MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Thomas F. Farrell, II, Chair
A. Macdonald Caputo
Susan Y. Dorsey
G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr.
W. Heywood Fralin
Glynn D. Key
Catherine S. Neale
Don R. Pippin
Warren M. Thompson
Georgia M. Willis
Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Alan A. Diamonstein      Lewis F. Payne
Mark J. Kington          E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr. John O. Wynne

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee Meeting on June 9, 2005

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 3:20 p.m., Thursday, June 9, 2005, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Thomas F. Farrell, II, Vice Rector and Chair, presided. A. Macdonald Caputo, Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr., W. Heywood Fralin, Ms. Glynn D. Key, Ms. Catherine S. Neale, Don R. Pippin, Warren M. Thompson, Ms. Georgia M. Willis, and Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., Rector, were present.

Lewis F. Payne was present as well.

Also present were Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Ms. Patricia M. Lampkin, Robert E. Reynolds, M.D., Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, Ms. Colette Sheehy,
Robert D. Sweeney, Craig K. Littlepage, James C. Turner, M.D., Ms. Susan E. Bruce, David Leitao, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

The Chair asked Ms. Lampkin, Vice President for Student Affairs, to present the Agenda.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Ms. Lampkin made a brief general report on a miscellany of subjects.

Leadership 2005 began the previous Sunday and will run through the week. It is this year’s version of an annual program done after Finals and Reunions, and includes 39 students who constitute the leadership of a number of groups – the Honor Committee, Student Council, the fraternity and sorority systems, etc. The students live together for the week in two different sorority houses and are involved in teambuilding and training sessions.

Summer Orientation will begin June 30th, and run through August 2nd, with a last session just before Move-In Day for international students and others.

Ms. Lampkin called Members’ attention to a new publication, previously distributed to the Committee: “MyUVa,” which was mailed to all new incoming students this spring. The booklet is a compendium of basic information about the University.

STUDENT ALCOHOL USE

Ms. Lampkin reminded the Committee that it, and the full Board, have heard reports about student alcohol use and the University’s response to it. She said she wanted to bring the Committee up to date and to talk about some of the work that is being done in this area at the University.

She told the Committee that virtually every college in the country faces questions of student alcohol use, and there continue to be reports of tragic incidents of deaths caused by alcohol abuse. Although the University has a strong education and prevention program in place, and has been consistent in educating students on this topic, no school is totally immune to the tragedies of alcohol abuse.

In introducing Dr. James Turner, Executive Director of the Department of Student Health, and Ms. Susan Bruce, Director of the Center for Alcohol and Substance Education, Ms. Lampkin said she and they would highlight the University’s “inclusive, three-
pronged approach that includes programs and services for all students, for certain high-risk groups of students, and for individual students who demonstrate high-risk behaviors." She said two surveys that will be mentioned are the National College Health Assessment and the University’s Health Promotions Survey. Statistics from the Emergency Room at the University Hospital will be cited as well.

The University’s efforts in this regard go back at least two decades, to 1986 when the legal drinking age was raised to 21. The President took a major leadership role in the 1990s and the University subsequently has been a key partner in a number of efforts at the state and national levels.

Ms. Bruce outlined programs aimed at preventing alcohol abuse. These include peer education, drunk driving prevention, alcohol-free programming and approaches such as the Hoo Knew media campaign. She cited such disparate statistics as “2 out of 3 UVA students have 0-4 drinks per week,” and “88% of UVA students usually intervene to stop their friends from drinking and driving.” And she mentioned intervention programs targeted at first-year students, fraternity and sorority members, student-athletes, fourth-year students and students who are underage.

Prevention programs Ms. Bruce told the Committee about included those aimed at fraternities and sororities.

Dr. Turner presented a number of statistics: the first set compared the University to the nation in 2000 and in 2003 in five categories of “negative consequences due to drinking.” In 2000, the University ranked higher than the national average in four of the five categories; in 2003 the University ranked lower than the rest of the country in four of the five categories.

The next set of statistics he presented represented results of surveys of students at the University over a five year period - 2001-2005. The survey, “negative consequences due to student’s own drinking,” listed a number of categories: Dr. Turner presented eight, “Missing class, DUI, hurt, unprotected sex, taken advantage of sexually, fight, police, visits to the Emergency Room.” The number of incidents in all save one category - visits to the Emergency Room, have declined since 2001. Dr. Turner speculated that the reason for the latter is that students in the past may have felt that visits to the Emergency Room as a result of drinking might have gotten them in trouble with the University authorities.
Dr. Turner continued with more figures: 13% of all student visits to the Emergency Room at the University Hospital are alcohol-related (the comparable figure at Vanderbilt University is 16%). Males of legal drinking age are the strongest predictors. White students are three times more likely than African-American students and two times more likely than Asian-American students to make alcohol-related visits. Trauma is more likely among males and white students; acute intoxication is more likely among female and minority students.

Dr. Turner concluded that alcohol abuse is a vexing and complex problem.

There was a lively discussion with most Members of the Committee posing questions to Ms. Bruce and Dr. Turner. The Chair concluded the discussion by commenting that while it is important that incidents of alcohol abuse at the University have declined in relation to similar incidents at other schools, what really matters is that the University must set its own standards in this regard.

REPORT BY THE ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

The Chair asked Mr. Littlepage, Director of Athletics, to give his customary report.

Mr. Littlepage introduced Mr. David Leitao, the new Head Coach of Men’s Basketball. Mr. Leitao, who was appointed on April 17, spoke briefly to the Committee. He stressed the integrity of the University’s basketball program and his intention of upholding that tradition.

The Chair thanked Mr. Leitao and congratulated the Athletics Department on a very good year for most of its teams.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

AGG:lah
These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia’s Board of Visitors website.
http://www.virginia.edu/bov/studentminutes.html