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Office of the President  
June 9, 2009

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION STUDIES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Dr. H. Dan O’Hair as Dean of the College of Communications and Information Studies, effective August 1, 2009.

Background: Dr. J. David Johnson resigned as Dean of the College of Communications and Information Studies to return to the faculty. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College of Communications and Information Studies. The search committee considered approximately 25 candidates, and three finalists were interviewed on campus. Dr. O’Hair received enthusiastic support within the college and from the search committee.

Dr. O’Hair currently serves as Presidential Professor and Director of the Center for Risk and Crisis Management at the University of Oklahoma. He received a bachelor’s degree (1978) and master’s degree (1979) from Texas Tech University and a Ph.D. (1982) from the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. O’Hair is a member of numerous scholarly organizations, having recently served on the Executive Council for the National Communication Association. He has served on the editorial boards of thirty research journals and was editor of the Journal of Applied Communication Research, published by the National Communications Association. His primary research interests have been in the areas of organization and health communication, with more recent efforts in risk and crisis communication. He has also authored and edited 16 books in the areas of communication, risk management, health, and terrorism. He has been the principal investor or Co-PI for several grants from business, non-profit, and government institutions totaling more than \$10 million.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_