MEMORANDUM

TO: The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Henry L. Valentine, II, Chair
Walter F. Walker, Vice-Chair/Athletics
Charles M. Caravati, Jr.
Champ Clark
Elsie Goodwyn Holland
Robert G. Schoenvogel
Benjamin P.A. Warthen
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 on May 15, 1999

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 15, 1999, in the East Oval Room of the Rotunda; Henry L. Valentine, II, Chair, presided. Walter F. Walker, Vice Chair, Charles M. Caravati, Jr., M.D., Champ Clark, Mrs. Elsie Goodwyn Holland, Robert G. Schoenvogel, Benjamin P.A. Warthen, and John P. Ackerly, III, Rector, were present. William G. Crutchfield, Jr., William H. Goodwin, Jr., T. Keister Greer, Timothy B. Robertson, Terence P. Ross, Albert H. Small, Ms. Elizabeth A. Twohy, James C. Wheat, III, and Joseph E. Wolfe also were present; as were John T. Casteen,
III, Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr., Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.,
Paul J. Forch, William W. Harmon, Peter W. Low, Ms. Colette
Sheehy Capone, Ernest H. Ern, Gene D. Block, Terry Holland,
James L. McBride, Ms. Lynn M. Mitchell, Ms. Eleanor
Sparagana, Hunter Ferguson, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

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

Mr. Harmon reminded the Committee that in May, 1998,
it was recommended that the University revise its system of
first-year orientation and institute a summer orientation
before students matriculate in the University. Ms. Eleanor
Sparagana was hired from Harvard University and began work
in January on planning the summer orientation.

Ms. Sparagana described the planned orientation: nine
separate two-day sessions in July and early August with no
more than 425 students with their parents per session. A
highlight of these sessions will be a chance to meet with
faculty advisers and enroll in courses. So far, Ms.
Sparagana said, 1200 students have signed up for the
sessions; it is hoped that two thirds of entering
undergraduates will actually participate in the summer
orientation.

Another change in orientation this year is the moving
of the Opening Convocation to the first night new students
are at the University, thus making it the first official
event they will attend.

The Rector told Ms. Sparagana the Board feels it is
very important that new students understand the Honor
System and that the Honor Committee be involved in this
orientation in the key role. He asked Mr. Hunter Ferguson,
the Chair of the Honor Committee, if the Committee is
satisfied with the arrangements Ms. Sparagana and her
planners have made. Mr. Ferguson replied that the
Committee is pleased.

Mr. Harmon then introduced Mr. James McBride, the
Director of the Office of Career Planning and Placement.
Mr. McBride reported on placement and hiring. He reported
on the successes of University graduates in the job market,
successes which have been truly remarkable, as well as the
successes of graduates who have applied for admission to graduate schools.

Mr. Crutchfield asked if Mr. McBride has had contact with his counterparts at The University’s College at Wise. Mr. McBride replied that he has and that in June he will spend time at Wise observing their programs and offering assistance if it is needed.

The Chair asked Mr. Holland, Director of Athletics, to introduce the next speaker, Ms. Lynn Mitchell, the University’s Compliance Coordinator.

Ms. Mitchell cited a number of hypothetical examples of NCAA recruiting violations – she emphasized, for instance, that contacts between Board of Visitors Members and athletic recruits are absolutely forbidden. She also described something of the functions and duties of her office and answered a number of questions from Members on rules and regulations.

Mr. Ferguson, the new Chair of the Honor Committee, introduced several of his colleagues on the Committee.

Mr. Ferguson thanked Mr. Harmon for his support which will enable the Honor Committee to work this summer. He told the Committee that the Honor Committee will undertake a review of its Constitution with the idea of addressing concerns raised by the Board of Visitors, as well as continuing the work of the 1998-1999 Honor Committee. He outlined the planned review in a short memorandum which is appended to these Minutes as an Attachment.

The Chair then called on Mr. Schoenvogel to comment on the changes in progress at Peabody Hall. Mr. Schoenvogel said there was considerable student feeling when it was announced early in the spring that student organizations would be moved out of Peabody Hall. Now that satisfactory space has been found for them, mostly in Newcomb Hall, there is greater student acceptance of the move. The affected student organizations are pleased with the help they have gotten from Mr. Sandridge and others in relocating their offices.

Nonetheless, Mr. Schoenvogel said, it is an issue that hasn’t gone away. Some organizations — and he cited Corks
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...and Curls in particular – feel that they have been moved too often in recent years. There is a continuing malaise among some organizations that they were given neither sufficient notice or time to make the move in good order, nor consideration when plans were being made to give the lower two floors of Peabody Hall to the Admission Office. There is a feeling, too, that more student activity space is needed.

Ms. Capone, Vice President for Management and Budget, summarized the plans for Peabody Hall. Following approval by the Buildings and Grounds Committee on February 25th (see Minutes of the meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee of that date) to move the Admission Office to Peabody Hall and demolish Miller Hall, plans were made to relocate the student offices on the two lower floors. The third floor, which is occupied by the Office of the Dean of Students, will not be touched – it was renovated fairly recently – nor will the Office be moved.

The Board of Visitors on March 27th (see Minutes of the Board meeting of that date) approved a $20 increase in the Admission Application Fee as a means of paying for the renovations. There is a $2m budget for the renovations, which will be financed by an internal loan. The application fee rise, in turn, will pay back the loan over a five year period.

Work on Peabody Hall will begin this summer and will take a year. The Admission Office is scheduled to move into its new quarters next July, Miller Hall will be demolished later in the summer and construction of the Special Collections Library will begin in the fall.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee at its meeting on May 14th (see Minutes of the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting of that date) approved the selection of the Glave Firm of Richmond for the renovations.

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the plan and timetable outlined by Ms. Capone. The Committee voted its approval with no opposition.
On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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