

July 20, 1984

To the 508 Alumni who wrote letters to the University
or to the Board of Trustees on the question
of coeducation

Those of you who took the time and trouble to write voiced many different opinions, not just on coeducation, but on other University matters as well. Even though your number represents but 3.2% of all alumni, I think it is reasonable to say that the viewpoints your letters expressed gave the Board a comprehensive picture of overall alumni opinion. Interestingly, the range and concentration of the statements you made were closely echoed by the all-alumni survey to which 6,697 responded.

Because of your demonstrated interest in Washington and Lee and the coeducation study, I thought you would like to have an advance copy of the statement issued by the Board of Trustees following its July 13-14 meeting. The statement will be carried in the next issue of the Alumni Magazine, but it could be three weeks or more before you receive your copy by mail.

The enclosed statement was issued by the Board to make clear its rationale for the coeducation decision and to identify the advantages that the Trustees expect their determination will produce.

As you know, the Board's decision is the result of a study which began last October and involved all of the University's constituencies. Of the many ways alumni chose to make known their views, there was common agreement that the 508 letters were the most helpful.

Best wishes.

Farris Hotchkiss


Enclosure