

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

June 12, 1984

Dear [REDACTED]:

Please accept my presumptuousness in the informal salutation but I feel it's natural, proper and a continuing interpretation of the speaking tradition.

I value your letter of May 25th expressing your support of undergraduate coeducation at Washington and Lee. I note your feeling that "academic excellence should continue to be our primary goal," a single gender university makes this objective more difficult, and that an undergraduate coeducational policy might attract some promising student-athletes. I do assure you these roiling factors are receiving the trustees' full attention.

As a trustee sworn to uphold the interests of Washington and Lee, I give continual thought to this matter and have spent hours reading and re-reading the numerous letters which I have received from the Washington and Lee Alumni constituency-at-large, Alumni Board Members, Alumni Presidents, Alumni Chapter Presidents, Alumni Class Agents, Trustees, Alumni Admissions Representatives, Students, Parents and Faculty. They all manifest great respect for and devotion to Washington and Lee. The trustees, too, are trying to do what is best for Washington and Lee and its future.

Rector Jim Ballengee with the Board of Trustees and President John Wilson are seeking the opinions of Washington and Lee alumni, will ponder deeply the alumni's feelings in their deliberations and will keep the alumni informed.

Faithfully yours,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

cc: Mr. James M. Ballengee
Dr. John D. Wilson