

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
November 5, 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 Board Office in Jackson, Mississippi, at 3:00 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 5, 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. 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 Ms. Whitten, seconded by Dr. Rouse, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board voted to close the meeting to determine whether or not it should declare an Executive Session. On motion by Dr. Neely, seconded by Dr. Rouse, with Ms. Robinson absent and 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 Mr. Patterson, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board approved Dr. Mark Keenum, current Under Secretary of Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, as the preferred candidate for the position of President at Mississippi State University. On Wednesday, November 12, 2008, Dr. Keenum will participate in open, day-long interviews on the MSU campus with various university and community constituency groups.

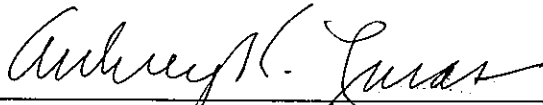
**On motion by Ms. Pickering, seconded by Mr. Perry, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board voted to return to Open Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Mr. Perry, seconded by Dr. Rouse, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board members voted to adjourn.



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President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning



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