from the Theresa A. Thomas Memorial Fund, and a \$500,000 challenge gift from the Perry Foundation.

Ms. Lancaster noted, too, that the first Jefferson Scholarship in nursing has been established.

Nearly \$10million has been pledged for the proposed addition to McLeod Hall; another \$2-4million is to be raised by the end of this year. The exact location of the addition is to be determined - it is to have about 25,000 square feet. A consultant is now working with faculty and staff at the School on its design.

The MSN program at the Nursing School is rated among the top 10% in the country and the graduate nursing program in general is ranked 18<sup>th</sup> among public institutions.

PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

Mr. Breneman, the Dean of the Curry School of Education, gave a brief report on the proposal for a program on public policy. The idea, he said, grew out of discussions in the so-called "envision" sessions after the last Campaign. The Provost, in due course, appointed a University-wide committee, with Mr.

Breneman and Dr. Garson as co-chairs, to study the matter and devise a proposal.

Eventually, there could very well be a School of Public Policy, but the interest at the moment is to create an Institute of Public Policy. The Institute, as it is now envisioned, would serve as an organizing vehicle for faculty with related interests, for scholarly work and for fund-raising. Mr. Breneman said this idea has the support of the President and Mr. Sweeney, the Senior Vice President for Development and Public Affairs.

The core graduate degree to be offered would be a Master's of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree, to be offered for the first time in the fall of 2006, to University undergraduates as a combined B.A./M.P.P. in five years rather than the usual six. A curriculum proposal has been developed which draws on the strengths and interests of Arts & Sciences and the Schools of Education, Law, Engineering, Architecture, and Medicine. Relationships are envisioned as well with the Miller Center, the Weldon Cooper Center, the Center for Practical Ethics, and the Center for Politics.

#### THE JAG LEGAL CENTER AND SCHOOL

Brigadier General Scott C. Black, the Commander of the Judge Advocate General Legal Center and School, was invited to make a presentation on the history of the School and its mission.

The JAG School was established at the University after World War II. It provides training for members of the Judge Advocate General Corps, the Army's legal corps, and has a number of cooperative arrangements with the Law School. Its first home in Charlottesville was in a building behind Clark Hall (then the Law School), the structure now known as Kerchof Hall, the home of the Department of Mathematics. When the Law School moved to the North Grounds in the 1970s, the JAG School moved with it, and it is now housed in a building adjacent to the Law School's Withers-Brown Hall.

General Black described the educational mission of the JAG School and its relationship to the School of Law, as well something of the work of the Judge Advocate General Corps.

#### REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Mr. Block asked Ms. Childress, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, to make her customary report.

Ms. Childress said her report would be centered on faculty perspectives on three topics: charter, honor and undergraduate research.

By "charter," Ms. Childress said she meant the efforts underway in the General Assembly for the University and other schools in Virginia to become "covered institutions." She reported that a committee of Senate members and other faculty worked late last semester and over the Christmas Break to consider the potential impact of the proposed changes on the University's core academic mission. The committee applauds the efforts of the administration to make it possible for the University to be given more control over its own affairs. The committee's statement reaffirms the faculty's commitment to the University's public academic mission and underlines four points:

- It is important that the University of Virginia is a public institution serving the Commonwealth and its citizens and that it can and should be a flagship of public higher education.
- It is important that the University remain accessible and affordable to all Virginians. The committee applauds Access UVA, but cites the critical importance of nationally competitive graduate-level funding.
- It is important that the University have the best staff possible, for faculty and administration alone cannot make and keep the University great.

Finally, in matters affecting the University's core academic mission and its accountability to the state on academic matters, it is crucial that all - administration, faculty, staff, governing board - work in partnership.

On honor, Ms. Childress reported that the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee this fall continued from last year the Senate's consideration of faculty perspectives on the Honor System, with the view that the Senate's role is one of brokering conversation about honor and the Honor System among student groups and faculty. The Subcommittee on Faculty Honor Perspectives, which includes the Chair of the Honor Committee, other student representatives, faculty from the Honor System's Faculty Advisory Committee and from the Senate and, in an advisory capacity, Ms. Key from the Board of Visitors. The Subcommittee developed interest in surveying the faculty about the Honor System, but the decision to do this rightly belongs to the students. The survey proposal has been conveyed to the Honor Committee for their consideration.

Ms. Childress reminded the Committee that the Senate has led in promoting independent research among undergraduates at the University. The Harrison Undergraduate Research Awards program, a "brainchild" of the Senate, has been a most successful effort in this regard. The Center for Undergraduate Excellence administers these awards; the Center has just received the 2005 round of Harrison Award proposals - a total of 100 submissions from six schools of the University.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

AGG:jb

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

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