

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, October 20, 2003

MINUTES

The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors met on Monday, October 20, 2003, at 3:00 PM in the Board Room of Webb University Center on the Norfolk campus. Present from the Executive Committee were:

Frank Batten, Jr., Rector
Henry P. Bouffard
James A. Hixon
Ross A. Mugler
William E. Russell

Also present from the Board of Visitors was:

Kendra M. Croshaw

Also present were:

Roseann Runte, President
Robert L. Ash
Alonzo Brandon
Dana D. Burnett
C. Tabor Cronk
Ken Daley
Stephen Daniel
Robert L. Fenning
Thomas L. Isenhour
David Loope
Richard Massey
Donna Meeks
Jennifer Mullen
Nabeel Qureshi (*Student Representative*)
Philip Walzer (*The Virginian-Pilot*)

CALL TO ORDER

The Rector called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM and indicated that the Agenda would be modified to include a Closed Session near the end of the meeting. Mr. Bouffard disclosed a possible conflict of interests on any issue related to pending litigation involving Maglev, and indicated that he would not participate in any discussions on same.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 14 2003 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Mugler moved that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on August 14, 2003, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hixon and approved unanimously as distributed by all members present and voting. (*Bouffard, Croshaw, Hixon, Mugler*)

UPDATE ON UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Vice President Fenning provided an update on activities in the University Village. He reviewed the Village master plan which was modified to include a hotel and to designate specific “addresses” for the Village - the Convocation Center, Monarch Way, the residential area, and the commercial/retail area. Phase II of the student residences is underway, with an expected completion prior to the Fall, 2004 semester. Construction of the Campus Police offices has begun and leasing of the retail spaces in the initial phase. Plans for special interest housing have moved more quickly than had originally been expected, and a special interest housing area could be completed as early as Fall, 2005. The City of Norfolk has issued a Request for Proposal for edge management activities.

The Rector expressed his concern that there may not be sufficient student housing on campus, and asked if the administration had looked into the possibility of building additional residence halls near the waterfront. Mr. Fenning indicated that a capital project request related to the development of new residence facilities has been included in the University’s biennial capital requests.

UPDATE ON MAGLEV

Vice President Fenning briefed the Committee on the status of the \$2M Federal appropriation. He indicated that a subcontract between Old Dominion and American Maglev Technology has been drafted and reviewed by counsel for both parties. A sub-recipient agreement between Old Dominion and the Research Foundation is also being drafted, and once approved, the subcontract with AMT can be issued and work can begin. He explained that there are six task orders associated with the \$2M appropriation, two of which will be performed by Old Dominion. Completion of these task orders would result in a “demonstrable engineering prototype.” Federal dollars of at least \$2-3M (assuming adequate progress with the current appropriation) would be necessary to complete the stations and certify the system as a “people-mover.” Efforts are currently underway to seek additional Federal funding.

OPERATING BUDGET SUBMISSION

President Runte indicated that the University’s budget submission included the enrollment proposal, the regional computing grid, digital library and greening of campus initiatives. The Secretary of Education will recommend to the Governor which of these initiatives, if any, should be included in his budget. It is hoped that the enrollment proposal will be included, and early indicators are hopeful that it will. Vice President Fenning stated that detailed submissions are due in Richmond on Wednesday, October 29th, for any initiative approved by the Secretary of Education.

Mr. Fenning also commented that there is a considerable amount of interest this year in providing faculty salary increases, addressing base adequacy, and adopting a tuition and fee policy. However, any sort of “one size-fits all” approach would disadvantage institutions like Old Dominion, Christopher Newport and VCCS because they would face the prospect of much higher tuition and fee increases due to the current disparity of funding among all of the institutions. Old Dominion University is therefore advocating a differentiated approach that would bring all institutions who are currently below 85% of base adequacy (including Old Dominion) up to the 85% level before other general funds are distributed to other institutions.

President Runte commented that she is working with the President of Christopher Newport University to write letters to the General Assembly members in support of the differentiated funding approach. President Tribble also indicated his willingness to visit the Governor and Secretary of Education to discuss this proposal.

Mr. Bouffard commented on the political nature of funding for institutions of higher education and suggested that we involve students, parents and alumni as much as possible in a campaign in support of differentiated approaches to base adequacy funding.

UPCOMING SEARCHES

President Runte reported that three high-level searches are currently underway for the Vice President for Research, Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, and University Librarian. She indicated that each of the search committees would welcome a representative from the Board.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Runte introduced Mr. Tabor Cronk as the University’s new General Counsel appointed by the Office of the Attorney General, and Mr. David Loope as her new assistant. She reported that Vice President Ash recently visited Northern Virginia to present three research programs for funding consideration: Modeling and Simulation, Nuclear Physics, and Oceanography. Vice President Ash provided details about each proposal and indicated that he received positive feedback on all three.

President Runte recently met with the Director of the Chrysler Museum to discuss the development of cooperative programs between the University and the Museum. One of the outcomes of this discussion was the establishment of an “Old Dominion Day” following each exhibit opening when all ODU faculty, staff and students (and members of the Board) will receive free admission to the exhibit

President Runte indicated that the University is currently renegotiating its contract with SACLANT (NATO) and all military contracts are being reviewed. She also announced that the College of Engineering and Technology recently had a visit from its accreditation team. While the formal, written report has not yet been received, informal comments were positive.

The President distributed brochures for the upcoming Japan forum and encouraged the Board members to attend the event being held at the Chrysler. She also distributed two articles from North Carolina newspapers reporting that East Carolina University has been put on notice by the North Carolina system that their hiring practices must be reexamined.

President Runte stated that she had been approached by the Chamber of Commerce about initiating a program at the University that would fill the gap left by Johnson & Wales University when they leave the area. She, the Provost and the Vice President for Administration and Finance considered and rejected such a proposal, since it was not considered to be a high priority for limited funding or in keeping with the University's mission. However, it might be considered as a non-credit program if an outside agency wished to offer it through the University. It was also suggested that this type of program would be better suited to the community colleges.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Rector asked if there was any old or unfinished business to come before the Committee. There was none.

CLOSED SESSION

The Rector recognized Mr. Mugler, who made the following motion: "Mr. Rector, I move that this meeting be recessed, and, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), that we reconvene in Closed Session for the purpose of consultation with the University's legal counsel pertaining to litigation, specifically, Waterfront Marine Construction, Inc. v. Aviation Constructors, Inc. and others, including Old Dominion University, because consultation with counsel in open meeting would adversely affect the University's litigating posture." The motion was properly seconded and approved. (*Croshaw, Hixon, Mugler*). Mr. Bouffard excused himself from the discussion due to the potential conflict of interests disclosed at the beginning of the meeting.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND FOIA CERTIFICATION

At the conclusion of the 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 three in favor and none opposed. (*Croshaw, Hixon, Mugler*)

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM