



# KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

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## **BOARD APPOINTS PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR**

### *Former-Regent Bill Docking Selected to Lead Search Process*

(TOPEKA) – Today the Kansas Board of Regents appointed Former-Regent Bill Docking of Arkansas City to chair the committee responsible for conducting the search for the next president of Pittsburg State University (PSU).

“I’m thrilled that Bill has agreed to lead this search, he’ll do a tremendous job,” said Donna Shank, Chair of the Board of Regents. “Bill’s ten years of service on the Board including two terms as Chairman, his previous presidential search experience, his business and financial background, and his knowledge and love of Pittsburg State and southeast Kansas, make him an excellent choice to lead this important process.”

“The selection of a new president is a critical event in the life of a university, so I’m certainly honored that the Board would call upon me to lead this important process,” said Docking. “It’s of the utmost importance that the search committee employs an open, inclusive, and thorough approach to seek out top-notch talent from across the country in order to find a leader who will serve Pittsburg State for years to come.”

Docking, who served on the Board of Regents from 1995-2005, and as the Board’s Chair from 1998-2000, will lead a search committee comprised of approximately 15 individuals representing key university and community constituencies such as faculty, staff, alumni/foundation, students, the Board of Regents, the Pittsburg community, and the broader state community.

On August 21, PSU President Tom Bryant announced that he would retire at the end of the 2008-2009 academic year after nine years of service as president and a total of 38 years of service to PSU. Upon Bryant’s announcement, Shank issued the following statement:

“On behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents, I offer my sincerest gratitude to Tom Bryant for his 38 years of unwavering service and devotion to Pittsburg State University which culminated in an incredibly successful nine-year term as that institution’s president.

Under Tom’s leadership, Pittsburg State set student enrollment records, witnessed impressive campus construction projects, and experienced incredible increases in private giving.

We are certainly thankful that Tom will continue to serve as Pittsburg State's president through the end of the academic year. In the meantime, I anticipate that the Board will soon formalize the process to conduct the search for a new president, and this discussion could take place as early as next month's Board meeting.

It's incredibly difficult to imagine Pittsburg State without Tom Bryant. However, I sincerely wish Tom and his wife, Koeta, all the very best as they move into retirement."

Additional presidential search details can be found on the Board's website at the following link:

<http://www.kansasregents.org/psusearch.html>

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***About the Kansas Board of Regents:***

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state's six universities and the statewide coordinating board for the state's 32 public higher education institutions (six state universities, a municipal university, nineteen community colleges, and six technical colleges). In addition, the Board administers the state's student financial aid, adult education, GED, and career and technical education programs. The Board also authorizes private proprietary schools and out-of-state institutions to operate in Kansas, and administers the Kan-ed network, a statewide network that provides broadband Internet access and distance learning capabilities for schools, hospitals, and libraries.

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