UNF Student Body President John R. Barnes joins the Board of Governors of State University System

TALLAHASSEE – John R. Barnes, the student body president at the University of North Florida, has joined the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida as the student member for 2009-10.

Barnes, a senior in political science from West Palm Beach, was recently elected chair of the Florida Student Association. As leader of the statewide student group, he becomes the student representative on the Board of Governors.

“The student representative is an important member of the Board of Governors,” said chair Sheila M. McDevitt, “and our student members have distinguished records of service. I welcome John Barnes to the board with the knowledge that he will represent students well and will contribute to our decisions and policies.”

Barnes said he was honored to represent the students of the State University System. “My strongest belief as student body president is being a servant, and making a difference in others lives, while helping students leave a legacy they can be proud of,” he said.

At the University of North Florida, Barnes is an active member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, where he previously was president. He is also a member of the Pre-Law Society, Converge Campus Ministry and the Order of Omega.

Barnes is an active volunteer with the USO and the Builders Care Foundations. He was awarded Outstanding New Senator 2006-2007 by the UNF Senate and awarded UNF Outstanding Fraternity President of the Year 2007-2008.

Barnes is on schedule to graduate in the spring of 2010. He plans to attend law school and to pursue a career in public service.

The Board of Governors is the constitutional body created by voters in 2002 to guide the State University System of Florida.