

To: Hourly and Classified Employees Executive Committee;
Professionals & Professional Faculty Assembly
From: Mary Molineux, staff representative to the W&M Board of Visitors
Subject: Report on the February 2010 W&M Board of Visitors Meetings
Date: 2/18/2010

Here's my report from the February 4-5, 2010, W&M Board of Visitors (BOV) meetings.
Please contact me if you have any questions! msmoli@wm.edu 757-221-3076

I. Basic background information:

- **Board of Visitors information:** here's the URL for the BOV's webpage
<http://www.wm.edu/about/administration/bov/?svr=web>

It gives information about the members, committees, approved minutes from previous meetings, etc. Also helpful are the items posted under the "Presentations and Reports" link: these are mostly PowerPoint presentations that have been given at the BOV meetings on topics such as student affairs, buildings & grounds, financial affairs, sustainability, etc.

- **Agenda Book:** About a week before each Board of Visitors meeting, a copy of the agenda book is put at Swem Library's Circulation/Reserves Desk so that anyone may review it. This agenda book contains detailed reports, resolutions, etc., that are not posted on the BOV webpage.

II. Notes from February 2010 BOV meetings:

Thursday, February 4, 2010 – Committee Meetings

Richard Bland College Committee

Richard Bland College President James McNeer and Provost Vernon Lindquist reported on the bleak outlook for the Bland budget, mentioning actions taken already (several layoffs in Administration, Registrar, and Library, larger classes, fewer adjunct faculty, fewer course offerings, library hours cut).

On a more positive note, Bland's new science/technology building will open next fall and will allow the college to expand its nursing program; three additional dormitories are on the drawing board; the dorm that opened 18 months ago is working well; staff's spirits are positive. Bland has also organized a "mutual aid agreement" with the police departments of the two counties in which the college sites, ensuring better safety on campus.

Other Bland representatives who gave reports included Dean of Administration and Finance Russell Whitaker, Jr.; Director of Institutional Advancement LeAnn Binger; Faculty Representative Professor Alexandra Duckworth; and Student Representative Ryan Goodwin.

Committee on Administration

W&M Provost Michael Halleran and **W&M Vice President for Administration Anna Martin** mentioned that the College was still working on policies for professionals and professional faculty, with the “Performance Planning and Evaluation” currently at the top of the list [and the Professionals and Professional Faculty Assembly has also been reviewing this and has submitted a first round of suggestions to administration.]

W&M Vice Provost for Information Technology Courtney Carpenter gave an overview of Information Technology. Highlights for 2009 included:

- 100 technology classrooms
- 29,000+ wired ethernet ports
- 18,000 devices on the wireless network
- 27,078 IT HelpDesk questions, with 75% of these resolved within 24 hours
- 3,000+ computers repaired

Forthcoming:

- students' email will move to Google mail; staff and faculty to Microsoft Exchange
- IT will consolidate its staff in Jones Hall once the School of Education moves to its new building
- long-range goal is for a new IT building

Committee on Athletics

W&M Director of Athletics Terry Driscoll reported on the:

- various W&M student sports teams and their win/loss records
- data on how many persons had voted (11,000+) for a mascot; final decision still ahead

Committee on Development & Alumni Affairs

Reports were given by:

Alumni Association Executive Vice President Karen Cottrell
Vice President for Development Sean Pieri

Committee on Buildings & Grounds

Reports on various capital projects were given by:

VIMS Dean/Director John Wells – ongoing capital projects on track

VP for Administration Anna Martin:

- School of Education – ready in June for some personnel to move in
- Small Hall – renovation stage now begun
- Power Plant – in process
- Career Services new building – in process
- Tucker Hall renovation and ISC III are in the 2012 capital budget but with the state budget outlook, all is tentative
- Facilities Condition Index: a composite measure that looks at the conditions of buildings and produces a factor with which we can compare W&M to other universities; for details, see the State Council of Higher Education's (SCHEV) report at http://www.schev.edu/adminfaculty/fcr_guidelines.pdf . W&M's factor has improved somewhat as new buildings (ISC, Miller Hall, etc.) have come online, but we have many buildings in dire need of renovation and improvements.

Provost's Report

Provost Halleran reported on:

- W&M's Rhodes Scholar
- two W&M faculty won SCHEV awards
- "liberal arts conversations" continuing, with good turnouts
- Importance of graduate programs:
 - 31% of W&M's students are graduate students
 - 35% of degrees conferred May 2009 were graduate degrees
 - graduate students contribute important scholarship and research and serve as teaching assistants
 - we need to find additional support for existing graduate programs

Faculty Report

Faculty Assembly Liaison Professor Kate Slevin gave a brief presentation about the recently-completed Faculty Survey

<http://www.wm.edu/sites/facultyassembly/documents/2009facultysurveyreport.pdf>

Highlights:

- 71.6% response rate
- 83% are satisfied or moderately satisfied with their job here
- priorities include improved salaries, more funds for research and for graduate students

Staff Report

Professionals & Professional Faculty Assembly (PPFA) President Mary Molineux and **Hourly & Classified Employees Association (HACE) President/Staff Assembly Steering Committee Chair Deloris Thomas** reported on their respective organizations. Topics included how the groups were organized, their structure, goals & objectives, etc.

Committee on Student Affairs

VP for Student Affairs Ginger Ambler reported on factors that affect students' academic achievement: stress; illness; lack of sleep.

Student liaisons reported on a "W&M Supports Haiti" initiative to raise funds specifically earmarked for Fondwa University.

Friday, February 5, 2010 – Full BOV Meeting

Committee on Strategic Initiatives

VP for Strategic Initiatives Jim Golden and Provost Halleran reported on the progress with W&M's Strategic Plan and presented the latest draft of a "Dashboard" that contains significant data about W&M. For the Dashboard, the BOV recommended adding a metric about faculty and staff work satisfaction. [The draft Dashboard can be seen in the BOV Agenda Book, page 62, at Swem Library's Circulation Desk.]

Golden also reported on new initiatives in the area of communications: the "Experts" list posted at <http://www.wm.edu/news/resources/experts/index.php> for the media; the new Creative Services department; additional coordination between Development and the Alumni Association; and progress identifying improved tools for internal communications.

Government Relations update

W&M Associate VP for Government Relations Fran Bradford reported on the early days of this year's General Assembly session and the budget outlook.

Committee on Financial Affairs

W&M VP for Finance Sam Jones reported on the state's budget outlook and departing Governor Tim Kaine's proposed budget (which would likely be changed significantly by new Governor Bob McDonnell and, ultimately, the General Assembly).

With the state budget undecided, and how it will affect W&M, the BOV will defer until its April 2010 meeting any decisions about needed adjustments such as tuition hikes.

Resolutions

All of the resolutions proposed by the BOV committees were approved in the general meeting. These resolutions can be found in the BOV agenda book (a copy at the Swem Library Circulation Desk).