



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 15, 2014

Morteza “Mori” Hosseini, Chairman  
Board of Governors  
State University System of Florida  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chair Hosseini,

On September 23, 2014, the Florida State University Board of Trustees (BOT) selected state Senator John E. Thrasher, an FSU alumnus, to serve as the university’s 15<sup>th</sup> president. Mr. Thrasher, a military veteran, graduated from FSU in 1965 with a bachelor’s degree in business. Mr. Thrasher began his career in private law practice after earning a law degree with honors from FSU in 1972. Mr. Thrasher’s political career began in 1986 when he was elected to the Clay County School Board. In addition to his service on the school board, Mr. Thrasher has served in the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate.

The BOT will consider the negotiated employment agreement on October 20, 2014. If approved, the contract will commence on November 10, 2014. It is a five year agreement with an annual base salary of \$430,000, a potential annual performance bonus of up to \$100,000, and a potential retention bonus at the successful completion of the five-year agreement. The University’s General Counsel has confirmed that the contract complies in all respects with Florida law, including but not limited to all statutory provisions governing presidential compensation, termination, and severance.

The BOT respectfully requests that the Board of Governors approve Mr. Thrasher’s appointment as President of Florida State University. Please let me know if I may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

*Allan Bense*

Allan G. Bense  
Chairman

C: Chancellor Marshall Criser, III, State University System of Florida  
Mr. John E. Thrasher, President-elect, Florida State University