

January 23, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

C. Wilson McNeely, III, Chair
Franklin K. Birckhead
Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D.
Champ Clark
Elsie Goodwyn Holland
Kristine L. LaLonde
Walter F. Walker
Hovey S. Dabney, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

John P. Ackerly, III	Terence P. Ross
William G. Crutchfield, Jr.	Albert H. Small
William H. Goodwin, Jr.	Elizabeth A. Twohy
T. Keister Greer	Henry L. Valentine, II
James C. Wheat, III	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Affairs and
Athletics Committee on January 23, 1998

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 1:30 p.m., Friday, January 23, 1998, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; C. Wilson McNeely, III, Chair, presided. Franklin K. Birckhead, Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D., Champ Clark, Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Ms. Kristine L. LaLonde, Walter F. Walker, and Hovey S. Dabney, Rector, were present.

Also present were John P. Ackerly, III, William G. Crutchfield, Jr., T. Keister Greer, Terence P. Ross, Albert H. Small, Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy, Henry L. Valentine, II, and James C. Wheat, III.

Present as well were Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr., Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, William W. Harmon, Terry Holland, Robert W. Cantrell, M.D., Peter W. Low, Ms. Colette Capone, Ernest H. Ern, Robert D. Sweeney, Ms. Polley Ann McClure, Don E. Detmer, M.D., Ms. Susan J. Grossman, James C. Turner, M.D., and L. Jay Lemons.

The Chair asked Mr. Harmon, Vice President for Student Affairs, to present the Agenda.

NOTE: BECAUSE OF A MALFUNCTION IN THE RECORDING EQUIPMENT, THESE MINUTES ARE A RECONSTRUCTION

The Chair introduced Ms. Susan Grossman and Dr. James Turner of the Department of Student Health. Ms. Grossman and Dr. Turner gave a report on alcohol issues at the University. They cited recent data from national studies, which suggest that alcohol consumption and abuse by college students has reached epidemic proportions. At the University, between 10 and 20 students per week are seen at Student Health or at the Hospital Emergency Room with alcohol-related injuries or illnesses. The Emergency Room alone will see between five and ten students on a typical weekend. Demographic profiles of these students, seen at both places, indicate that 70% of the students with these problems are under the age of 21, 60% are male, 60% are Virginia residents and the vast majority are Caucasian.

Dr. Turner and Ms. Grossman said that in the course of an academic term, Student Health will diagnose approximately 100 new substance abuse cases. Further, both at the University and at colleges across the country, 65% of women with a sexually transmitted disease have a recent history of acute intoxication, and over 50% of victims and/or perpetrators of sexual assault were intoxicated at the time of the crime.

Alcohol abuse, they said, is the number one public health hazard for students at the University. The President has appointed a task force to study the issues involved and to develop a plan for dealing with alcohol abuse at the University.

Considerable discussion ensued.

Mr. Harmon next reported briefly on the progress of the work being done by the Orientation Task Force, which has been charged with reviewing the University's programs for first year and transfer students.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

AGG:lah

Copies to: Mr. John T. Casteen, III
Mr. Paul J. Forch
Dr. Robert W. Cantrell
Mr. Peter W. Low
Mr. Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr.
Mr. Robert D. Sweeney
Mr. Ernest H. Ern
Mr. William W. Harmon
Ms. Colette Capone
Ms. Polley Ann McClure
Dr. Don E. Detmer
Mr. Terry Holland
Mr. L. Jay Lemons
Ms. Louise Dudley