

**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
MEETING OF THE  
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE  
January 20, 2006**

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, January 20, 2006

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Board Room, The Rotunda

Committee Members:

Glynn D. Key, Chair

Alan A. Diamonstein

Susan Y. Dorsey

Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.

Catherine S. Neale

Lewis F. Payne

E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr.

John O. Wynne

Thomas F. Farrell, II, Ex Officio

AGENDA

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- Approval of New Degree Program: B.S. in Software Engineering, The University of Virginia's College at Wise (Mr. Block to introduce Mr. David J. Prior; Mr. Prior to report) 1
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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: January 20, 2006

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: I. Approval of New Degree Program:  
B.S. in Software Engineering, The  
University of Virginia's College at Wise

BACKGROUND: The University of Virginia's College at Wise requests approval to offer a new degree program, the B.S. in Software Engineering.

The University of Virginia's College at Wise seeks to serve the needs of students in a region that faces economic challenges. The College's curriculum must also meet the current and future needs and interests of the state and business and industry. Software engineering is the next step in the College's efforts to expand the curriculum, as recommended by the Commission on Science and Engineering. In the fall term of 2005, a new Management Information Systems major was introduced and the former Computer Information Systems major was re-designated to Computer Science. With private donations and an Appalachian Regional Commission grant, a 64-node Beowulf cluster instructional laboratory has been completed. The Software Engineering major will complement and extend these recent initiatives.

DISCUSSION: Software engineering is the application of engineering concepts, techniques, and methods to the development of software systems. Computer science supplies the core software experience in algorithms, data structures, and programming languages, whereas software engineering courses expand on this base through advanced course work in software architecture and design, software metrics, verification and validation, requirements analysis and specification, and the software engineering process.

The software engineering curriculum requires the development of new courses and processes. As proposed, the

major will also require new faculty, lab support technicians, and support staff. The College's Board has reviewed the program's financial plan. The College expects that graduates will be in high demand, especially with the recent announcements by Northrop Grumman and CGI-AMS Inc. to locate operations in Southwest Virginia.

The Software Engineering major was approved by the Wise Faculty Senate and College Board in December, 2005, and it is anticipated that the program will be formally initiated in the fall of 2006, pending approvals by the Board of Visitors and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. All new degrees must be approved by the Board of Visitors before they can be forwarded to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for its approval.

ACTION REQUIRED: Approval by the Educational Policy Committee and by the Board of Visitors

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: B.S. IN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING 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 a Software Engineering major in the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering will attract students from Southwest Virginia and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Software Engineering major will produce graduates in a high-demand field needed by business in Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Software Engineering major will assist Wise County, the City of Norton, and the entire Southwest Virginia region in attracting new businesses and industries;

RESOLVED that, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Bachelor of Science Degree in Software Engineering be established at The University of Virginia's College at Wise.

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COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: II.A. Vice President's Remarks

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will use this portion of the Educational Policy Committee meeting to brief the Committee on the status of the Semester at Sea program and the J-Term.

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AGENDA ITEM: II.B. Analysis of Faculty Demographics  
and Implications for Faculty  
Advancement Initiatives and Ten-Year  
Planning

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will introduce Ms. Gertrude J. Fraser, Vice Provost for Faculty Advancement, and Associate Professor of Anthropology, who will give a report on faculty demographics and the implications for faculty advancement initiatives and ten-year planning.

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BOARD MEETING: January 20, 2006

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AGENDA ITEM: II.C. Faculty Senate

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will introduce the Chair of the Faculty Senate, Mr. Houston G. Wood, Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, who will give a brief report on the Faculty Senate's accomplishments and activities during the Fall semester.