

University of Colorado

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TO:

Chair Steve Bosley

FROM:

Regent Michael Carrigan

DATE:

June 19, 2009

SUBJECT:

University of Colorado Denver Consolidation Review

I. REQUEST FOR ACTION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS

I recommend that the following resolution be submitted for approval by the Board of Regents on June 22, 2009.

WHEREAS in 2004, the Board of Regents approved the consolidation of the CU Health Sciences Center with the CU Denver campus;

WHEREAS in October 2007, the Board of Regents approved naming the consolidated institution the University of Colorado Denver;

WHEREAS on January 14, 2009, the board asked President Benson to evaluate the consolidation and report back to the board. Chair Bosley offered to consult with President Benson and Chancellor Wilson and return to the board with a proposal for the study;

WHEREAS on March 12, 2009, the board passed a resolution calling for President Benson and Chancellor Wilson to collaborate on a review and evaluation of the University of Colorado Denver consolidation consistent with a scope of work attached to the resolution. The resolution further called for involvement of Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak, as well as Regents Merchant and Geddes in preparing a proposal to define the objectives of the review and evaluation;

WHEREAS on May 19, 2009, Regent Merchant reported to the board that the ad hoc committee had completed its work to solicit and define questions for the review and evaluation and had distributed that information to the regents, President Benson and Chancellor Wilson;

WHEREAS during the period of time from January 2009 until now, President Benson, Chancellor Wilson, and their senior staffs have discussed the status of the consolidated institution, as well as the costs and benefits associated with a consolidated entity versus independent campuses;

WHEREAS the evaluation of consolidation has shown that deconsolidation would come at significant costs to the university;

WHEREAS the president, chancellor, and their senior staffs are in agreement that while a consolidated institution under the operating name of University of Colorado Denver has resulted in significant advantages to the University of Colorado system, and the two campuses shall maintain existing separate statutory roles and missions and be branded separately;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Regents are satisfied that the cost evaluation conducted over the past six months by President Benson and Chancellor Wilson, as advised by Chancellor Shockley-Zalabak, Chair Bosley and Regents Merchant and Geddes, meets the needs of the university in assessing the status and progress of the consolidation that was intended by the March 12, 2009 resolution;

FURTHER RESOLVED that based on the assessment conducted by the president and the chancellor, the Board of Regents determines that no further current review is necessary and affirms its 2004 decision to consolidate CU Health Sciences Center with the CU Denver campus, and its 2007 decision to name that institution University of Colorado Denver;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the president shall present the board with recommendations for naming and branding the two campuses of the University of Colorado Denver.