

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

June 22, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Confirmation of Reappointment of the President for University of Central Florida

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Confirm the reappointment of Dr. John Hitt as the president of the University of Central Florida.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Section 1001.706, Florida Statutes.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Subsection 1001.706(6)(a), Florida Statutes, provides, "The Board of Governors shall confirm the presidential selection and reappointment by a university board of trustees as a means of acknowledging that system cooperation is expected."

On May 18, 2017, the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Florida approved an amendment to Dr. Hitt's employment contract, unanimously reappointing Dr. Hitt to serve as the president of the University of Central Florida. The reappointment extends the term of Dr. Hitt's contract through June 30, 2018, and Chair Marcos Marchena is requesting confirmation of Dr. Hitt's reappointment by the Board of Governors.

Under Dr. Hitt's leadership as president of the University of Central Florida, the university has grown from a commuter school serving 21,200 students to a residential research university serving more than 63,000 students. Expanding access to a higher education has long been a paramount goal of President Hitt's and under his leadership, UCF entered into a partnership with six state colleges to create the *DirectConnect* program. Under the *DirectConnect* program, students with an associate of arts or associate of sciences degree from one of the colleges are guaranteed automatic admission to UCF. This program has been tremendously successful and is a national model for other universities both in Florida and nationwide.

Additional highlights of Dr. Hitt's leadership of the University of Central Florida are included in the Board materials.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** 1. Letter from the University of Central Florida Board of Trustees Chair  
2. Leadership Highlights  
3. Summary of Contract Renewal Changes

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Chair Thomas G. Kuntz  
Chair Marcos Marchena