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Discussion of move to change title Vice President for Research to Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

Submitted by: Provost Ted Moore

1/31/2012

Discussion:

The Office of the Vice President for Research facilitates relationships and partnerships with external constituencies, and serves the role of facilitating and coordinating community and state discussions of economic development activities.

Recommendations from external entities suggest that additional visibility is required to emphasize a “central institutional point-of-contact” for coordination of economic development initiatives with industry and community stakeholders that may be unfamiliar with the organizational structure at Georgia Southern. To this end, the President wishes to rename the Office of the Vice President for Research to the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

Rationale:

The President’s Cabinet discussed and approved the renaming on December 15, with unanimous recommendation to bring the action forward to the Senate Executive Committee for information and endorsement.

SEC Response:

The SEC decided that this item is more appropriate as a component of the Provost's Report at the Faculty Senate meeting.

Senate Response:

Minutes: 2/14/2012: Provost's Report: The Office of the Vice President for Research presently facilitates relationships and partnerships with external constituencies and

serves the role of coordinating community and state discussions of many economic development activities at Georgia Southern. Recommendations from external entities suggest that additional visibility is required to emphasize a “central point-of-contact” for coordination of economic development initiatives with industry and community stakeholders who may be unfamiliar with the organizational structure of Georgia Southern. To this end, the President has renamed the Office of the Vice President for Research to the Office of Vice President for Research and Economic Development. The President’s Cabinet discussed and approved the renaming on December 15. Minutes: 2/14/2012: President’s Report: The Provost mentioned we are renaming the Office of Research to the Office of Research and Economic Development. This is a name change only. But it is a very important name change because it highlights both internally and more importantly externally the important role that Georgia Southern plays in promoting the economy of Southern Georgia. Charles Patterson is that Vice President, he will just assume a new title, but his duties will remain almost exactly the same as they have been. He will be the contact person at the University for that economic development activity. This will clarify a lot of misconceptions in the community about the role we play and who at Georgia Southern is the best contact person. This new titling of the Office of Research is something many universities across the country are doing as they and we move forward in promoting the economy in the areas in which we are situated.