MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Robert D. Hardie, Chair
A. Macdonald Caputo
Allison Cryor DiNardo
Marvin W. Gilliam Jr.
Glynn D. Key
George Keith Martin
John L. Nau III
Timothy B. Robertson
Jonathan B. Overdevest
Helen E. Dragas, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Hunter E. Craig       Randal J. Kirk
The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein Stephen P. Long, M.D.
W. Heywood Fralin      Vincent J. Mastracco Jr.
Mark J. Kington        Edward D. Miller, M.D., Ex Officio

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee Meeting on November 11, 2011

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 1:40 p.m., Friday, November 11, 2011, in the Board Room of the Rotunda; Robert D. Hardie, Chair, presided.

A. Macdonald Caputo, Ms. Allison Cryor DiNardo, Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Ms. Glynn D. Key, George Keith Martin, John L. Nau III, Timothy B. Robertson, Jonathan B. Overdevest, and Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Rector, were present.
Also present were Hunter E. Craig, The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein, W. Heywood Fralin, Mark J. Kington, Stephen P. Long, M.D., Vincent J. Mastracco Jr., and Edward D. Miller, M.D.


The Chair asked Glynn Key to report on the National Summit for College and University Presidents on Campus Safety. She said much of the discussion was about sexual assault. It was reassuring to know that the University had many of the best practices in policies and procedures in place.

Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer Remarks

The chair introduced Ms. Patricia M. Lampkin, the Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer, who spoke about student safety beyond the Grounds. Ms. Lampkin outlined some of the communication with and education of students regarding personal responsibility and safety. Many offices at the University work closely with Student Affairs on student safety, as well as the local landlords and the City and County police. There is concurrent jurisdiction with the University police in those areas adjacent to the University. “Blue light” phones have been expanded to off-Grounds areas, and there are more lit crosswalks jointly funded by the University and the City. She said Dr. Jim Turner and Ms. Jamie Leonard, and Ms. Laura Long, will report on the alcohol misuse prevention programs at the University.

Report on U.Va.’s Interdisciplinary Approach to Alcohol Misuse Prevention

Ms. Lampkin introduced Dr. Jim Turner, Executive Director of the Elson Student Health Center, and Ms. Jamie Leonard, Director of the Office of Health Promotion at Student Health. Dr. Turner reported on ongoing research and new methodologies adopted at the University to mitigate the abusive use of alcohol among students. He compared the drinking habits of U.Va. students with national data and our approach to education and intervention. He used data from an anonymous survey, Student Health clinical data, and U.Va. Emergency Department statistics to report on student alcohol abuse.

Dr. Turner said students complete an online survey and program before they matriculate at the University. He said 33% reported that they were binge drinking in the 30 days before they entered the
University. He said Student Health only sees 155 patients a year with conditions related to alcohol consumption, so it is a small part of their practice, however, the consequences of alcohol abuse can be severe. The program approach is two-pronged: environmental management (enforcing the laws and policies) and health promotion. Dr. Turner thanked John Nau for his support of the program.

Social Norms Marketing is a program Student Health has developed. This program provides accurate information to students about frequency and quantity of alcohol consumed, and the protective behaviors students use, such as designated drivers. The goal is to dispel myths and misperceptions about alcohol use by college students. BAC cards are provided to students at no cost, which include warning signs of alcohol overdose.

Dr. Turner showed graphs of student survey data. There have been some significant reductions in detrimental behavior resulting from alcohol use, for instance, an 81% reduction in drinking and driving between 2001 and 2010. Students who said they had not seen the Social Norms campaign had higher numbers of negative consequences from alcohol related behavior than those who had seen the campaign. Emergency Room visits are up, but Dr. Turner believes this is because students are more willing to seek the care they need. In 10 years, we have had an “outbreak of health”.

Ms. Laura Long, a U.Va. Peer Health Educator, was introduced. She is a fourth-year in the College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in cognitive science with concentrations in neuroscience, linguistics, and cognitive psychology and a minor in biology. She spoke about ways students are provided relevant information that encourages self-reflection, safer decision making, and appropriate health care seeking behavior. She said by the time students are in the upper classes they have internalized the information; however, it is another thing for students to step up and intervene in a situation. She said she thinks this is happening more with the education program.

2011-2012 Men’s Basketball

The Chair called on Mr. Craig Littlepage, Director of Athletics, to introduce Mr. Tony Bennett, Head Men’s Basketball Coach. Mr. Littlepage enumerated several awards Mr. Bennett has received. Mr. Bennett is beginning his third season at U.Va. and spoke about the progress being made in building the men’s basketball program.

Mr. Bennett thanked President Sullivan and Mr. Littlepage for their support of the basketball program. He said they have worked hard and he won’t take a shortcut on character. The University values the academic side of things, and although they have a way to go, they are making improvements in the classroom and on the court. He said the University feels like a safe place for him.
He said if the team gets good enough, he hopes he will not have to wear a tie, and he would like to get rid of the “Hollywood” special effects at the beginning of the game. He wants to be a part of “uncompromised excellence.”

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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