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Office of the President
June 9, 2009

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Dr. Mary John O’Hair as Dean of the College of Education, effective August 1, 2009.

Background: Dr. James G. Cibulka resigned as Dean of the College of Education effective July 1, 2008. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College of Education. The search committee considered approximately 15 candidates and two finalists were interviewed on campus. Dr. O’Hair received enthusiastic support across the university and from the search committee.

Dr. O’Hair currently serves as professor and Vice Provost for School and Community Partnerships at the University of Oklahoma. In addition, she is founding director of Oklahoma’s K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal which serves as a statewide, inter-disciplinary educational research and development center and a conduit between university and industry researchers and over 500 schools and communities in Oklahoma. She received a bachelor’s degree (1979) from Texas Tech University, a M.A. (1980) from University of Oklahoma, a M.Ed. (1984) from Texas Christian University, and an Ed.D. (1987) from New Mexico State University.

Dr. O’Hair has published numerous articles and books on interactive learning communities, leading systemic change, and organization learning. Dr. O’Hair serves on Microsoft’s U.S. Partners in Learning (PiL) Board of Advisors and is an advisor for the National School Reform Faculty.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____