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Office of the President
June 24, 2003

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Recommendation: that Dr. David Watt be appointed as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, effective May 15, 2003.

Background: The report of the Implementation Committee for Transition to the Provost Model recommended the appointment of a “senior-level associate provost for academic affairs” and other advisory groups supported the recommendation as well. The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs position was established and the position was announced to all faculty on March 28. An advisory committee reviewed the credentials of 11 applicants and enthusiastically and strongly recommended Dr. David Watt as an ideal individual to serve in this role.

Dr. Watt is currently Executive Dean of the College of Medicine and Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Kentucky. He received a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1972 and a bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College (1967) and master’s degree from Harvard University (1969). Since coming to the University of Kentucky in 1985 he has served in a number of administrative positions, including Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Vice Chancellor for Research, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research and Director of ASTeCC.

Dr. Watt is a member of the American Chemical Society and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He has authored or co-authored dozens of papers published in scholarly journals, presented at academic conferences, developed intellectual property into a thriving private enterprise, and has been a primary investigator in several research projects that have received federal or corporate funding.

Dr. Watt has the experience and qualifications to be an excellent Associate Provost for Academic Affairs. The University is fortunate to attract such a highly qualified person to this position.

Action Taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____