



THE RECTOR AND VISITORS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

September 11, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Committee on The University of Virginia's College at Wise:

Elizabeth M. Cranwell, Chair
Whittington W. Clement
Frank M. Conner III
Maurice A. Jones
Angela Hucles Mangano

James B. Murray Jr., Ex-officio
Ellen M. Bassett, Faculty Member
Mazzen S. Shalaby, Student Member
A. Bruce Cahoon, Faculty Consulting Member

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

Robert M. Blue
Mark T. Bowles
L.D. Britt, M.D.
Thomas A. DePasquale
Barbara J. Fried
John A. Griffin

Louis S. Haddad
Robert D. Hardie
Babur B. Lateef, M.D.
C. Evans Poston Jr.
James V. Reyes

FROM: Susan G. Harris

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee on The University of Virginia's College at Wise on September 11, 2020

The Committee on The University of Virginia's College at Wise met, in Open Session, at 9:24 a.m. on Friday, September 11, 2020, in the Pavilion Ballroom at the Boar's Head Resort. Elizabeth M. Cranwell, Chair, presided.

Committee Members present were James B. Murray Jr., Whittington W. Clement, Frank M. Conner III, Maurice A. Jones, Angela Hucles Mangano (via Zoom), Ellen M. Bassett, Mazzen S. Shalaby, and A. Bruce Cahoon.

L.D. Britt, M.D. (via Zoom), Thomas A. DePasquale, Barbara J. Fried, John A. Griffin (via Zoom), Louis S. Haddad (via Zoom), Robert D. Hardie, Babur B. Lateef, M.D., C. Evans Poston Jr., and James V. Reyes also attended.

Present as well were James E. Ryan, Jennifer Wagner Davis, K. Craig Kent, M.D., M. Elizabeth Magill, Margaret S. Grundy, Susan G. Harris, Timothy J. Heaphy, Donna P. Henry, Trisha Folds-Bennett, Michael J. Citro, Megan K. Lowe, Mark M. Luellen, David W. Martel (via Zoom), Clark "Chip" L. Murray, David Moltz, and Debra D. Rinker.

Ms. Cranwell opened the meeting with a review of the agenda. She also reminded the Board that Chancellor Henry had received the 2020 Outstanding Woman Leader in Higher Education award by the Virginia Network of Women in Higher Education.

Report of the Chancellor

Chancellor Henry gave a report on the revised budget presented to the Finance Committee for approval. The revised budget is reduced by \$1.4M, a 5% cut. They implemented a hiring freeze in March/April and have not filled positions vacant because of retirement or resignation. In August, they implemented an early retirement incentive program for staff. They are now proposing an early retirement incentive program for faculty. She said this program must be approved by the Board of Visitors. One-third of their faculty will be eligible, and she predicts about half of those faculty may be interested. The program is voluntary. Chancellor Henry said once they had Board approval, they would take it to the Governor for approval.

Even though there was no formal action necessary for the UVA Wise revised FY2021 budget, the Committee took a vote of approval to have it move forward to the Finance Committee and the full Board.

Chancellor Henry gave a report on COVID-19. They have implemented testing and tested over 1,000 students who planned to come back to Wise. Over 200 students have gone online for their classes. Only four students tested positive for the virus. These students were able to remain at home and do their isolation before returning to campus. Prevalence testing started which includes all faculty, staff, and students. As of the Board meeting, only two positive tests had been reported; they were both asymptomatic employees of the college.

Chancellor Henry reported on fall enrollment. Last fall they enrolled 1,122 students, and this fall they are at 1,147 on the first day of classes. Last year the College had 88 new transfer students, and this fall they are at 115.

Chancellor Henry moved to the strategic plan. Last January and February, the Parthenon Group helped them look strategically at their strengths and then helped them to plan and think about new ideas that would attract new students, build enrollment, and enhance some of the perceived strengths, which were identified as a teaching focus, affordability, and accessibility. The College at Wise is very affordable compared to public and private peers. She provided preliminary information on the ideas and insights that came from recent surveys and focus group interviews.

Chancellor Henry presented the Crockett Award to Mr. Mark Luellen Vice President for Advancement. This award is given to a UVA employee who has helped to support UVA Wise. She said Mr. Luellen has worked with them to cultivate strong relationships with friends of the college and potential donors in the southwest Virginia region. He was instrumental in ensuring that UVA Wise was included in the Bicentennial Scholars Program, and he helped them achieve a \$10M scholarship gift that is currently supporting 75 students and will grow next year to over 100 students. The matching funds from the Bicentennial Scholars funds have given Wise significant momentum for fundraising and their future campaign.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.