

January 29, 2012

## Memorandum

TO: Dr. Dale Jones; Mr. Hunter Brown '14; Dr. B. Ellen Byrne; Ms. Eunice Carwile '92; Dr. Caroline Emmons; Ms. Karin Gollin; Mr. Loren Hubbard '13; Mr. Michael Palmore '97; Mr. Drew Prehmus '08; Mr. John Ramsay '05; Colonel Rucker Snead '83; Dr. Michael Utzinger.

FROM: Eunice Carwile

SUBJECT: Good Men Plan at HSC Working Group Meeting, January 23, 2012

CC: Dr. Howard; Dr. King; Dr. Klein

### Committee Members Present

Dr. Dale Jones; Mr. Hunter Brown '14; Dr. B. Ellen Byrne; Ms. Eunice Carwile '92; Dr. Caroline Emmons; Ms. Karin Gollin; Mr. Michael Palmore '97; Mr. Drew Prehmus '08; Mr. John Ramsay '05; Colonel Rucker Snead '83; Dr. Michael Utzinger. (Mr. Loren Hubbard '13 was unable to attend.)

For this first meeting of the working group, Dr. Howard gave a slide presentation on "The Good Men Plan @ HSC," a plan that will further the Strategic Plan's vision "to become a model liberal arts college recognized for educating men for the 20<sup>th</sup> Century." The GMP@HSC is a program that encourages participation and engagement, especially of freshmen and sophomores, and is designed to support and complement the academic mission of the College.

### The Good Men @ HSC Plan is built around six core themes:

1. Citizenship, Service, & Leadership
2. Understanding Manhood
3. Self-Awareness, Vocational Reflection, & Professional Development
4. Environmental Stewardship & Outdoor Experience
5. Arts, Creativity, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship
6. Global Engagement

Some of the initiatives the College already has or is developing support the first three themes; the second three will grow within the Strategic Plan. Dr. Howard emphasized that now is the time to run a "beta version" of the GMP@HSC. Over the next 36 months, we will "Define, Plan, Do, Review," and "Fail Fast Forward."

### The Good Men Plan @ HSC comprises two initiatives:

#### Involvement – Participation Requirement

- To begin January 2013
- Especially concerned with freshmen and sophomores
- Students required to attend certain events, participate in certain service activities, and be involved in the College and community in certain way
- There will be credit of some kind for students who complete the requirements and negative consequences for those who do not.
- The program will be administered by Dr. Jones's office; there are ways to reduce administrative time, e.g., software tracking programs for attendance.

### "C-Days"

- C: Convocation, Careers, Community, Calling, (Ceremony)
- A day to explore, connect with each other, mark growth, participate, engage
- Can begin as early as fall 2012
- Occurring a few days after students return for the semester
- No classes, no athletic practice, no sports
- A day of ceremony for each class; perhaps workshops, a service event like a blitz build.
- Participation required; consequences for not participating.

### Comments Offered

- Dr. Byrne thought the idea of "fail fast forward - going ahead and testing the program, adapting along the way - is a good one. She compared possible "C-Day" freshman and sophomore ceremonies to the White Coat Ceremony at VCU's School of Dentistry, which marks a significant event in the students' lives and careers and recognizes growth and maturity.
- Michael Palmore remarked that the two key words are "get involved." Alumni of the College who did so as students are still actively involved in their communities and in the College.
- Hunter Brown commented on the importance of understanding HSC tradition, especially for freshmen and sophomores. The kinds of activities in the GMP@HSC are the things "that made a difference" in his life.
- Dr. Emmons stressed the importance of the requirements of the GMP@HSC not competing with our academic expectations for students.
- Dr. Utzinger reminded the working group that suspending classes for a C-Day would require a vote of the Trustees and the Faculty.
- Dr. Howard responded that we are just going to do a trial run, and will refine the Plan as we go along.
- John Ramsay said that as a student, he was not engaged with HSC until he became a tour guide and learned something about the institution and its history. A plan like the GMP@HSC could engage students early on, just when they need it most.

The Charge to the GMP@HSC Working Group is to answer the following questions:

- What staff should be dedicated to the GMP @ H-SC?
- Who should be on the GMP @ HSC Committee?
- What is a GMP credit? How does one earn a credit? What are other ways to earn GMP @ H-SC credits?
- What are the consequences for failure to complete GMP @ H-SC requirements?
- How do we recognize students who complete independent GMP @ H-SC projects during their JR and SR years?

### ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Jones is to email Dr. Howard's presentation (DONE, on January 24).

Dr. Jones will set up a working schedule.

Dr. Utzinger and Dr. Emmons will share the above information with the Faculty.

The Working Group is to engage in open meetings, whose proceedings are made public.

The Working Group is to fulfill its charge for reporting to the Board of Trustees at its May 2012 meeting.