

**FINAL - APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 10/8/01**

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY**

**Board of Visitors Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, 13 August 2001**

**MINUTES**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors met on Monday, 13 August 2001, at 3:00 p.m. in the Elizabeth River Room of Webb University Center on the Norfolk campus. Present from the Executive Committee were:

Walter D. Kelley, Jr., Rector  
Elizabeth W. Atkinson

Absent from the Executive Committee were:

Henry P. Bouffard  
Mary C. Haddad  
Edward L. Hamm, Jr.  
Ronald John A. Villanueva  
Patricia M. Woolsey

Also present from the Board of Visitors were:

D. Michael Arendall, Jr.  
Beverley B. Graeber  
J. Jack W. Hilgers  
William M. Lechler  
William E. Russell

Also present were:

Roseann Runte, President  
John R. Broderick  
Dana D. Burnett  
Stephen Daniel  
Robert L. Fenning  
David R. Hager  
Donna W. Meeks  
Rita Woltz

## **CALL TO ORDER AND MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

The Rector called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. and recognized Ms. Graeber, who made the following motion: "Mr. Rector, I move that this meeting be recessed, and that we reconvene in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters within the jurisdiction of the Board, specifically, consultation with legal counsel on a probable lawsuit and pending litigation and a personnel matter, as permitted by Subsection (A), Paragraphs (1) and (7) of Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia."

## **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND FOIA CERTIFICATION**

At the conclusion of closed session, the meeting reconvened in open session, at which time the Rector called for the Freedom of Information Act certification of compliance that (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered. The certification of compliance vote was five in favor and none opposed. (*Atkinson, Graeber, Hilgers, Lechler, Russell*)

## **BYLAWS REVISIONS**

Before discussion of the Bylaws, the Rector introduced Mike Arendall, the new student Board member and immediate past president of the student body. The Rector then called on Dr. Hilgers for his report. Dr. Hilgers indicated that since the last meeting no substantive changes were made to the Bylaws although President Runte suggested some editorial changes, most of which were incorporated. The proposed Bylaws revisions will be sent out to the Board tomorrow with the required 30-day notice of the Board's intent to act on them at the meeting on September 14. Dr. Hilgers asked President Runte to distribute them to the Vice Presidents and others as she deems appropriate.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Rector called on the Secretary who made a motion to approve as distributed the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of July 16, 2001. The Rector indicated that a quorum was not present but he understood that the Board can act in the absence of a challenge of the existence of a quorum. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graeber and unanimously approved. (*Atkinson, Graeber, Hilgers, Lechler, Russell*)

## **RECTOR'S REPORT**

The Rector reported that he was notified by the Secretary of the Commonwealth on the Board appointments, which have not yet been made public. He named those current Board members who were reappointed and the new appointees.

Mr. Kelley also spoke with former board member Joan Gifford, who is currently a member of the Educational Foundation. She indicated that up until a few years ago, Board traditionally met with the Educational Foundation on an annual basis to discuss investments. She would like to reinstate that tradition and the Rector agreed. She will try to set this up sometime during the fall.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Rector called on President Runte for her report. President Runte thanked the board members who attended the recent MagLev event and expressed her appreciation to Vice Presidents Fenning and Broderick and their staffs for this quality event. Later that same day, she met with John Forbes, Thelma Drake and Terry Suit to discuss space issues and learned from John Forbes that the Governor's office has a list of possible funding to address space issues this fall and Old Dominion University is currently not on that list. After their discussions, he assured her that Old Dominion University will be added to that list. She asked board members to make the case for Old Dominion with the legislators at every possible opportunity and to point out that Old Dominion ranks the highest in terms of the various SCHEV space use categories.

President Runte indicated that she also spoke with Delegate Moss, who indicated that the Appropriations Committee would be touring universities this fall but did not include Old Dominion University on that tour. She again asked the board members' assistance in lobbying the legislators to include Old Dominion University on that tour. She also stressed that a campus tour must highlight the University's conservative use of its space and the need to renovate substandard space as well as to increase its capacity. Board members expressed their concern that Old Dominion was not included on the list and asked that President Runte find out why.

At the conclusion of her report, President Runte distributed a list of her activities since the last meeting. The Rector asked her to comment on the administrative retreat. She explained that the administrative staff recently held a retreat in Chincoteague which included a tour of the Virginia Commercial Space Flight Center at Wallops Island. The retreat format featured focus groups to discuss the institution's priorities. She intends to extend this process to the faculty, students, staff and outside groups such as alumni in order to learn of the perceptions of the University's constituents and to develop a vision and priorities for Old Dominion. Rector and Mrs. Kelley and Delegate Bob Bloxom from the Eastern Shore also attended the dinner on Thursday evening. The Rector commented that several individuals approached him at the dinner to express their enthusiasm for the retreat format and the value of the small group interaction which took place among individuals from all sectors of the institution.

## **BOARD OF VISITORS ORIENTATION**

At the request of the Rector, Dr. Hilgers developed a suggested agenda for the orientation session for new board members, which he distributed to the Committee. He also indicated the need for a special meeting in order to appoint a nominating committee to fill the Vice Rector's vacant position and suggested that this be done on the same day as the orientation. Ms. Graeber suggested that a campus tour be added to the schedule. Dr. Russell also suggested that some time be allotted for a discussion of the Board's relationship with the Foundations.

President Runte suggested, and the Rector agreed, that Donna Meeks should poll the Board members once the new board appointees are announced to find a convenient date for all concerned prior to the September meeting.

## **SEPTEMBER BOARD OF VISITORS MEETING**

President Runte referred the members to the Schedule of Activities for the Board meeting to be held on September 13 and 14 which was included with their agenda. She noted that the Board Reunion Dinner on Thursday evening will be held on the Williamsburg Lawn, weather permitting. Ms. Graeber suggested that current members of the Board be encouraged to attend this important event.

## **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Rector asked if there was any old or unfinished business to come before the Board. Dr. Hilgers asked about the status of the plaque that was suggested at the last executive committee. Vice President Fenning assured him that a suggested design of the plaque would be available for the Board's consideration in September. Dr. Hilgers also asked about the plans for the President's Inauguration, to which President Runte responded that plans for the Inaugural are proceeding on schedule. She added that the Board will be asked in September to consider several honorary degrees to be conferred during the installation ceremony. She also invited the board members to attend the State of the University Address and reception to be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Rector asked if there was any new business to come before the Board. Ms. Graeber commented on the excitement expressed by the legislators at the MagLev event. Mr. Arendall asked about the event scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup>. Vice President Fenning briefed the members on what will take place, the highlight of which will be the placement of the first ten feet of the MagLev track. The event begins at 10:30 a.m.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.