

May 30, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Henry L. Valentine, II, Chair
Walter F. Walker, Vice Chair
Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D.
Champ Clark
Elsie Goodwyn Holland
Benjamin P.A. Warthen
J. Michael Allen
John P. Ackerly, III, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

William G. Crutchfield, Jr.	Terence P. Ross
William H. Goodwin, Jr.	Albert H. Small
T. Keister Greer	Elizabeth A. Twohy
Timothy B. Robertson	James C. Wheat, III
Joseph E. Wolfe	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Affairs
and Athletics Committee

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, May 30, 1998, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Henry L. Valentine, II, Chair, presided. Walter F. Walker, Vice Chair, Charles M. Caravati, Jr., Champ Clark, Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Benjamin P. A. Warthen, J. Michael Allen, and John P. Ackerly, III, Rector, were present. Also present were William G. Crutchfield, Jr., William H. Goodwin, Jr., T. Keister Greer, Timothy B. Robertson, and Terence P. Ross; as well as John T. Casteen, III, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr., William H. Harmon, Peter W.

Low, Robert W. Cantrell, Ernest H. Ern, Ms. Polley Ann McClure, Don E. Detmer, Gene D. Block, L. Jay Lemons, Jahan Ramazani, Robert T. Canevari, Dudley Cabell Vest, and Ms. Jeanne F. Bailes.

NOTE: Because of malfunctioning recording equipment, parts of these Minutes are a reconstruction.

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

1. Alcohol Task Force

Mr. Harmon reported on the work of the University's Alcohol Task Force, appointed by the President in February. He recounted recent instances of student alcohol abuse, in the country as well as in Virginia and at the University. The Task Force thus was charged with studying the following issues and asked to report to the President with recommendations by no later than May 1st:

- A. Assessment of the University's cultural environment and factors that contribute to alcohol consumption and its impact on the University and larger community;
- B. Review and evaluate programs and activities that diminish the impact of alcohol consumption/abuse in the University community;
- C. Impact of alcohol on student performance;
- D. Evaluation of the means by which new students are introduced to the University;
- E. Examination of the policies, procedures, and enforcement strategies for dealing with alcohol related incidents.

The Task Force has completed its work and submitted its report to the President. There most likely will be a committee formed by the President to implement recommendations of the report at the direction of the Board.

2. Summer Honor Trials

Mr. Harmon then introduced Mr. Cabell Vest, Chair of the Honor Committee, who gave a brief report on summer Honor trials and other work of the Committee.

Mr. Vest told the Committee that for the first time in many years, the Honor Committee will hold trials over the summer in an attempt to relieve the backlog of cases. He also reported on other initiatives of the Honor Committee, including plans to sponsor an honor conference, similar to the one held at West Point.

3. Fraternity and Sorority Rush

Mr. Harmon introduced Mr. Canevari, Dean of Students, who reported on changes in the time of fraternity and sorority rush in the next Session. Sorority rush for several years has been held in the first semester; it will revert to the beginning of the second semester which has been the customary time to hold it at the University. Fraternity rush which within living memory customarily has taken place at the beginning of the second semester, but which for the last twenty five years or so has been held first semester, once again will take place at the beginning of the second semester.

The impetus for changing the date of rush came from Mr. Jahan Ramazani in his capacity as Chair of the Faculty Senate. The Senate last fall called for the postponement of rush until the second undergraduate year.

4. Orientation Task Force Report

Mr. Harmon introduced Ms. Rachel Most, an Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences, and asked her to report on the work of the Orientation Task Force which she chaired. The Task Force was appointed by Mr. Harmon in October 1997, and charged with reviewing the ways in which the University orients new students.

The report of the Task Force has just been submitted to Mr. Harmon's office, and will be mailed to the Board of Visitors as an attachment to these Minutes (see Attachment). The Task Force, Ms. Most reported, believes that orientation should be a continuing process and not simply something to be attempted in four or five days. Thus, the Task Force has recommended that there be a two-day optional summer component to orientation. This would be done in several sessions, with 350 students in each session. A modest fee would be charged, enough to make the orientation self-sustaining. The Task Force also recommends that the University hire a "Director of New Student Services" to oversee the summer and fall orientation programs, as well as

other orientation programs throughout the year and, perhaps, Family Weekend.

After a discussion of Ms. Most's report, the Committee, on motion, adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

AGG:jb

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
Mr. Gene D. Block
Mr. Terry Holland
Mr. L. Jay Lemons
Ms. Louise Dudley