

PR 5

Office of the President
December 12, 2006

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMERCIALIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the creation of the Vice President for Commercialization and Economic Development position and that the Board approve the appointment of Dr. Leonard E. Heller to this position, which will report directly to the President. The effective date of the appointment will be retroactive to December 1, 2006, with the Board's approval.

Background: The Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Office of Economic Development at its October 10, 2006 meeting. Following the Board's action, President Todd announced that Dr. Heller would serve as acting vice president for the office and would also be a candidate for the permanent position. The Office of Human Resources advertised the position Vice President for Commercialization and Economic Development and received applications for review. A thorough review of the applications revealed that Dr. Heller is the most qualified applicant for the position.

Dr. Heller is a former UK faculty member and has been vice chancellor for academic affairs at the university, a cabinet secretary in state government, and a private business entrepreneur. He has the broad-based background to make the linkages and plot the strategies the university needs to be successful in this most important endeavor.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____