# MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

# OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS

June 16, 1977

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Thursday, June 16, 1977, at 9 a.m. in the Sanger Hall Board Room.

Present were Drs. Blanton and Gwathmey; and Messrs. Dabney, Scott and Shumate. Absent were Messrs. Grey and Obenshain. Also present were Drs. Beller, Brooke, Hall, Neal, Willett and Woods; Messrs. Cribbs and Ross; Miss Cosby and Mrs. Price.

Dr. Blanton called the meeting to order.

Following the Report of the President, Dr. Hall presented the report of the Presidential Search Assistance Committee. Dr. Hall indicated that 179 applications and nominations had been received. Of this number, 125 have been screened. The committee feels that 12 candidates of those screened need closer examination. Dr. Hall reviewed the resumes of these 12 candidates.

Dr. Neal presented an updated report on the Virginia Hospital Laundry. The Board of the Laundry is still waiting to get the audit from Price, Waterhouse & Company. The linen inventory was conducted on May 4, 5 and 6 and considerable loss was noted. The Board of the Laundry has decided that, rather than using a weighin system for the laundry inventory, they will use a count-in and count-out system. MCVH's loss of linen is approximately 38 percent of the total. Dr. Beller recommended the appointment of Mr. Edward J. Mazur as University Controller. Dr. Beller briefly described Mr. Mazur's educational and professional experience. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, Mr. Edward J. Mazur was unanimously approved as University Controller at a salary of \$25,600, effective July 1, 1977.

Mr. Cribbs presented a report on the current status of the 1977-78 budget for VCU. Since the last presentation, VCU has learned that the State will support the total amount of the classified regrade, rather than half, and probably will support all of the faculty increases. There was a discussion on how the 70/30 plan works and is formulated into the budget. Mr. Cribbs reported that the Board will be more fully apprised at its July meeting of the complete biennial budget.

On behalf of the Property Committee, Mr. Scott recommended that the contract for the Low-Rise Dormitory be awarded to J. Kennon Perrin. Following a discussion, on motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved, the contract was awarded to J. Kennon Perrin.

Mr. Scott stated that the Property Committee recommended the hiring of Interplan and Architectural Design Studio as the architects for the remodeling and renovation of food services in the basement of Hibbs (Rathskeller) and the first floor of Hibbs (cafeteria). Dr. Gwathmey, on behalf of the Student Affairs Committee, noted that his committee had objections to the hiring of these architects since they did not have extensive experience

in dealing with restaurants. Dr. Brooke reported that, in addition to the architects, the University intends to hire food service consultants to help in the planning of these two facilities as well as the total food service for the University. Dr. Brooke also noted that he had personally contacted several of the large architectural firms to see if they could recommend any architects who had extensive experience with restaurants. Dr. Brooke reported that the firms that he talked with used food service consultants when working on such projects. Dr. Brooke also reported that Mrs. Thalhimer had some concerns about the noise level in the proposed Rathskeller. Dr. Brooke indicated that they did not plan to have noisy entertainment from Monday through Thursday (more of a coffee house atmosphere) but would have loud rock-type groups on weekends. Dr. Brooke also noted that the Rathskeller will be separated from the instructional rooms by one floor. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the architects for the Rathskeller and Hibbs cafeteria were unanimously approved.

Dr. Blanton asked the Executive Committee about the August meeting of that Committee. It was agreed that, if a meeting is necessary, it will be held on the regularly scheduled date, August 18, 1977.

Dr. Blanton also raised some questions concerning the current responsibilities of the Hospital Committee. He asked the Executive Committee if a small group could review the by-laws as they relate to the Hospital Committee. There was a general consensus that the Hospital Committee's role, scope, mission, and composition could be reviewed and a proposal made to the Board of Visitors.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Richard D. Obenshain, Secretary

Approved:

ector Wyndham B. Blanton

#### REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

# June 16, 1977

### 1. Bond Referendum

Dr. Willett reported that the Public Affairs Advisory Committee of the Council of Presidents would be meeting later in the week with Mr. Bruce Miller to discuss the upcoming bond referendum. Dr. Blanton reported that a meeting would be held soon of the Executive Committee of the Council of Visitors to discuss this same referendum. In addition, a meeting of the entire Council of Visitors (all members of all Boards of Visitors) is planned for later in the summer. Dr. Blanton also read a letter from the Governor thanking the VCU Board of Visitors for passing the resolution in support of the bond referendum.

## 2. Comments in newspaper

Two comments appearing in the Richmond newspapers were good to read. Delegate James Thomson, who will probably be the next Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, stated that, next to the Southwestern State Hospital, VCU had the most urgent needs. The Governor was quoted as saying that most of the facilities of the institutions of higher learning in the state were in good shape with the exception of VCU.

#### 3. Development

Dr. Willett reported that the administration is interested in bringing in some people who are involved in development at other institutions as consultants for a few days as we begin to revise our development office. However, we will probably not employ a Vice President for Development until such time as the new president can have some input.

# 4. Groundbreaking for new hospital

Dr. Willett announced that the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new hospital will take place on Monday, June 20. The Governor will be present for the ceremonies. We hope to get some good public relations started with regard to the construction and renovation program.

### 5. Basketball program

Dr. Willett reported that the basketball program had a good year of recruitment and that the schedule for next year includes a number of Virginia teams (William & Mary, Old Dominion, Virginia, VPI&SU, Richmond, etc.) We will also be participating in three tournaments.

### Report of the President (continued)

# 6. Student Affairs

Dr. Willett reported that the Student Affairs Committee of the Board had been meeting every two weeks. Dr. Willett, together with a member of the Committee, has interviewed all students who signed the letter. Interviews are also being held with members of the Rules & Procedures Committee. This committee seems to be the area in which a lot of difficulties occurred. The Committee is scheduled to meet again this Thursday, and Dr. Wilson will be present to discuss the letter and report. Dr. Willett stated that he hoped we could settle the points raised in the letter and move ahead with developing a student governance system. This system is not only the responsibility of the administration but also the students.

### 7. Dr. Steinfeld's petition

Dr. Willett reported that he and Dr. Neal had met with Dr. Steinfeld and the meeting had gone quite well. Dr. Willett indicated that he had talked with a member of the tobacco industry who agreed with the approach being taken by the administration.

# 8. Vice President for Finance

Dr. Beller reported that the search was underway. We have received 85 nominations and applications. Of this number, 25 to 30 are good candidates. Dr. Beller briefly outlined the job description of the Vice President for Finance and the organization for that area.

### 9. Old Virginia Mechanics Institute

Mr. Hamner called Dr. Willett to see what VCU would do to keep the pending case out of court. Dr. Willett reported that we would be willing to pay the City's moving expenses as we had previously offered to do.