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Office of the President February 25, 2003

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

<u>Background</u>: The over-all objective of the Center is to provide an infrastructure to promote a vigorous research agenda and to ensure the integration of research, instruction and the service mission of the University related to violence against women. The Center is designed to foster cross discipline approaches and a strong collaboration between the researchers and practitioners in the violence against women field. The Center will facilitate access to extramural funding for University faculty to conduct research, help create a nationally recognized research agenda, and convene research conferences, think tanks and other research-focused events to highlight the Center's efforts and expose faculty, students and practitioners to state-of-the-art work being done in the area.

The Center for Research on Violence Against Women will include research focus in three areas of concentration: Clinical (health and mental health), Legal, and Public Policy and Leadership. The Center is a joint project of the University and Governor Paul Patton's administration. Basic operating funding will be supported by recurring general funds beginning in Fiscal Year 2004.

The Center will report to the Vice President for Research. A director appointed by the Vice President for Research will oversee the Center. A multidisciplinary advisory committee, consisting of UK faculty, practitioners in the field, and five researchers from around the country whose work in the violence against women area is well-known and respected, appointed by the Vice President for Research, will advise the director and will help set both the long-term and short-term goals and objectives of the Center.

The Center for Research on Violence Against Women meets the criteria for establishing centers. It is supported by the Vice President for Research and has been recommended by the University Senate. The President supports this recommendation.