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Office of the President
June 24, 2003

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS

Recommendation: that Dr. Alfred Cohen be appointed as Acting Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, effective June 1, 2003.

Background: In December 2002, the Task Force on Medical Center Organization and the Provost Model recommended the establishment of an Executive Vice President for Health Affairs with authority and responsibility for the clinical activities of the Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences, Nursing, and Pharmacy, the hospital and other aspects of the university's clinical enterprise "UK Healthcare". The Executive Vice President for Health Affairs position was established and an advisory committee named to identify candidates for the position. While a number of candidates are already in the interview process, it may be a few months before the selection is complete and several additional months before the person chosen can actually assume the responsibilities of the office.

Dr. Jim Holsinger, Senior Vice President and Chancellor of the Medical Center, who will be stepping down from that position on June 30, 2003, has diligently worked to ensure a smooth transition of the health profession colleges to the Provost and the UK hospitals and clinics to the leadership of the new EVPHA. To make certain that process continues in the clinical services, an interim appointment is being made in order to affect a seamless move to the new organization.

Dr. Cohen is currently Director of the UK Markey Cancer Center and Professor of Surgery at the University of Kentucky. He will continue these roles while serving as the Acting Executive Vice President for Health Affairs. Dr. Cohen attended the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed six years of surgical training at the Massachusetts General Hospital and over two years at the National Cancer Institute. He then joined the Harvard/Mass General faculty for nine years as Co-Director of Surgical Oncology. During the subsequent fourteen years, he served as Chief of the Colorectal Service, Department of Surgery, Director of GI Cancer Management Team at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Professor of Surgery at Cornell University College of Medicine (now Weill). He moved to his current position at the Markey Cancer Center in September 2000. Dr. Cohen has been Principal Investigator or Co-PI on 25 clinical trials, and has authored or co-authored more than 250 publications.

Dr. Cohen has the experience and qualifications to be an excellent Acting Executive Vice President for Health Affairs. The University is fortunate to have such a highly qualified person to serve in this position.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____