A special meeting of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University was held on Wednesday, January 18, 1978, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanger Hall Board Room.

Present were Dr. Blanton; Messrs. Grey, Norris, Scott and Shumate; and Mesdames Satterfield and Thalhimer. Absent were Drs. Gayle and Gwathmey; Messrs. Bliley, Dabney, McGehee, Obenshain and Seaborn; and Mrs. Stone. Also present were Drs. Ackell, Beller, Brooke, Hall, Willett and Woods; Mr. Ross; Miss Cosby and Mrs. Price.

Dr. Blanton called the meeting to order and presented Dr. Jessee Steinfeld, Dean of the School of Medicine.

Dr. Steinfeld stated that the School of Medicine had recently been accredited for seven years by the accrediting body. Dr. Blanton stated that there were several recommendations made in this report, and he would like the administration to present these to the Board with their suggestions.

The Dean stated that there had been six vacant chairs in the School of Medicine, four of which have been filled. A fifth chairmanship will be considered by the Board on Thursday.

Dr. Steinfeld discussed at length the curriculum and some proposed changes that are being considered by the School of Medicine faculty.

Dean Steinfeld reviewed the selection committee process for students. Currently, one out of every five Virginians who apply is selected. One out of every 1,000 applicants who are non-Virginians are admitted. The quality of students is high.
In 1961, the mean grade point average was 2.8. This year, the mean grade point average is 3.4.

Dr. Steinfeld stated that the School of Medicine faculty salary averages were about 25 percent below national, state and southeastern levels. The Dean indicated that Dr. Willett, Dr. Beller and other members of the administration had worked very diligently in trying to improve these salaries.

Dr. Steinfeld touched briefly on the number of students in the School, Housestaff, and research and capitation funds in the School of Medicine.

The Dean reported that the School of Medicine has a good working relationship with the VA Hospital which will be building a new $130 million facility on the McGuire site. The School is investigating the possibility of using some of the existing buildings once the new VA complex is completed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Richard D. Obenshain, Secretary

Approved:

Wyndham B. Blanton, Jr., M.D., Rector