

**VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**BOARD MEETING #158**

The Virginia Western Community College Board met on Thursday, March 26, 1992, at 3:30 p.m. in the President's Conference Room in Fishburn Hall on the North Campus of the college.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Malcolm Boggs  
Dr. Charles Downs, Executive Secretary  
Mrs. Jean Glontz  
Mr. Jimmy Morris  
Mr. Monty Plymale, Chairman  
Mr. Patrick Shaffner  
Mrs. Nina Ross

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. George Daniels  
Mrs. LaVerne Dillon  
Mr. Tommy Moore, Vice Chairman  
Mr. William Reid  
Mr. Byron Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mr. Dwight Blalock, Dean of Financial and  
Administrative Services  
Mr. Mark Emick, Assistant to the President  
Mrs. Brenda Wills, Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Plymale called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 30, 1992, BOARD MEETING**

A motion was made by Mrs. Ross and seconded by Mr. Shaffner that:

*The VWCC Board approve the minutes of the January 30, 1992, meeting as written.*

The motion was unanimously approved.

3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Plymale appointed a Nominating Committee to select a vice chairman to serve the term of July 1, 1992, to June 30, 1993. According to established guidelines, Mr. Tommy Moore, the current vice chairman, will become chairman July 1, 1992. Mr. Reid and Mr. Daniels will serve with Mr. Plymale on the Nominating Committee.

4. COLONIAL AVENUE TRAFFIC LIGHT

Dr. Downs informed the Board members that Roanoke City officials have informed Virginia Western of their plan to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Colonial Avenue and Overland Road with a completion date of November 1, 1992. Mr. Emick informed the Board members that on several occasions Virginia Western has requested installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Colonial Avenue and McNeil, but traffic studies conducted by the City indicated that we do not meet state highway requirements to warrant a signal at that intersection. The City has agreed to incorporate the college's traffic entering and exiting parking lot 9 with their Colonial/Overland traffic signal. In order to accommodate this action, restructuring of the entrance to the lot is required at an estimated cost of \$15,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaffner and seconded by Mrs. Glontz that:

*The VWCC Board approve the expenditure of up to \$15,000 for the realignment of the parking lot to take advantage of the traffic signal to be installed by the City of Roanoke at the intersection of Colonial Avenue and Overland Road.*

The motion was unanimously approved.

5. STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER

Dr. Downs informed the Board members that he met with the Board members serving on the Student Activities Center Committee prior to the Board meeting. He then informed the Board members that it has been recommended that the building site for the Student Activities Center be

changed. The new site near Webber Hall along Colonial Avenue will afford thirty-eight percent more usable space and will avoid an expenditure for moving utilities. Our Institutional Research Office has conducted another survey which provided additional information indicating serious specific interests of students. The architect will now be asked to evaluate the Center utilizing the new information.

Mr. Plymale suggested that the business community should know that the Center is being built at no cost to the taxpayer and will provide benefits to the community. The Board members agreed that it would be appropriate to explore the idea of asking the business community and alumni to financially support this new building through contributions. The contributions would be used, for example, to equip a computer room.

#### 6. MINORITY PROGRAM

Dr. Downs explained that Alliance for Excellence, a program established for the recruitment and retention of minority students, is housed at VPI and works with area churches to promote Virginia Western to potential students. Virginia Western provided Alliance for Excellence \$5,000 in 1988 to be applied to part-time staff and to promote its program objectives in the Roanoke area. This money has been expended and the group has requested additional support.

A motion was made by Mr. Boggs and seconded by Mr. Morris that:

*The VWCC Board approve a \$5,000 expenditure for support of the Alliance for Excellence program at Virginia Western.*

The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board members recommended that documentation should be provided by Alliance for Excellence indicating how the funds were used and what their objectives are for the future. A recommendation was also made that questions should be included on our application form which would ascertain how applicants hear about Virginia Western. This information would help determine our most effective advertising method. The Board members also indicated an interest in knowing the success rate of minority students.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Downs mentioned that continued progress is being made on our self-study toward the reaccreditation visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in the spring of 1993.

Graduation will be held on Friday, May 15, at 7 p.m. in the Roanoke Civic Center Coliseum. Dr. Downs invited all Board members to attend.

The State Board for Community Colleges voted to raise the in-state tuition from \$35 to \$41 per credit hour at its March 26 meeting. This increase is effective Summer 1992 and was reluctantly made to offset budgetary losses due to the economic downturn.

Mr. Boggs commented on the program that was presented following the Minority Affairs Breakfast held at the college on February 7. He was very complimentary regarding the quality of the panel that provided the program. However, he expressed concern that very few students took advantage of the opportunity to hear the panel. As this event is in support of our minority students, efforts should be made to insure student attendance.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

May 29, 1992  
Date

Charles H. Downs  
Executive Secretary