

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board Retreat  
December 6 & 7, 2006  
The Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

December 6, 2006

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board met on Wednesday, December 6, 2006, at 1 p.m. at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, Virginia. Members present were Mike Allen, Paul Buchanan, Betty Cauthen, Ernie Ern, Ron Flanary, Marcia Gilliam, Jim Gott, Don Green, Charlie Jessee, Mickey McGlothlin, Brittney Mullins, Don Pippin, Mike Puckett, Ford Quillen, Ruby Rogers, Joe Frank Smiddy, Kathy Stewart, Mike Thomas and Dawneda Williams. Also present was Joe Smiddy, Chancellor Emeritus. Members absent were Kenneth Asbury, Ronnie Montgomery, Posey Rigg, and Bill Sturgill.

Jim Gott presided over the meeting. Minutes were taken by Rue Gembach. A motion to adopt the agenda as presented was made by Dawneda Williams and seconded by Charlie Jessee. A motion to approve the minutes of the September 8 Board meeting was made by Ruby Rogers and seconded by Paul Buchanan. Both motions were approved unanimously.

Rachel Fowlkes, director of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, welcomed the Board to the Center.

Remarks by Chancellor: Chancellor Prior expressed appreciation to the Board members for their many contributions. He provided an update on the campaign kick off, enrollment data, capital projects, alumni functions, and the Restructuring Act. He distributed a graph summarizing data of where students go after attending community colleges.

Remarks by Student Board Member: Brittney Mullins reported on several items including the Student Organization RHA hosted the SAACURH conference in October; the Student Virginia Education Association hosted "Funtasia" a carnival-type celebration for children of the community; the student theatrical production this fall was "A Mid-Summer Night's Dream;" a veteran's plaque presented as a gift from the class of 2006 was unveiled and dedicated in November; and students in the "Up till Dawn" organization raised \$10,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Remarks by Alumni Association President: Kathy Stewart reported on several items including the record high attendance at the Alumni Homecoming weekend activities; an alumni reception held at the Allandale Mansion in Kingsport, Tennessee; the Alumni awards event in November; the alumni \$25,000 Super Raffle; a reception for basketball players; and the Cavalier \$elebration hosted in May.

Revision to the Board's Bylaws: Don Pippin presented a recommendation on behalf of the Executive Committee that the bylaws of the Board be revised to include the appropriate section of the *Code of Virginia* pertaining to the Kentucky and Tennessee Tuition Grant, removing the limitation of officers serving 2 consecutive terms, and abolishing the term limits of Board members. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ernie Ern and seconded by Charlie Jessee to approve the recommended revisions to the Board's bylaws as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Rental Rates for Student Housing: Sim Ewing, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Government Relations, explained that to maintain and efficiently operate the College's residence halls, revenue must reflect the cost of operation. To continue providing housing opportunities that meet the needs and expectations of the student body, this proposal includes the funding stream for the next residence hall. A seven percent increase is recommended. A motion was made by Betty Cauthen and seconded by Mike Puckett to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

Lighting of Baseball and Softball Fields: Gary Juhan, Vice Chancellor for Administration, reported that for the College continues to pursue its goal of enhancing and improving facilities. The baseball field was renovated in 2003 and the construction of a new softball field was completed in 2005, with additional improvements being made to the baseball field in October 2006. To further enhance the softball and baseball facilities, lighting should be installed at both fields. A motion to approve the installation of lighting for the baseball and softball facilities was made by Paul Buchanan and seconded by Ford Quillen. The motion received unanimous approval.

Departmental Name Change: Gil Blackburn, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, reported that the decision of the Department of Social and Behavioral Science to change its name to the Department of Social Science was based upon the current trend which favors simplicity and accuracy. A motion approving the name change was made by Don Pippin and seconded by Ruby Rogers. The motion received unanimous approval.

Biochemistry Major: Mr. Blackburn reported that the College offers majors in biology and chemistry. However, knowledge in the field of biochemistry is exploding and a growing number of students are pursuing careers where a specific biochemistry major will offer advantages not currently available to them under the present arrangement. A motion to approve the offering of a major in biochemistry was made by Joe Frank Smiddy and seconded by Charlie Jessee. The motion received unanimous approval.

Major in Music: Mr. Blackburn reported that the Visual and Performing Arts Department has an art major and a theatre major, both housed under the BA in Liberal Arts and Sciences. Students have expressed an interest in a music major and the College has the appropriate resources. A motion to approve the addition of a major in

music to the College curriculum was made by Paul Buchanan and seconded by Ron Flanary. The motion received unanimous approval.

College Major Name Change: Mr. Blackburn reported that the College currently has in the catalog a major named the College Major. The major was intended to be an interdisciplinary studies major, but is very seldom used because its name does not clearly reflect that. A motion to change the name of the College Major to Interdisciplinary Studies Major was made by Ruby Rogers and seconded by Mike Puckett. The motion received unanimous approval.

Chancellor Prior provided an update on the Software Engineering Program, the Russell County Training Center, and the nursing program re-accreditation.

Chairman Gott noted that the Board would adjourn to the Martha Washington Inn for dinner and for a play at the Barter Theater. The Board will reconvene at 9 a.m. on Thursday morning when Pace Lochte, Director of Economic Development at the University of Virginia, and members of the Education and Business and Economics Focus Groups will join the Board.

#### December 7, 2006

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board and members of the Education and Business and Economics Focus Groups convened at 9 a.m. at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center. Board members present were Mike Allen, Betty Cauthen, Ernie Ern, Ron Flanary, Marcia Gilliam, Jim Gott, Don Green, Charlie Jessee, Brittney Mullins, Mike Puckett, Ford Quillen, Joe Frank Smiddy, Kathy Stewart, and Dawneda Williams. Focus Group members present were Shannon Blevins, Leton Harding, Donnie Ratliff, Skip Skinner, Sharon Fisher, Rachel Fowlkes, Rod Griffith, Damon Rasnick, Ann Wade, Jim Wardell, and David Wilkin.

Chairman Gott presided over the meeting. Minutes were taken by Rue Gembach.

At the September 8, 2006 Board meeting, Mr. Gott announced the formation of two focus groups. One concentrated on education and how the College is positioned to continue its support for the education needs in our region. The other concentrated on business and economic development concerns and how the College can partner with businesses and be a vital part of the economic engine in our region. Pace Lochte, Director of Economic Development at the University of Virginia served as facilitator for discussions with both groups. Mr. Gott appointed Board members Ruby Rogers and Paul Buchanan to co-chair the Education Focus Group and Board member Ron Flanary to chair the Business and Economic Development Group. The two groups met in October. Since then Ms. Lochte has met with individuals to follow up on discussions began at that meeting.

The discussion on December 7 began by Ms. Lochte providing an overview of the fall meeting.

Topics discussed by the Education Focus Group included convincing people that they want to go to College and improving accessibility to it, addressing the adult learner, improving the transfer process, having career coaches in high schools, using peer group involvement by asking college graduates to talk with teenagers, follow up to college day programs, providing opportunities for middle and high school students to visit the campus, expanding dual enrollment programs, expanding dual admission process, increasing visibility of UVa-Wise, addressing financial needs, having a guidance counselor retreat at the College, expanding athletic offerings, improving retention rates, offering summer classes for entering freshman, adding opportunities for graduate level programs, reviewing high school core content, pedagogical courses, creating more partnerships with other institutions and industry, working with the Crooked Trail music program, and cooperating with Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center.

Chancellor Prior noted that Ms Lochte is the point person at UVa, working in collaboration with Marcia Quesenberry, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, who is the College's point person on the overall restructuring strategies. This is a very important issue by this Board in terms of providing leadership to gain different perspectives on what the College is currently doing or what it is planning. The focus groups are perfectly timed to fit with the planning processes unfolding with our senior staff; identifying where this College could be in the next five to ten years. Some questions to be addressed are what size the College should be and what scope should the College have in terms of its involvement and responsibilities to the region. The senior staff is developing a business plan of what it would cost to grow from two thousand students to twenty-five hundred students, and what it would cost to grow to three thousand students.

Topics discussed by the Business and Economic Development Focus Group included UVa-Wise serving as a beacon for cultural change for the region, continuous learning, developing leadership skills and problem solving, establishing strong partnerships with industry such as Northrop Grumman and CGI, work force development, community engagement, continued exchange of ideas, improve health care in the region, publicizing UVa-Wise, offer presentation skills, collaborating with community colleges and other universities, being an advocate for quality of life issues, revitalization of down town, child care, encouraging cultural diversity, retail, housing, recreational opportunities, dental care, and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programming.

At the request of Chairman Gott, Ann Wade, a teacher at St. Paul High School, addressed the Board and identified visibility of the College, the outreach to the public school students as well as the teachers, and consistency of the teacher education program as major concerns.

In response to a question regarding summer offerings at the College, Mr. Prior said the Board would hear more about a very aggressive programming called Summer College that he and the provost are discussing, as well as STEM programming.

Former Chancellor Ernie Ern remarked that the College does many things well, but with respect to strategic planning, we need to identify what the College does better than anyone else.

In closing, Chairman Gott expressed his appreciation for everyone's participation and noted that members of the College's senior staff would be convened to continue the discussions. A report will be given to the Board at its next meeting.

Upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Don R. Pippin

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Attachments

## Approved Resolutions – December 6, 2006

### **APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE BOARD'S BYLAWS**

RESOLVED that the Bylaws of The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board be approved as amended on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.

### **APPROVAL OF RENTAL RATES FOR STUDENT HOUSING**

WHEREAS, the College provides affordable housing to students desiring to reside on campus; and

WHEREAS, the cost of operating the housing program continues to increase due to inflation and the offering of additional services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the rental rates for student housing be increased by 7 percent effective July 1, 2007.

	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
McCraray	\$3,230	\$3,456
Asbury, Thompson, Townhouses, Henson Martha Randolph, Culbertson, and Theme Housing	\$3,732	\$3,994

\*Per academic year

### **APPROVAL OF LIGHTING OF BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELDS**

WHEREAS, The University of Virginia's College at Wise values the learning opportunities afforded students who participate in the intercollegiate athletic program; and

WHEREAS, the College is committed to improving facilities to support the athletic program; and

WHEREAS, lighting of the baseball and softball fields will benefit UVa-Wise student athletes, as well as local and regional student athletes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board approves the installation of lighting for the baseball and softball facilities, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.

**APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTAL NAME CHANGE**

WHEREAS, the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences has requested that its name be changed to the Department of Social Science; and

WHEREAS the name Department of Social Science is a more accurate descriptor of the programs offered by the department; and

WHEREAS “social science” is recognized in the academy as a legitimate descriptor of offerings in the disciplines represented by the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board approves changing the name of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences to Department of Social Science, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.

**APPROVAL OF BIOCHEMISTRY MAJOR**

WHEREAS students at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise who pursue careers in science, medicine, veterinary medicine, and other fields need the most appropriate academic background in order to be successful in the competition for enrollment; and

WHEREAS biochemistry is an appropriate field for those pursuing postgraduate study; and

WHEREAS the faculty, facilities, and coursework necessary for a degree in biochemistry is available on the campus of The University of Virginia’s College at Wise; and

WHEREAS there is sufficient student interest in a major in biochemistry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The University of Virginia’s College at Wise Board approves the offering of a major in biochemistry, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.

**APPROVAL OF A MAJOR IN MUSIC**

WHEREAS The University of Virginia's College at Wise has majors in art and theatre, but no major in music; and

WHEREAS the interest in the music program continues to grow; and

WHEREAS the College now has a marching band, a concert band, a jazz ensemble, a woodwind ensemble, and a brass ensemble; and

WHEREAS there are both current and prospective students who are interested in majoring in music; and

WHEREAS a music major is an appropriate major for a liberal arts college;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board approves the addition of a major in music to the College curriculum, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.

**APPROVAL OF COLLEGE MAJOR NAME CHANGE**

WHEREAS the College Major maintains its value in providing a way for students to major in areas in which the College does not currently have majors; and

WHEREAS the name College Major does not clearly reflect the intent of the major; and

WHEREAS a more descriptive name will make it apparent to students that they have additional opportunities in the courses of study offered by the College;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the name of the College Major shall be changed to Interdisciplinary Studies Major as approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2006.