

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

November 16, 1978

A regular meeting of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Thursday, November 16, 1978, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room at 910 West Franklin Street.

Present were Drs. Blanton, Gayle, Johnson and Nemuth; Messrs. Bliley, Dabney, Norris, Scott and Seaborn; and Mesdames Fewell, Satterfield, Stone and Thalhimer. Absent were Messrs. Grey and Shumate. Also present were Drs. Ackell, Beller, Brooke, Bruegman, Hall and Woods; Messrs. Guerdon and Ross; Miss Cosby and Mrs. Price.

Following Dr. Blanton's call to order, the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Visitors, held September 21, 1978, and a Special Meeting of the Hospital Committee, held September 21, 1978, were approved, on motion made and seconded.

Dr. Blanton reminded Board members to notify Mrs. Price whether or not they would be able to attend Board meetings. This will facilitate planning for both the meeting and the luncheon.

Following the Report of the President, Mr. Ross presented the Legal Advisor's Report. He indicated that no new cases have been added since the last Board meeting. Mr. Ross also presented a resolution dealing with the jurisdiction of the VCU Campus police. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

Whereas, the Virginia Campus Police Act (Section 23-232 through 23-238, Code of Virginia (1950)), provides that a campus police officer appointed pursuant to the provisions of the Act may exercise the powers and duties conferred by law upon police officers of cities, counties, and towns (i) upon the property owned or controlled by the institution for which he/she was appointed and upon the streets, sidewalks, and highways immediately adjacent thereto, (ii) pursuant to a mutual aid agreement as provided for in Section 15.1-131 of the Code between the governing board of the institution and the adjacent political subdivisions, and (iii) when in close pursuit of a person in response to a crime committed in his/her presence; and

Whereas, it is the desire of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University that the jurisdiction of the Virginia Commonwealth University Campus Police be extended to include the area bounded by Main Street to the south, Laurel Street to the west, West Franklin Street to the north, and Belvidere Street to the east, and otherwise known as "Monroe Park," in cooperation with and pursuant to a mutual aid agreement with the City of Richmond;

Now THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University that the President of the University and/or his designee is hereby authorized to negotiate and enter into, on behalf of the Board of Visitors of the University, a mutual aid agreement with the City of Richmond which would facilitate the extension of the jurisdiction of Virginia Commonwealth University Campus Police to include the area hereinbefore described as Monroe Park.

Mr. Ross presented a resolution regarding loan assistance from the United States Government, under Title IV of the Housing Act of 1950, for the Low-Rise Dorm, Phase I and II. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University has previously authorized the submission of applications for loan assistance from the United States Government, under Title IV of The Housing Act of 1950, for the construction of a student dormitory on the parcel of land in the City of Richmond bounded by Main, Laurel, Cary and Pine Streets; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to reaffirm its prior authorization and to authorize the submission of additional applications for loan assistance under Title IV of The Housing Act of 1950 and the College Housing Program, currently administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University that the President of the University, or his designee, is hereby authorized to submit, on behalf of the University, to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, College Housing Loan/Grant Applications, under Title IV of The Housing Act of 1950 and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's College Housing Program, for loan assistance for the construction of the University's Low-Rise Student Dormitory Project, including Phases I and II, and any and all subsequent phases of that Project.

Dr. Beller presented a slate of nominations for the Virginia Hospital Laundry Board of Directors. Dr. Beller pointed out to the Board the options available to them with regard to these appointments. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Board approved the appointment of Mr. James G. Guerdon and Mrs. James Bullard to the VHL Board subject to Mr. Ross' review of the legality of a member of the VCU administration serving on the Laundry Board. The Board also confirmed the ex-officio appointments of Dr. R. B. Young and Mr. Robert Wink.

Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Faculty Appointments and Changes in Status were approved.

Mr. Guerdon presented the Report of Gifts, Grants and Contracts. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Report was accepted by the Board.

Mr. Guerdon also presented a list of Contracts signed since the September Board meeting. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the report of contracts signed was accepted by the Board.

Mr. Guerdon presented a resolution dealing with borrowing funds from the Treasurer of Virginia for the construction of the extension of 13th Street north to DuVal Street. On motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of Virginia granted approval on January 25, 1977, for Virginia Commonwealth University to borrow \$400,000 in advance funds for construction of the Extension of 13th Street north to DuVal Street, and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of Virginia, on February 21, 1978, approved the revised financial feasibility study estimating the cost to be \$610,000 for this project;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University, that the Vice President for Finance is hereby authorized to borrow \$610,000 to cover the cost of this project, such funds to be repaid when revenue bonds are sold to provide permanent financing.

The Board raised several questions concerning the extension of DuVal Street such as who owns the street -- the University or the City, who will maintain the street, and who will handle snow removal. Mr. Guerdon and Mr. Ross indicated that they would investigate these questions.

On motion made and seconded, the following resolution regarding borrowing funds from the State Treasurer for construction of the Low-Rise Dorm on the Academic Campus was approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University on May 20, 1976, authorized the Vice President for Finance to borrow \$4,000,000 from the State Treasurer for the construction of a new low-rise dormitory on the Academic Campus and the Treasurer of Virginia approved on May 24, 1977, VCU's revised financial feasibility study estimating the cost at \$5,440,000;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University that the Vice President for Finance is hereby authorized to borrow additional construction funds of \$1,440,000 from the State Treasurer to complete this project, such funds to be repaid when revenue bonds are sold to provide permanent financing.

Mr. Seaborn reported that the Audit Committee had no report to give at this time. Dr. Beller indicated that, following salary negotiations with the state, the administration would like for the Audit Committee to meet with a candidate for the Internal Audit Manager position.

Mrs. Satterfield reported that the Academic Policy Committee had met and one item discussed was divisional status for Neuro-Ophthalmology. On motion made and seconded, divisional status for Neuro-Ophthalmology was approved by the Board. Mrs. Satterfield reported, for information only, that the name of the Renal Disease Division has been changed to the Division of Nephrology. Mrs. Satterfield also reported approval by the Academic Policy Committee of the change in name of the "VCU Highway Safety Center" to the "VCU Transportation Safety Training Center." On motion made and seconded the name change to the VCU Transportation Safety Training

Center was approved by the Board. For the Board's information, Mrs. Satterfield presented a summary list of degree programs being submitted to the Council of Higher Education in the Six-Year Curricular Plan. The degree programs which are in the "A" and "B" categories are those to be implemented in the near future. Those degree programs listed in the "C" category may be inaugurated after 1982. Following a discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Report of the Academic Policy Committee was accepted by the Board.

Dr. Gayle reported on behalf of the Hospital Committee. He reported that he had received a lot of good reports from nurses who are taking courses in the Evening College. Dr. Gayle reported that the Hospital Committee is continuing to scrutinize the hospital budget. Dr. Beller reported briefly on the hospital information system and indicated that it seems to be doing well at this time. The patient section is stronger overall than the business section. Dr. Gayle reported that the hospital census is still down but the recruitment of nurses in the hospital has improved. The Committee has reviewed four audits and is keeping abreast of the Hospital Laundry situation. With regard to the MCV Clinics, Dr. Gayle reported that there is a net loss this year of \$340,000. The Committee is continuing to look into this problem. On motion made and seconded, the Report of the Hospital Committee was accepted by the Board.

Dr. Gayle mentioned a letter he received from a music student regarding the lack of musical instruments. Dr. Brooke reported that the lack of equipment throughout the University is a very real problem. Dr. Ackell indicated that a budgetary decision was made to grant faculty salary increases while awaiting the \$3 million appropriation being held up while an indirect cost survey was being conducted. The major portion of the \$3 million appropriation over the next two years will be spent on equipment purchases. However, that amount will not begin to satisfy our equipment needs.

Mr. Scott reported that the Property Committee had met and discussed a number of items including the schematics for the Student Commons Building and the Low-Rise Dorm, Phase II. The preliminary drawings for the Cancer Center also were reviewed. Mr. Scott indicated that a number of small renovation projects (Milhiser House, Raleigh Building, Putney Houses, and completion of Park Avenue relocation) had been approved by the Property Committee. These projects will be funded from overhead funds and private funds. Mr. Scott indicated that in the future his committee will be considering the naming of several buildings on both campuses of the University and will be bringing recommendations to the Board. On motion made and seconded, the Report of the Property Committee was accepted by the Board.

The Student Affairs Committee met on October 3 with Dr. Wilson and key members of his staff. Mr. Norris reported that they reviewed the reorganization of the Student Affairs staff, the students' efforts to organize a student government, recreational facilities and the low-rise dorm. Mr. Norris indicated that his committee will meet monthly during the academic year and will be reviewing such things as the student commons building, review of the Board by-laws regarding the Student Affairs Committee and the low-rise dorm, phase II. On motion made and seconded, the report of the Student Affairs Committee was accepted by the Board.

Following a majority vote of the Board, an executive session was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.


Anne P. Satterfield, Secretary

Approved:


Wyndham B. Blanton, Jr., Rector

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
November 16, 1978

1. Visit by Mr. Don Finley - Mr. Finley, staff to the House Appropriations Committee, visited our University last Friday. Mr. Finley appeared to be impressed by the strides we are making with the resources we have.
2. Dr. Gilley's Committee - Wade Gilley recently appointed a group of presidents to help serve as a sounding board for new ideas and policies. Dr. Ackell reported that he has been asked to serve on this committee along with Drs. Graves, Carrier, Hamel and Willett.
3. Health Sciences Building - Dr. Ackell reported that he had asked for alternate plans for this building. After these alternate plans were developed, he met with the governor to discuss them. The most feasible approach seemed to be to reduce the scope to only the School of Pharmacy and the Department of Pharmacology. Then, two alternatives remained -- either leave the building on the site of the old First Baptist Church or to put it on Clay Street between 11th and 12th Streets near the MCV Alumni House. Since the site at 12th and Broad involves demolishing an historic landmark and because that site can be better used for another facility that must have ready access to Sanger and the hospital, Dr. Ackell recommended the Clay Street location. It appears the total cost for such a building would be \$15 million. Therefore, we will need \$12 million from the State Capital Outlay appropriations to go with the \$3 million gift from Mr. Robins.
4. Isaac Singer Visit - The recent Nobel prize winner, Isaac Singer, visited VCU about a month ago. It was an excellent session and brought good publicity to the University.
5. Image - Dr. Ackell reported that we have had some bad publicity in the news media recently. The newspaper gave us front page headlines about our student financial aid program. The University has had some problems in this area, but our default rate is below the national average. In the past, we have not been able to hire people competent to handle a million-dollar program like this, and our financial system has been lacking. We feel we have made significant progress in this area.

Another unfortunate story was on t.v. regarding the "big, impersonal university" tromping on "poor, defenseless individuals" to put tennis courts where people currently live. We are working to inform the residents about their rights and what we plan to do over in Oregon Hill. It is imperative that we buy the property to get the recreational facilities but we are working with neighborhood associations to try to alleviate feelings of ill will.

6. Music and Theatre Building - At the legislative reception sponsored by VCU, George Allen expressed a lot of interest in the Music and Theatre Building. With his help and that of Senator Willey, the Governor has told us we are in line to get the additional \$600,000 needed for construction.
7. Development Study - Dr. Ackell reported that we have a contract with Brakeley-John Price Jones to study our development potential. We have to have the study completed in the near future and have a final report in the early part of 1979.

8. Search for Executive Director of MCVH - Dr. Ackell reported that the search is well underway for the new Executive Director. Candidates are being interviewed on campus and we hope to have the list narrowed by the first of 1979.
9. Fan District Association - Dr. Ackell reported that he had met with representatives of the Fan District Association. They are pleased with our plans for the area and offered to help us should we have problems with the City in closing Linden Street and Park Avenue.
10. Accounts Payable - Dr. Ackell reported that there have been wide-spread complaints about our accounts payable. With the change to a new system July 1 and the move of a number of offices over the summer, we have gotten behind in paying our bills. We have got people working overtime on a regular basis to catch up and should be back on schedule by mid-December.
11. Hospital Construction - Dr. Ackell reported that a couple of days ago, the construction workers walked off the hospital job because the smokestack at the bottom of Marshall Street was emitting quantities of black smoke and the wind shifted to put the soot right in the faces and lungs of the workers. A short-term solution will be to hang coverings down the side of the steel work, but a permanent solution will be hard to find and expensive to make.
12. Directives - Dr. Ackell reported that he had spoken at the Council of Visitors' meeting in Williamsburg on the directives coming from the State. He has received many favorable comments and responses to that message and feels it is doing some good.