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Popovich Named President

Kathleen Daley
SUN Staff Writer

Dr. Helen Popovich has been chosen as FAU's next president, and the first woman to serve as president in the Florida State University System.

The announcement was made on Thursday, July 14, at the Board of Regents meeting in Tallahassee.

Popovich, until recently the acting president of Winona State University in Minnesota, was formerly the associate dean of the College of Arts and Letters at the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa. Popovich started as an assistant professor at USF in

1965, and was eventually named the associate dean in 1977. Thus, she has a familiarity with the State University System's operation.

In 1978, Popovich transferred to Winona State as the dean of liberal arts, becoming the vice president of academic affairs in 1980. In 1981, she became the acting president of the university.

Popovich, who has her Ph.D. in English from the University of Kansas, is also an editorial consultant with the Houghton Mifflin Company.

Along with a background in English, Speech, and Drama, Popovich is an active community member. Her

activities in Minnesota included board membership in both the Winona League of Women Voters and the Winona Community Theatre, and membership with the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce.

Student Body President Tony Raitano said, "I think it's going to move the university in a totally new direction, having Popovich as the first woman president in the State University System. It'll give FAU a different look which I think will benefit both the university and the community."

Popovich will take office upon the retirement of Dr. Glenwood Creech, which is scheduled for July 31.



Dr. Helen Popovich, FAU's new president.

City Bank's automatic teller in the Breezeway has caused some headaches for student customers. Reason: invalidation of cards from the former bank owners.

Photo by Stephen Menke

Priorities Listed in Phone Talk

Stephen Menke
SUN News Editor

Dr. Helen Popovich first saw FAU "when it had just opened. At that time, it was far from the center of civilization."

"I wondered if it was going to make it," Popovich chuckled. "Looking at FAU today, it's gone under a tremendous change."

Reached at her Minnesota home last Friday, FAU's President-elect described what she felt were the impressive things about the university, along with areas in need of improvement.

"What impressed me," Popovich said, "is the quality of the academic program and the given uses of the institution. There is also a good amount of faculty and community support."

"President Creech has commanded a lot of respect for the campus during his 10-year leadership," Popovich added.

The new president's proposed changes would focus on an extensive Affirmative Action program, along with expansion of already-existing facilities. "We need to work hard on the Affirmative Action.

We need to attract as varied a number of cultural backgrounds as possible."

Popovich's first step with this will involve contact with area group leaders: "The president needs to make personal contact with all of the cultural groups in the university's service area."

"Affirmative action is an attitude as much as a theory," Popovich believes. "It really enhances the education of everyone. I've found that in Minnesota, where the minority population is less than one percent of our enrollment (at Winona State University), our push for Affirmative Action led to higher standards for everyone."

Current FAU expansion is also part of Popovich's considerations. "Obviously, some work needs to be done on our branch campus (in Fort Lauderdale). Then, the graduate programs need more attention and strengthening. There's a lot to be done in other areas as well."

President-elect Popovich is glad about the rejoiced responses to her appointment. "I'm looking forward to going there, to work with the staff."

Quarrel Over Banking

Amy Driscoll
SUN Staff Writer

Some students have complained recently about problems with the City Federal Savings and Loan's Money Stoppe automatic teller machine, located on the FAU campus in the breezeway.

Most of the complaints center around the recent takeover of Boca Raton Federal Savings and Loan, by the New Jersey-based City Federal.

Many students had apparently been unaware of the change, until they attempted to use their now-invalidated Boca Raton Federal "Money Now" cards.

When Boca Raton Federal became City Federal, the entire computer system was converted to the new bank, including the automatic teller system. Customers are supposed to have new cards.

Connie Koester, secretary to Roger Miller, Jr., senior vice president in charge of operations at City Federal, said

that all account holders were notified of the change in advance, and told they must apply for a new card.

"This was done," Koester said, "so that all of our customers would be made aware of the change, and also so that they could choose their new password to get into their account."

Miller was unavailable for comment.

Bruce Mc Comis, University Controller, recently renewed the contract with City Federal to continue the use of the automatic teller machine on campus. The contract is for the next three years, and specifies the payment of \$100 per month, to FAU, for the use of the facilities. This was an increase of 50 percent over the previous contract.

Mc Comis said, "This is the first time I've heard of any trouble with the machine during the time we've had it on campus."

The original agreement with

Boca Raton Federal was negotiated by Bob Parrish, former University Controller. According to Mc Comis, "(Parrish) wrote letters to every bank and savings and loan in the area at that time, asking if they would be interested in an arrangement of this sort; Boca Raton Federal was the only one who responded."

Mc Comis is now working on the possibility of getting another automatic teller machine on campus; however, this one would be owned and operated by Barnett Bank. This automatic teller machine would be an innovation over previous models, because it would be able to accept 40 different bank cards.

The new model is scheduled to be available by September of this year. However, Mc Comis says, "...we'd like to give it a few months to work the kinks out before we consider installation (on campus)."