MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Allison Cryor DiNardo, Chair
Hunter E. Craig
Helen E. Dragas
William H. Goodwin Jr.
John A. Griffin

Consulting Members:

Allison S. Linney
Dennis R. Proffitt

The Remaining Members of the Board of Visitors and Senior Advisor:

Frank B. Atkinson
Kevin J. Fay
Frank E. Genovese
Victoria D. Harker

Bobbie G. Kilberg
Stephen P. Long, M.D.
Edward D. Miller, M.D.
Linwood H. Rose

Leonard W. Sandridge Jr.

FROM: Susan G. Harris

RE: Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee on November 14, 2013

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee met, in Open Session, at 2:53 p.m. Thursday, November 14, 2013, in the President’s Reception Room; Allison Cryor DiNardo, Chair, presided.

Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Hunter E. Craig, Helen E. Dragas, William H. Goodwin Jr., John A. Griffin, Timothy B. Robertson, Blake E. Blaze, and Allison S. Linney were present.

Also present were Haider S. Arshad, Evan B. Behrle, Brian P. Boland, Anthony P. de Bruyn, Mitchell H. Frank, Patricia M. Lampkin,
The chair welcomed the committee members to the meeting and asked Ms. Lampkin to provide her report.

Report by the Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer

Ms. Lampkin spoke about current student activity highlights, including their preparations for final exams and the Inter-Fraternity and Inter-Sorority Councils preparing for their annual Rush activities in January. A passport drive, a new initiative, will be held next week in which students can apply for passports on Grounds. The University will host a national conference on sexual misconduct in February, which is receiving an enthusiastic response from Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) schools and from American Association of Universities (AAU) schools.

Ms. Lampkin described the importance of student self-governance at the University and provided data from a 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) study which illustrates that University students in their fourth year engage in co-curricular activities on average at a greater level than they do in their first year. The opposite is true for public schools in the southeast U.S. and for the Carnegie class. She contributed this unique characteristic to the progression of student leadership allowed at the University.

Ms. Lampkin outlined the four types of student organizations at the University: agency organizations (e.g., Residence Life), special status (e.g., Student Council), contracted-independent organizations (CIOs), and those who sign Fraternal Organization Agreements. Each type of organization is associated with the University in a different way, both legally and financially, but all organizations provide opportunities for students to hone their leadership skills. She indicated that alumni often tell her that these skills learned through student organizations help them in future jobs as they take part on project teams and in research labs. Student leadership development aligns directly with the Strategic Plan, Strategy 1.

Ms. Lampkin introduced three students who reflected on their path of leadership within their respective organizations. Ms. Sadowksi is a third-year in the Batten School and a Distinguished Major in History and is the founder of Imagine U.Va. Mr. Arshad is a fourth-year Commerce major and is the 2013-2014 Vice President of the Fourth-Year Trustees. Mr. Behrle is a fourth-year Politics Honors and is the 2013-2014 Chair of the Honor Committee.
Report: The Role of Student Leadership in Sustaining Student Self-Governance

Ms. Sadowski spoke about how she created Imagine U.Va. A group of students were contacted by the Provost’s office in 2012 to participate on a working group in development of the strategic plan. Ms. Sadowski engaged students via open forums and focus groups and took that feedback to the working group. She noted that the student members on the working group were unable to adequately reach all students in this creative process. Imagine U.Va. was created as a constructive environment to address the strategic plan itself without inhibition from its participants.

Ms. Sadowkski described the open forum and Facebook page which were Imagine U.Va.’s platforms. The group reached several hundred students, and President Sullivan provided a message to the group, but with the conclusion of the working group the momentum faded. They are relaunching Imagine U.Va. soon as a joint initiative with Speak Up U.Va., and Student Council is considering providing a permanent seat on the Council to this new organization.

Mr. Arshad discussed his role as the Vice President of the Fourth Year Trustees, a joint program of the Class Council, the Alumni Association, and the Office of the Dean of Students. The Trustees’ purposes are to develop, foster, and maintain a sense of community, loyalty, and responsibility to the class, the University, and the Alumni Association.

Mr. Arshad said that he was influenced to run for a position on his Class Council during his first year in order to step out of his comfort zone and to meet new people. Through this process, he taught himself Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) in order to create the Council’s website and eventually served as the Chair of the Marketing Committee before being elected to his current position.

Mr. Arshad noted that he has learned how to coordinate resources and has developed organizational, time management, and strategic thinking skills during his experience which he feels prepares him for his future career.

Mr. Behrle described how he came into his role as the Chair of the Honor Committee. He was selected to be a member of the University Guide Service, a student-run, special status organization that gives historical tours of the Academical Village and for prospective students. Guides are trained in the history and culture of the University and have a keen understanding of what makes it a special place.

Mr. Behrle said that he served as an Orientation Leader during the summer after his first year, and after that experience chose to become involved with Honor Committee activities, including a successful
election as chair. The student self-governance provided to the Honor Committee, he said, does not operate strictly on the level of the individual, but the humanitarian message of the Honor system helps to create a community around it, and that community is what the Honor system exists to foster.

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Report by the Athletics Director

Mr. Littlepage introduced head men's tennis coach Brian Boland. Mr. Boland is entering his 13th season in this position, having come from a successful five-year career at Indiana State University. He said that Mr. Boland has "put men's tennis at U.Va. on the map" with 10 ACC titles, five national indoor titles, several ACC Coach of the Year Honors, and the 2013 NCAA National Championship title.

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Report: Men's Tennis 2013 National Championship Season

Mr. Boland reflected on the experience of his career at the University so far. He said that the University provides great support for its student athletes and makes sure that the athletes have a chance to be involved in student leadership. He also noted that the coaches have a strong support system amongst themselves: when the men's tennis team won the national title, Mr. Boland heard congratulations from every other coach.

Mr. Boland thanked several people who supported the tennis team to the national title and noted both the academic and administrative support they have had. The team has never dropped below third in the national rankings since 2008 and has recently broken a record by winning 108 straight ACC matches.

Mr. Boland said that his goal as a coach is to develop a "base game for the life" of the student athlete, by ensuring 100% graduation rates, high grade point averages, and training in ethics, to support the athlete after his years of competition are complete. He showed a film which highlighted the men's tennis team's season and then introduced Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Littlepage, Mr. Boland, the Board of Visitors, and many others who served as his support group for the successful season. He noted that an injury on the court during his first year allowed him to put his goals as an athlete and a student into perspective and helped him in prioritizing them.

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Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

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