TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD

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WHIT RITER APPOINTED COORDINATING BOARD VICE CHAIR

AUSTIN, October 31, 2007 – A. W. "Whit" Riter III of Tyler was appointed Vice Chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board by Governor Rick Perry today.

Governor Perry first appointed Riter to the Coordinating Board in 2004 to fill the remaining term of a vacant position. In 2005, he was reappointed by the Governor for a full six-year term that expires August 2011. Riter is Chair of the Coordinating Board's Strategic Planning Committee and a member of the Board's Agency Operations Committee. He also has served as Chair of the Participation and Success Committee.

"I'm very honored by this appointment. I look forward to working closely with Chairman Bob Shepard, the other members of the Board, the Commissioner of Higher Education, the state's higher education, public education and business communities, local leaders, and elected officials to help close the educational gaps that challenge Texas," he said.

Riter is the President of Riter Management Company, L.C. and The A.W. Riter, Jr. Family Foundation. He also participates in other numerous community, business and educational organizations, including serving on the Executive Committees of both the University of Texas at Tyler Development Board and the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler Development Board. Riter is a board member of the Tyler Health Facilities Development Corporation Board, the UT Tyler Foundation, College for all Texans Foundation, the Regional East Texas Food Bank, the Salvation Army and the East Texas Communities Foundation. He also serves as a member of the advisory council for the Institute for Public School Initiatives of The University of Texas System and is an International Executive Committee member of Mercy Ships.

Riter received his bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University and his M.B.A. from The University of Texas at Austin.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is a state agency that works with the Texas Legislature, the Governor, the governing boards of colleges and universities, higher education officials, and many others to provide, as effectively and as efficiently as possible, wide access to quality higher education throughout the state.