

Office of the President
December 13, 2011

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE GATTON COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

Recommendation: that Dr. David W. Blackwell be appointed as Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics, effective in the Spring 2012 Semester.

Background: Dr. Devanathan Sudharshan resigned as Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics to return to the faculty. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics. Approximately 66 candidates were considered, and three finalists were interviewed on campus.

Dr. Blackwell is currently Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Republic Bank/James W. Aston Professor of Finance at Texas A&M University's Mays Business School. He received his bachelor's degree in economics and his doctoral degree in finance from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Before joining Texas A&M, Dr. Blackwell served as Director of Forensic & Litigation Services at KPMG and Manager of Financial Advisory Services at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Before his consulting career, Dr. Blackwell served as a Finance professor for 13 years. From 1995 through 1998 he served as an Associate Professor of Finance at Emory University's Goizueta Business School in Atlanta. Before joining Emory in September 1995, Dr. Blackwell taught at the University of Georgia from 1985 to 1993 and at the University of Houston from 1993 to 1995. He was a visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Rochester's William E. Simon School of Business Administration in 1989.

Dr. Blackwell has authored or co-authored numerous research publications and is the co-author of two books. In addition, he has been active in professional activities, including presenting and discussing numerous papers at national and regional conferences; and has served as an ad hoc referee for numerous journals, including the most highly recognized journals in Finance and Accounting. Dr. Blackwell served on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Business Research from 1992 to 1995 and was an Associate Editor of the Journal of Financial Research from 1994 to 1999. He served as Vice President (1997-1998) and President (1998-1999) of the Southern Finance Association.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____