

Executive Committee Meeting - December 15, 2008

The Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors of Christopher Newport University met on December 15, 2008, at Ferguson Enterprises in the Chip Hornsby Building with Rector Claude S. Hornsby, III presiding.

Present from Board

Mr. Claude S. Hornsby, III, Rector
Mr. James R. Joseph, Vice- Rector
Ms. Debbie Budlong, Secretary
Mr. Michael Martin
Ms. Jane Susan Frank
Ms. Ann Hunnicutt

Present from the University

President Paul Tribble
Ms. Cynthia Perry, Chief of Staff
Mr. William L. Brauer, Executive Vice President
Dr. Mark Padilla, Provost
William Thro, University Counsel
Ms. Beverley Mueller, Executive Assistant

Others

Mr. Alan Witt, Witt, Mares Accountant
Ms. Cathy Grimes, Daily Press

Rector Hornsby welcomed everyone and the meeting began with a report from Provost Padilla.

Provost Padilla presented the proposal for a new three college structure. He stated that in the current two college structure the faculty are not distributed equally with 200 faculty in CLAS and only 39 in the Luter College of Business and Leadership. In addition the faculty has grown to a size where more than two deans are needed for professional support and supervision over the younger faculty members. The three college structure would include Arts and Humanities, Natural and Behavioral Sciences, and Social Sciences. Social Sciences would include the Luter School. President Tribble pointed out that with this structure the faculty would be much more evenly distributed. The Luter College would include business and leadership along with the other disciplines. The three college structure has been discussed with the faculty leadership and has been embraced by them as a structure that will carry CNU more successfully in the future.

The three college structure requires the hiring of two new deans and advertisements for those positions have been posted and were reviewed with the Board. The Provost put together two search committees with the appropriate faculty and administrative representation. It is planned that candidates would come to campus for interviews in early March with a July 1 st appointment. Rector Hornsby inquired about the financial obligations of going from two colleges to three and the President Tribble said that it would not adversely affect the budget and allows the University to be better led and more effective in its operations. President Tribble said that there is no need for Board action at this time and that a more detailed report would be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

President's Report

President Tribble reported that the Admissions program continues to go well and that he had recently attended a series of recruiting events throughout Northern Virginia, Fredericksburg, Richmond and Charlottesville. Applications to CNU are up by more than 300 at the same time last year which is a 7% increase. The number of admitted students is up by 200 which is a 17% increase. The quality of the students remains about the same with average SAT scores above 1200 and an average GPA of 3.7. The President's Leadership Program also has 200

more students who have applied this year and twice as many have indicated they will attend CNU compared to the same time last year.

There was a discussion about the effects of the financial crises on admissions and President Tribble stated that it is reasonable to believe more students may elect to go to community colleges and the competition will intensify. However, some students may elect to attend CNU instead of the more costly private schools. Rector Hornsby inquired if there was a necessity to increase the number of out-of-state students from a budget standpoint. President Tribble explained that CNU is seeing an increase in out-of-state applications. Last year 7% of the freshman class was out-of-state and that number will continue to increase from year to year and ultimately reach 15% to 20%.

President Tribble commented on the recent tragic loss of a student in an automobile accident. He said the university came together and a memorial service was held for him. His parents were grateful for the university support and that of his fraternity. President Tribble reported to the Board on the recent robbery of a student on campus and noted that steps have been taken for better security on campus including more lighting, increased patrols of CNU police and Newport News police and additional security officers in highly visible golf carts.

President Tribble then moved to the discussion of the budget. He explained that the Governor reduced funding by 5% last year and another 5% this year. The Governor is requiring that the Boards approve the budget actions that have been taken by the universities.

He noted that it is anticipated that when the budget is presented by the General Assembly for the next biennium there will be additional reductions with a projected deficit of \$ 2.5 to \$3.5 billion. In 2002, CNU lost 25% of its funding and again it is anticipated that reductions may be up to 25%.

CNU has been preparing for these substantial reductions. The provost has convened an Academic Task Force to make recommendations to refine the curriculum that will size the instructional program to match available resources. And similarly, an Administrative Review Council has been established to undertake a full review of all non-academic activities and programs to make recommendation for refinements and changes to maximize revenues and minimize expenses.

Ms. Perry reviewed Resolution 1 outlining the spending reduction plan reducing CNU's budget by \$1.4 million. Following discussion and questions, Rector Hornsby called for a motion to approve *Resolution 1: Budget Reduction Plan FY2009*. Mr. Martin provided the motion, seconded by Ms. Hunnicutt and passed by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

At 2:35 p.m. Rector Hornsby called for a motion to enter closed session under Freedom of Information Act Section 2.2-3711 (a)1 Personnel. Ms. Frank provided the motion, seconded by Ms. Budlong and passed by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

At 3:40 p.m. the Board returned to open session and Rector Hornsby asked for a roll call certifying that only public matters were discussed that were identified in the motion by which the executive or closed meeting was called. Board members Mr. Martin, Rector Hornsby, Mr. Joseph, Ms. Frank, Ms. Hunnicutt and Ms. Budlong certified to the above.

Mr. Martin made the motion to "modify President Tribble's compensation agreements to bring them in compliance with the revised IRS section 409A. Such modifications are required to be adopted by December 31, 2008 and by this motion the Rector and Visitors hereby approve the execution of such documents." Ms. Frank seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, Vice-Rector Joseph read to the Board President Tribble's letter of December 15, 2008 addressed to him and the Rector thanking the Board for the opportunity to lead CNU and indicating his intention to serve until 2017. The letter is attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Deborah Budlong, Secretary
the Board

Beverley Mueller , Administrative Assistant to

Claude S. Hornsby, III, Rector