The Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, December 7, 2012, in the David J. Prior Convocation Center at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise; Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Rector, presided.

Present were Frank B. Atkinson, the Honorable Alan A. Diamonstein, Ms. Allison Cryor DiNardo, Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Stephen P. Long, M.D., George Keith Martin, and Timothy B. Robertson.

Also present were Ms. Teresa A. Sullivan, Ms. Susan G. Harris, Patrick D. Hogan, Simeon E. Ewing, John Sanders Huguenin, and Ms. Debra D. Rinker. Members of the College at Wise Board and many faculty, staff, and students attended the meeting.

Ms. Dragas opened the meeting and explained that the reason for assembling was to elect a new Chancellor for the College at Wise. She explained the importance of the role of Chancellor. She said the Chancellor will be responsible for guiding the institution forward, building on its remarkable past and its plethora of assets and strengths to create a stellar future.

The Rector remarked on the search process. She said it was a very thorough search led by a dedicated chair, Marcia Gilliam. She thanked Ms. Gilliam and the committee members for their excellent work.

Ms. Dragas also commended President Sullivan for selecting an exceptional committee chair and for wise decision-making in the choice of a candidate.

Ms. Dragas focused on the College at Wise’ many accomplishments, which have been recognized by inclusion in the “Colleges of Distinction” listing. She said the College at Wise has opened many doors and ensured that more young minds have the opportunity to participate and grow through higher education.

Ms. Dragas remarked that the full Board had not met in Wise for almost 20 years, and she said she hoped there would be more meetings in the future.
Ms. Dragas said the members had a resolution before them electing Donna Price Henry as the eighth Chancellor of the College at Wise. She said a few words about Ms. Henry’s background: she is a proven leader in virtually every aspect of higher education teaching, research, and administration. She’s a passionate advocate for shared governance, for faculty development, and for employing modern best practices in using technology in academic delivery. She understands how important the college is to the community and the region, and she is committed to building a bright future at the College.

Ms. Dragas asked Mr. Gilliam and President Sullivan if they had any comments. Mr. Gilliam and President Sullivan both made brief remarks praising the search process and Ms. Henry’s qualifications for the position of Chancellor. Mr. Gilliam said the candidate had the full support of the search committee. Ms. Dragas then asked if there was a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was made and seconded, and the following resolution was approved unanimously:

ELECTION OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S COLLEGE AT WISE

RESOLVED, the Board of Visitors elects Donna Price Henry, Ph.D., as the eighth chancellor of the University of Virginia’s College at Wise, effective January 18, 2013, for a term of five years and one semester, ending on May 31, 2018, at total initial compensation not to exceed $280,000 for salary and benefits.

Following the election, Ms. Henry was asked to say a few words. She thanked the search committee and spoke about her eagerness to begin work at the College at Wise.

On motion, the meeting of the Board of Visitors was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. Following the meeting, Ms. Marcia Gilliam introduced Ms. Henry to the community, and Ms. Dragas, President Sullivan, and Ms. Henry made further remarks.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan G. Harris
Secretary

These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia’s Board of Visitors website.

http://www.virginia.edu/bov/publicminutes.html