

October 4, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Special Committee on Diversity:

Warren M. Thompson, Chair
Daniel R. Abramson
G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr.
Glynn D. Key
John O. Wynne
W. Heywood Fralin, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

A. Macdonald Caputo	Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.
Alan A. Diamonstein	Lewis F. Payne
Susan Y. Dorsey	Don R. Pippin
W. Heywood Fralin	Gordon F. Rainey, Jr.
Austin Ligon	E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
	Carey J. Mignerey

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Committee on
Diversity on October 4, 2007

The Special Committee on Diversity of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 12:30 p.m., Thursday, October 4, 2007, in the Board Room at the Rotunda; Warren M. Thompson, Chair, presided.

Present were Daniel R. Abramson, G. Slaughter Fitz-Hugh, Jr., John O. Wynne, Carey J. Mignerey, and W. Heywood Fralin, Rector.

Also present were Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Austin Ligon, Gordon F. Rainey, Jr., and E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.

Present as well were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Arthur Garson, Jr., M.D., Sharon L. Hostler, M.D., William B. Harvey, Ms. Susan Carkeek, James L. Hilton, R. Edward Howell, Ms. Patricia M. Lampkin, Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, Ms. Colette Sheehy, Ms. Valerie H. Gregory, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

Kenneth A. Schwartz, the Consulting Member representing the Faculty Senate, was present, as was Ricardo Padron, Chair of the Senate.

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

The Chair convened the Committee and asked Mr. Harvey, Vice President and Chief Officer for Diversity, to present the Agenda.

Mr. Harvey introduced Ms. Valerie Gregory, Assistant Dean of Admission, who gave a comprehensive report on admissions for the current academic year.

Total applications received during the academic year 2006-07 increased by 1,691 to 20,554, with increases for all racial/"ethnicity" groups; applications from African Americans were up by 210 to 1,591. Among the three principal racial/ethnicity groups, the comparative statistics - last year to this - are as follows: African American - 1416 applied this season, 1216 applied last; 761 offers were made as compared to 590 last year, and there were 360 accepts, compared to 231 last year. The offer rate this year thus was 50.4% and the yield rate 50.5%; last year it was 48.5% and 39.2%, respectively.

For Asians - 2,969 applied this year, 2380 last year; 1024 were offered admission this year as opposed to 939 in 2006; 509 accepted this year, 454 accepted last year. The offer rate this year thus was 34.5% with a yield rate of 49.7%. Last year the figures were 39.5% offer rate, 48.3% yield rate.

For Hispanic/Latino applicants - 841 applied this year, 735 last year; 375 were offered this year, 343 last year; 168 accepted this year, 141 last year. The offer rate this year thus was 44.6% compared to 46.7% last year, while the yield rate this year was 44.8%, compared to 41.1% in 2006.

Breaking down the applicant pool by state, the largest number of African Americans this year came from Virginia, with Maryland second and New York third. For Hispanics and Latinos, Virginia led, with Florida second and New York third.

Ms. Gregory commented that this "was an excellent year for increasing diversity with the entering class." She attributed these increases to

1. A stronger pool of applicants
2. Continued strengthening of relationships with students at an earlier age
3. More personalized attention to families
4. ACCESS UVA financial aid assistance
5. No significant racial incidents on the Grounds
6. Greater outreach within diverse communities.

Ms. Gregory then described the Office of Admission Outreach Office and its plans for the admission year just beginning. She spoke of the Virginia Admission Alumni Network which, she said, is "piloting in five areas - Tidewater, Atlanta, Baltimore, New York, and Charlotte." Alumni volunteers are trained and to date there are 33 of them in these five cities. By 2009, the Office hopes to expand these efforts to other areas of Virginia, "with the hope of going national by 2011."

She described, too, special events at the University - Fall Fling and Fall Blast, college access groups of high school students visiting the Grounds, and increased efforts to bring students who are low income or who come from underrepresented groups, to the University for individual visits.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

AGG:jb

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

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