

ALL >>>

WONDERFUL. WE ARE ALL HERE AND ACCOUNTED FOR. WE HAVE TWO ACTION ITEMS THIS AFTERNOON. BEFORE WE GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. THE FIRST ACTION ITEM IS TITLED NAMING OF SO FINALIST FOR THE PRESIDENCY. THAT ACTION ITEM WITH THAT TITLE BY ITSELF MIGHT RAISE SOME EYEBROWS. BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION -- THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT A SEARCH FOR THE NEXT SFA PRESIDENT. THAT SEARCH WILL TAKE PLACE . BUT BEFORE THAT SEARCH OCCURS AND REACHES ITS CONCLUSION, WE ARE GOING TO APPOINT ANOTHER PRESIDENT. NOW OUR BOARD BOOKS HAVE AN EXPLANATION LISTED. AND OTHERS MAY HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THAT EXPLANATION. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN THE EXPLANATION, I WILL PROVIDE IT AS WRITTEN IN OUR BOARD BOOKS. PRIOR TO HIS RETIREMENT DOCTOR --'S SERVED STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY WITH DISTINCTION IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES. INCLUDING AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS. ACTING PRESIDENT AND INTERIM PRESIDENT. ON APRIL 20th 2021, THE BOARD REGENTS RECOGNIZE HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY AND NAMED DOCTOR WESTBROOK AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS EMERITUS. HIS DEDICATION TO STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY CONTINUED IN RETIREMENT. AND HE GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO RETURN TO THE UNIVERSITY ON APRIL 10th 2022 TO ONCE AGAIN SERVE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT. DOCTOR WESTBROOK HAS STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT HE WILL SERVE THROUGH MAY 31st 2023. AND THAT HE WILL NOT BE A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT. THE BOARD OF REGENTS IS GRATEFUL TO DOCTOR WESTBROOK FOR HIS TWO-TIME SERVICE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT AND DECIDES TO HONOR DOCTOR WESTBROOK BY REMOVING INTO ROME INTO ROME FROM HIS TITLE. AND NAMING HIM AS THE 10th PRESIDENT OF STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. THE BOARD OF REGENTS SUSPENDED ITS RULES ON NOVEMBER 29th 2022 IN ORDER FOR THE SEARCH FOR A PRESIDENT OF STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS BOARD OF REGENTS. THAT SEARCH WILL TAKE PLACE AND WILL CONCLUDE WITH THE NAMING OF THE 11th PRESIDENT OF STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. THIS IS NOT TO USURP THAT PROCESS. THIS IS TO HONOR A GREAT MAN. I'M GOING TO GIVE A LITTLE MORE CONTEXT TO THAT WRITTEN EXPLANATION. I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY THIS LAST FALL TO SPEND QUITE A BIT OF TIME WITH DOCTOR WESTBROOK. AND ON A BREAK FROM ONE OF OUR MEETINGS THAT WE WERE IN, WE WERE CHATTING ABOUT HIS ROLE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT. HE MENTIONED IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE THERE IS A BIBLE.

AND THAT BIBLE AT THE BEGINNING OF IT HAS NINE NAMES LISTED. SIGNATURES WITH DATES. AND THOSE WERE THE SIGNATURES OF THE NINE PRESIDENTS OF SFA STARTING WITH DOCTOR --. DOCTOR WESTBROOK SHARED WITH ME, THAT FOR A NANO SECONDH HE THOUGHT ABOUT SIGNING THAT BIBLE. BUT THEN HE THOUGHT, AND INTERIM PRESIDENT DOES NOT SIGN THIS BIBLE. ONLY IN SFA PRESIDENT SIGNS IT. AND SO HE REFRAINED. THAT IS WHEN THE WHEELS STARTED TURNING. IF THAT IS WHEN WE ALL REALIZED AS WE CHATTED ABOUT THAT LITTLE BIT MORE THAT DOCTOR WESTBROOK HAS LED SFA DURING 2 CRITICAL TIMES IN THE HISTORY OF THIS INSTITUTION. WHEN DOCTOR

PATTILLO FELL ILL AND LATER PASSED DOCTOR WESTBROOK LED SFA THROUGH THAT TIME. AS WE HAVE RECENTLY GONE THROUGH A SYSTEM AFFILIATION OF VALUATION PROCESS, DOCTOR WESTBROOK LED SFA THROUGH THAT PROCESS AS WELL. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO SFA. YOU HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH TO THIS INSTITUTION . IT HAS BEEN YOUR PERSONAL SACRIFICE AND TO THE BENEFIT OF SFA. IN OUR HISTORY AT THIS INSTITUTION NEEDS TO REFLECT YOU BEING A PRESIDENT. WE WANT YOUR SIGNATURE AND THAT BIBLE AND WE WANT YOUR PICTURE ON THE WALL. SO WITH THAT, THERE IS A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE BOARD OF REGENTS NAME DOCTOR STEVE WESTBROOK AS SO FINALIST TO

SERVE AS THE 10th PRESIDENT OF STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. DO I HAVE A MOTION TO THAT EFFECT?

WITH GREAT HONOR THAT I MAKE THAT MOTION. STOMACH WE HAVE A MOTION BY REGENT HENDERSON. DO WE HAVE A SECOND?

SECOND

THE ENTIRE BOARD SECONDS THIS MOTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR -- THOSE OPPOSED. THE MOTION CARRIES. WHAT AN HONOR TO CALL YOU PRESIDENT WESTBROOK. >> I JUST WANT TO SAY AND I DON'T HAVE TO TELL ANYBODY HOW MUCH I LOVE THE UNIVERSITY. WE'VE BEEN OVER THAT MANY TIMES. AND THIS IS A GREAT HONOR. AND I REALLY APPRECIATE IT. IT WAS AN UNEXPECTED HONOR. WE WERE TALKING THURSDAY AND SHE MENTIONED THIS WAS GOING TO BE CONSIDERED. AND I WENT OH NO. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF STUFF GOING ON. I WAS CONCERNED THERE WOULD BE THIS CONFUSION. BUT I'VE BEEN VERY VERY HONORED AND HUMBLD BY THERE IS PEOPLE UNDERSTAND I'M NOT CHANGING MY TIMELINE AND THERE IS STILL A WILLINGNESS TO DO THIS. I WANT TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT MY WIFE DANA. WHEN I WAS IN THE -- IN 2018 AND 2019 SHE GOT THROWN INTO IT AT THE SAME TIME. AND THEN THIS LAST ROUND WHEN WE WERE MAKING A DECISION ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT TO DO THIS SHE GAVE ME THE SIDE I A FEW TIMES. AND THEN SHE SAID, IF WE NEED TO DO IT LET'S DO IT. AND SO SHE HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY PARTNER THROUGH ALL OF THIS AND I APPRECIATE THAT VERY MUCH. >> SO, WE ARE NOT DONE WITH THIS. BECAUSE TO NAME A PRESIDENT THERE ARE SOME STATUTORY BOXES THAT WE HAVE TO CHECK. THANKS TO OUR GENERAL COUNSEL HE REMINDS US OF THESE THINGS. FROM A TECHNICAL PERSPECTIVE WE HAVE TO HAVE A 21 DAY WAITING PERIOD. AND THEN WE VOTE. THE VOTE IS THE SAME. IT IS THROUGH MAY 31st 2023. WE WILL LIKELY HAVE THAT AS A PHONE MEETING. THAT HAS NOT BEEN SET. BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE -- POLLING YOU ALL ABOUT WHAT WORKS FOR YOU AFTER PRESIDENTS' DAY. APRIL WILL BE WORKING ON THAT. THERE WILL BE ONE MORE MEETING ON THIS JUST BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE REQUIRES OF US. WE WANT THIS TO BE AN OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT. SO THAT WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE.

WITH THAT, THAT WILL CLOSE OUT OUR FIRST ACTION ITEM. BUT IT IS SO FUN TO JUST LOOK AT YOU AND CALL YOU PRESIDENT WESTBROOK NOW. STOMACH THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THIS IS JUST A FUN WEEKEND. WE'VE HAD A GREAT GALLOP. WHICH IS NAMED OUR 10th PRESIDENT STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. AND WE GETS HONOR MORE PEOPLE NOW. OUR SECOND ACTION ITEM IS A RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS AND THERE ARE NOT MANY PEOPLE THAT COULD FOLLOW THE ACT THAT WE JUST HAD WITH STEVE WESTBROOK. BUT THE TWO AT THE TOP OF THE LIST WOULD BE JAMES AND MARGARET PERKINS.

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THEY ARE HERE TODAY WITH US. THEY HAVE RECENTLY BEEN RECOGNIZED DOCTOR WESTBROOK WAS PART OF THAT CEREMONY. HE IS GOING TO MENTION THAT AND WE HAVE A RESOLUTION THAT IS GOING TO BE READ IN THEIR HONOR. DOCTOR WESTBROOK. >> LITTLE CONTEXT FOR OUR RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS TODAY IS VERY RECENTLY AS RECENTLY AS THIS PAST WEDNESDAY, MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS WERE HONORED BY RECEIVING THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD AT AN EVENT IN AUSTIN. I WILL TELL YOU THAT AWARD IS A VERY PRESTIGIOUS AWARD . BECAUSE THERE ARE THREE SECTORS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE. THERE ARE THE

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, THERE ARE THE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND THERE ARE THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES. AND THIS IS THE ONE TIME ALL THREE SECTORS COME TOGETHER THROUGH THE COUNSEL OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS AND CHANCELLORS, THE INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OF TEXAS AND IN THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES. THEY COME TOGETHER AND ACCEPT NOMINATIONS FOR THOSE PERSONS THAT ARE WORTHY OF BEING RECOGNIZED AS CHAMPIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE. THAT AWARDS GIVEN SINCE 1977. THERE IS 45 TIMES THAT AWARD HAS BEEN GIVEN. IF YOU LOOK AT THE LIST OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THAT AWARD, YOU BEGIN TO RECOGNIZE HOW VERY PRESTIGIOUS THAT AWARD IS. IT TAKES UP IT TAKES A PERSON OR PERSONS THAT MEET ONE OF FOUR CRITERION AND IN THE CASE OF THE PERKINS, THEY MEET ALL FOUR. OF THE CRITERION THAT ARE USED TO EVALUATE THE NOMINATION. WE WERE PLEASED DOCTOR -- THE PRESIDENT AT TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE AND MYSELF CONSPIRED TO NOMINATE THE PERKINS FOR THIS AWARD. IT WAS WITHOUT A DOUBT TO US THAT THEY WERE CERTAINLY GOING TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD BECAUSE OF THE WIDTH AND BREADTH AND DEPTH OF THEIR SUPPORT OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION. IN EAST TEXAS AND ACROSS THE STATE AND OF COURSE THE COMMITTEE THAT EVALUATED THE NOMINATIONS AGREED. AND SO THEY WERE AWARDED THAT TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICE AWARD LAST WEDNESDAY. AND AUSTIN WITH

PRESIDENTS AND CHANCELLORS FROM ALL THREE SECTORS THERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT. ALONG WITH SEVERAL STATE SENATORS, SEVERAL STATE REPS AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR WHERE THEY ARE TO PARTICIPATE AS WELL. AND SO, I THINK IT IS GREAT THAT SINCE THEY HAVE SUCH CLOSE TIES TO SFA, AND MR. PERKINS WILL CERTAINLY BE TIRED OF ME SAYING THIS BY NOW. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE VERY FIRST BOARD OF REGENTS AT SFA. PRESTON SMITH APPOINTED AND WE KIND OF JOKED THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME A GOVERNOR HAD EVER APPOINTED A 10-YEAR-OLD TO A BOARD. THAT WAS IN 1969. WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED. HE SERVED TWO TERMS. I TOLD HIM I THINK HIS MOST MOMENTS THIS YEAR WAS THE 77 AND 78 YEAR WHEN HE SERVED AS CHAIR OF THE BOARD AT THAT TIME. HE ALSO SPEARHEADED THE CREATION OF THE SFA FOUNDATION. DURING THAT TIME. AND IT WAS THE YEAR I CAME AS A FRESHMAN WHICH WAS HIS GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT. WE ARE VERY HONORED TO HAVE THEM JOIN US TODAY. AND HAVE THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THIS BOARD AS WELL. MADAM CHAIR I WILL PASS IT BACK TO YOU. STOMACH THANK YOU DOCTOR WESTBROOK.

WE HAVE A RESOLUTION THAT REGION -- IS GOING TO PRESENT. >> I HAVE THE DISTINCT PRIVILEGE OF NOT ONLY SERVING ON THIS BOARD BUT ALSO ANOTHER BOARD IN EAST TEXAS. THAT BEING THE BOARD OF CITIZENS FIRST BANK. LAST NIGHT AS EVERYONE KNOWS WE KICKED OFF THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. THE INSTITUTION -- BEGAN IN 1920. IT IS THREE YEARS OLDER THAN STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. MR. PERKINS ACTUALLY IS ONLY THE THIRD PRESIDENT WE'VE HAD 10 PRESIDENTS. HE IS ONLY THE THIRD PRESIDENT. LEGACY OF STABILITY THERE. AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT EAST TEXAS. I SERVE ON THAT BOARD WITH MARGARET PERKINS AND OF COURSE THE BOARD -- IS CHAIRED BY --. A GREAT HONOR FOR ME TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING ON THAT BOARD ALSO TO READ THIS RESOLUTION TODAY. WHEREAS MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS ARE CHAMPIONS OF EDUCATION ACROSS TEXAS, LEADERSHIP AND PERSONAL CARE AND LOVE FOR STUDENTS AND STRONG SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION OF HIGHER LEARNING. INCLUDING JUNIOR AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. WHEREAS IN 1959 MR. JAMES PERKINS WAS APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR PRESTON SMITH TO BE AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS. REAPPOINTED IN 1975 INSERT THAT BOARD WITH DISTINCTION AS ITS CHAIRMAN. IN 1977 AND 78.

WHEREAS THROUGHOUT THE 12 YEARS MR. PERKINS SERVICES AS A REGENT STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH THAT DUE TO ENROLLMENT AND ACADEMIC REPUTATION. WHEREAS FOLLOWING HIS TERM AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS MR. PERKINS CONTINUED HIS SERVICE AS STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY AS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE SFA FOUNDATION. AS A MEMBER OF THAT BODY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES FROM 1975 UNTIL 1993. AND AS ITS CHAIRMAN FROM 1990 UNTIL 1993. WHEREAS IN 2007 IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PERKINS GENEROUS PHILANTHROPY MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION THROUGHOUT EAST TEXAS. STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS NAMED'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION THE JAMES I PERKINS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION. WHEREAS OVER THE PAST 13 YEARS MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS THROUGH THE PERKINS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAVEL FUND HAVE PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FACULTY JAMES I PERKINS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, TO TRAVEL TO AND MAKE PRESENTATIONS AT MORE THAN 850 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. WHERE AS TO THE JAMES I PERKINS FAMILY FOUNDATION THE PERKINS FAMILY OWNED CITIZENS FIRST BANK GIVEN MARKET HAVE THE INVESTMENT THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE TEACH PROGRAM. DESIGNED TO INSIST THE STEM STUDENTS IN OBTAINING SECONDARY STEM TEACHING CERTIFICATES WHILE EARNING THE DEGREES IN THEIR CHOSEN DISCIPLINES. WHEREAS MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS AND THE CITIZENS FIRST BANK HAVE SERVED AS LEAD PARTNERS OF THE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NOBLE WHICH STANDS FOR -- OPPORTUNITY FOR A BETTER LEARNING EXPERIENCE. PROGRAM. SINCE 2000 THROUGH WHICH 20 -- YOUTH ARE ANNUAL AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS TO ATTEND SFA. WHEREAS OVER HALF OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE PERKINS CITIZENS FIRST BANK ARE GRADUATES OF OR OUR CURRENT STUDENTS AND STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY AND ARE ENCOURAGED BY MANAGEMENT TO FOLLOW THE PERKINS EXAMPLE CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES. WHEREAS MARGARET PERKINS IS A FORMER CLASSROOM TEACHER IN SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER. AND CONTINUES TO SERVE ON NUMEROUS NONPROFIT BOARDS. INCLUDING THOSE OF THE TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM FOUNDATION. AND THE LITERACY COUNCIL OF TYLER. WHEREAS THE PHILANTHROPY OF MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS JAMES I PERKINS FAMILY FOUNDATION HAS PROVIDED FOR THOUSANDS OF SCHOLARSHIPS ENDOWMENTS TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL GRANTS AND SUPPORT FOR ENDEAVORS DIRECTLY RELATED TO TEACHING TRAINING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AT TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE. STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS LAW SCHOOL EAST TEXAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NORTHEAST TEXAS HEALTH CENTER EAST TEXAS BLACK NURSES ASSOCIATION REGENTS ACADEMY. GRACE COMMUNITY SCHOOL IN TYLER. AND -- ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION. AND WHEREAS MARGARET AND JIM PERKINS WERE RECENTLY AWARDED THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD BY THE COUNCIL OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS AND CHANCELLORS, THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY COMMENCE MARGARET AND JAMES I PERKINS AND EXPRESSES DEEP ADMIRATION AND APPRECIATION FOR THEIR LIFELONG COMMITMENT EXEMPLARY SERVICE AND PRODIGIOUS GIFTS TO BUILD TEXAS COMMUNITIES TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION. AND ESPECIALLY TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AS STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. DO THEIR INVESTMENTS IN ITS FACULTY AND STUDENT BODY ON THIS 29th DAY OF JANUARY 2023. MADAM CHAIR PRIVILEGED MAKE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS RESOLUTION.

WE HAVE A MOTION FROM REGENT -- TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION. DO WE HAVE A SECOND?

SECOND BY REGENT FLOREZ. ANY DISCUSSION QUESTIONING ALL THOSE IN FAVOR -- THOSE OPPOSED. THE MOTION CARRIES. >> WE SOMETIMES HAVE AN AGREEMENT WHO IS GOING TO SPEAK FIRST. SHE IS GOING TO SPEAK FIRST.

THANK YOU EACH ONE OF YOU. THIS WILL BE INTERESTING MATH. IF JIM WAS 10 WHEN HE WAS ON THE BOARD -- I WANT THE REST OF YOU TO KNOW OUR SON WAS 4. OUR DAUGHTER WAS 2. AND I WAS SO YOUNG I CAN'T EVEN TELL YOU -- ALL I WANT TO TELL YOU IS THAT EACH AND EVERY BOARD OF REGENTS OF STEPHEN F AUSTIN HAS BEEN PART OF OUR LIVES. WE HAVE TRAVELED AROUND THE NATION. WE HAVE TRAVELED OUT OF THE COUNTRY TO ENJOY SFA'S SUCCESSES WHICH HAVE BEEN SO MANY DIFFERENT PLACES. YOU'VE BEEN A VITAL PART OF OUR LIFE. AND WE LOVE EACH OF YOU AND WISH YOU ALL THE BEST. THANK YOU. >> MY BEST FRIEND

I HAVE PEOPLE HELP ME WITH MY SPEECHES. I JUST WANT TO READ THIS TO YOU TO BE VERY REASSURING TO EACH ONE OF YOU. WHEN I WAS TOLD OF THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION, I ASKED WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? I WAS TOLD TO ACT LIKE A CORPSE AT A WAKE. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN I ASKED MARGARET? EVERYONE EXPECTS YOU TO SHOW UP. BUT NOT SAY VERY MUCH. SO I WILL KEEP -- THIS OPPORTUNITY --. I'VE KNOWN AND WORKED WITH EVERYBODY FROM DOCTOR STEVE ON UP AROUND THIS. CONGRATULATIONS MR. PRESIDENT. WELL DESERVED. TAKE THE POSITION THAT YOU DID -- BEING A PARTNER WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS IS A TREMENDOUS STEP FORWARD. I SALUTE EACH ONE OF YOU AND I SALUTE THE DUE DILIGENCE THAT YOU TOOK IN MAKING THIS IMPORTANT DECISION. IT DID NOT JUST HAPPEN. ANOTHER ONE OF OUR DIRECTORS CAME OVER HERE AND HE IS GOING TO MAKE SURE IF ANY BOARD CHAIRMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS CAN MAKE SURE THAT SFA AND EAST TEXAS ARE GOING TO BE WELL TAKEN CARE OF. MANY OF YOU KEVIN WAS ILL LAST TIME AND COULD NOT BE HERE. BUT THE CHANCELLOR MANY OF YOU HAD A CHANCE TO VISIT WITH -- AND HE IS OUR FRIEND. THIS IS A GREAT ANOTHER -- WE TALK ABOUT OVER \$1 MILLION AND WE RAISED OVER -- THIS AFTERNOON WE ARE TALKING ABOUT BUILDING OUR BUSINESS PROGRAM AND THINKING BIGGER. THESE ARE STEPS FORWARD. FOR A GUY THAT WAS 10 YEARS ALLEGEDLY 10 YEARS OLD -- SO EXCITING. I'M REALLY WE ARE CHANGING LIVES. WE ARE BUILDING WE ARE HELPING PROMISES OF KIDS COME TRUE. EACH OF US HAVE AN EDUCATION AND IN WORKING AND UNDERSTANDING. IN EAST TEXAS MY FAMILY CAME TO EAST TEXAS ALMOST 200 YEARS AGO. WE'VE BEEN HERE A LONG TIME. I JUST AM SO PROUD TO BE A PART OF THESE URBANIZATION AND SEE THE SUCCESS. EVERY ONE OF THOSE GUYS ON THE WALL WOULD BE SO HAPPY. I THOUGHT ABOUT THIS SO MUCH. ONE OF THE MAIN CHANGES OF THE SFA BOARD SINCE I WAS ON IS HAVING YOU IN CHARGE -- INTELLIGENT LOVELY WOMEN IN THE MAJORITY.

IT'S 18. THE SUCCESS -- I WANT TO BRAG ON STEVE. WHEN HE WAS DOWN THERE WEDNESDAY AND THEY HAVE THESE DIFFERENT PRESENTATIONS. HE WAS SUCH A GREAT REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR SCHOOL. WE HAD THE CHANCELLOR FROM THE ANL. WE HAD TEXAS TECH PEOPLE. WE HAD ALL THESE WE EVEN HAD I HATE TO SAY THAT, PRESIDENT SAM HOUSTON WAS THERE. SUCH A TERRIFIC JOB. NO MATTER WHERE YOU WERE FROM AND NOT SAY SFA IS DOING GREAT AND GOING TO DO BETTER. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. CONGRATULATIONS TO BE BACK WITH YOU AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO PRAISE MY WONDERFUL WIFE. WHAT A GREAT DAY. CONGRATULATIONS EVERYBODY. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU MR. EMESIS PERKINS FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR SFA AND HIGHER

EDUCATION IN TEXAS. WE OWE YOU A LOT. IT IS OUR HONOR AND OUR PRIVILEGE TO BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR THIS COMMUNITY AND STATEWIDE. ONE MORE TIME. >> LET ME TELL YOU THESE ARE MY -- MEETINGS. THIS IS JUST NOTHING BUT WONDERFUL FUN HOPEFUL CELEBRATORY THINGS THAT WE ARE DOING. THESE ARE OUR TWO ACTION ITEMS FOR THE DAY. AT THIS POINT WE WILL RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. WE WILL NOT CONDUCT ANY BUSINESS AFTER WE CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION. THEN WE WILL RECONVENE OUR MEETING TOMORROW MORNING. AT THIS POINT WE WILL GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. >>

>>> WE HAVE RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SESSION AND THIS TIME, WE WILL RECESS UNTIL MONDAY JANUARY 30th INTO 8:30 A.M.