MEMORANDUM

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

Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Chair
Allison Cryor DiNardo
Helen E. Dragas
William H. Goodwin Jr.
John A. Griffin
Stephen P. Long, M.D.
Edward D. Miller, M.D.
Timothy B. Robertson
Bryan H. Hoyt, Faculty Consulting Member
George Keith Martin, Ex-Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board and Senior Advisors:

Frank B. Atkinson
Hunter E. Craig
Kevin J. Fay
Frank E. Genovese
Victoria D. Harker
Bobbie G. Kilberg
John L. Nau III
Linwood H. Rose
Margaret N. Gould
Leonard W. Sandridge Jr.

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Meeting on June 5, 2014

The Board of Visitors Committee on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise met, in Open Session, in the Byrd Room of the Harrison Institute, at 2:25 p.m., on Thursday, June 5, 2014; Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Chair, presided.

Allison Cryor DiNardo, Helen E. Dragas, William H. Goodwin Jr., Stephen P. Long, M.D., Edward D. Miller, M.D., and Timothy B. Robertson were present.

Bryan H. Hoyt, Faculty Consulting Member, was also present.

Present, too, were Donna Price Henry, Richard C. Kast, Anda L. Webb, and W. Thomas Leback.
Action Item: Mission, Goals, and Vision

Chancellor Henry reported that the College recently reviewed its mission and goals statement in preparation for the decennial accreditation review by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The effort was led by a committee that solicited comments from faculty, staff, students, the college board, and the alumni board. The committee felt that the mission statement was valid, but modified the goals, and added a vision statement. The revised statement, which is attached, was approved by The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board.

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

MISSION, GOALS, AND VISION FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S COLLEGE AT WISE

WHEREAS, the current mission statement for The University of Virginia’s College at Wise has been examined by a committee appointed for that purpose and reaffirmed by the College community; and

WHEREAS, the same process has updated the College’s goals and vision statement in order to continue the College’s historic commitments to academic excellence, student success, service to the region, and institutional progress; and

WHEREAS, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board recommends that the current mission be reaffirmed and that the proposed goals and vision statement be approved;

RESOLVED, the current mission statement and new goals and vision statement, as shown in the attachment, are approved.

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Action Item: Reappointments to The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board

Mr. Gilliam reported that the proposed reappointments were approved by the College’s advisory board on May 9, 2014.

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

REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S COLLEGE AT WISE

RESOLVED, Mr. Mike L. Allen, Mr. Charlie R. Jessee, Mr. C. Michael Puckett, Dr. Joe Frank Smiddy, Mr. James Michael Thomas, and Ms. Dawneda Fowler Williams are reappointed to The University of
Virginia's College at Wise Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2018.

Remarks by the Committee Chair

Mr. Gilliam commented on the April 22nd inauguration of Ms. Henry as the College's eighth chancellor and on the May 10th commencement exercises. He noted that the attendance at the inauguration by 11 members of the Board of Visitors and by a number of University administrators was a tribute to the Chancellor and to the College, and demonstrated the close bond between the two communities. The May 10th commencement exercises were well attended; Sofia Starnes, the Poet Laureate of Virginia, gave the keynote address.

Report by the Chancellor

Ms. Henry said Mrs. Rue Gembach, the manager in the Office of the Chancellor, has been with the College for 35 years; students recently recognized her contributions by giving her an unsung hero award.

Summer Session enrollment is up 5%. In an effort to offer classes that more closely meet student needs, the College reduced the number of sections offered. The reduction also resulted in larger classes, which enabled the College to increase faculty salaries.

The College is now offering a summer bridge program for students who have been granted provisional admission because of deficiencies in math and composition. The program was offered to 30 students with a goal of enrolling 20. So far, 18 have accepted.

A pilot program for an Early College Academy that will offer Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) courses for high school seniors from Wise and Dickenson counties will be in place this fall. When asked if the students would be charged for the program, Ms. Henry replied that there will be no charge. The College has requested funding from the State for the academy, but is prepared to provide the funding if necessary. The counties will provide the course text books.

Three information technology enhancements have been completed. The College worked with the University to gain access to cloud-based storage. It has also increased the band width available on campus and expanded its wireless service to the dormitories.

Development and College Relations has had a banner year. The College's goal was to raise $4.0 million. To date, $12.5 million has been raised. Ms. Henry also noted that Ms. Tami Ely, Vice Chancellor for Development and College Relations, will retire at the end of July.
Freshman applications are up 17%. The College expects to reach its enrollment target of a 1% increase for an entering class of 375. The “Are you UVa-Wise?” admissions campaign has been successful.

A consultant is updating the College’s website. A new front page and the admissions website will be in place by mid-September; the remaining components will be upgraded during the next 10 months.

The College is proposing a $41.5 million budget for Fiscal Year 2015; this is a 4% increase over the current budget. The increase primarily supports salaries and new initiatives.

As a part of the transition to Division II athletics, there was a recent on-site visit by a NCAA committee to determine if the College is ready for the third year of the transition. The assessment was positive with only a few comments, which the College has addressed. The Committee will decide in July if it will give the go ahead.

A campus master planning committee has been named to develop a five-year plan over the next 12 months. The Architect for the University visited the College with University student leaders, who met with Wise student leaders in an effort to improve ties.

A company specializing in water treatment technology is relocating from Northern Virginia to Southwest Virginia. It has committed to work with faculty and students.

There were 315 graduates at May’s commencement exercises. The Committee asked Ms. Henry if the College tracks its graduates, how many ROTC graduates were there, and will the recent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations impact the College. Ms. Henry replied that the College tracks both employment and graduate school acceptances and that two students were recently commissioned. Mr. Gilliam and Ms. Henry noted that the new EPA regulations could exacerbate the recent population decline in Southwest Virginia. Ms. Henry said that the College is working on economic development initiatives in an effort to increase employment opportunities in the region. She also noted that unlike the local community colleges, which rely heavily on local students, half of the College’s students come from outside the region.

Crockett Award

Ms. Henry announced that Ms. Anda L. Webb, Vice Provost and Chief of Staff in the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, is this year’s recipient of the Crockett Award, which is presented to an employee of the University who has made significant efforts to strengthen the relationship between the University and the College.
Remarks by Faculty Consulting Member

Mr. Hoyt reported on the Cognitive Neuroscience Research Lab, which was founded in 2000 by Mr. James E. Horton, a Professor of Psychology specializing in hypnosis and neuroimaging. The lab is used by Mr. Horton and his students. Their research has focused on the neurophysiological effects of concussions, differences in brain processing for men and women, and polygraph and electroencephalogram (EEG) comparisons. During the past 10 years, Mr. Horton’s students have attended 27 conferences, 89 have made presentations, and two of their research projects have received regional conference awards. A number of the students have received scholarship offers from graduate schools. Mr. Horton is applying for grants to expand the EEG research for lie detection. The Committee suggested that the College explore the patent applicability of this research and asked if there was an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval of the work. Mr. Hoyt said that they will look into the patent applicability and that the College has IRB committees.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

SGH:wtl
These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia’s Board of Visitors website. http://www.virginia.edu/bov/uvawiseminutes.html
Attachment
The University of Virginia’s College at Wise

MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, a public liberal arts institution, provides students with learning experiences that offer opportunities to develop the insight, competence, sensitivity and integrity necessary for living enriched lives and for enriching the lives of others. Established in 1954 as a college of The University of Virginia, it is guided by the values of citizenship and altruism. Proud of its Appalachian heritage, the College continues to honor its commitment of service to Southwest Virginia, the nation and the world. The College is guided by a legacy of teaching and scholarly excellence and by a dedication to quality in both the arts and sciences and professional programs. Above all, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise is a diverse community of people who believe that information can be transformed into knowledge and that teaching and learning create a foundation for wisdom.

GOALS AND VISION STATEMENT

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise has as its goals:

- To provide its students the finest possible education in the public liberal arts tradition that has guided the College since its inception.

- To give students the ability, confidence and initiative to use their undergraduate educational experience as a springboard for greater accomplishment.

- To encourage critical thinking among our students and enable them to make decisions based on research and evidence while retaining their commitment to fairness and compassion.

Through these goals, UVa-Wise students will be introduced to the concept of personal and professional excellence. By inculcating in them an appreciation for the benefits of lifelong education and teaching them the skills necessary to carry that habit forward, UVa-Wise is helping lay the foundation for the success of future generations. Through these habits, they will develop leadership skills based in honor, integrity, effort and knowledge. As a result, graduates of UVa-Wise are globally aware, prepared for the responsibilities of citizenship and poised to become stewards of their community, state, nation and world.

With these goals in mind, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise is striving to become an outstanding liberal arts college recognized for its commitment to and expansion of the College’s traditional
liberal arts foundation. In order to achieve this, the College is committed to a series of endeavors that will strengthen the institution and its mission. UVa-Wise will continue to strengthen its liberal arts core in ways that will make it a regional leader in interdisciplinary education, engaged learning and community service. The College will increase its commitment to experiential learning through international study, guided research and internship opportunities. The College will utilize the liberal arts as a way to enhance and expand STEM-H programs. The student body will be better qualified, more inspired and possess greater diversity as primary elements in our path toward excellence. To fulfill our mission, the College will expand its outreach and service efforts within our local community and region. These interconnected elements will provide a transformational impetus to existing programs and encourage the development of new initiatives.