MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Glynn D. Key, Chair
Helen E. Dragas
Marvin W. Gilliam Jr.
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               W. Heywood Fralin
Hunter E. Craig                    Robert D. Hardie
Susan Y. Dorsey                    The Hon. Lewis F. Payne
Jonathan B. Overdevest

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational Policy Committee on June 10, 2011

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 10:15 a.m., on Friday, June 10, 2011, in the Board Room of the Rotunda; Ms. Glynn D. Key, Chair, presided.

Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Mark J. Kington, Austin Ligon, and John O. Wynne were present.

Also present were A. Macdonald Caputo, Hunter E. Craig, The Honorable Alan A. Diamonstein, Ms. Susan Y. Dorsey, Robert D. Hardie, Vincent J. Mastracco Jr., and The Honorable Lewis F. Payne.
The Consulting Member from the Faculty Senate, Ms. Gweneth L. West, was also present.


Jonathan B. Overdevest, the student member-elect of the Board of Visitors, was present as well.

Mr. Adams began the meeting by presenting the consent agenda item regarding a department name change for Microbiology. On motion, the Committee approved the resolution and recommended it for approval by the full Board:

APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY TO DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY, AND CANCER BIOLOGY

RESOLVED, subject to the approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the name of the Department of Microbiology is changed to the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology.

Mr. Adams presented two action items regarding new degree programs: Master of Science in the Constructed Environment, and Doctor of Philosophy in the Constructed Environment, both in the School of Architecture.

On motion, the Committee approved the resolutions and recommended them for approval by the full Board:

APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN THE CONSTRUCTED ENVIRONMENT IN THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

RESOLVED, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Master of Science in the Constructed Environment is established at the University of Virginia.

APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE CONSTRUCTED ENVIRONMENT IN THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

RESOLVED, subject to approval by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Doctor of Philosophy in the Constructed Environment is established at The University of Virginia.
Report by the Dean, Curry School of Education – Improving Teaching and Learning: Inaugural Symposium

Mr. Robert C. Pianta gave a report on the Inaugural Academic Symposium on teaching and learning. He connected the symposium topic to the work of the Center for the Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning—Higher Education (CASTL-HE).

Mr. Pianta said the symposium was very interdisciplinary and he showed the Board the range of topics covered. The focus was on connecting teaching and learning and the evidence that drives that. He said they would like to put some metrics to assessing learning; the existing measurements are fragmented and thin. It is a tough nut to crack because of the diversity of desired outcomes in different units.

Report by the Vice Provost for Faculty Recruitment and Retention – Faculty Demographics

Ms. Gertrude J. Fraser gave a presentation on faculty demographics, focusing on institutional data and findings on faculty experience, lessons learned, and future plans to attract and retain a diverse group of talented faculty.

Ms. Fraser said 706 tenure track faculty were hired between 2000 and 2010. They began tracking declination figures in 2004. The biggest factor was dual careers, which is important to all groups but more important to minorities than white faculty. Men turned down offers more often because of the ranking of the department than women, while women were more concerned about the climate in the department. Some women did not feel that they would fit in the department and they had concerns about a lack of mentoring.

Ms. Fraser said her office is putting most of their money into dual career issues. Mr. Ligon said the answer is to be able to get to Washington within an hour and he encouraged this as an item for exploration. Ms. Fraser agreed.

Ms. Fraser said they have joined the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium, which includes many schools in the region. Their listing service allows faculty to search in one place for positions.

Ms. Fraser said they have also looked at the pattern of resignations. On average, 35 tenure track faculty leave per year: two African Americans, one Hispanic, four Asian Americans and 11 women leave. She said the University has increased the numbers of tenure track minorities and women over time, but we have not made advances in terms of percentage of total faculty, because the total number of faculty has grown as well.

In response to questions, Ms. Fraser said she would provide data at another meeting about differences in minority recruitment between AAU peers in urban areas and AAU peers in suburban and rural areas.
Ms. Fraser said that right now hiring is stalled, and numbers leaving remain constant. The support from her office for dual career salaries is temporary, usually three years, so this is an issue for departments to bear the burden after that time. She said her office is sharpening their focus on departments that need help with hiring.

Report by the Senior Academic Facility Planner – Academic Facilities Planning for Enrollment Growth

Mr. Richard S. Minturn reported on facility planning as it relates to enrollment growth. He said an integrated approach to planning will be used, with teams that include representatives of the schools, the University Architect’s office, the Provost’s office, Facilities Management, and others. He used as a case study the College of Arts and Science’s planning for science; the main buildings are Gilmer and Chemistry.

A new lab building will open which will leave an empty floor in Gilmer and will allow major work in the old buildings. He explained the challenges and opportunities in renovating Gilmer to optimize the space for future teaching and research needs. The renovations to Gilmer and Chemistry will be phased, and require a budget of $125-$135 million and four and a half years to complete. The scope includes renewing systems, repairing the envelopes, and renovating about 300,000 square feet of space. The cost is 35% of building equivalent new space, and operating costs will be cut by more efficient systems. Challenges include disruption, finding swing space, getting started this year, finding funding, and understanding that no expansion space will be available when complete. This project is in the capital plan for state general funds, but there is no other funding at this time.

Report by the Chair of the Faculty Senate

Ms. Gweneth West gave a brief report on the work of the Faculty Senate. She introduced the chair-elect, George Cohen, and said the Day of Dialogue and the presidential inauguration events, including the teaching symposium and the research poster contest, were highlights of the past year.

Ms. West said the first “salon”, also known as “second story conversations”, was held recently at Mr. Sweeney’s pavilion. There is a great deal of excitement among the faculty about what is possible. Next year’s words are “courage” and “trust” – courage to speak up as faculty and trust in the administration and other leaders. She thanked the Committee for the opportunity to address them.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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