MEMORANDUM

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

William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Chair
Champ Clark
Joseph E. Wolfe
John P. Ackerly, III, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:
Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D. Robert G. Schoenvogel
William H. Goodwin, Jr. Albert H. Small
T. Keister Greer Elizabeth A. Twohy
Terence P. Ross Henry L. Valentine, II
Elsie Goodwyn Holland Walter F. Walker
Timothy B. Robertson Benjamin P.A. Warthen

James C. Wheat, III

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

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

The Committee of the Board of Visitors on The University of Virginia’s College at Wise met, in Open Session, at 10:50 a.m., Saturday, October 16, 1999, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; William G. Crutchfield, Jr., Chair, presided. Champ Clark, Joseph E. Wolfe, and John P. Ackerly, III, Rector, were present. William H. Goodwin, Jr., Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Timothy B. Robertson, Terence P. Ross, Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy, Henry L. Valentine, II, Walter F. Walker, Benjamin P.A. Warthen, and Robert G. Schoenvogel also were present; as were John T. Casteen, III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr., Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Paul J. Forch, L. Jay Lemons, Robert W. Cantrell, Peter W. Low, Ernest H. Ern, William W. Harmon, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.
The Chair noted, in opening the meeting, that The University of Virginia’s College at Wise has two general goals: to become a first-rate small liberal arts college and to serve Southwest Virginia. With that, he asked Mr. Lemons, the Chancellor of the College, to present the Agenda.

The first item on the Action Agenda was a proposal to name the quarters of the College’s new public radio station WISE-FM, in honor of C. Bascom Slemp. The C. Bascom Slemp Foundation, founded some fifty years ago with a bequest from The Honorable C. Bascom Slemp, who represented the Ninth District in the Federal House of Representatives and was an important figure in Virginia politics for many years, has been a major contributor toward the establishment of WISE-FM.

On motion, the Committee adopted a resolution approving the naming, and recommended it to the full Board for approval. (See Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Visitors, October 16, 1999.)

Mr. Lemons next proposed the adoption of a set of guidelines for naming facilities at the College. The guidelines, he explained, simply mirror those in force at the University. Mr. Clark asked if the guidelines contained a policy for the display of names. Mr. Lemons said they do not. The President remarked that this is a problem at the University, a problem that has not yet been resolved, and he suggested that when it is resolved, the same guidelines could be used in Wise.

With this understanding, the Committee, on motion, adopted a resolution approving the proposed policy and recommended it to the full Board for approval. (See Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Visitors, October 16, 1999.)

Continuing to his Report, Mr. Lemons touched briefly on several items:

He described the recent ceremonies which dedicated WISE-FM, and distributed to Members a compact disc of the ceremonies.

The College has just played its first home game at the new football facility.
The College’s sports teams have played under the aegis of the NAIA, but this year the College has been accepted as a probationary member of Division 2 of the NCAA. The probationary period will extend three years beyond this year, for a total of four in all.

The College was ranked for the first time in the U.S. News and World Report listing of American colleges, a ranking which was published on August 30th.

Next, Mr. Lemons commented on student enrollment projections at the College. The number of inquiries from prospective applicants has risen appreciably this fall and by its fiftieth anniversary in 2004, the College expects an enrollment in excess of 2,000 students.

Finally, Mr. Lemons told the Committee about a feasibility study in progress on the possibility of establishing a computer technology/engineering school at the College. The study was ordered by a resolution of the General Assembly, introduced by Delegate Clarence E. Phillips and passed by the Legislature at the 1999 Session. The study is being conducted by the State Council of Higher Education and is to be completed by November 1st.

Mr. Lemons commented that the College at present does not have the capability for teaching computer science. Mr. Goodwin said that technological training is vital for the economic development of Southwest Virginia, to which Mr. Lemons replied that the College intends to be at the forefront of any such efforts in the region.

Mrs. Holland suggested that the Board of Visitors hold a meeting at the College. The Rector noted that meetings for the next year have been scheduled, but that he would discuss the idea with Mr. Lemons and others.
On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

AGG:jfb
Copies to:  Mr. John T. Casteen, III
           Mr. Paul J. Forch
           Mr. Gene D. Block
           Dr. Robert W. Cantrell
           Mr. Peter W. Low
           Mr. Leonard W. Sandridge
           Mr. Robert D. Sweeney
           Mr. Ernest H. Earn
           Mr. William W. Harmon
           Ms. Colette Sheehy
           Dr. Robert Reynolds
           Mr. Terry Holland
           Mr. L. Jay Lemons
           Ms. Louise Dudley