MEMORANDUM

TO: The Committee on The University of Virginia's College at Wise:

Don R. Pippin, Chair
Daniel R. Abramson
The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein
Helen E. Dragas
W. Heywood Fralin
Robert D. Hardie
Austin Ligon
John O. Wynne, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

A. Macdonald Caputo       Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.
Susan Y. Dorsey            The Hon. Lewis F. Payne
Glynn D. Key               Warren M. Thompson
Randal J. Kirk             E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
Rahul Gorawara

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Meeting on September 11, 2009

The Board of Visitors Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise met, in Open Session in the Board Room of the Rotunda, at 2:15 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2009. Don R. Pippin, Chair, presided.

Present were Daniel R. Abramson, The Honorable Alan A. Diamonstein, Ms. Helen E. Dragas, W. Heywood Fralin, Robert D. Hardie, Austin Ligon, and John O. Wynne, Rector.

Present as well were A. Macdonald Caputo, Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Ms. Glynn D. Key, Randal J. Kirk, Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr., The Honorable Lewis F. Payne, Warren M. Thompson, E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D., and Rahul Gorawara.

The Chair opened the meeting by giving a book entitled Think and Grow Rich to the new member of the Board, Randal Kirk. Mr. Kirk thanked him for the gift. The Chair continued with general remarks about The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, specifically mentioning the Rural Area Medical Clinic (RAM) and the need for dental care in Southwest Virginia. He said they hope to create a dental clinic in the area in the near future. He also mentioned the planned College at Wise Committee meeting on September 29. He said they were looking forward to seeing the Committee in Wise.

The Chair recognized Mr. Prior, the Chancellor, who reviewed the single action item on the agenda, which is the reappointment of Paul C. Buchanan to The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board for a four-year term. Mr. Buchanan is a two-year graduate of the College at Wise and holds a B.A. from the University of Virginia. He is a retired schoolteacher and a trustee of the Columbus Phipps Foundation, a generous supporter of the College at Wise.

On motion, the Committee approved the following resolution:

REAPPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S
COLLEGE AT WISE

RESOLVED, Mr. Paul C. Buchanan is reappointed to The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2013, in accordance with the terms of the Board’s bylaws.

Entrepreneurship in Southwest Virginia

Mr. Prior explained that the College’s mission is service to the community and the region. Entrepreneurship and economic development in Southwest Virginia are critical to the mission. The College has hired Shannon Blevins, a graduate of the College, to head the Office of Economic Development, which has been instrumental in developing the Southwest Virginia Economic Development Center. Initiatives include technology training for all organizations in Southwest Virginia, training solutions for
CGI Technology and Alcoa Wheel and Transportation Products, and collaborations with the Darden School for executive education which brings the "horsepower" of the University to Southwest Virginia. In addition, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies is exploring offering workshops on Management in non-profits.

Revenue Enhancement

Mr. Prior discussed some revenue enhancement initiatives including the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Southwest Technology Development Center, which are both profitable and important to the region.

Mr. Prior also mentioned the current building projects at the College which include a recently completed residence hall, the Center for the Arts, the Information Technology building, renovation of Smiddy Hall, and the Convocation Center, which will be ready for occupancy in 21 months.

In response to a question, Mr. Prior noted that the College at Wise is attracting students from other regions of Virginia, partly as the result of a marketing strategy focused on Northern Virginia, Williamsburg and Virginia Beach. He said that 84% of students have need. The "story" they tell is that the College has the second lowest tuition in the Commonwealth, and it is in the top 1 or 2 in the nation for the lowest debt load of graduating students, even though many students come with no family support.

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On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

SGH:lah
These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors website.  
http://www.virginia.edu/bov/uvawiseminutes.html