

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS
OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

November 15, 1973

A regular meeting of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Thursday, November 15, 1973, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Sanger Hall.

Present were Drs. Blanton, Gwathmey and Thornton; Messrs. Dabney, Norris, Obenshain, Scott, Seaborn and Turnbull; and Mrs. Stone. Miss Keyser, Mr. McGehee, Mr. Sheffield and Mr. Shumate were absent. Also present were Drs. Andrako, Brandt, Brooke, Smith, Willett, Wilson and Woods; Messrs. Holmes and Imirie, and Miss Cosby.

Dr. Blanton called the meeting to order. On motion made and seconded, the minutes of a special meeting of the Development Committee, held September 18, 1973, and a regular meeting of the Board of Visitors, held September 20, 1973, were approved.

Following the report of the President, Dr. Blanton appointed a three-man ad hoc committee to work with Mr. Imirie in exploring the areas in which the Board must give increased supervision of the MCV Hospitals. Dr. Gwathmey will chair this committee working with Mr. Dabney and Mr. Turnbull.

Dr. Brandt explained the need for the Eminent Scholars Program. On motion made and seconded, two faculty positions were approved using the Medical College of Virginia Foundation monies as the base from which

matching monies under the Eminent Scholars Program of the State can assist in supporting the positions. One position, in surgical research, will be named in honor of Dr. Hume as the David M. Hume Chair or Professorship of Surgical Research. The other position, in immunology, would be identified initially only as the Eminent Scholar Chair in Immunology.

On motion made and seconded, the Ann G. and Barney Roland Freasier, Sr. Tax Award was accepted unanimously with appreciation.

Dr. Brooke presented the proposal for a B. A. in Political Science. Under present procedures of the State Council of Higher Education, such an arts and science program does not need SCHEV's approval. The B. A. in Political Science was approved on motion made and seconded.

It was moved, seconded and approved to create a new Department of Political Science.

On motion made and seconded, the Affirmative Action Plan for Virginia Commonwealth University was approved unanimously.

Dr. Brandt discussed the enrollment data in the agenda. The student body on the west campus is roughly one-half male and one-half female. Approximately 89 percent of the students are Virginia residents. Dr. Thornton expressed concern that the attrition rate for black students is very high. In terms of headcount, VCU is the largest university in Virginia, but not in terms of FTE students.

On motion made and seconded, the report of Gifts, Grants and Contracts was accepted.

Mr. Holmes noted that the amount written off in hospital receivables is larger this year than last year because of the conversion to SHAS. The report of the Hospital Accounts was accepted, on motion made and seconded.

An addition was made to the Faculty Appointments and Changes of Status. Mrs. Jane Bell Gladding was awarded emerita status with the exact title to be decided upon at a later date. On motion made and seconded, the Faculty Appointments and Changes of Status were approved.

Dr. Daniel T. Watts, Dean of the School of Basic Sciences and Graduate Studies, described the programs in that School. As VCU has the leading program to help people from taking narcotics, it was suggested that publicity be given to this. Dr. Watts also showed an interesting slide presentation.


Mr. Seaborn asked for information on the letter received by the Board from Mrs. Cooper about a doctor using medical records for non-medical purposes. Mr. Imirie explained that the "doctor" is not an M.D. and does not have access to medical records. A copy of the reply to that letter will be sent to the members of the Board.

Mr. Obenshain inquired about the efforts being taken to promote the basketball program. Dr. Brandt noted that the usual efforts are taking place.

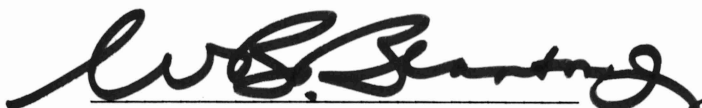
Dr. Gwathmey asked about the PSRO programs. Dr. Blanton and Mr. Turnbull have represented the Board at some conferences on PSRO. Mr. Turnbull was impressed with the program and feels it is going to create new administrative problems we have not had in the past.

Mr. Turnbull reported on the progress of the Development Committee. Several members of the community have agreed to serve as an advisory committee in order to raise funds for the Comprehensive Cancer Center. A professional has been employed to help with the narrative. It was suggested that the presentation be made at the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.


Secretary

APPROVED:


Chairman

Report of the President to the Board of Visitors

November 15, 1973

The student situation remains relatively quiet. A referendum was held on the proposed student constitution, but not enough students showed up to pass it. A series of moves will be initiated to provide continuity of student participation.

Dr. Blanton and Dr. Brandt met with the Commission on Higher Education to discuss the Shaner report and to give reactions to it. A detailed study of the reactions was then submitted to the Commission. Mr. Shaner and two of his associates will be meeting with Dr. Brandt on November 16. The Commission has discussed the fact that there seem to have been a number of recommendations and suggestions which were not well documented.

On November 28, there will be a joint meeting of all the Boards of Visitors of state colleges and universities. Dr. Blanton will be presiding for the afternoon session. All were encouraged to attend.

The UGF drive was successful. Dr. Wilson was in charge and VCU went over its goal. The School of Medicine was down from its contributions of last year by about one-third. Other than that, it went very well.

Tenure is one of the major issues on the national scene, and we are still working with this situation internally. So far, VCU is not in any particular trouble except in a few areas insofar as having too many tenured faculty in any particular department.

We have had a bit of discussion with regard to a program in urban studies, Public Executive Institute Technical Advisory Committee (PEITAC). Recently, we found out that the state was about to award the contract to VPISU for a program in urban planning. We got to a fairly high level of state government with some rather serious communications problems. The head of one state agency was being misinformed by his people. We have acquiesced to let the program go on but with only 20 students. We feel we received very poor treatment in this. However, we anticipate this will not happen again.

Several very nice gifts have been made to the university lately. One is the Ann G. and Barney Roland Freasier, Sr. Tax Award which is being given by B. Roland Freasier, Jr., who is one of our faculty members. Also, one chair in surgery and one in immunology were given by the MCV Foundation. Dr. Lyons and Dr. Yingling have been contributing generously to the Fund for Judaic Studies.

The presentation to the budget advisory group went well. The presentations were running ahead of schedule, and VCU made its presentation about an hour ahead of schedule.

There are a number of problems in terms of hospital financing. The impact of federal regulations on hospital financing is very complex. Mr. Imirie distributed some data to try to help the Board understand the problems. He explained some of the basic areas of the problems.

Mr. Imirie also noted that, beginning January 1, 1974, the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Hospitals will begin to seek evidence that the Board is being involved in peer review of the professional activities taking place in hospitals. MCVH has its review in February.

Dr. Brandt continued his report by saying that the State Council has turned down our request for a master's program in English. We found out after this that the President of Virginia State College had spoken against our having one. We were not invited to speak for the program. We had checked with some people at Virginia State prior to making the request to be sure they had no objections to it. Something went wrong between that time and the time of the presentation to the State Council. The Associates of the James Branch Cabell Library have expressed their concern because this will decrease the numbers of scholars using the contributions of the Associates. We are still working on this problem.

Dr. Daniel Marvin of the State Council appeared before the budget advisory group and said that VCU is overstaffed. We said we were understaffed in our presentation before this same group. We have asked for a meeting with Dr. Marvin to try to clear this up and correct the situation. We had cleared our figures with the Budget Office before submitting them to the Governor and the figures are based on established state formulae.