

October 10, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Educational Policy Committee:

Champ Clark, Chair
J. Michael Allen
T. Keister Greer
Elsie Goodwyn Holland
Elizabeth A. Twohy
Walter F. Walker
Joseph E. Wolfe
John P. Ackerly, III, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Charles M. Caravati, Jr.	Terence P. Ross
William G. Crutchfield, Jr.	Albert H. Small
William H. Goodwin, Jr.	Henry L. Valentine, II
Timothy B. Robertson	Benjamin P.A. Warthen
James C. Wheat, III	

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

RE: Minutes of the Meeting of the Educational
Policy Committee

The Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 10:45 a.m., Saturday, October 10, 1998, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Champ Clark, Chair, presided. J. Michael Allen, T. Keister Greer, Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy, Joseph E. Wolfe, and John P. Ackerly, III, Rector, were present. Also present were Charles M. Caravati, Jr., William G. Crutchfield, Jr., William H. Goodwin, Jr., Timothy B. Robertson, Terence P. Ross, Henry L. Valentine, II, Benjamin P.A. Warthen, and James C. Wheat, III; as well as

John T. Casteen, III, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, Peter W. Low, Ms. Polley Ann McClure, Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr., Ms. Colette Capone, Robert D. Sweeney, Ernest H. Ern, Gene D. Block, Terry Holland, Edward L. Ayers, Edward H. Snyder, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

The Chair asked Mr. Low, Vice President and Provost, to present the Agenda.

Mr. Low introduced Mr. Ted Snyder, the new Dean of the Darden School. Mr. Snyder spoke briefly, saying that the goal of the Darden School is to be the best place to go for management education, both for the MBA and for Executive Studies. He stressed, too, the importance of the strong ties between the School and the rest of the University.

Mr. Low then introduced Mr. Ayers, Chair of the Faculty Senate, who addressed the Committee. Mr. Ayers reported on the activities of the Faculty Senate this year, activities which he grouped under the headings of Faculty-Student Interaction, Support of the Honor System, the Intellectual Community, and Information Technology. The Senate held a retreat earlier in the semester with 45 students, conversations which indicated that students like the notion of the Intellectual Community, which was an initiative of the Faculty Senate last year.

The Senate is working, too, with faculty colleagues across the state in the Faculty Senate of Virginia.

Finally, Mr. Low introduced Ms. McClure, Vice President for Information Technology, and asked her to report to the Committee on the question of student computers.

Ms. McClure reminded the Committee that Board members several years ago had asked if students should not be required to own personal computers. Student Council last winter passed a resolution that would require all students to have computers by 2000.

Federal financial aid regulations until this month would not allow students to write in the cost of a computer as a cost of education unless the institution required computers of all students. These rules have been changed so that universities no longer are obliged to make this

requirement in order for their students to receive help in purchasing computers.

Ms. McClure noted, too, that about 85% of students at the University now have computers of their own.

Rather than require students to own computers, Ms. McClure suggested that the University communicate its "expectation" that every student have a computer. Purchasing a computer should be made easier and the University should direct its efforts instead toward standardizing the systems student use. One benefit of this kind of standardization would be better prices for student computers through bulk purchases.

Ms. McClure and Mr. Sandridge, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, emphasized that this approach to universal student ownership of computers is still under discussion and has not been adopted as policy.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 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