MEMORANDUM

TO: The Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise:

Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Chair
W. Heywood Fralin
Robert D. Hardie
Stephen P. Long, M.D.
George Keith Martin
John L. Nau III
Helen E. Dragas, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

A. Macdonald Caputo
Hunter E. Craig
The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein
Allison Cryor DiNardo
Glynn D. Key

Mark J. Kington
Randal J. Kirk
Vincent J. Mastracco Jr.
Timothy B. Robertson
Jonathan B. Overdevest

Edward D. Miller, M.D.

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Meeting on February 24, 2012

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 8:45 a.m., on Friday, February 24, 2012; Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Chair, presided.

Present were W. Heywood Fralin, Stephen P. Long, M.D., George Keith Martin, John L. Nau III, and Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Rector.
Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/Cambridge Examinations Credit Granting Policy

Legislation was passed in 2010 requiring institutional governing boards to implement policies to grant undergraduate course credit to entering first-years who successfully passed one or more International Baccalaureate (IB) or Advanced Placement (AP) examinations. In 2011 the legislation was expanded to include the Cambridge Advanced (A/AS) examinations, also known as British System Advanced Levels or A-Levels. School policies are required to: 1) outline the conditions necessary for the institution to grant course credit, including the minimum required scores on examinations; and (2) identify the specific course credit or other academic requirements that a student satisfies by completing the IB diploma program.

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise is compliant with the legislation. The college has granted advanced standing (course exemption and academic credits) or advanced placement (course exemption without credits) for qualifying scores on a variety of advanced examinations, including AP and IB. Minimum scores, reviewed by faculty regularly, are posted on the college webpage.

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

APPROVAL OF ADVANCED PLACEMENT/INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE/ CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED EXAMINATIONS CREDIT GRANTING POLICY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S COLLEGE AT WISE

WHEREAS, in 2010 the General Assembly passed legislation requiring institutional governing boards to implement policies to govern the issuance of undergraduate course credit for successful completion of advanced examinations; and

WHEREAS, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise has maintained such policies in its published Catalog; and

WHEREAS, the college’s provost, academic dean, and registrar have reviewed existing policies and confirmed that the college’s policies are in compliance with legislation;
RESOLVED, the policy concerning the granting of advanced standing or advanced placement is approved by the Board of Visitors.

Remarks by the Chair

Mr. Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Chair, said Chancellor David Prior passed away unexpectedly on February 2. Mr. Prior left a legacy of leadership that will be difficult to replace. He spoke about the memorial service on February 6, which reaffirmed the bond between the University and the College. He said in the next several weeks they will start a process of moving forward to maintain continuity in management of the College.

Convocation Center Activities

The chair introduced Mr. Simeon Ewing to present the Convocation Center activities. On October 10, 2011, the 78,000 square foot Convocation Center at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise was officially opened. It regularly hosts men’s and women’s basketball and women’s volleyball games, concerts, high school athletics, and other major events. On October 4 the first concert featured Chancellor Emeritus “Papa” Joe Smiddy and the Reedy Creek Band, opening for country music singer Natalie Stovall and her band. Several recent events include:

- The Wise Kiwanis Club sponsored “The Return”, a Beatles reenactment band – the event raised money for community projects and scholarships.
- An academic lecture by Stanley Fish, Ph.D.
- Fulfilling the Dream campaign event
- Several high school athletic events, regional and district tournaments
- Collegiate basketball
- A regional science fair – highlighted with a big-screen audio-video downlink with astronauts on the International Space Station

He said the science fair was a very successful event. Several concerts are scheduled for the spring semester, as well as the commencement activities for all Wise County and City of Norton high schools. The building is being heavily utilized.

NCAA D-II Application

Mr. Ewing said the College at Wise is currently a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), and competes in the Mid-South Conference. The college is applying to become a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Conference (NCAA, Division II).
A consulting firm, Collegiate Consulting, is assisting in the athletics department study of NCAA membership. The feasibility study is complete, and the strategic plan portion has begun.

The College has formally applied to the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC), a 15 member NCAA Division II Conference. A committee from the WVIAC completed a site visit to campus in December. In January, Chancellor Prior and several athletics department administrators made a presentation to a committee of the WVIAC at the NCAA Conference. Acceptance by the WVIAC is contingent upon the College applying and being admitted to NCAA Division II.

The College’s application to NCAA Division II is due June 1. The NCAA Division II membership committee will decide on the college’s application by mid-July. If admitted, it will be a three-year process to become full NCAA members. Mr. Ewing said NCAA Division II is more compatible with the school’s athletics program than the NAIA.

Progress on New Library, Health and Wellness Center, and Greear Gymnasium Renovation

Mr. Ewing spoke about the new construction on campus, which includes the new library, the Health and Wellness Center and Greear Gym renovation, an accessibility project, and a satellite parking lot.

Ms. Dragas commented that in the chaos and commotion and emotion of David Prior’s passing not enough credit was given to Mr. Ewing; she thanked him for stepping in.

President Sullivan said she will be going to the College to talk about a search for Mr. Prior’s successor. It will be a national search, and they will engage a search firm. They will try to find the very best person to lead the College. Ms. Dragas commended President Sullivan for her attention to the College. This will be Ms. Sullivan’s fourth trip to the College.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.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