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Office of the President
January 22, 2008

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF DESIGN

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Dr. Michael Speaks as Dean of the College of Design, effective February 1, 2008.

Background: With David Mohney returning to the faculty, a search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College of Design. The search committee considered approximately 25 candidates, and three finalists were interviewed on campus. Dr. Speaks received excellent endorsement within the college and from the search committee.

Michael Speaks received a bachelor's degree (1983) from the University of Mississippi and a Ph.D. degree (1993) from Duke University. Dr. Speaks' most recent academic appointment was as a professor at the Southern California Institute of Architecture and a visiting lecturer at the UCLA School of Architecture and Urban Design.

Dr. Speaks has led a number of international educational initiatives, including the International Concrete Design Competition for Students organized for a consortium of European Cement Companies. He organized a year-long research project for the Province of South Holland in the Netherlands in which students developed scenario plans for the development of Rotterdam Airport.

Dr. Speaks has the experience and qualifications to be an excellent Dean of the College of Design.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____