

**LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
August 4, 2011**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** The Executive Committee of the Longwood University Board of Visitors met on Thursday, August 4, 2011, in the Chesterfield Room at the Retail Merchants Association in Richmond, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. by Ms. Marge Connelly, Rector of the Board.

**Members present were:**

Ms. M. Jane Brooke  
Ms. Marge M. Connelly  
Mrs. Lorita B. Hughes  
Dr. Judi M. Lynch

**Others present were:**

The Honorable John W. Daniel, II  
Mr. Stephen L. Mobley

**Present at the request of the Committee:**

Ms. Brenda L. Atkins  
Mr. P. Kenneth Copeland  
President Patrick Finnegan  
Ms. Jeanne S. Hayden  
Ms. Kathy S. Worster

**Business**

The Rector welcomed the Committee members and other members of the Board of Visitors.

Item 1 – Review Agenda and Schedule of Events for the September 2011 Board of Visitors’ Meeting

President Finnegan reviewed with the Executive Committee the Agenda and Schedule of Events for the upcoming September 8-10, 2011, Board of Visitors’ meeting.

Item 2 - Discussion Regarding Support Agreement for New Student Housing at Lancer Park

Mr. Copeland discussed with the Executive Committee a sample of a support agreement that is similar to an agreement that will be brought to the Board of Visitors for its approval at the September, 2011 Board meeting. The agreement will support the costs of the new student housing project at Lancer Park. He reported that there are currently seven agencies interested in providing financing options for the project. The architecture for the new housing will mirror that of the buildings on campus. Mr. Copeland will be working with James Johnson, financial adviser, to achieve the best financial advantage as possible. He stated that there are three variables that need to be achieved within the next thirty days: 1) price of the construction project, 2) the interest rate, and 3) debt coverage.

A presentation on the new student housing project will be shown at the September Board meeting along with the request to approve the support agreement.

Item 3 - Update on Property Acquisition of 200 North Main Street

Mr. Copeland reported that the property acquisition of 200 North Main Street did not take place. He reported that prior to the auction of the property on July 9, a thorough inspection of the property was done. The cost of improvements and maintenance was near \$2 million. He stated that the cost of the improvements coupled with the purchase price made the purchase cost prohibitive.

Item 4 - Discussion on Joint June 2012 Meeting/Retreat

President Finnegan introduced a recommendation that the Board of Visitors hold a joint retreat with the Foundation Board and the Alumni Association Board in June 2012. After some discussion about the focus of the retreat, Ms. Connelly recommended that more details defining the purpose be gathered for the Board. She also recommended that the dates be determined and find out if the majority of members from the other boards want to participate in a joint retreat.

Item 5 - Update on Six-Year Plan

Ms. Atkins reviewed updates to the Six-Year Plan that have been made since the June 2011 Board of Visitors' meeting. She stated that once the Board approves the final plan in September it will be submitted to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia by October 1. The Plan focuses on two-year periods but will be updated annually. She reported that the University will meet with a panel of State administrators on August 23 to review and receive further recommendations for Longwood's Plan.

The Rector recommended that an emphasis be placed on the importance of Longwood's location. She also recommended that Longwood create a coalition with some of the other state colleges and universities who are in the same position as Longwood as related to state funding.

Ms. Connelly requested that in addition to the Plan, the administration prepare for the Board an outline of how the strategies will be focused on the University and track the outcomes of the strategies.

Item 6 - Enrollment and Housing Update for Fall 2011

President Finnegan presented an update on enrollment and housing. (A copy of the update is filed with "Addenda to Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Visitors" as Appendix 1, August 4, 2011.) He attributed the increase in enrollment to the increase in efforts by the Admissions' staff to get more prospective students to campus and the active involvement of the faculty.

Mr. Mobley requested that the University prepare information for the Board outlining the process used by *Forbes Magazine* and the *U.S. News and World Report* for ranking the country's institutions of higher education. He also requested that Longwood look at ways to improve its rankings.

Item 7 - Update on SACS Reaffirmation of Accreditation

President Finnegan updated the Committee on the status of reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). After the University submitted its Fifth-

Year Interim Report in 2009, SACS questioned the compliance with one Core Requirement (pertaining to full-time faculty members) and one Comprehensive Standard (pertaining to program assessment). After Longwood provided a detailed response concerning these issues, SACS accepted the University's explanation concerning the Core Requirement on faculty. Although they recognized the progress that has been made on the program assessment Comprehensive Standard, SACS needs additional data to determine compliance. Longwood will be required to submit a monitoring report in April 2012 concerning program assessment, including the information from one additional academic year.

Ms. Connelly concluded the meeting by announcing that orientation took place for Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Maddux, two of the new Board members, on August 2. She stated that she is looking forward to serving the Board as rector in the upcoming year.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. Connelly adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

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Judi M. Lynch  
Board Secretary