

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the University of Florida athletics program is recognized among the very best in the nation, ranking among the top-ten for academic and athletic achievements; and

WHEREAS, the 2005-06 and 2006-07 University of Florida Gators men's basketball teams upheld this tradition of academic and athletic excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Gators were crowned 2006-07 Southeastern Conference regular season champions after defeating the Kentucky Wildcats, 85-72, on March 4, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Gators were crowned 2007 Southeastern Conference Basketball Tournament champions after defeating the Arkansas Razorbacks, 77-56, on March 11, 2007 and, with the win, captured its third-consecutive SEC tournament championship; and

WHEREAS, the top-ranked Gators defeated the Ohio State Buckeyes, 84-75, on April 2, 2007, in the NCAA National Championship game, earning back-to-back national championships in basketball after defeating the UCLA Bruins, 73-57, in the 2006 NCAA National Championship game; and

WHEREAS, student-athletes from the 2006 National Champion Gators returned to play for the Gators for the 2006-07 season, displaying unselfish, team-first play that lead to a school-record 35 wins and the 2007 National Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Gators became the first team to capture back-to-back national championships since Duke University in 1991-92; and

WHEREAS, Coach Billy Donovan became only the 12th coach in NCAA history to win multiple national championships and he became just the third in history to play in the Final Four as a player and win the national title as a coach; and

WHEREAS, Coach Billy Donovan has guided the Gators to nine-straight 20-win seasons, nine-straight NCAA tournament berths, three regular season SEC titles, three SEC Tournament titles, and three appearances in the NCAA national title game; and

WHEREAS, with back-to-back basketball national championships, the University of Florida became the first-ever school to hold, at the same time, national titles in men's basketball and football;

NOW, THEREFORE, the University of Florida Board of Trustees, on this 15th day of June, 2007, does hereby congratulate the University of Florida Gators men's basketball team, Coach Billy Donovan and his staff, and Director of Athletics Jeremy Foley and his staff for winning the 2006-07 Southeastern Conference regular season title, the 2006 and 2007 Southeastern Conference Tournament titles, and the 2006 and 2007 NCAA National Championships.

Manny Fernandez, Chair

J. Bernard Machen, President