



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9 **Education Committee Meeting**

10 Thursday, April 28, 2005

11 9:15 a.m.

12  
13 Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center  
14 Roanoke, Virginia  
15  
16

17 **APPEARANCES:**

18 The Honorable Frank M. Ruff, Chairman

19 The Honorable Philip P. Puckett, Vice Chairman

20 The Honorable Joseph P. Johnson

21 The Honorable Thomas C. Wright, Jr.

22 Mr. Stephen S. Banner

23 The Honorable Barnie K. Day

24 The Honorable John Thomas Taylor

25 The Honorable Isiah G. Hopkins

26 Mr. Fred M. Fields

27 Mr. Buddy Mayhew

28 The Honorable Harrison A. Moody

29 Mr. John M. Stallard  
30

31 **COMMISSION STAFF:**

32 Mr. Carthan F. Currin, III, Executive Director

33 Mr. Ned Stephenson, Manager of Strategic Investments

34 Mr. Timothy Pfohl, Grants Program Administration Manager

35 Ms. Mary Cabell Sulc, Manager of Communications and Committee  
36 Operations

37 Ms. Britt Nelson - Grants Coordinator, Southside Virginia

38 Ms. Sarah Griffith - Grants Coordinator, Southwest Virginia  
39

40 **OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

41 Mr. Frank N. Ferguson, Deputy Attorney General - Counsel for Commission

42 SENATOR RUFF: Good morning, everyone, thank you for  
43 coming. I'll call this meeting to order. The Education Committee is the only committee

CRANE-SNEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
4914 Fitzhugh Avenue, Suite 203  
Richmond, Virginia 23230  
Tel. No. (804) 355-4335

1 that is going to be acting on anything today before the Commission meeting on  
2 securitization, and everything else is kind of put on hold until we can figure out where we  
3 are on that process. We had a little bit of money left, and there was some concern that we  
4 needed to act or not act. If we waited until the July meeting it would be tough for the  
5 college programs coming up in the fall for people to get this information and get the  
6 programs together. That is why we're meeting today.

7 Carthan, would you call the roll?

8 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Banner?

9 MR. BANNER: Here.

10 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Day?

11 MR. DAY: Here.

12 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Fields?

13 MR. FIELDS: Here.

14 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Hopkins?

15 MR. HOPKINS: Here.

16 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Johnson?

17 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Here.

18 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Mayhew?

19 MR. MAYHEW: Here.

20 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Moody?

21 MR. MOODY: Here.

22 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Stallard?

23 MR. STALLARD: (No response.)

24 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Taylor?

25 MR. TAYLOR: Here.

26 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Wright?

27 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Here.

28 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Vice Chairman?

29 SENATOR PUCKETT: Here.

30 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman?

31 SENATOR RUFF: Here.

32 Before you there is some information that was mailed out or sent out, and  
33 that is the Minutes from the January meeting, and I hope you have had sufficient time to  
34 read them. I'll entertain a motion at this time.

35 DELEGATE JOHNSON: So moved.

36 SENATOR RUFF: Is there a second? All right, there is a  
37 second. All in favor say aye? (Ayes.)

38 During the last round the Committee approved and maybe modified, I  
39 don't remember any of the Staff recommendations that came forward. The only one that  
40 was recommended by the Staff that was not dealt with was the proposal by Virginia  
41 Commonwealth University that dealt with nurses and nursing leaders.

42 Tim, do you want to make any opening remarks?

43 MR. PFOHL: Yes, sir. I'll remind everyone that this is a

1 competitive Education grant fund that was originally submitted November 1st with that  
2 funding round. This is a request that was tabled in early January at the Education  
3 Committee meeting. This was initially submitted as a request for nearly \$274,000.00.

4 You have in your packets an update provided by the applicant in late  
5 February revising their request down to a total of \$248,828.00. In that revised packet of  
6 information on Page 5 you have the consolidated budget that shows a consistent three  
7 component, the VCU component of the budget request is just \$106,000.00, UVA will do  
8 the online Master's Program, and they are asking for \$98,000.00. There is a scholarship  
9 piece for the UVA component that we will talk about, just to make sure that this is not a  
10 duplication of the current Scholarship Program. That is a request for \$45,000.00 for the  
11 total of \$248,828.00.

12 The Staff supported this request in January, and we continue to be  
13 supportive of this. There are representatives from UVA here to speak to that, Dr. Doris  
14 Glick, and any updates since the submission of the additional information in late  
15 February.

16 SENATOR RUFF: Dr. Glick, would you like to speak?

17 DR. GLICK: This is a program that will add to the career  
18 ladder of nurses in Southside and Southwest Virginia to build up the nursing  
19 infrastructure in the area and nursing leadership. This helps provide a baccalaureate  
20 degree for our end to get a baccalaureate degree through the MCV program. MCV will  
21 take their RN program to Danville to educate nurses there. Nurses would then be  
22 eligible, those with baccalaureate degrees would be eligible to enroll in UVA's Master's  
23 Program. UVA's program in Community Public Health Leadership prepares our  
24 graduates to promote the health of individuals, families and groups and communities, and  
25 those graduates would be ready to take leadership roles in local health departments, home  
26 health agencies, and community clinics and schools. The funds being asked for would be  
27 spent entirely in Southside and Southwest.

28 SENATOR RUFF: Is UVA doing this type of program  
29 anywhere else?

30 DR. GLICK: The online program is available for nurses  
31 statewide. It would provide a faculty member in Southside to work with students in  
32 Southwest and who would provide counsel and advise students and help us in the  
33 program. It would provide us with support persons for tutoring in that area.

34 SENATOR RUFF: One of the requirements that we have is  
35 that we help with start-ups, but we do not plan long-term to be a funding source. Will  
36 this be self-sustaining?

37 DR. GLICK: Yes, it will. This is a program that UVA has  
38 committed to and will continue.

39 MR. BANNER: I heard you say the program relates to  
40 Danville, what is it going to do for us in Southwest and in the Abingdon area?

41 DR. GLICK: Southwest already has the baccalaureate  
42 program, and this would provide the Master's program in leadership training. As you  
43 know, there is a shortage of faculty, and we very much need faculty. This would provide

1 an opportunity to educate nursing leaders who will become faculty and educate the next  
2 generation of nurses in Virginia and will be available in Southwest Virginia, not just  
3 Abingdon, but Wise County and various places.

4 MR. FIELDS: Mr. Chairman, in this start-up program how  
5 many students are going to be accepted in your program at the beginning?

6 DR. GLICK: MCV has ten students who are ready to  
7 enroll in the program starting in September, this program will provide that. We have two  
8 applicants from Southside and two from Southwest at this time in the Master's program.

9 MR. MOODY: You say this is mainly for start-up and the  
10 majority of the cost in this grant is for salaries. Are you going to be able to absorb that in  
11 the years after this, is that what you're saying?

12 DR. GLICK: The UVA program would, yes. I am not in a  
13 position to speak for MCV, but my understanding is that the program would continue.

14 One of the problems is that we need to start recruiting, and I think the  
15 more we let our RN's know that there is a Master's program coming we will have more  
16 students to enroll in the program. We really haven't marketed the Master's program in  
17 Danville and Martinsville, but we plan to. We really haven't done much of that yet. We  
18 have ten students, I guess, and about twenty or thirty more are trying to go and get their  
19 education courses out of the way to be ready to fill in. So I think we will have a number  
20 of students in years to come to help out and sustain this.

21 MR. DAY: Will admission to this program be limited to  
22 Virginia residents, and if not, how will its admission be decided?

23 DR. GLICK: Most of the students we have in the program  
24 are Virginia residents. Out-of-state students are eligible to come in the program, but in  
25 fact we don't get out-of-state students because of the tuition issues.

26 MR. BANNER: In terms of the personnel that you are  
27 requesting or that you need to run this program, are you talking about one person in  
28 Southwest and one person in Southside to administer the program in each of those areas?

29 DR. GLICK: We're talking about one, half of the  
30 responsibility would be for the MCV baccalaureate program and half the responsibility  
31 for the UVA Master's program. The MCV program is focused in Danville. The UVA  
32 program includes Danville and Southwest. We do expect to have someone go through  
33 and counsel and advise students and help recruit in that area.

34 MR. FIELDS: The money that we are appropriating is to  
35 begin the baccalaureate program in Danville?

36 DR. GLICK: Yes.

37 MR. FIELDS: And the Master's program at Danville and  
38 Southwest?

39 DR. GLICK: Correct.

40 MR. FIELDS: You have two students in each. How many  
41 students can go into this program, the Master's program?

42 DR. GLICK: We don't have an upper limit. Our goal for  
43 this particular project is six in the Master's program and ten in the baccalaureate program.

1 There are already ten students that want to enroll in the baccalaureate program, and we  
2 anticipate there will be more in future years. Students are not eligible for the Master's  
3 program until they have the baccalaureate degree.

4 One of the problems in developing the Nurses' Leadership in that area is  
5 that there aren't many nurses that have a baccalaureate degree, so they are not eligible to  
6 come in the Master's program. We're trying to develop a career ladder throughout these  
7 areas so that they have options to develop their careers in education.

8 MR. FIELDS: There is no baccalaureate program in  
9 Southside?

10 DR. GLICK: No, that is correct.

11 SENATOR RUFF: Tell me how this relates to Old  
12 Dominion, their tele tech program?

13 DR. GLICK: It really does not. That is a different  
14 program. They are not involved in this program. This program is MCV and UVA.

15 We have done a survey of Southside to look at what nurses in that area  
16 want and what they are requesting. What they are requesting is an in-class weekend  
17 program that VCU can provide for the baccalaureate degree online Master's program.  
18 That information came from that survey of the nurses in the area.

19 DELEGATE JOHNSON: I am assuming this statement is  
20 correct that we have a shortage of healthcare professionals, and the money needed, or the  
21 request was for \$273,926.00, and you reduced that by \$25,000.00. What is that going to  
22 do to this program?

23 DR. GLICK: We took some of the technology out, and we  
24 tried to scale it back to better meet the needs of this group.

25 DELEGATE JOHNSON: That will not affect the program  
26 in any way, the loss?

27 DR. GLICK: No.

28 DELEGATE JOHNSON: You can get along without it?

29 DR. GLICK: Yes, we can.

30 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Why then was a request made  
31 for it if it was not needed?

32 DR. GLICK: Well, it is needed, but it is a cost that UVA  
33 was willing to absorb to be able to scale back and continue the program.

34 MR. FIELDS: Joe, I thought you were going to add it back  
35 to the program.

36 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, the question was  
37 asked, would this be available to Virginia citizens, and that was answered in the  
38 affirmative. How about pertaining only to Southside and Southwest? That is one of the  
39 things that I am interested in. Will it be a benefit to outside Southwest and Southside?

40 DR. GLICK: For the baccalaureate program, that is the  
41 area that needs that program, and nurses from other parts of the state have closer or  
42 nearer access to the baccalaureate program. For the Master's program, these students  
43 would be in an online program with nurses from other parts of the state, yes.

1                   One of the advantages and one of the reasons why we feel strongly about  
2 having the program, that nurses can take it when they are home, because most of the  
3 students when they get to the Master's level, they have jobs and families, and they cannot  
4 go away to school. The data nationally shows that people tend to stay and work near  
5 where they are educated. So if we provide education in those local communities the  
6 nurses are likely to stay there and work there. Those people can do those programs  
7 online and continue in their jobs and taking care of their families. The program is set up  
8 to accommodate students with those issues.

9                   DELEGATE WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, my concern is if  
10 we spend money for people outside of the tobacco areas, Southside and Southwest. I  
11 want to be clear on whether any of the money will be spent outside of those two areas,  
12 and if so what amount?

13                   DR. GLICK: The money will be spent in Southside and  
14 Southwest. We will hire somebody from that area to conduct it.

15                   DARWELL COCKRAN: I'd like to say that Martinsville  
16 and Danville are very close to the North Carolina line, and a lot of RN's have gone to  
17 North Carolina to get their BA degree. When they do that, they have to pay out-of-state  
18 tuition. I know Danville and the Director of Schools there for 25 years. A lot of our  
19 graduates have done that because they didn't have a program here. A lot of times when  
20 people go to places like that they don't come back. We have lost a lot of our good nurses  
21 that way. Nurses that have their primary degree that are working in Martinsville and  
22 Danville and South Boston are not able to leave, and they may have children or families  
23 that need that salary, so they are not able to leave. So what we're saying is, let's have  
24 some education here. Let's keep our nurses here. We need the benefit of educated  
25 nurses.

26                   We also need management and leadership skills. There is a lot of research  
27 that says the RN's with an advance degree it helps to motivate the patient care. When  
28 you look at patient care in these areas it can be directly affected by the amount of  
29 education, of course. It enables our nurses to give better care, and it enhances the  
30 leadership. As far as faculty positions, we don't have any faculty, so that is why we need  
31 the Master's program. We just need more people educated at that level.

32                   SENATOR RUFF: Would you give the reporter your  
33 name?

34                   DARWELL COCKRAN: Darwell Cockran.

35                   MR. DAY: Ms. Cockran, what are you going to say to the  
36 students that cross the border from North Carolina and want to enroll in this program?

37                   DARWELL COCKRAN: I think there was one or two, and  
38 they live in Danville but work in North Carolina.

39                   MR. DAY: Let's say they live in Roxboro and want to  
40 come to Danville and enroll, what do you say to them?

41                   DARWELL COCKRAN: They are eligible, some that live  
42 in Danville, and they are so close by. Nurses tend to go back and forth, we're really in the  
43 same situation. Those that go across the line have to pay out-of-state tuition.

1 MR. DAY: So, in fact, the case is that it is not restricted to  
2 Virginia residents?

3 DARWELL COCKRAN: Not really, but I don't think we're  
4 going to have that many, unless they are real close to the line.

5 MR. PFOHL: In response to Delegate Wright's question, I  
6 think a couple of issues that the Staff looked at, the fact that there is a substantial amount  
7 of matching funds, roughly an equal amount from the federal grant of \$250,000.00, in  
8 addition the applicant schools committed \$150,000.00. One of the aspects we looked at  
9 is the fact there was 400 thousand of proposed matching funds. Clearly an online  
10 program would be available outside the tobacco region, and we felt that was a mitigating  
11 factor, and there were other funds that are brought to the table.

12 Secondly, the way the applicant presented the request, asking that Tobacco  
13 Commission's funds would be used specifically for recruitment of students within the  
14 region as well as the technology to offer programs within the tobacco region. I think that  
15 was another factor that we felt that they targeted the request for the use of our funds in a  
16 manner that would be specifically benefiting the tobacco region.

17 I think one of the things that needs to be clarified is the aspect of  
18 scholarship eligibility, should clearly be limited to the tobacco region if you choose to go  
19 ahead with that \$45,000.00 piece of the request.

20 MS. SMITH: I'm Kathleen Smith, Vice President of  
21 Patrick Henry Community College in Martinsville. I'm not asking for funds for Patrick  
22 Henry. I'd like to speak in support of this request based on the need of our nursing  
23 program. The hospital has projected that they need about 150 new nurses by the end of  
24 2006. We're trying to expand our program, but we can't find nurses with Master's degrees  
25 to come in and teach the courses that they need to have. It would be a tremendous help in  
26 our area if this were available.

27 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Mr. Ferguson, I'll ask this  
28 question, and maybe you can answer it. At the present time in the Commonwealth we  
29 have reciprocity with the adjoining states if a student from Virginia goes to Tennessee or  
30 North Carolina if they live within a certain mileage range of the state line. In this  
31 program would that rule apply, that someone in North Carolina or Tennessee within 25  
32 miles would be able to come on a scholarship?

33 DR. GLICK: It's our understanding that if the Tobacco  
34 Commission grants these funds for scholarships the scholarships would be available only  
35 for students from the Virginia tobacco growing area, the Southside and Southwest.

36 Speaking for UVA, we really don't get applications from students out-of-  
37 state because of the out-of-state tuition. It is my understanding MCV is in the same  
38 situation.

39 MR. FERGUSON: Delegate Wright, you asked the  
40 question, and I can only speculate. As I understand the reciprocity agreement you  
41 referred to, I don't know of any reason off the top of my head why the restrictability of  
42 this Commission would limit scholarship availability to in-state residents.

43 SENATOR RUFF: Joe, I think maybe 30 miles. You all

1 have worked with Tennessee, I don't know if we have done it in North Carolina. I don't  
2 think it has anything to do with the Scholarship Fund. If we worked out something with  
3 North Carolina, conceivably we could use it on the tuition.

4 Any more comments?

5 DELEGATE JOHNSON: One question, Mr. Chairman, for  
6 the sake of argument, there was a request for \$273,926.00 that was reduced 25. If it is  
7 critical and we have the money, I move that at the appropriate time that we add it back if  
8 it is needed and critical and if we have a need for it, if we have got surplus money that is  
9 not being used for something.

10 SENATOR RUFF: Joe, you can make any motion you  
11 want to, but I'd simply point out that UVA and VCU are the ones that came back with a  
12 lower figure. The Staff didn't reduce it.

13 DELEGATE JOHNSON: If they did that, then I won't  
14 make the motion.

15 MR. BANNER: I have one last question, Mr. Chairman.  
16 Many of our programs are overseen by the University of Virginia Higher Ed Center and  
17 Dr. Fowlkes. I would be interested in her comments in relation to Southwest.

18 DR. FOWLKES: I think those comments are exactly  
19 correct that faculty are in short supply. Preparing people with degrees for a career ladder,  
20 those eligible for the Master's program and then on to the Ph.D. are just not available. I  
21 was sharing with Senator Puckett and Delegate Johnson earlier this morning that the head  
22 of the nursing department at UVA's College at Wise flies in every week from Newport  
23 News because they cannot find a person with a Ph.D. to head up the program. There is  
24 faculty shortage, and it is critical across the Commonwealth, as well as outside.  
25 Anything you can do to eliminate that would be a positive step.

26 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I'd like to have a comment from  
27 Dr. Cavan, Southside Community College. They are active in the nursing program and  
28 working with the hospitals in that area. I would like to get his comments on that.

29 DR. CAVAN: I'd like to know what new program you're  
30 going to have that has the BSA and Master's in community colleges in Virginia?

31 DR. GLICK: Ours is an online program delivered by --

32 SENATOR RUFF: -- Could you just step up here a little  
33 bit, we're having a hard time hearing.

34 DR. GLICK: We've got a different program, ours is an  
35 online program delivered to the Internet, and it focuses on leadership and community and  
36 public health and health management, which is nursing administration.

37 DR. CAVAN: And then your graduates are certified to  
38 teach by you?

39 DR. GLICK: They could be, we're adding new courses,  
40 education for our graduates. This is designed to educate the faculty.

41 SENATOR RUFF: Let's go back to the scholarship thing  
42 for one minute. There are 7500 a year. Would these scholarships be people going,  
43 actually going to the UVA campus?

1 DR. GLICK: No, it would be for students to enroll in the  
2 Master's program, the UVA Master's Program Southwest and Southside, and who stay in  
3 that area but enroll the program and take the program by the Internet.

4 SENATOR RUFF: They can take the program by the  
5 Internet.

6 MR. BANNER: I was going to make a motion, Mr.  
7 Chairman, that we approve the request for \$248,828.00 before Delegate Johnson gets it  
8 higher.

9 MR. TAYLOR: I'll second that motion.

10 MR. DAY: I'm going to vote for this, and I support the  
11 program, but I would urge you all to do everything you can within the law to give  
12 preference first to Virginia residents. I don't like the idea of Virginia Tobacco  
13 Commission money educating nurses out of North Carolina and sending them back to  
14 North Carolina to teach.

15 DR. GLICK: We haven't had any North Carolina nurses in  
16 the program yet. While I don't think I can legally say this, that we can bar them from the  
17 program, I don't think there is a likelihood of a very great number. Our focus is definitely  
18 in Virginia.

19 SENATOR RUFF: To follow up on what Bernie said, I  
20 disagree with him, if you all can charge that much for an online program in the state,  
21 bring all the out-of-state students you can.

22 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I've got to say, for  
23 all the reasons that Bernie just noted, I have to vote against it. I think we're setting a bad  
24 precedent in spending money coming from the Tobacco Commission to be used for out-  
25 of-state students, students outside of Southwest and Southside.

26 MS. COCKRAN: In Danville we're about 10 or 11 miles  
27 from the North Carolina border, and a lot of our nurses live there but they go to school in  
28 Danville or they work in Danville hospitals. That might limit some of the people who are  
29 contributing to the patient care. They live in Danville and deliver services and then live  
30 in North Carolina and deliver services in Virginia.

31 DELEGATE WRIGHT: That's fine and good, but this is  
32 Tobacco Commission money, and the main focus is on the tobacco region. Our goal and  
33 mission is to affect Southside and Southwest. We can do things to help the surrounding  
34 areas, and that is fine, but the focus, in my opinion, should be mainly strictly for  
35 Southside and Southwest. Monies that are used outside of the Tobacco Commission  
36 areas, I think we can get ourselves in trouble.

37 SENATOR RUFF: Any other comments? Hearing none,  
38 then I'll call for a vote. Those in favor say aye? (Ayes.) All opposed?

39 DELEGATE WRIGHT: No.

40 SENATOR RUFF: It is recorded one no vote. All right.

41 Now, before you is a recap of scholarships for Southside and Southwest.  
42 The yellow sheet is for Southwest, and the green sheet is for Southside. Would you like  
43 to make any additional comments about those?

1 DR. FOWLKES: We're taking applications currently. If  
2 you have citizens in your regions who are unaware of the program or need additional  
3 information, we can help them. The process is now online, and students can apply  
4 online, and that is the first time this year that we're doing a career workshop online. The  
5 students will be able to develop a career portfolio that follows them each year of the  
6 Tobacco Commission program. Upon graduation they will have a resume completed and  
7 have gone through several exercises that will help them focus on a career in Southside  
8 and Southwest Virginia. It is a much-improved career-planning process for the students.  
9 We are excited about that. We would encourage you to help us promote the program,  
10 because it is amazing to us that we continue to get phone calls from people saying we  
11 never heard anything about it. Please help us and make your part of the state aware of it.

12 SENATOR RUFF: We appreciate very much all the work  
13 you folks have done in working with this process.

14 Does anyone have any questions? Hearing none, is there a motion we  
15 adjourn? Wait a minute, we do have, is there anyone that has any public comments to  
16 make? This is the public comment time. All right, hearing none, do we have a motion to  
17 adjourn?

18 MR. TAYLOR: I move we adjourn.

19 SENATOR RUFF: Well, if we have no comments from the  
20 audience, then we are adjourned.

21  
22 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

23  
24  
25 CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

26  
27  
28 I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional Reporter  
29 and Notary Public for the State of Virginia at large, do hereby certify that I was the court  
30 reporter who took down and transcribed the proceedings of the **Virginia Tobacco**  
31 **Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission Education Committee**  
32 **Meeting when held on Thursday, April 28, 2005 at 9:15 a.m. at the Hotel Roanoke**  
33 **and Conference Center, Pocahontas Room, Roanoke, Virginia.**

34 I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript to the  
35 best of my ability to hear and understand the proceedings.

36 Given under my hand this 5th day of May, 2005.

37  
38  
39  
40  
41 \_\_\_\_\_  
42 Medford W. Howard  
43 Registered Professional Reporter  
Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 My Commission Expires: October 31, 2006.