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C. Authorization for Contacting State Council of Higher Education for  
Advice Regarding Escalation of Christopher Newport  
College and Recent Developments Occasioning  
a Consideration of this Authorization

Members of the Executive Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee, and Education Committee devoted considerable attention to the subject authorization and approved the following resolution, the same to be presented to Dr. Prince B. Woodard, Director of the State Council of Higher Education by Mr. Ralph James, member of the Board of Visitors, President Paschall, and Dean Jones, Liaison Officer for Branch Colleges. This was so presented on April 2, 1968, to Dr. Woodard as follows:

April 1, 1968

Dr. Prince B. Woodard, Director  
State Council of Higher Education  
Rooms 1000-1005, Tenth Floor  
Life Insurance of Virginia Building  
914 Capitol Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Dr. Woodard:

The Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary is most anxious to have the advice of the State Council of Higher Education on the matter of projected dates for the conferring of four-year, undergraduate degrees at Christopher Newport College.

In order to provide you background information on actions taken in recent months by the Board of Visitors regarding this matter, I transmit herewith twelve copies of each of the following Resolutions and of an informational statement:

January 6, 1968 Resolution of the Board of Visitors - Christopher Newport College. You will note that this Resolution is quite lengthy, the same being necessary to recite all major developments to that date. It will, therefore, prove very informational to you and members of the Council.

February 9, 1968 Resolution of the Board of Visitors - Christopher Newport College. You will note that in this Resolution the Board eliminated the specific enrollment criterion of 250 to 300 full-time students in the sophomore class as stipulated in the January 6 Resolution, and also



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indicated the willingness to consider escalation at an earlier date than that indicated in the January 6 Resolution.

March 23, 1968 - Informational Statement Recounting Detailed Developments to Board of Visitors Committees Preliminary to their Consideration of the Matter on March 23, 1968. You will find this quite helpful informationally in its reference to specific developments following the January 6 meeting of the Board.

March 23, 1968 - Resolution Under Consideration by the Board of Visitors Committees (Executive, Education and Buildings and Grounds) in a Joint Meeting on March 23, 1968. This Resolution was proposed at the joint meeting of the Committees with the understanding that the President, the Dean of the College, and Mr. Ralph James, a member of the Board of Visitors, would present the same to you as the latest consideration of the matter, and seek advice of the State Council regarding the same, hopefully with a view to the Board of Visitors taking some final action at its next regular meeting on June 1, 1968.

The Board members in the joint meeting of the aforementioned three Committees on March 23 expressed the view that once the Council had indicated in an informal way its advice or position on this matter, then it would be expected that a conference be held with the Governor as a matter of information and also for the purpose of seeking his informal reaction. These steps were not envisioned by our Board members with a view to "passing the buck" to the State Council of Higher Education in the way of a decision in this matter, but rather with a view of the Board of Visitors in taking an action precipitately which would not have the subsequent concurrence or approval of the State Council of Higher Education. It is in this sense that the matter is brought to your attention and to the State Council of Higher Education.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

cc: Hon. E. Ralph James  
Dean W. Melville Jones

Davis Y. Paschall  
President

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ESCALATION OF CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT COLLEGE  
TO FOUR-YEAR, UNDERGRADUATE  
DEGREE-GRANTING STATUS

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WHEREAS, The Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary has, during the past eighteen months, given extensive consideration to the matter of escalating Christopher Newport College to a four-year, undergraduate degree-granting institution, and

WHEREAS, The steps taken in this matter were detailed in the Resolution\* adopted by the Board of Visitors at its regular meeting on January 6, 1968, and

WHEREAS, Further consideration has been accorded this matter subsequent to the January 6 meeting of the Board, and further action taken by Resolution\* at a special meeting of the Board on February 9, 1968, and

WHEREAS, All of these actions have been summarized as a part of the Agenda for the joint meeting of the Executive, Education, and Buildings and Grounds Committees of the Board of Visitors, March 23, 1968--all of which lead to the conclusion that a firm announcement by the Board of Visitors at its meeting on June 1, 1968, would be beneficial to the interest of the College of William and Mary as well as to the future of Christopher Newport College, and

WHEREAS, The aforementioned Committees of the Board have jointly reviewed and assessed the matter,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Christopher Newport College be escalated to a third-year level offering for the academic session, 1969-70, and to the fourth-year level offering for the academic session, 1970-71, whereby undergraduate degrees, A.B. and B.S., can be conferred at the close of the academic session, 1970-71, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the aforementioned recommended escalation involving degree conferral be presented by the President of the College, the Dean of the College, and Honorable E. Ralph James, member of the Board of Visitors, to the State Council of Higher Education with a view to the advice of that agency being sought preliminary to final action being taken by the Board of Visitors at its next regular meeting on June 1, 1968, thereby avoiding what might otherwise become an action of the Board that would unfortunately incur subsequent disapproval by the State Council of Higher Education, and

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\*These Resolutions were submitted to State Council of Higher Education, along with this one of March 23, 1968, on April 2, 1968, by Messrs. James, Paschall, and Jones--the same constituting background information.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the event of informal concurrence by the Council in this proposed escalation involving degree conferral, it is directed that the President of the College, the Dean of the College, and Honorable E. Ralph James, member of the Board of Visitors, confer with the Governor and obtain his informal reaction preliminary to the meeting of the Board of Visitors at its next regular meeting on June 1, 1968, this being professionally desirable and potentially helpful to such final action as the Board of Visitors may be disposed to take in the matter on June 1, 1968, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is understood that if the informal concurrence of the State Council of Higher Education is accorded the proposed escalation involving degree conferral, and the Governor's informal reaction is favorable to the same, and the Board of Visitors takes final action accordingly on June 1, 1968, that such action would then be subject to formal approval by the State Council of Higher Education.

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STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA

April 24, 1968

Dr. Davis Y. Paschall, President  
The College of William and Mary  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Dr. Paschall:

As requested in your letter of April 1, 1968, the State Council has reviewed the resolution of March 23 regarding Christopher Newport College which the Board of Visitors of The College of William and Mary has under consideration. The Council is pleased to present to the Board its position on the matter.

The State Council of Higher Education is on record as supporting the recommendation of the Higher Education Study Commission that Christopher Newport College develop into a degree-granting institution. This is the only state-controlled, two-year branch college for which such a change is favored by the State Council.

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In its Virginia Plan for Higher Education, the Council recommended that all other branch colleges of the senior institutions be incorporated into the state system of comprehensive community colleges.

The Virginia Plan for Higher Education does not designate the date on which an upper-level program should begin at Christopher Newport College, and the State Council does not believe it would be appropriate for it to specify an exact date. The State Council believes the dates for implementing third- and fourth-year level work at Christopher Newport College is a matter for determination by the Board of Visitors of The College of William and Mary. The Council does, however, invite the Board's attention to the following considerations:

1. The opening of the Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton in the fall of 1968 may influence lower division enrollments at Christopher Newport. In a similar manner, Thomas Nelson Community College can be expected to provide a number of transferees to junior level status in the years ahead. While it is difficult to predict the precise nature of these developments, the Board of Visitors of The College of William and Mary, as more evidence becomes available, may wish to exercise leadership in seriously considering the feasibility of establishing Christopher Newport College as Virginia's first two-year, upper-level senior institution.
2. When Christopher Newport Offers an upper-level program, adequate provision should be made for accepting transfer students from community colleges in accordance with the articulation guidelines established by the Council with the concurrence of its advisory committees.
3. Upper-level programs at Christopher Newport should be designed to fit the unique needs of its immediate community. A primary emphasis in the planning of programs for Christopher Newport should be the provision of appropriate opportunities for part-time study in evening and Saturday classes.
4. Reasonable assurance of accreditation as a degree-granting institution by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools should be a condition for the establishment of Christopher Newport College as a senior institution.
5. It should be recognized that each proposed new degree program must be approved by the State Council of Higher Education prior to its implementation. The Council and its staff welcome the opportunity to work with institutions from the earliest stages of their academic program planning.



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The Council hopes these observations will be of assistance to the Board of Visitors of The College of William and Mary as it charts the future course of Christopher Newport College.

Sincerely,

/s/

Prince B. Woodard  
Director

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April 26, 1968

Dr. Prince B. Woodard, Director  
State Council of Higher Education  
10th Floor, Life of Virginia Building  
914 Capitol Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Dr. Woodard:

I received your letter of April 24, 1968, which was in response to my communication of April 1, 1968, regarding escalation of Christopher Newport College. I note that the State Council has reviewed the Resolution of March 23, and offers its position and pertinent observations in the matter.

On behalf of the Board of Visitors, I wish to express sincere appreciation to you and through you to the State Council of Higher Education for its prompt consideration of this matter, and for the very pertinent and timely observations resulting from the Council's deliberation, the same being delineated in your letter of April 24, 1968.

I will bring your letter to the attention of the Board of Visitors at its next meeting on June 1, and I know that the Board will accord the same every consideration in making further determinations regarding the escalation of Christopher Newport College as well as to the possibility of Christopher Newport College offering an upper-level program as mentioned in one of the observations in your letter.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

cc: Hon. E. Ralph James  
Dean W. Melville Jones

Davis Y. Paschall  
President  
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April 26, 1968

Honorable E. Ralph James  
Dean W. Melville Jones

Gentlemen:

You will recall that the three committees of the Board of Visitors in joint meeting on March 23 authorized you and me to present a resolution adopted on March 23 to the State Council of Higher Education in reference to a proposed escalation of Christopher Newport College. We did personally present the same to Dr. Prince B. Woodard on Tuesday, April 2, 1968, and I am confident that you retained a copy of the presentation which we made to Dr. Woodard at that time.

I enclose a copy of Dr. Woodard's response of April 24, 1968, the same being made by authorization of the State Council of Higher Education, and a copy of my letter of acknowledgment to Dr. Woodard.

It appears to me that there are several admonitions in the points enumerated in Dr. Woodard's letter which would warrant careful consideration, and I am inclined to believe that we should convene the Education Committee of the Board in advance of the June 1 meeting, and give deliberation to this matter and to the formulation of any recommendation which the Committee would believe pertinent for consideration by the Board of Visitors at the June 1 meeting.

In this connection, I believe that Mr. Russell Gill indicated at the February 9, 1968, special meeting of the Board, and again on March 23 at the joint meeting of the three committees of the Board, that he and Colonel Carson would have some resolution to offer at the June 1 meeting in regard to Richard Bland College; that is, with particular reference to escalation of that institution. With this in mind, I am requesting Dean Jones to contact Mr. Gill and Colonel Carson and obtain whatever may be pertinent for review and consideration by the Education Committee of the Board in advance of the June 1 meeting.

With very best wishes, I am

Enclosures

Sincerely yours,

Davis Y. Paschall  
President