

E-mail sent to Executive Committee members and John Morrow on 2/23/07:

Executive Committee members and John,

I need your help in forming a subcommittee to coordinate with Paul Alberto of Georgia State University on the issue of criminal background checks. I have pasted his correspondence to me below. The Regents staff has requested that our universities coordinate a response to the criminal check policy; I don't have any details. In any case it seems that someone should get in touch with Paul soon. Since the EC doesn't meet until March 8, I thought I would put together an informal subcommittee of the EC to work on the matter in the meantime, to be officially formed and charged on March 8. If anyone objects to this procedure please let me know and we'll work out some other way to move forward. The President also reports that the Chancellor has given him leeway in how to implement the background checks. Therefore, we should consider him an additional audience for the recommendations. Shannon, his office has requested that someone from staff serve on this subcommittee so that staff views may be represented; so I would appreciate any names you might be able to give me.

I myself cannot take on the matter as I would not be able to get to it for several weeks. I know we are all very, very busy but I would very much appreciate self-nominations or suggestions about who should serve on this committee. Thank you very much.

Paul Alberto's letter appears below. I would like to add that this issue needs to be handled with some sensitivity especially while the legislature is in session.

Best wishes,
Susan Mattern

Good morning Dr. Mattern, I understand that you are serving as chair of the Executive Committee of the University Council at UGA. I am the Chair of the Executive Committee of the University Senate here at Georgia State. It is my understanding that the folks at the Regents Staff would like the faculties of our universities to work together responding to the Chancellor's memo on background checks. As we are beginning this process I thought it best to contact you. I am told that your Council has already passed at least one document, and if possible I would like to read it. While we anticipate passing a general statement concerning the breadth and tactic of background checks, I have been told that the joint effort might be to present a set of procedural guidelines/safeguards to the Regents.

So, does any of this sound familiar to you? Has your Council passed some initial statement regarding the Chancellor's memo? Can you check to see if your colleagues think some joint effort in regard to safeguards is something they would agree to?

Please let me know when it would be best for us to talk. Thanks, Paul

Paul A. Alberto, Ph.D Regents' Professor Multiple & Severe Disabilities
(404) 651-2310
palberto@gsu.edu