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Office of the President
August 13, 2002

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC OUTREACH
AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Recommendation: that Dr. Retia Scott Walker be appointed as Vice President for Academic Outreach and Public Service, effective August 14, 2002.

Background: In April 2002 the position of Vice President for Academic Outreach and Public Service was established with the responsibility for developing and directing service learning and volunteer opportunities for students; coordinating a variety of faculty outreach and service programs on behalf of communities throughout Kentucky and the region; promoting the University's efforts to develop and evaluate potential solutions to some of the state's most persistent problems in the area of education, health, community vitality, and economic development; and securing additional funding for outreach and service projects at the University. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position. Approximately 60 applications were received.

Dr. Walker is currently Professor of Family Studies and Dean of the College of Human Environmental Sciences. She received a Ph.D. in Education Administration from Iowa State University; an M.S.Ed. and Professional Certification in Educational Administration and Supervision from Pace University (NYC); and an M.S. in Home Economics from Hunter College (NYC). Dr. Walker has nearly 30 years of experience administering educational programs, including 18 years in higher education at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and the University of Kentucky. Her professional and community peers have honored her for contributions to the profession and the community.

Dr. Walker's interest in service learning began while teaching in the New York City schools. She believes in integrating academic experiences with community outreach activities as a way of better preparing students for the challenges of life. Dr. Walker is currently directing a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development community outreach and research project involving an interdisciplinary team of faculty, graduate students, city government personnel, leaders of community-based organizations and residents in the east end of Lexington.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____