

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

January 15, 1981

A regular meeting of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Thursday, January 15, 1981, at 9:00 a.m. in the Student Lounge of the Lyons Building.

Present were Messrs. Balfour, Craigie, Grey and Wyatt; Drs. Butt, Coleman, Gayle, Johnson and Nemuth; and Mesdames Fewell and Satterfield. Absent were Mesdames Bemiss and Thalhimer; and Messrs. Cotten and Ludeman. Also present were Drs. Ackell, Hall, Salley, Sparks, Wilson and Woods; Messrs. Bruegman, Guerdon and Ross; Miss Cosby and Mrs. Price.

Mrs. Satterfield called the meeting to order and announced that a meeting of the Executive Committee would be held on Thursday, February 19, 1981, at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at 910 West Franklin Street.

On motion made and seconded, the following minutes were approved: Special Meeting of the Property Committee, held October 28, 1980; Special Meeting of the Executive Committee, held October 30, 1980; Special Meeting of the Audit Committee, held November 10, 1980; Special Meeting of the Academic Policy Committee, held November 14, 1980; Special Meeting of the Property Committee, held November 18, 1980; Regular Meeting of the Board of Visitors, held November 20, 1980; Special Meeting of the Student Affairs Committee, held December 11, 1980; and a Special Meeting of the Hospital Committee, held December 18, 1980.

During the Report of the President, Dr. Ackell reported on the following items:

1. Dr. Ackell announced that the General Assembly opened yesterday (January 14, 1981) and will be having a short session. During the mini-session, agencies may only request emergency items. VCU's request includes the hospitals and other objects of expenditure.

2. Dr. Ackell reported that he had established a Task Force on Student Media composed of five faculty, five students and one person from the community. This task force will be advising the President on the following:
  - . To determine the appropriate relationship between student media funded by student activity fees and the university, and appropriate mechanisms for implementing this relationship.
  - . To examine the feasibility of establishing student media totally independent of the university and to study universities with programs designed according to that model.
  - . To consider the establishment of a publications board and define its role and responsibility.
3. Dr. Ackell reminded the members of the Board about the Governmental Employees Reception to be held on January 26. The Governor and Richmond-area members of the General Assembly as well as State officials have been invited to attend.
4. Dr. Ackell reported that we enrolled 1,100 students in 32 classes during the Christmas Intersession. Also, spring enrollment figures look very good and we should meet our projections.

Mr. Bruegman presented the Report on Institutional Priorities. He stated that this document would be used as the planning document for the 1982-84 biennial budget request. Therefore, it is important that the Board concur with the general thrust of the document. Dr. Ackell stated that this document would be expanded to include strategies for achieving the goals and objectives and then presented again to the Board at a later date. The Board concurred with the general thrust of this document.

Mr. Wyatt reported for the Academic Policy Committee which met recently to discuss the proposed Virginia Real Estate Research Center. Mr. Wyatt stated that this Center would require no additional funds and no new positions. This will be the only center for real estate research in the State. On motion made and seconded, the Virginia Real Estate Research Center was approved.

The Audit Committee had no report at this time.

Mr. Grey reported that the Hospital Committee had met on December 18 and reviewed hospital operations and hospital construction. He stated that the cash flow and collections are in a normal posture and the nursing staff has approximately 50 more nurses working this year as compared to last year at this time. Mr. Grey also reported that Dr. Sigsby Gayle will serve as the Vice Chairman of the Hospital Committee.

Mr. Balfour reported for the Property Committee. He stated that this committee will be meeting once a month in order to stay abreast of the current building activity at VCU. He also reported that most of the October, November and December meetings were devoted to the complicated and demanding task for defining and understanding the capital outlay process. Mr. Balfour also reported on the use of historic landmark structures by the University. On motion made and seconded, the Report of the Property Committee was accepted.

Dr. Gayle reported that he and Dr. Wilson had met with two students to hear their recommendations concerning students serving on Boards of Visitors. Dr. Gayle stated that the students made some good points but he reminded them that Board members are appointed by the Governor. Dr. Gayle reported that at an earlier breakfast meeting the Student Affairs Committee heard a report on the Student Health Service on the MCV Campus. He indicated that this was a very interesting and informative report.

On motion made, seconded and approved, the Board went into executive session to discuss certain personnel matters involving the performance of identifiable employees or faculty of VCU, and to discuss pending litigation with its attorney, and to discuss the condition, acquisition, and use of real property, and to dis-

cuss matters relating to gifts, bequests, fund-raising activities and to discuss the awarding of honorary degrees as authorized by Sections 2.1 - 344 a(1), a(2), a(6), a(7) and a(8) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Board reconvened in public session and, on motion made and seconded, approved and/or accepted the Report of the Legal Advisor, the Faculty Appointments and Changes in Status, and the Report of Gifts with Mr. Grey abstaining from the vote on the Report of Gifts. The report of the Honorary Degree Committee was postponed.

Mrs. Satterfield reported that an interest had been expressed in having a group picture made of the Board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.



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Harold I. Nemuth, Secretary

Approved:

  

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Anne P. Satterfield, Rector