

February 6, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Glynn D. Key, Chair
The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein
Susan Y. Dorsey
Adom Getachew
Austin Ligon
Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.
The Hon. Lewis F. Payne
E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
John O. Wynne
W. Heywood Fralin, Ex Officio
Edmund W. Kitch, Consulting Member

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Daniel R. Abramson	Robert D. Hardie
A. Macdonald Caputo	Thomas F. Farrell, II
Helen E. Dragas	Don R. Pippin
Warren M. Thompson	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational Policy
Committee on February 6, 2009

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 9:40 a.m., on Friday, February 6, 2009, in the Board Room at the Rotunda; Ms. Glynn D. Key, Chair, presided.

Present were John O. Wynne, The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein, Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Austin Ligon, Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr., The Hon. Lewis F. Payne, E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D., Ms. Adom Getachew, and W. Heywood Fralin, Rector.

Also present were Daniel R. Abramson, A. Macdonald Caputo, Ms. Helen D. Dragas, Thomas F. Farrell, II, Robert D. Hardie, and Warren M. Thompson.

Present as well was Edmund W. Kitch, Chair of the Faculty Senate and Consulting Member from the Senate.

Present, too, were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Arthur Garson, Jr., M.D., William B. Harvey, James L. Hilton, Ms. Patricia M. Lampkin, Ms. Yoke San L. Reynolds, Ms. Colette Sheehy, Thomas C. Skalak, Sharon L. Hostler, M.D., J. Milton Adams, Ms. Elizabeth Turner, Gowher Rizvi, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

Executive Session

After adopting the following resolution, the Committee went into Executive Session:

That the Educational Policy Committee convene in Closed Session to discuss the resignation, performance, and possible assignment of specific individuals responsible for University technology transfer, and to further report on, and as needed, consult with legal counsel on contract negotiations with the Patent Foundation concerning technology transfer, where discussion in open session would adversely affect our negotiations and business objectives, as permitted by Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1), (4), (6), (7), (8), and (29) of the Code of Virginia.

The Committee resumed meeting in Open Session at 10:30 a.m., and adopted the following resolution certifying that its discussions in Executive Session had been conducted in accordance with the exemptions permitted by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act:

That we vote on and record our certification that, to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and which were identified in the motion(s) authorizing the closed session, were heard, discussed or considered in closed session.

Reports by the Executive Vice President and Provost

At the Chair's request, Dr. Garson, Executive Vice President and Provost, introduced the new Vice Provosts, Ms. Elizabeth Turner and Mr. Gowher Rizvi; Ms. Turner is the Vice Provost for the Arts and Mr. Rizvi is the Vice Provost for International Programs. Each reported briefly on their work and respective aims.

Report on the Status of Hispanic Faculty at the University

Dr. Garson next introduced Dr. Sharon Hostler, Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Advancement; Dr. Hostler reported on the status of Hispanic faculty at the University.

Hispanics at present account for about 1.2% of tenure-track faculty. Tenure-track faculty offers to Hispanics work out to 50% females, 50% males. Of Hispanic tenure-track associate professors, all at the University are male. Of Hispanic tenure-track professors, 83.34% are male.

In the population of Virginia (2007 estimate), Hispanics make up about 4.7%. Of undergraduate students, 4.24% are Hispanics; 2.14% of graduate students are Hispanic. In the AAU, the University ranks 59/61 in the number of Hispanic tenure-track faculty.

Dr. Hostler then outlined some possible measures for improving these numbers.

Report on AccessUVa

Dr. Garson introduced Mr. J. Milton Adams, Vice Provost for Academic Programs, who gave an update on AccessUVa.

Mr. Adams cited several sets of figures. The number of "low income" students has increased - from 5.6% of the whole in 2004-05, to 7% this year; the number of Pell Grant recipients, as a percentage of the whole student body, has increased from 7.8% to 8.8% in the same period. Of students offered admission last spring to the University under the AccessUVa program but who turned down the offers, six went to Virginia Tech, five to Cornell, five to Harvard, and so on.

He then compared the financial aid programs at these institutions with the assistance the University is able to offer.

Remarks by the Chair of the Faculty Senate

Finally, Dr. Garson introduced Mr. Edmund Kitch, Professor of Law, who is the Chair of the Faculty Senate.

Mr. Kitch addressed the need to improve support for graduate students, an issue he said is of great concern to the Senate. He reminded the Committee of the Senate's view that improved financial and programmatic support for graduate students should be an important goal of the University's fund-raising efforts. And he quoted the conclusion of a 2002 report of an ad hoc Committee of the Senate on the subject:

"If the University wishes to assume genuine national leadership, it must recognize the essential contributions which graduate programs make to that goal. It must reform its financing structure so that its programs can compete successfully for the best graduate students in the country. The underlying philosophy should be that graduate student support is part of the cost of maintaining a first-rate university and this is a central responsibility of the University. The restructuring must significantly improve tuition coverage and stipends, toward the ultimate goal of providing full support for all graduate students."

He continued with an enumeration of the important work for the institution done by graduate students, and concluded that "what is needed is to make sure that prospective donors understand why improved financial support of graduate students is a priority that is important to the future of the University."

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

AGG:jb

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

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