

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
November 12, 2008**

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a special session at the Hunter Henry Center in the Correro Room on the Mississippi State University campus in Starkville, Mississippi, at 5:15 p.m., and pursuant to notice in writing to each and every member of said Board, said date being at least five days prior to this November 12, 2008 meeting. At the above-named place there were present the following members to wit: Mr. H. Ed Blakeslee, Dr. Stacy Davidson, Dr. Bettye Henderson Neely, Mr. Bob Owens, Mr. Aubrey B. Patterson, Mr. Alan Perry, Ms. Christy Pickering, Mr. Scott Ross, Dr. Douglas Rouse, Mr. C.D. Smith and Ms. Amy Whitten. **Although Ms. Christy Pickering joined the meeting by telephone, she was unable to vote because she was not physically present and the meeting was not noticed as a telephonic meeting.** Ms. Robin J. Robinson was absent. Dr. Aubrey Lucas, Interim Commissioner of Higher Education, and the search consultant, Mr. Jerry Baker of Baker and Associates, LLC in Atlanta, Georgia, also attended the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Amy Whitten, President.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Mr. Patterson, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting and Ms. Pickering participating by telephone but not voting, the Board voted to close the meeting to determine whether or not it should declare an Executive Session. On motion by Mr. Blakeslee, seconded by Mr. Perry, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting and Ms. Pickering participating by telephone but not voting, the Board **voted to go into Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

Discussion of a personnel matter at Mississippi State University.

During Executive Session, the following matter was discussed and voted upon:

On motion by Mr. Ross, seconded by Dr. Davidson, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting and Ms. Pickering participating by telephone but not voting, the Board appointed Dr. Mark Keenum as the new Mississippi State University president at a salary of \$220,500 a year and granted him a four-year contract of employment to begin in early January 2009.

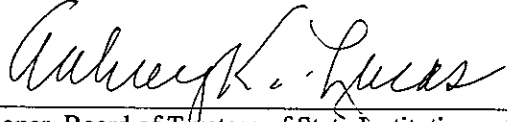
On motion by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Dr. Neely, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting and Ms. Pickering participating by telephone but not voting, the Board voted to return to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Mr. Blakeslee, seconded by Dr. Neely, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting and Ms. Pickering participating by telephone but not voting, the Board members voted to adjourn.



President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning



Interim Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning