

# Florida Atlantic University

777 Glades Road  
P.O. Box 3091  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-0991

(561) 297-3450 • FAX (561) 297-2777

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*John W. Temple, Chairman*

*Norman D. Tripp, Vice Chairman*

*Scott Adams*

*Nancy Blosser*

*William Bryant*

*Jorge Dominicis*

*E. Llwyd Ecclestone*

*Gerri McPherson*

*Virginia I. Miller*

*Pablo Paez*

*Sherry Plymale*

*Bruce Warshal*

*George C. Zoley*

August 7, 2002

The Honorable Jim Horne  
Secretary of Education  
Florida Board of Education  
325 W. Gaines Street  
Turlington Bldg., Suite 1614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Secretary Horne:

The Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees approved offering the position of Interim President to Dr. Richard L. Osburn effective July 1, 2002.

Enclosed is biographical information, as well as the Board of Trustees letter of offer and a letter from Dr. Osburn.

Please let me know if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

John Temple, Chair  
FAU Board of Trustees

**RICHARD L. OSBURN**  
**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Richard L. Osburn became Interim President of Florida Atlantic University on July 1, 2002, moving into the position by appointment of FAU's Board of Trustees upon the resignation of President Anthony J. Catanese.

As a 10-year faculty member and administrator at FAU, Dr. Osburn has occupied a succession of key leadership posts during a period of explosive development that has earned FAU the reputation of being the fastest growing university in America. During his decade of service, the student body has increased from 15,000 to 25,000 degree-seeking students, and three campuses have been added to the four that were already in operation. FAU's campuses are located in Boca Raton, Davie, Dania Beach, downtown Fort Lauderdale, north Fort Lauderdale, Jupiter and Port St. Lucie.

Dr. Osburn joined FAU in 1992, serving first as Associate Dean and Professor in the College of Education on the Broward campuses and later as University Ombudsman and Executive Assistant to the President. In 1993, he was named Provost and Chief Academic Officer, assuming leadership of all academic areas, including developing and implementing degree programs, nurturing scholarly research, maintaining high academic standards for accreditation and overseeing faculty matters such as promotion and tenure.

Before coming to FAU, Dr. Osburn was Vice President for Academic Affairs and a Professor of Biology at Clayton State College in Morrow, Georgia. He served Georgia's Board of Regents for two years as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, a position that gave him major responsibilities for the academic management of the Georgia University System's 34 institutions.

Professionally, Dr. Osburn has served in many capacities: as a staff member of the Georgia Board of Education Committee; as liaison for the science and allied health programs at all universities for the Georgia Board of Regents; as a member of the Joint Legislative Committee on Healthcare Personnel Supply and Planning for the State of Georgia; and now as a member of the Executive Committee of the Council on Academic Affairs for the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC).

Dr. Osburn holds bachelor of science and master of science degrees from Georgia Southern University and a Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Georgia.

During his long career in education, Dr. Osburn has been a high school science teacher, a university professor, a researcher and an administrator. He was Dean of the School of Sciences and Mathematics at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas and Chair of the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern University. From 1977 to 1982, he was a cooperative investigator in the Tick Research Unit at the U.S. Livestock Insects Laboratory in Kerrville, Texas.

His numerous honors and awards include membership in the national scholastic honor societies Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key; the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern University; the D.M. Beckham Outstanding Presentation Award, made at the Joint Meeting of the Georgia and South Carolina Entomological Societies; and the Sigma Xi Outstanding Research Award for a Master's Thesis at Georgia Southern University.

Dr. Osburn and his wife, Elaine, live in Coral Springs, Florida. They are the parents of a grown daughter, Cathi, and the grandparents of an 18-month-old granddaughter, Samantha.

# Florida Atlantic University

777 Glades Road  
P.O. Box 3091  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-0991

(561) 297-3450 • FAX (561) 297-2777

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*John W. Temple* Chairman

*Norman D. Tripp* Vice Chairman

*Scott Adams*

*Nancy Blosser*

*William Bryant*

*Jorge Dominicus*

*E. Llwyd Ecclestone*

*Gerri McPherson*

*Virginia I. Miller*

*Pablo Paez*

*Sherry Plymale*

*Bruce Warshal*

*George C. Zoley*

May 24, 2002

Dr. Richard L. Osburn  
University Provost and Chief Academic Officer  
Florida Atlantic University  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

Dear Dr. Osburn:

Pursuant to our discussion and to the approval of the Board of Trustees, I am writing to offer you the position of Interim President of Florida Atlantic University. This position will begin on July 1, 2002, following the departure of President Anthony James Catanese, and will continue until the appointment and arrival of the new president. As we discussed, you will receive the same compensation package that President Catanese currently receives. Specifically, you will receive an annual salary of \$191,500 per year. Additionally, the Board of Trustees has authorized the University Foundation to provide you with additional compensation, not exceeding 12% of base salary, which may be in the form of deferred compensation, as allowed under the IRS code. The University Foundation may also provide you with a housing allowance of up to \$20,000 annually, as well as an annual car allowance of \$6,000 annually, and with other non-salary compensation at its discretion. The University Foundation is also authorized to provide an allowance of up to \$4,000 annually for travel by a spouse. It is understood that the terms in this appointment are for the duration of the time that you serve as Interim President. You will return to your current salary (with adjustments for any state-mandates raises) upon completion of this assignment.

You will have the full powers and responsibilities of the Office of President as described in Florida Statutes and will be expected to serve in the capacity of the Chief Executive Officer of Florida Atlantic University. You will also serve in the role of Executive Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Upon the appointment and arrival of a new President, it is our intent that you will return to your position as University Provost and Chief Academic Officer, serving in that role at the pleasure of the newly appointed president. You will also retain your position as a tenured professor in the Department of Biology, College of Science. Should you leave the position of University Provost prior to your retirement, in keeping with currently established policy for senior administrators who have served numerous years in their positions at Florida Atlantic University, you will receive a one-year leave of absence at full pay for the purposes of preparing for any new assignment/position that you will assume.

If the terms specified in this letter are acceptable, please sign on the indicated line and return the letter to me within ten working days of the date of this letter. The Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees and I look forward to working with you during this transition year. With the efforts of all combined, we can make this an outstanding year for Florida Atlantic University.

Sincerely,

John Temple, Chair  
FAU Board of Trustees

I accept this offer as described above to serve as Interim President of Florida Atlantic University.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard L. Osburn

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date