MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Glynn D. Key, Chair
Stewart H. Ackerly
Helen E. Dragas
Marvin W. Gilliam Jr.
Sheila C. Johnson
Mark J. Kington
Randal J. Kirk
Austin Ligon
John O. Wynne, Ex Officio
Ann B. Hamric, Consulting Member

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

A. Macdonald Caputo
Hunter E. Craig
The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein
Susan Y. Dorsey
W. Heywood Fralin
Robert D. Hardie
Vincent J. Mastracco Jr.
The Hon. Lewis F. Payne

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational Policy Committee on November 16, 2010

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, in the Board Room of the Rotunda; Ms. Glynn D. Key, Chair, presided.

Stewart H. Ackerly, Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Ms. Sheila C. Johnson, Mark J. Kington, Randal J. Kirk, and John O. Wynne were present.

Also present were A. Macdonald Caputo, Hunter E. Craig, Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, W. Heywood Fralin, Robert D. Hardie, Vincent J. Mastracco Jr., and The Honorable Lewis F. Payne.
The Consulting Member from the Faculty Senate, Ms. Anne B. Hamric, was also present.


The Chair opened the meeting by reviewing the goals of the Educational Policy Committee for the 2010-2011 year. She said the student experience is important to understand and protect. There is a synergy between academic programs and student affairs, and therefore the two Board committees will work together to analyze the unique brand of University student experience. This will include developing a plan to enhance and leverage University strengths, and engaging in benchmarking and market analysis of higher education policy trends. They will also look at the technology transfer program and restructuring process; academic restructuring, particularly leveraging the talents of the faculty in terms of meeting objectives outside of teaching; and tuition pricing as it affects University academic affairs.

The Chair asked Dr. Garson to present the agenda.

CONSENT ITEM: Renaming a Professorship in the McIntire School of Commerce

Dr. Garson spoke briefly about the renaming of a professorship in the McIntire School of Commerce.

On motion, the Committee approved the following resolution and recommended it for approval by the full Board:

RENAME THE KPMG PEAT MARWICK PROFESSORSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING THE KPMG PROFESSORSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING

WHEREAS, in September, 2009, the KPMG Foundation asked the University to change the name of an existing professorship in the McIntire School of Commerce from KPMG Peat Marwick Professorship in Professional Accounting to KPMG Professorship in Professional Accounting;

RESOLVED, the KPMG Peat Marwick Professorship in Professional Accounting is renamed the KPMG Professorship in Professional Accounting. Subsequent references to the professorship fund shall be to the KPMG Professorship in Professional Accounting Fund.
ACTION ITEM: Establishment of the Marvin Rosenblum Professorship in Mathematics

The Chair called upon Ms. Sullivan to present for approval a resolution establishing a professorship in mathematics named for the late Marvin Rosenblum, a longtime faculty member, funded by his son, Mendel Rosenblum, and Mendel’s wife, Diane Greene. Ms. Sullivan read the resolution.

On motion, the Committee approved the resolution and recommended it for approval by the full Board:

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH THE MARVIN ROSENBLUM PROFESSORSHIP IN MATHEMATICS

WHEREAS, Marvin Rosenblum, of Brooklyn, New York, took a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering, and a Master of Arts and doctorate in mathematics from the University of California at Berkeley, and joined the University faculty in 1955 as an assistant professor of mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosenblum served as chair of the Department of Mathematics from 1969 until 1973; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosenblum became Commonwealth Professor in 1978, and retired as Professor Emeritus in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosenblum was known internationally as an expert in operator theory and analysis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosenblum was a highly respected teacher and researcher, who provided distinguished leadership and service to the Department of Mathematics, the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and the University, for 45 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosenblum died in 2003 and is survived by his wife Elizabeth “Betsy” Parker Rosenblum, of Charlottesville, and his children; and

WHEREAS, through the generosity of a donor advised fund established by Mr. Rosenblum’s son Mendel Rosenblum, and his daughter-in-law Diane Greene, the Marvin Rosenblum Professorship in Mathematics Fund was created in the College Foundation to honor Marvin Rosenblum’s many contributions to the University; and

WHEREAS, the Marvin Rosenblum Professorship in Mathematics Fund is to be used to attract and retain capable and visionary leaders in the Department of Mathematics in the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.
RESOLVED, the Board of Visitors establishes the Marvin Rosenblum Professorship in Mathematics to be held in the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board thanks Mendel Rosenblum and Diane Greene for their generous contribution to the College Foundation, which makes this professorship possible.

Report by the Dean of Admission

Dr. Garson introduced Mr. Gregory W. Roberts, Dean of Admission, to describe the final plan for the implementation of an unrestricted early action admission program to begin in 2012. Mr. Roberts reminded the Committee that at the Retreat in the summer he discussed the early action/early decision options available. He said two concerns emerged among members of the Board: 1. diversity of the pool; and 2. the University decision date. He said they have focused on early action rather than early decision because it attracts a more diverse pool and it is more flexible for the applicants. There are a variety of different types of early action programs; the University is inclined to go with an unrestricted early action plan. The reason for an early action program is in response to student requests. Receiving a decision earlier relieves some of the stress and anxiety for many students. There are very few drawbacks of offering an early action plan to students.

Mr. Roberts said they will use a January 31 decision date for the first year of the program, and then they will evaluate the success of the program and determine whether a December decision date should be implemented in the future. Three decisions are possible: admit, deny, or roll over to the regular decision pool. The program is not intended to be less selective or easier than the regular decision process. He said the program will be made public later in the afternoon.

In response to a question from Ms. Johnson, Mr. Roberts said the Admission staff travel a great deal to areas where there are large concentrations of minority and underrepresented students. They also purchase names of minority students and they are in contact with a variety of access groups. Recently, the University joined Questbridge, a national organization that helps the University identify talented low-income students.

Report by the Executive Vice President and Provost

Dr. Garson updated the Committee on academic productivity at the University. He said a fairly consistent set of measures are graduation rates, faculty teaching load, classroom use, class lab use, credit-bearing activity in the summer, non-credit activity in the
summer, and the use of residential facilities in the summer. Dr. Garson said we can’t improve graduation rates much because we are already at the top of the scale at 93%. Faculty teaching load metrics show that the on-track faculty teach less than the non-track and tenured faculty. Average teaching load is 3.5 courses per year.

On classroom use, we are in the middle among Virginia universities. Class lab use is similar; there is some room to move on each of these. Summer session statistics show 40% of four-year graduates attend summer session, and 208 classrooms were in use.

On residential use, Mr. Sandridge said we use about 90,000 bed nights each summer. Dr. Garson said there is some capacity for the summer.

National Research Council Report Methodology

Dr. Garson introduced Mr. Thomas C. Skalak, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, to discuss the methodology of the National Research Council’s (NRC) assessment of doctoral programs at the University.

Mr. Skalak said the current assessment, which was conducted five years ago, includes 5,000 programs in 62 fields across 212 institutions. The University had 39 programs included in the assessment. There are two types of rankings: survey based “S” rankings of what faculty report as important factors, and regression or “R” based rankings which are more reputational, based on rankings of programs by faculty. The rankings are a range and not a specific number. He pointed out that it is difficult to deduce the quality of the undergraduate program by the ranking of the doctoral program. Also, it is difficult to deduce whether the program is right-sized or strategically suitable for the University mission.

Department of Radiology Name Change

The Provost reported on the change in name of the Department of Radiology to the Department of Medical Imaging and Radiology, to reflect the diversity of devices used for medical images.

Reports by the Executive Vice President and Provost—Faculty Senate Report

Dr. Garson introduced Gweneth West, Chair of the Faculty Senate. Ms. West focused on the Day of Dialogue, which was held in September. She said by the conclusion over 2,000 members of the community had come together to plan and participate in the day.
Ms. West said of greatest concern for the faculty is the projected increase in student enrollment. The faculty want to teach the students well, and they will not be able to do so if the student to faculty ratio is increased. The faculty must grow as well to support the programs.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

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