

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S
COLLEGE AT WISE
January 20, 2006

COMMITTEE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF
VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

Friday, January 20, 2006
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.
Board Room, The Rotunda

Committee Members:

Don R. Pippin, Chair	W. Heywood Fralin
Alan A. Diamonstein	Gordon F. Rainey, Jr.
G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr.	Thomas F. Farrell, II, Ex-Officio

AGENDA

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COLLEGE AT WISE (Messrs. Pippin and Prior) | |
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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: January 20, 2006

COMMITTEE: The University of Virginia's College
at Wise

AGENDA ITEM: A. Future Growth

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: Beginning with the fall semester of 2000, the College has demonstrated consistent enrollment growth. The Wise College Board established a goal of reaching a total enrollment of 2,000 students by the fall semester of 2010. Recent enrollment projections approved by the Wise College Board, the Board of Visitors, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia indicate the College will reach this target. For Fall Semester 2005, the College enrolled 1,905 students.

DISCUSSION: Working to meet the established goal of 2,000 students four years ahead of the Board's schedule, the College has demonstrated its commitment to planned, incremental growth commensurate with available resources. Strategically, this growth has been accomplished through increased recruitment and increased student retention efforts. During this growth phase, the College has maintained its commitment to quality and continues to build and improve the campus and student life program. Hiring additional faculty has allowed the College to maintain small class sizes and expanded program offerings.

As the College looks to future enrollment growth, a number of issues must be considered when determining the pace of this growth. With the implementation of a freshman on-campus residency requirement, additional residence hall capacity is critical. To establish the residential College climate desired, it is important to work toward housing 1,000 students in on-campus residence halls. Inextricably linked to increased residence hall capacity is the construction of a new campus dining hall. The current capacity allows 178 students to be seated at any one time.

Academic space will continue to present a unique challenge as the College grows. The College's assessment of additional classroom space differs from the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia as determined by annual space utilization reports.

Additional recreation space will continue to be a concern. Currently the campus gymnasium is used from early morning until very late at night in order to accommodate academic and co-curricular programming.

Lastly, professional support continues to lag behind our current student population. In addition to the new faculty needed to meet enrollment growth, the College is currently understaffed by 37 positions across the campus to meet current enrollment.

The College will continue its commitment to growth while remaining deeply committed to the quality of programs and services. Knowing that growth will be important for the development of Southwest Virginia, a critical discussion for the campus will be how The University of Virginia's College at Wise will choose to grow.

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AGENDA ITEM: B. Campus Master Plan

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: In order to provide for controlled growth and effective utilization of physical resources, the Commonwealth of Virginia requires the development of a Master Plan. The Plan is reviewed at least every ten years (the last Plan for Wise was completed in 1997).

Approval of the Campus Master Plan will be considered later today by the Buildings and Grounds Committee, but we wanted to keep this Committee informed as well.

DISCUSSION: Beginning in October 2004, the Office of the Architect of the University initiated a master planning study at the College using the same process which is used at the University. This plan provides for student housing and dining to accommodate at least 1,000 residential students on campus, academic space for student growth and new programs, and additional recreational space.

The proposed plan defines spaces on the campus to create a more collegiate atmosphere. At the same time, consideration was made to protect the campus environment. This plan also provides for avenues of growth in the future beyond the ten-year framework of this specific plan.

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AGENDA ITEM: C. Development

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: The Development Office has devoted considerable time this fall to assisting Chancellor Prior in meeting many area citizens and community leaders. This process will continue and follow-up visits will be planned. His meetings have included political leaders, school superintendents, board members, town and city officials, alumni, donors and friends.

DISCUSSION: The Campaign Cabinet has held two meetings and at this writing has planned its third meeting, to be held jointly with the Foundation Board, on January 18. At that meeting Christopher Brightman, CEO of UVIMCO, will be the featured speaker and former Chancellor Ernest Ern will lead a discussion on the importance of college endowments. The Cabinet will meet in May to establish the Campaign goal. Our Campaign kickoff event will be held in October, 2006. The Office of College Relations is in the process of planning our Campaign communication and expects to have suggestions when the Cabinet meets in May.

The Alumni Association has been responsible for two major events this fall: Homecoming on October 6-8, and the Alumni Awards/Athletic Hall of Fame on November 5. The awards ceremony was extremely well-attended and meaningful to those honored.

The Inauguration of David J. Prior as seventh Chancellor of The University of Virginia's College at Wise will be held on April 11. President Casteen has been invited to be the keynote speaker. Board Members are encouraged to reserve the date.

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AGENDA ITEM: D. Software Engineering Major

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: 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 Commonwealth 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 new computer instructional laboratory has been completed. The Software Engineering major will complement and extend these recent initiatives.

With the approval of the Board and the Board of Visitors, the College has submitted a decision package to the Governor's office for fiscal support for the program.

Approval of the Software Engineering Major will be considered by the Educational Policy Committee at its meeting later this morning, but we wanted to keep this Committee informed as well.

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 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, if approved by all the necessary entities (Board, BOV, and SCHEV), can be formally initiated in the fall of 2006.

Software Engineering

Background

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Commission on Science & Engineering, comprised of 28 leaders from the public and private sectors, was formed in December, 2002. The Commission embraced its mission of assessing the feasibility of adding new academic majors at UVa-Wise in science and engineering disciplines. The Commission's work included:

- benchmarking and visits to undergraduate engineering programs (UVa., Virginia Tech, and Rose Hulman Institute of Technology);
- gathering expert opinion (consultants from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, rated the number one in undergraduate /master's level engineering for the last seven years by *U.S. News & World Report*);
- seeking input from industry and business leaders on human resource needs; and
- examining incoming students' preparation in K-12 mathematics and science in the Southwest Virginia region.

An internal faculty committee assisted the Commission in its efforts. The Commission, faculty committee, and external consultants recommended the following priorities:

Recommended Curricula	Outcome
Computer Science Major	Approved & Offered Fall 2005
Management Information Systems Major	Approved & Offered Fall 2005
Software Engineering Major	In the approval process; expected to be offered by Fall 2006
Geographic Information Science Minor	Phase-in of faculty training and course offerings begins Spring 2006.

SUPPORTIVE STEPS

Over \$200,000 from private donors and \$53,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission supported the feasibility study and the development of an advanced computing laboratory, a 64-node Beowulf cluster with robotics, a teaching station, test equipment, and software.

The Wise County Board of Supervisors granted \$100,000 to support an innovative Math/Science initiative for high school juniors and seniors and \$50,000 for new physics equipment.

The College submitted a budget decision package to Governor Warner in the fall of 2004. When funds were not included in the Governor's budget, the local legislative delegation requested a budget amendment. Though funding was not included in the 2005 Session, language for software engineering was added during the budget conference process and approved by the General Assembly in March 2005. In the fall of 2005, the College resubmitted the decision package to the Governor's Office.

The Wise County Chamber of Commerce, the County of Wise, Congressman Rick Boucher, the Napoleon Hill Foundation, legislators, and others sent letters of support to Governor Mark Warner. Former Chancellors Kaplan and Ern briefed U.S. Senators Allen and Warner, U.S. Congressman Boucher, the Virginia Secretary of Education, the Southwest Virginia General Assembly delegation, the Virginia Tobacco Commission, and regional economic developers on the proposed initiatives.

Software engineering is included in the College's Six-Year Restructuring Plan, which was submitted to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia in October, 2005.