



UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 22, 2008

The Honorable Max S. Baucus
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Baucus and Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of January 25, 2008, requesting information about the University of Virginia's tuition costs and endowment. We recognize the importance of providing access to higher education for students from all backgrounds, and we share your goal of making a college education more affordable for low- and middle-income families. We respectfully submit the enclosed responses to your specific questions.

A description of the University's comprehensive financial-aid program will provide appropriate context for our responses. We are committed to providing access to a University education to all qualified students, regardless of economic circumstance. During the 2007-2008 academic year, over 36 percent of all University undergraduate students received grants or scholarships, averaging \$11,091 per student. With the Board of Visitors' strong support, in 2004 the University became the first public institution to develop an undergraduate financial-aid program designed to target all students with need, as calculated by the federal formula, regardless of family income. A full description of this program, AccessUVa, can be found on pages 7-10 of the enclosed document.

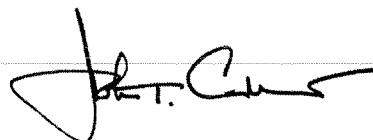
Financial aid for undergraduate and graduate students through scholarships and fellowships represents the second largest category of endowment expenditures in fiscal year 2006-2007, comprising approximately 25 percent of expenditures from the University's endowment distribution. In 2007-2008, 11.5 percent of the total cost of the AccessUVa program comes from distribution on the unrestricted endowment. As part of a regular annual review, the University's

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Board of Visitors will consider the current endowment spending rate at its April 2008 meeting.

We hope that this information and the enclosed responses will be useful as you continue your deliberations and your consideration of policies. For your commitment to access to higher education and for your service to the nation, I am grateful.

Sincerely,



John T. Casteen III
President

JTC:ls
Enclosures
cc: Ms. Marilyn Thompson