

DATE: April 26, 2007

SUBJECT: Revised Academic Policy - A.1.1.20L – Diversity and Access -
Post *Geier*

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On September 21, 2006 the Court ruled that all parties in the lawsuit have reached agreement in the final disposition of the twenty-five year desegregation case, stating that the “Defendants have fully complied with the requirements of the 2001 Consent Decree, *Geier v. Sundquist*.” The provisions of the disposition address policies and practices to continue in the spirit of *Geier* with respect to diversity and access.

Dismissal of the lawsuit represents successful closure of a significant higher education/public policy effort that began in 1968.

The current policy is as follows:

1.1.20L DESEGREGATION: The program will not impede the state’s effort to achieve racial diversity.

To reflect the disposition of the *Geier* case, the recommended revision to this policy is as follows:

1.1.20L DIVERSITY AND ACCESS: The proposed program will not impede the state’s commitment to diversity and access in higher education (Post *Geier*).