Commencement Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 1, 2006
12:15 p.m.
President’s Boardroom, 210 Burruss Hall

Present: Ed Henneke, Bill Stringer for Jerry Allen, Deborah Cook, Sam Easterling, Jerry Gibson, Larry Hincker, Brian Mihalik, Kim O’Rourke, Lyndell Price, Dixie Reaves, Dean Stauffer

Absent: Sumeet Bagai, Bud Brown, Russell Davis, Ellington Graves, Bill Green, Brian James, Jean Kampe, Brad Klein, Navin Manjooran, Jerry Niles, Dan Taylor

Guests: Susan Angle, Patrick Casey, Margie Murray, April Myers, Jennie Reilly, Eric Wininger

Dr. Henneke called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes
Easterling moved that the minutes for the February 1, 2006, meeting be approved as written. With a second from Stauffer, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Continued Planning for Spring Commencement
Murray handed out the current calendar of events for the spring ceremony. Henneke asked the various college representatives to check with their colleges on the times and locations of their ceremonies.

Henneke informed the committee that the funding for the Wind Symphony Tour has been approved by the EVP’s office with a minor adjustment relating to the honorarium for the students. Casey and Henneke decided to discuss this matter after the meeting.

Henneke asked if there were any areas of concern for the spring ceremony. Reilly indicated that everything was in order for the ADA office. Price stated that all arrangements have been made for chair and tables, and if anyone needs anything different this year he will need to know as soon as possible.

Henneke pointed out that the National Capital Region ceremony has been moved to 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. Those with a role in the National Capital Region ceremony should contact the Graduate School Dean’s office if they wish to reserve a seat on the Hokie Bird.

Reaves asked for recommendations on how to march all four columns into the stadium and maintain the columns until the end of the processional. Henneke informed the committee that the very first time the students marched onto the field it was ran in military fashion. It looked like soldiers marching, but it kept the students in line.

Henneke asked if Governor Kaine has accepted the invitation to be the Commencement speaker. O’Rourke indicated that she has received a verbal confirmation that Governor Kaine will be the speaker for the University ceremony. Henneke then asked if the Graduate School speaker has been lined up. Mihalik indicated that they would be voting on the speaker this week.
Casey indicated that he would like to be more involved in the music for the Graduate School ceremony. He then questioned who the contact is for the Graduate School. Mihalik indicated that he would determine who the contact is and get back to him.

Henneke asked if the same singer from the fall ceremony will be the singer for the spring. Casey indicated that she would and is actually going to be graduating this spring.

With no other business, O’Rourke moved to adjourn at 12:25 p.m.