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
Susan Y. Dorsey
Glynn D. Key
Randal J. Kirk
Stewart H. Ackerly

Vincent J. Mastracco Jr.
The Hon. Lewis F. Payne
Warren M. Thompson
E. Darracott Vaughan Jr., M.D.

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Meeting on June 11, 2010

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 12:15 p.m., on Friday, June 11, 2010; 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, and John O. Wynne, Rector.

Present as well were A. Macdonald Caputo, Ms. Glynn D. Key, Randal J. Kirk, Vincent J. Mastracco Jr., Warren M. Thompson, E. Darracott Vaughan Jr., M.D., and Stewart H. Ackerly.
Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise  

June 11, 2010


Remarks by the Chair of the Committee

The Chair mentioned Founder’s Day and the dedication of the new Center for the Arts at which President Casteen made the keynote address. He commented on the fact that the College at Wise is a separate state agency with separate funding from the General Assembly. The College has 292 full time employees with an operating budget of $34.4 million. There were 252 graduating students this year, and in the Fall, 2,000 students will matriculate with approximately 70% receiving financial aid. State funding is important to the College because the state pays 63% of the College’s operating costs.

The Chair thanked the Board Members for the opportunity to serve with them on the Board of Visitors and as Chair of the Committee.

ACTION ITEM: Reappointments to the College at Wise Board

The Chair introduced David J. Prior, the Chancellor of the College at Wise. He presented brief biographical information on those the College wished to reappoint to the College at Wise Board.

On motion, the Committee authorized the reappointment of six individuals to the College at Wise Board for four-year terms, and recommended approval by the full Board.

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

RESOLVED, Mr. Mike L. Allen, Mr. Charlie R. Jessee, Mr. C. Michael Puckett, Dr. Joe Frank Smiddy, Mr. James Michael Thomas, and Ms. Dawneda Fowler Williams are reappointed to The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2013, in accordance with the Board’s bylaws.

Report by the Chancellor

Mr. Prior provided the Committee with a College overview handout. He said the College is 95% in-state students, 13% minorities, and 30% are 25 or older. College students are now 56% from the Coalfield region, and 83% of all students are eligible for financial aid. Currently, there are 2,015 students. The business plan contemplates growing the College by 20 to 40 students a year.
Mr. Prior said the Convocation Center is on schedule. It will be the largest in Southwest Virginia. It will seat 3,000 for athletics events and 4,000 for concerts. The high school principals are considering designating the Convocation Center as the permanent site for high school district and regional basketball tournament play and girls district and regional volleyball play.

Mr. Prior spoke of the "Partnership with Southwest Virginia", which is now in its third year and directed by Pace Lochte. One program in the Partnership is the SWELL project, to improve early language and literacy of very young children through a partnership with Kids Central, a Head Start provider in Wise. Other programs include a collaboration with the Darden School, which has been very effective in offering executive education programs to the region.

The Healthy Appalachia Institute is another component of the Partnership. It is a "mini think tank" providing leadership on how we might improve challenging health outcomes. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has provided funding for the Institute.

The Partnership’s Online Learning Initiative is underway and they have doubled the number of online courses for the summer term to 36 courses. They have created an online teacher licensure program working with Scott County. Loudoun County has asked to have the online program exported to their area.

Mr. Prior mentioned the "Fulfilling the Dream" capital campaign. They are nearing the campaign goal of $50 million and expect to complete it by the end of the year. They are now looking beyond the campaign to "Envisioning 2020" to plan for the future.

Mr. Prior said the Samuel R. Crockett Jr. Award, presented to an individual who has made significant efforts toward strengthening the relationship between the University and the College, is awarded this year to Ernie and Petie Ern.

Mr. Fralin thanked the Chair for his efforts over eight years, saying that he was responsible for bringing Wise closer to Charlottesville and Charlottesville closer to Wise, and both institutions have benefited. His comments were followed by a round of applause.
The Chair made some closing remarks and thanked the Committee. The Rector said Mr. Pippin, Mr. Prior and the College have been instrumental in elevating the Southwest Virginia region in the state.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 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