

BOARD OF REGENTS

BRIEFING PAPER

1. Agenda Item Title: Emeritus status for former Presidents and Chancellors with less than five years of service.

Meeting Date: September 7-8, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Regents

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Current Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 32 of the *Board of Regents' Handbook*) authorizes the granting of emeritus status to former institution Presidents and Chancellors who retire from NSHE with at least five years of service. The attached policy proposal would amend that section of the Handbook in order to allow the award of emeritus status to former Presidents and Chancellors who do not meet the five year service requirement but otherwise are deserving of such recognition because of extraordinary performance or achievement.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

That the Board of Regents approve the attached policy proposal amending Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 32 of the *Board of Regents' Handbook* in order to authorize the award of emeritus status to former institution Presidents and Chancellors who do not meet the five year service requirement but have otherwise demonstrated extraordinary performance or achievement.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

There are several former institution Presidents and Chancellors who do not meet the five year service requirement but that may be worthy of emeritus status by virtue of extraordinary performance or achievement during their tenure. This policy proposal allows the Board to consider factors beyond the five year service requirement when making decisions concerning the granting of emeritus status to former Presidents and Chancellors.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The discretion of the Board in awarding emeritus status to former Presidents and Chancellors should not be limited by the current five year service requirement.
- The five year service requirement is arbitrary and is not necessarily a good indicator of performance and achievement worthy of recognition with emeritus status.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The five year service requirement contained in the current policy is an objective standard and appropriately limits the granting of emeritus status to former Presidents and Chancellor.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

- None.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #____ Chapter #____ Section #____
 Amends Current Board Policy: Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 32
 Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #____ Section #____

Other: _____

Fiscal Impact: Unknown.

Explain: The costs associated with emeritus status are born by the institutions (for former Presidents) and the System Office (for former Chancellors) and primarily involve providing office space and attendant privileges if requested.

POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 32
Regents Professor and Emeritus Status

(Authorizing the award of emeritus status to former Presidents and Chancellors
who served for less than five years)

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

Section 32. **Regents Professor and Emeritus Status**

1. Presidents who choose to retire from NSHE after serving as President for a period of at least five years are eligible for emeritus status. [~~and~~] ***Former Presidents granted emeritus status*** shall be provided office space on campus and attendant privileges. Emeritus status must be recommended by the Chancellor and approved by the Board of Regents.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and the approval of the Board of Regents Presidents who elect to assume or resume a faculty position after serving as President for a period of at least ten years shall be awarded the title of Regents Professor.
3. The Regents Professorship provides an office, a part-time secretary, telephone, personal computer, allowances for supplies and travel, in addition to parking and library privileges as an active faculty member. Regents Professors shall provide an annual report of their activities to appropriate campus officers, the Chancellor's Office and the Board of Regents.
4. A Chancellor who becomes a Regents Professor may choose the campus at which he or she wishes to serve, and may, following appropriate consultation, move to another campus from time to time. Presidents who wish to serve at institutions other than their own may do so if such service is mutually agreeable.
5. To the extent practicable, and where not inconsistent with the individual's assigned teaching duties at the institution, the costs and salary and fringe benefits of Regents' Professorships shall be borne by the NSHE institutions. The costs and salary and fringe benefits for the Chancellor's Regents Professor shall be borne by the Board of Regents.
6. The word "President" in this section is intended to apply as well to [~~the NSHE~~] ***former Chancellors of NSHE***. Emeritus status and [a] Regents Professorships for [~~the~~] ***former Chancellors*** must be recommended *by* the Chairman of the Board of Regents and approved by the Board. ***A former President or Chancellor that does not meet the five year service requirement in subsection 1 may nonetheless be granted emeritus status in recognition of extraordinary performance or achievement as determined by the Board of Regents.***