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Statement of Roger Tedrick Chair, Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees

In August of this year the Southern Illinois University administration became aware of anonymous allegations of plagiarism issued in regards to graduate papers written decades ago by SIU President Dr. Glenn Poshard.

Today, the Board met in special session and reviewed all of the relevant information that has been made available in this matter.

This includes the Faculty Review Committee Report and a briefing to the Board on the report made by Dr. Viswanathan, Chair of the Faculty Review Committee

This Board greatly appreciates the service of the members of the Faculty Review Committee Their work was thoughtful and deliberate in an atmosphere that was neither.

Their experience and professionalism resulted in a thorough academic review that included personal interviews with Dr. Poshard and Dr. Jack Graham, the Chair of his original department.

The Faculty Review Committee should be commended for ensuring the academic integrity of a public degree granting institution by following its own policies and procedures and recommending a course of action consistent with them.

Today, the Board moved forward on a resolution endorsing the Faculty Review Committee findings and recommendations.

Dr. Poshard is a man of great personal integrity and he will remain our President with full board support, His energy, passion and commitment to this University is unsurpassed ...he continues to be the right man to lead the SIU system.

The Board, in partnership with Dr. Poshard and the academic community will be working in the coming months to prepare a comprehensive and thoughtful plagiarism policy.

When completed, it is my hope that this policy will serve as a model for colleges and universities across this country.

Finally, let me say that the Board intends for this university to move forward with its primary mission, which is providing a quality education for our students. We fully expect to be stronger for having confronted this challenge.

Thank you.