UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 4, 2001
210 Burruss Hall
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: E. Henneke, K. O’Rourke, C. Nickerson, B. Conger, M. Reifsnider, J. Beach, R. Bambach, S. Burke, B. Brown, A. Barne, H. Robertshaw, B. Klein, M. Lewis, J. Harmer

GUESTS: C. Agnew, J. Albert, S. Angle, J. Brotherton, J. Kamienski, P. White

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Henneke at 12:15 p.m.

Approval of March 14, 2001, Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously as distributed.

Planning for Spring Commencement 2001

Bill Conger, Director of Processions, made a plea to the college representatives to encourage the colleges to send the names of faculty who will serve as ushers and marshals to him or Dan Taylor as soon as possible.

Elyzabeth Holford, Interim Director of the Northern Virginia Center, has requested that the University Commencement Marshal, with mace, appear at their commencement ceremony.

The question about who made the decision for the past faculty senate president to serve as the commencement marshal was raised. It was recounted that Chuck Kennedy’s Task Force (1990-91) made that decision.

After much discussion, it was decided that Dr. Holford’s request came too late for this year’s ceremony. Someone will work with her to see if a faculty member in NOVA will be able to fill this need this year. Transporting the new mace to NOVA is not feasible considering the cost of the mace and the boxes the mace and stand are stored in. Dr. Holford asked if they could use the old mace. That is a possibility for this year but the committee thought it would be more meaningful if the Northern Virginia Center chooses its own symbol for future years. The old “bedpost” mace will be retired to the Alumni Association’s museum where past maces will be displayed when the new alumni center is built.
Chairman Henneke will respond to Dr. Holford's letter. He stated that the Commencement Committee should not be involved in their ceremony. A senior faculty member at NOVA would be appropriate to serve as the commencement marshal.

John Beach reported that the weather is questionable. The sound contract is out for rebid, but it looks good for Stage Sound to get the contract. Utility work in the stadium will be held up between the spring football game and commencement.

Chairman Henneke stated that he has not heard from Parking Services about the small lot between the coliseum and the tennis courts. He will follow-up with them.

Susan Angle said there will be a deaf student attending the undergraduate ceremony. The interpreter needs the script as soon as it is available.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmund G. Henneke, Chair
University Commencement Committee