Board of Governors of State University System
to withdraw from lawsuit over university governance

TALLAHASSEE – The Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida today voted to dismiss its claims in the *Graham, et al., v. Pruitt, et al.*, lawsuit and to authorize Chair Ava L. Parker to enter into a governance agreement with legislative leaders to clarify governance issues through the modification of state statutes and Board of Governors regulations.

The decision by the members of the Board of Governors, reached on a conference call meeting, was unanimous.

“After many months of discussion with our legislative leaders, I am very pleased to have reached a point where we can put this lawsuit behind us,” Parker said. “I want to thank Senate President Jeff Atwater and House Speaker Larry Cretul for their thoughtful work with the Board of Governors and with Chancellor Frank T. Brogan. Our agreement, which we hope to announce soon, paves the way for a comprehensive understanding of the roles of the Legislature, the executive branch and the Board of Governors in moving the State University System forward.”

Chancellor Frank T. Brogan said the progress on the governance issues is indicative of the strong relationship the Board of Governors has forged with its legislative partners. “We all have tremendous common ground here,” Brogan said. “We all care deeply about our universities and about the service they provide to the people of Florida. With that sense of shared obligation, we have had many conversations over the past several months as we created this roadmap to the future. My hope is that this agreement will be the beginning of a long-lasting partnership among the citizens, the universities, the Legislature and the governor. I want this to be the foundation of progress in higher education and the real beginning of a New Florida for all of us.”

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

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