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Date: October 4, 2007

To: Sergio Lopez-Permouth, Chair, Faculty Senate

From: Kathy Krendl^{kk}, Executive Vice President and Provost

Subject: Resolution to establish a University Standing Committee on Benefits.

I am writing in response to the Resolution to form a University Standing Committee on Benefits passed at the June 11, 2007 meeting of the Faculty Senate and received in my office for signature on August 9, 2007.

I support the idea of establishing a University Standing Committee on Benefits. In addition, I support "including appropriate representation from the faculty, classified, and administrative senates, as well as representatives from AFSCME and the Fraternal Order of Police." However, I would propose that the process for appointment of the membership and chair selection should not deviate from the Standing Committee appointment process, as outlined in the Faculty Handbook: "Nominations to University Standing Committees are made by the Committee on Committees....The President appoints the University Standing Committees." Following this procedure would result in the chair selection not being pre-determined as is the case in all University Standing Committees.

If the language of the resolution is changed to make it clear that the University Standing Committee on Benefits follows the standard procedures of committee members being nominated by the Committee on Committees and the President making the appointments, we can move forward with establishing such a committee. I look forward to working with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to address the necessary changes in the language of the resolution.