



THE RECTOR AND VISITORS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

June 3, 2021

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
Sarita Mehta, Student Member
Priscilla B. Brame, 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 June 3, 2021

The Committee on The University of Virginia's College at Wise met, in open session, at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 3, 2021. Elizabeth M. Cranwell, Chair, presided.

Committee members present: James B. Murray Jr., Whittington W. Clement, Frank M. Conner III, Maurice A. Jones, Angela Hucles Mangano (via Zoom), Ellen M. Bassett, Sarita Mehta, and Priscilla B. Brame

Mark T. Bowles, L.D. Britt, M.D., Thomas A. DePasquale, Barbara J. Fried, Louis S. Haddad, 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, Megan K. Lowe, David W. Martel, Clark L. Murray, and Debra D. Rinker.

Presenters were Donna P. Henry, Priscilla B. Brame, and Trisha Folds-Bennett.

Ms. Cranwell opened the meeting with a review of the agenda. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned it over to Chancellor Henry.

Action Item: Appointment/Reappointments to The University of Virginia's College at Wise

On motion, the committee approved the following resolution:

APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE BOARD

RESOLVED, Dr. J. Scott Litton is appointed to The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for a period of four-years, ending June 30, 2025, in accordance with the UVA Wise College Board bylaws; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, Mr. Leton L. Harding, Jr., Mr. Lewey K. Lee, Jr., Mr. Robert F. Stallard, and Mr. Jeffery A. Sturgill are reappointed to The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board for four-year terms ending June 30, 2025, in accordance with the UVA Wise College Board bylaws.

Report of the Chancellor

Chancellor Henry provided an overview of the strategic plan. The new vision for providing students with technological advancement tools along with soft skills will be achieved through partnerships with UVA schools. For instance, the state legislature set aside \$810,000 to jumpstart a partnership program between UVA Nursing and the UVA Wise Department of Nursing to strengthen practitioners in Southwest Virginia and provide graduate opportunities. Staff are also looking to revise the liberal arts core curriculum to improve student retention by integrating experiential learning into courses and offering more support for advising.

Provost Trisha Folds-Bennett spoke about first year goals and several milestones. The front-end project is a first-year seminar introducing students to the resources available to them, and includes a capstone portfolio project. The UVA Wise team will spend the year working on faculty and staff development to launch this project. They also plan to establish a Center for Educational Excellence and Innovation which will draw inspiration from UVA's Center for Teaching Excellence. A very intentional review of academic programs will focus on developing new ones and determining the ones to eliminate. In the fall meeting it is anticipated that the metrics for these goals will be established and announced.

Chancellor Henry gave a report on enrollment: as of June 2, there are 324 freshmen deposits, up 25% from the five-year average, and 62 transfer deposits, up 12% from the five year average. The Year at Wise program (also known as the UVA deferred program) currently has 76 students enrolled, with over 400 students on the 'interested' list—these applicants have until July 1 to decide. Student deposits from the Appalachian region are up 44%.

Chancellor Henry said UVA Wise is planning to have a fully functioning in-person fall semester. Faculty are strongly encouraging vaccinations, which UVA Wise began administering in the spring and will continue to track when students return to campus. Those who are not vaccinated must continue to do prevalence testing. Athletics is projected to be back to pre-Covid operations.

On vice chancellor searches: Joe Keiser is the new Chancellor for Finance and Operations; he was Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration prior. Shannon Blevins, Vice Chancellor for

Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives, now also serves as new leadership for human resources and government relations. Gail Zimmerman has been named the next Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, formerly working in student affairs at Keene State College.

Gifts and pledges for the College currently total \$63M with the goal of \$100M. Philanthropic cash flow is over \$6M. Endowment has grown from \$45M to \$152M since January 2013, with help from the Bicentennial Match program, which added \$35M to endowed funds. The Chancellor's Fund for Success was created to support students that might need to leave school because of the pandemic, which helped more than 152 students.

University Vice President and Chief Communications Officer David Martel received the Crockett Award for his partnership with UVA Wise working on the newly established marketing development for the College. He assisted in the establishment of the College's first Office of Marketing, and he has also served key roles in assisting the Chancellor and staff of the Office of Marketing and Communications. Chancellor Henry expresses her thanks for all that Mr. Martel has done to bring new resources to the College.

Remarks by the Faculty Consulting Member

Ms. Priscilla Brame, faculty representative to the committee, reported on current challenges for UVA Wise faculty. One of the most difficult is a lack of childcare services in the local area. Faculty and staff struggle to find affordable options, and many do not qualify for programs such as Head Start. Additionally, the pandemic and working remotely has made faculty work quite difficult with regard to childcare. Thus, the College is considering offering services for the UVA Wise faculty and greater local community to remedy this challenge.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

SGH:ddr

These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia Board of Visitors website:
<https://bov.virginia.edu/committees/208>