

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Tuesday, 17 March 1998**

MINUTES

The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors met on Tuesday, 17 March 1998, at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Webb University Center on the main campus. Present from the Executive Committee were:

James F. Babcock, Rector
Joan D. Gifford
Edward L. Hamm, Jr.
Anthony C. Paige
Charles H. Rotert, Jr.

Also present from the Board was: William E. Russell

Also present were:

James V. Koch, President
John R. Broderick
Nancy P. Coberly
William A. Drewry
Jo Ann M. Gora
David F. Harnage
Donna W. Meeks
William J. McMahon
Cecelia T. Tucker

**CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF 17 NOVEMBER 1997**

The Rector called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the minutes of the Board of Visitors Executive Committee meeting of 17 November 1997. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as distributed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Rector called on President Koch for his report. President Koch indicated that the Lady Monarchs basketball team will play North Carolina State Saturday in Dayton. Should they win, they will probably play the University of Connecticut.

President Koch announced that Dr. John Harrison, who most recently served as director of the Supercomputer Center at the University of Carolina, has joined the University on a part-time basis. Dr. Harrison is well-known nationally and currently serves on the advisory board for Microsoft

Corporation. His expertise in technology will help to increase the University's visibility among private and public technology firms.

The President reported on activities of the General Assembly and how the car tax and school construction issues may impact on the 25% increase in total permanent appropriations currently slated for Old Dominion University.

This year brought a number of bills dealing with higher education. These include a tuition freeze for in-state undergraduates through the year 2000, the authorization for each institution to charge students up to \$1.50 per credit hour to support information technology (which Old Dominion University may opt not to do this year), a study to be conducted by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia regarding the use of adjunct faculty, and plans to benchmark administrative functions.

An interesting bill mandates that future fee increases should not exceed what has been authorized by the General Assembly for salary increases **and** the growth in the consumer price index. This has been interpreted to mean the **sum** of those two items, and would make a big difference if that interpretation is incorrect. Salary increases for personnel in auxiliary activities are funded through fee increases, and a cap on fee increases is therefore a matter of concern. Of greater concern, however, in terms of policy, is that this diminishes the authority of the Board, since fee increases have traditionally been decided by the Board of Visitors.

Another issue that has empirical implications for institutions is the mandate that all revenue generated from enrollment growth and out-of-state tuition increases would be used to support salary increases. For institutions who projected large enrollment growths, such as James Madison University, the revenue generated has been allocated toward salary increases and cannot be used as they had originally planned, such as hiring new faculty. The ramifications for Old Dominion University are not great this year because a fairly modest enrollment increase was forecast.

Other items which passed the General Assembly include a bill to revise the mission of the community colleges granting them major responsibility for non-credit workforce training; the creation of a statewide Workforce Training Council; a study of technology centers; a revision to the Freedom of Information Act allowing electronic meetings to take place under specific circumstances (which will have ramifications for this Board); and the creation of the Roanoke Higher Education Authority.

The Center for Innovative Technology, in its technology plan for the Commonwealth, which has been widely discussed and adopted by several different bodies, proposes that we triple the number of computer scientists and engineers in Virginia. A portion of funds that the General Assembly has allocated for workforce development will be used to grant scholarships to highly talented students who agree to major in technology-related disciplines. The scholarships will be in the amount of \$4,000 per year, and will be renewable for four years.

Bills which were carried over to 1999 dealt with issues such as in-state tuition for spouses and dependents of military personnel; faculty teaching loads; guidelines for tuition charges; and requiring

that whoever paid a student's tuition, whether that be parents or the Department of Defense, to give their consent before the student could drop a course.

The Higher Education Bond Act, to be used to build college buildings, did not pass the General Assembly. There was strong opposition in the Senate to issuing bonds during a year that the Commonwealth was doing so well financially.

A few interesting bills that did not pass the General Assembly include a bill that would have revoked in-state tuition for any student who was convicted of an alcohol or drug offense, a bill requiring that U.S. History be included as an undergraduate curriculum requirement, and a bill to change the name of Virginia Military Institute to Virginia Military Academy.

President Koch then asked Vice President Harnage to review the appropriations in greater detail, comparing requested funding to actual funding. Vice President Harnage reported first on statewide initiatives and then detailed the University's specific initiatives which received funding by the General Assembly.

Statewide initiatives included faculty and staff salary increases, funding for enrollment growth, operations and maintenance for new buildings, student financial aid, performance funding (which was ultimately eliminated by Governor Allen), lease payments,

University initiatives included earning authority for the TELETECHNET program up to \$1.5 million for in-state students and \$1.6 million for non-resident students, technology funding, Y2K compliance, workforce training, TELETECHNET expansion, statewide teleconferencing, expansion of the Lambert's Point program, Peninsula workforce development center

The University was unsuccessful in receiving funding for graduate student financial aid and general inflationary funding, and funding granted to support TELETECHNET satellite transmission costs during the current biennium reverted back to the state.

In total, the University received \$21.85 million of additional general fund support over the biennium, totaling \$63.39 million. This represents a 34.5% increase to Old Dominion University over the next biennium. Discounting one-time funding to support the equipment trust fund and the Y2K remediation, the increase is 24.8%.

In terms of capital projects, the University received funding for Constant Hall in the amount of \$13.1 million over the biennium. Included in the trust fund was \$600,000 for equipment for Constant Hall which must be spent in the first year of the biennium regardless of whether the building has been completed.

The University had requested \$1.4 million for regulatory issues such as underground storage tanks, CFC conversions, and health and safety renovations to the campus. The Governor included in a central fund \$500,000 to address some of those issues, which is being amended by the conference committee with the outcome uncertain at this point.

The General Assembly authorized \$6 million for the parking garage. Interesting to note is that the estimated cost of this program is \$5.4 million, but the Department of Engineering and Building allocated additional funds for the project. In addition, the University received maintenance reserve funding of \$2.3 million, funding for the Diehn Center dehumidification project, and additional authority for land purchases in the University Village and on the boundaries of campus.

In total, the University received \$26.8 million worth of capital authority over the biennium, \$5 million of which is in non-general funds.

Reverend Paige asked Mr. Harnage to explain what he meant by land on the boundaries of campus. Mr. Harnage indicated that the University is interested in purchasing property along 49th Street west of Powhatan Avenue that is included in the Campus Master Plan. In response to a question from Mr. Babcock, Mr. Harnage explained how the University is addressing the Y2K problem.

CALL FOR NEW BUSINESS AND ADJOURNMENT

President Koch brought to the attention of the Board the draft document entitled, “Board of Visitors: Principles, Duties and Responsibilities,” which, along with the Board of Visitors Information System, will be sent with the agenda for the next Board meeting for review and consideration. Mr. Babcock thanked Charles Rotert for working with the President in developing the Information System.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned.