

May 28, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Florida Board of Education

FROM: Carl W. Blackwell, Interim Chancellor
Division of Colleges and Universities

SUBJECT: Ratification of New Presidents for Florida Agricultural and
Mechanical University and the University of West Florida

On Friday, May 17, 2002, the University Board of Trustees of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University selected their ninth president. A summary of the process the Trustees used to reach this decision and the resume of Dr. Fred J. Gainous, their selected candidate, are enclosed for your information.

On Friday, May 24, 2002, the University Board of Trustees of the University of West Florida selected their fourth president. Enclosed you will find materials outlining the Trustees' process and the resume of Dr. John C. Cavanaugh, their selected candidate.

At this time the law requires that we receive materials from the universities and the Florida Board of Education act to ratify the Trustees' selection of university presidents. I have reviewed the materials submitted and have had conversations relative to the processes used for selection. Both universities elected to engage the services of executive search consulting firms. I am comfortable that the processes used by both universities were appropriately executed and resulted in the selection of qualified candidates.

CWB/aem

Enclosures