

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 4, 1998

President's Board Room, 210 Burruss Hall

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: E. Henneke, C. Nickerson, L. Hincker, S. Musser, W. Glasser, D. Taylor, M. Johnson, J. Beach, P. Metz, A. McDaniel, B. Sumichrast, R. Kander, J. Bowen, W. Shannon,

Guests: C. Agnew, Lt. Caldwell

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Henneke at 12:00 p.m.

Approval of February 4, 1998, minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously as distributed.

Planning for May's commencement

Larry Hincker reported that the ACITC project is still in flux. The contractor has been asked to keep the mall area open until after commencement.

The photography contract is in progress and will be in place for commencement.

The commencement brochure is ready for mailing to students and parents.

A request for volunteers to serve as marshals and ushers has been mailed.

Someone asked about the commencement speaker. Carole Nickerson indicated that it was a delicate issue. For the past 25 years, the new governor has traditionally spoken at commencement. The governor is recovering from pneumonia and has several legislative issues that have him occupied. The President's Office is waiting for confirmation.

Regarding the CHRE ceremony in Rector Field House, Carole Nickerson suggested that a group go walk around in the facility and think about where the chairs will start, if rental plants should be used, etc. The idea of using closed circuit tv was discussed with the conclusion that it would be a huge, costly job and cables could be dangerous. It was confirmed that the tallest stage will be used in Rector. The stage will have to go on the end with the power.

Since Spring Road is open, traffic flow should be better. Parking will be better.

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Carole Nickerson indicated that Carolyn Agnew will be involved in the Vice President for Multicultural Affairs search. She requested that the committee members allow extra lead time if they need anything for commencement.

Someone asked if the tunnel from the coliseum to the playing field of the stadium would be open for use by the Stage Party and for the College of Business graduates to get to the coliseum for their 11:00 a.m. ceremony. If the tunnel is not open, Business will need to figure out how to get their graduates off the field and into the coliseum. John Beach will check and see if the tunnel will be ready for use. A decision can then be made as to how these groups will be handled.

Chairman Henneke reminded the committee members that there will be two meetings in April -- April 1 and April 29. There will be no meetings in May, June, and July.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Edmund G. Henneke, Chair
University Commencement Committee