

Office of the President
June 12, 2007

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Dr. James W. Tracy as vice president for research, effective October 1, 2007.

Background: Following the resignation of Dr. Wendy Baldwin, executive vice president for research, President Lee Todd began discussions about organizational changes with the provost and others. In October 2006 the Board of Trustees approved a recommendation to replace the executive vice president for research position with a vice president for research position that would have a direct reporting line to the provost in order to facilitate the alignment of research priorities across the academic enterprise.

A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of vice president for research. Four finalists were brought to campus to meet with administrators, faculty, and staff from various organizational units. Dr. Tracy received enthusiastic support across the university and is strongly supported by the search committee.

Dr. Tracy currently serves as professor in the Department of Comparative Biosciences and associate dean for research and graduate training in the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He received a bachelor’s degree (1972) from Bowling Green State University and a Ph.D. (1976) from Purdue University.

Dr. Tracy, a biochemist whose interest has been in the study of human parasites, has an outstanding record of National Institutes of Health-funded research and of training graduate students and postdoctoral scientists. He has had broad responsibilities in sponsored research and academic administration.

The provost supports the appointment of Dr. James W. Tracy as vice president for research.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____