MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS
OF VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
April 15, 1976

A regular meeting of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Thursday, April 15, 1976, at 8:45 a.m. in the Conference Room at 910 West Franklin Street.

Present were Drs. Blanton and Gwathmey; Messrs. Dabney, Grey, McGehee, Norris, Obenshain, Scott, Seaborn and Shumate and Mrs. Thalhimer. Absent were Mesdames Satterfield and Stone and Mr. Morgan. Also present were Drs. Andrako, Brooke, Fleshood, Hall, Neal, Salley, Sparks, Temple, Willett, and Wilson; Mr. Holmes and Mrs. Price.

Dr. Blanton called the meeting to order and on majority vote of the Board an Executive Session was held. Mr. Dabney was excused from the meeting.

During the Executive Session, on motion made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed that honorary degrees be awarded to Mr. Virginius Dabney and Mr. Eppa Hunton, IV. On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously approved that Mr. Dabney would receive the Doctor of Humane Letters (LHD.) and Mr. Hunton would receive the Doctor of Laws (LL.D).

Following the Executive Session, on motion made and seconded, the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Visitors, held February 19, 1976; a Special Meeting of the Board of Visitors, held March 17, 1976; and a Regular Meeting of the Board of Visitors, as amended, held March 18, 1976 were unanimously approved.
The Report of the President followed. On motion made and seconded, the Board of Visitors, believing that the merger of the computer systems of the State Community College System and VCU under the direction and control of the Virginia Division of Automated Data Processing abrogates the authority and responsibility of the Board of Visitors for the governance of Virginia Commonwealth University, unanimously approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that we reject the asserted authority of the State Division of Automated Data Processing, the decision with respect to merger of computer systems, and the manner in which the decision was reached. The Board directs the administration to decline to implement the directive received from Mr. Charles Miller, dated April 2, 1976.

On motion made and seconded, Mr. Raymond T. Holmes, Jr., was unanimously elected to serve on the membership of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Virginia.

Mr. C. Coleman McGehee, Chairman of the Board's Budget Ad Hoc Committee, gave his committee's report to the Board. Mr. McGehee reported that he would present the summary statement and hoped that the Board would adopt it. Then, a decision would have to be made as to the next steps to be taken. After presenting his very detailed report, the Board requested the Administration to pull the information together in a more attractive form and report to the Executive Committee in 10 days. During the discussion, the Board indicated that, in addition to just preparing a brochure, there would have to be extensive participation by members of the Board in presenting VCU's position to its various publics and to the members of the
General Assembly. On motion made and seconded, the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee were unanimously approved.

On majority vote of the Board an Executive Session was held to discuss the proposals for the Board's ByLaws and Orientation and Continuing Education program.

Following a discussion on the proposed By-Laws of the Board of Visitors and the proposed program of Board Orientation and Continuing Education, on motion made and seconded, the ByLaws and the Board Orientation and Continuing Education programs were approved. Mrs. Thalhimer stated her objection to the Executive Committee being given powers formerly handled by standing committees. It was decided that the new By-Laws will become effective July 1, 1976. The Board will have meetings in May, July, September, November, January and March.

Dr. Robert Jesse joined the meeting at this time for a presentation of the Final Report of the Capital Area Group Health Association (HMO). Following Dr. Jesse's presentation, the Board acknowledged receipt of the report.

Following a discussion, the Financial Statements were accepted by the Board.

On motion made and seconded, the Faculty Appointments and Changes in Status were unanimously approved.

Dr. Neal reported to the Board that Dr. John A. Cardea had been appointed Chairman of the Division of Orthopedics.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.
Approved:

Wyndham B. Blanton, Jr., Rector
REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
April 15, 1976

1. Tenure Study

Dr. Temple reported that the 1975 Session of the General Assembly had requested the State Council of Higher Education to conduct a state-wide study on tenure. SCHEV reported that VCU's report was 97.5 percent correct. Many of the institutions' accuracy levels were much lower than VCU's.

2. University Graduate Council

Dr. Temple reported that in 1972, the visiting team of the Southern Association of State Colleges and Universities recommended the establishment of a university graduate council at VCU. At the last meeting of the University Assembly, the By-Laws for the establishment of the University Graduate Council were adopted. The Council will become operative during the 1976-77 session.

3. Merger of Computer Systems

Dr. Temple read to the Board a letter received from Mr. Charles D. Miller, MIS Director, Education, on the Secretary of Education's letterhead indicating that the computer systems of Virginia Commonwealth University and the State Community College System would be merged. The letter also directs that seventeen (17) positions from VCU would be turned over to State ADP and the merged center would be managed by State ADP. Dr. Temple continued that a meeting had been held with representatives from ADP, the Secretary of Education and the former acting Secretary of Education. At the conclusion of that meeting, it was agreed that another meeting would be held. However, no such meeting was held and the above mentioned letter was received. The Board's action as a result of this report by Dr. Temple appears in the April 15, 1976, Board of Visitors' minutes.