

**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS
MEETING OF THE
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE
May 16, 2006**

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Byrd Seminar Room, Room 318
Harrison Institute

Committee Members:

Glynn D. Key, Chair

Alan A. Diamonstein

Susan Y. Dorsey

Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.

Lewis F. Payne

E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr.

John O. Wynne

Thomas F. Farrell, II, Ex Officio

AGENDA

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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BOARD MEETING: May 16, 2006

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: I.A. Department of Communication Studies,
The University of Virginia's College at
Wise

BACKGROUND: Communication is currently offered as a major in the Department of Language and Literature, which is the largest department at Wise. During the past year, The University of Virginia's College at Wise has studied the feasibility of creating a separate department for this major and proposes the establishment of a new department.

DISCUSSION: Communication was first offered as a concentration available to English majors in the 1980's, and since that time, has been housed in the Department of Language and Literature. The concentration in Communication was elevated to a major in 2000, but it was still under the English degree. Originally, there was only one faculty member. Today there are three, and the College is hiring another Teaching Fellow this spring. A full national search for a tenure-track position will be conducted next year and the teaching fellow position will be elevated to tenure-track status. Currently there are approximately 30 majors.

For a number of reasons, we believe that the time is right to form a separate Department of Communication Studies. The Department of Language and Literature includes several disciplines - English, three foreign languages, foreign studies, and communication - and eighteen faculty members, more than twenty percent of the full-time teaching faculty at the College. The chair of that department also supervises the Language Laboratory, the Writing Center, and the Oral Communication Laboratory. The assistance of coordinators is required to administer this large array of programs, and the addition of such communication functions as television and radio stations will further burden the Department of Language and Literature. Additionally, in the last eight years, the communication curriculum has diverged substantially from that of English, to the point that there is no longer any logic in housing them together.

Finally, the communication faculty believes that Communication Studies needs a unique presence on campus in order to more efficiently attract and represent majors, and this can best be achieved in a separate department.

The cost of separating the two departments will be minimal. Language and Literature has agreed to split its budget with Communication Studies, and any growth in departmental budgets will be justified by the increase in student demand for the department's offerings. The only immediate new funding required will be the stipend for the chair, an amount equivalent to eleven percent of the chair's salary. The current coordinator of the concentration has the expertise and experience necessary to chair this department. All necessary entities - the department, the Academic Program Committee, and the Faculty Senate - have approved the move.

This action was approved by the Board of The University of Virginia's College at Wise on May 5, 2006.

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

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

RESOLVED, the Department of Communication Studies is established at The University of Virginia's College at Wise.

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BOARD MEETING: May 16, 2006

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: I.B. Department Name Change:
Department of Mathematical Sciences to
Department of Mathematics and Computer
Science, The University of Virginia's
College at Wise

BACKGROUND: During the past year the Department of Mathematical Sciences at The University of Virginia's College at Wise has added a Management Information Systems degree and a Software Engineering degree. In addition, the College has changed the name of the department's Computer Information Systems degree to Computer Science. Because it is not clear from the current department name where any of these degrees are lodged, the College at Wise would like to change the name of the department to Mathematics and Computer Science.

DISCUSSION: The Board of The University of Virginia's College at Wise approved this departmental name change on May 5, 2006.

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

APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

RESOLVED, the name of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at The University of Virginia's College at Wise is changed to the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

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BOARD MEETING: May 16, 2006

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: II.A. Approval of New Degree Program:
B.A. and Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.)
Degree Program, to be Offered Through
the College and Graduate School of Arts
and Sciences

BACKGROUND: The University of Virginia proposes to establish a new degree program, the B.A. and Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.), to be offered through the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

In late 2003, the Vice President and Provost convened a faculty committee to propose new educational and research programs which could strengthen the University's commitment to public service and also prepare students for leadership roles in public policymaking at both the domestic and international levels. The committee was co-chaired by the Dean of the School of Education and the Dean of the School of Medicine. Its members included persons from around the Grounds, including Law and Engineering faculty as well as Arts and Sciences faculty, the Dean of the McIntire School of Commerce and representatives of the Miller Center. The Committee concluded its work in 2005 with a proposal to create a new public policy program that would combine the analytic rigor and professional orientation of leading graduate programs with the University's traditional strengths in undergraduate liberal arts education. In the course of developing the proposal, the University sought the advice of deans of leading Public Policy schools around the country. As a result, the University proposes to establish this program in Public Policy to help fulfill the University's public service mission and to meet the demand for well-trained leaders in public policy analysis and management.

DISCUSSION: The B.A./M.P.P. program is designed to provide students with the substantive knowledge, analytical skills, historical and political awareness, and ethical sensitivities needed for public service-oriented careers.

The program is open to current University of Virginia students from all undergraduate majors and to students with both domestic and international policy interests.

The program will allow students to complete both a bachelor's degree and a Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree in five years. The program consists of a core curriculum, a summer internship, elective courses, and a public policy study conducted for a real-world organizational client of the student's choice. Fourth-year students begin their professional studies and complete their remaining undergraduate coursework in order to receive a bachelor's degree at the end of the year. After completing the summer public policy internship, students return to the Grounds for a final year of study. Upon graduation from the program, students will be prepared for public service careers in government, with non-profit organizations, and in private firms engaged in public-private partnerships.

Faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Curry School of Education, the Miller Center, and other schools and units of the University will teach the program's core courses. A program director and associate director will administer the program. In addition, because of the extraordinary interdisciplinary and interschool nature of the program, the Office of the Vice President and Provost will contribute resources as part of the approved financial plan for its implementation.

The B.A. and M.P.P. Degree Program was approved by the Faculty Senate on April 28, 2006, and it is anticipated that the program will be initiated formally in the Fall of 2007, 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 approval.

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

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: B.A. AND MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (M.P.P.) DEGREE PROGRAM, TO BE OFFERED THROUGH THE COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

RESOLVED that, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the B.A. and Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) Degree Program is established at the University of Virginia. The program is to be offered through the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

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BOARD MEETING: May 16, 2006

COMMITTEE: Educational Policy

AGENDA ITEM: II.B. Approval of Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree, to be offered in the School of Nursing

BACKGROUND: The University of Virginia proposes to establish a new degree program, The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), to be offered in the School of Nursing.

In response to the increasing complexity of the health care system, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing adopted a position statement in 2004, recommending that nurses practicing at the highest level should receive doctoral level preparation. And in 2005, the National Academy of Sciences called for nursing to develop a "non-research clinical doctorate" to prepare expert practitioners who can also serve as clinical faculty. Further, a recent national survey indicated that many Master's programs have expanded their curricula to exceed the usual credit level for traditional Masters degrees, in order to respond to the growing demands of health care.

Case Western Reserve University, Columbia University, the University of Colorado, Drexel University, the Medical College of Georgia, the University of Kentucky, the University of Tennessee, and the University of South Carolina now enroll students in Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. More than 40 additional DNP programs are now under development, and survey data indicate that 140 additional programs are under consideration.

In the spring of 2005, the Dean of the School of Nursing appointed a faculty task group to develop a proposal for a DNP. The proposal was accepted by the School of Nursing faculty in March 2006.

DISCUSSION: The current credit load in most specialty areas offered in UVA's Masters of Nursing program is much higher than that required for Master's degrees in other settings or disciplines. Further, a survey by the School has revealed

strong interest on the part of potential students.

Development of the DNP degree at the University thus will provide an opportunity for students to study beyond the masters level and receive appropriate credentials for the credits earned, and to focus on advanced practice rather than research. In addition, offering the DNP is consistent with the University's leadership role in nursing practice.

The proposed DNP program is consistent with the current national guidelines for advanced nursing specialty practice. It will expand and enhance the current MSN program, as well as strengthen the current curriculum by providing increased emphasis on evidence-based nursing practice and enhancing systems and population-based competencies. In all, the program will require 3-6 new credits in each of the School's five specialty areas. A prudent financial plan for the program, to include external grant support, will be considered and approved by the Vice President and Provost in the coming weeks.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program was approved by the Faculty Senate on April 28, 2006, and it is anticipated that the program will be initiated formally in the Fall of 2007, 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 approval.

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

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP) DEGREE PROGRAM, TO BE OFFERED IN THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

RESOLVED that, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program is established at the University of Virginia's School of Nursing.

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

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will provide a progress report on the 2005-2006 Goals and Work Plan for the Educational Policy Committee.

Mr. Block will report on visits made throughout the academic year to historically Black colleges and universities in Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland, in an effort to develop more strategic and sustained relationships with them.

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AGENDA ITEM: III.B. Faculty Profile

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 to the Committee on the University's faculty profile. Ms. Fraser's report will cover where we are now as well as planning for the future in terms of retention and recruitment of tenure-track faculty.

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AGENDA ITEM: III.C. Undergraduate Experience: Small
Group Meetings and Recommendations

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will summarize a series of small group discussions with students that focused on the undergraduate experience of working students, increasing the number of math, science, and engineering majors, and improving undergraduate advising. Mr. Block will share insights from the students and provide recommendations to enhance the overall undergraduate experience at the University of Virginia.

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AGENDA ITEM: III.D. Faculty Senate

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: The Vice President and Provost will introduce the 2006-07 Chair of the Faculty Senate, Mr. Kenneth A. Schwartz, Professor of Architecture, who will give a brief report on the Faculty Senate's accomplishments this year and the Senate's plans for the coming year.