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VI. POLICY MATTERS ... (cont'd)

Matters recommended by the President ... (cont'd)

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C. Proposed Conversion of the Research Professional Staff of the Marine Science Institute to Research Faculty

Background on the Concept of Research Faculty

The Board of Regents, at its 21 June 1996 meeting, approved the establishment of a system of faculty ranks and qualifications whereby qualified research and extension personnel may be appointed as research faculty. At its 24 October 1996 meeting, the Board approved the implementing guidelines for the appointment of research faculty. The approval carried a qualification that Constituent Universities may formulate their respective minimum qualifications subject to the approval of the Board.

Justification:

1. The Marine Science Institute has the distinction of being considered the Center of Excellence in Marine Science by the Commission on Higher Education and as the National Center of Excellence in Marine Science by Presidential Proclamation. It has earned these distinctions, to a large extent, because of its research output. It continues to maintain and intends to pursue a research culture for which the Institute would need highly trained individuals whose principal function would be to conduct research. The only way they can entice and retain Ph.D.s to primarily conduct research