

Agenda Item: IV.

DATE: July 27, 2006

SUBJECT: *Geier* Status Report

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Staff will brief the Commission on activities concerning the 2001 Consent Decree in *Geier*.

It is anticipated that the court monitor soon will inform the Court that all parties in the lawsuit have reached agreement in the final disposition of the case. Details of the agreement and current status of the provisions will be presented on July 27. Such provisions address policies and practices that carry on the spirit of *Geier* with respect to diversity and access. Discussion will concern completion of programming and facilities improvements at Tennessee State University, and commitments to future funding of *Geier* initiatives.

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