



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

November 16, 2011

Marshall Goodman, Regional Chancellor  
University of South Florida Polytechnic  
3433 Winter Lake Road  
Lakeland, FL 33803

Chancellor Goodman:

Two weeks ago, in a letter dated November 1<sup>st</sup>, we wrote to you requesting a thorough and independent audit of all expenses relating to the USF Polytechnic Campus. Our initial request, dated October 20<sup>th</sup>, was submitted to President Judy Genshaft who informed us that because of statutory changes granted in 2008 establishing fiscal autonomy, our request would need to be made directly to you.

Today we received your response in the mail, dated November 8<sup>th</sup>. While we recognize that the State of Florida's Auditor General has audited USF Polytechnic, these audits certainly do not address all expenditures nor do they rise to the level of detail that is necessary to dispel the concerns that have arisen during the past few months. Your response brushes all of these concerns aside.

Though we recognize that you have been preoccupied, since our formal request from November 1<sup>st</sup>, with attempting to gain independence through the Board of Governors, we were deeply disappointed with the lack of substance in the response you provided. Now that the Board of Governors has set a three to five year pathway to possible independence for USF Polytechnic, and that distraction has passed, we reiterate our request for information. At a minimum, please provide the following, for each fiscal year, beginning in 2006, when you became chancellor:

- complete and total audit of all expenditures in each fiscal year, including all contracts, consultants, vendors, leases, salaries, and travel expenditures;
- full accounting of all student activity and service fees collected and spent; and a
- full accounting of any and all reserve accounts.

The Board of Governors made it abundantly clear that President Genshaft must take control of the situation at USF Polytechnic. The Board of Governors expressed skepticism of the merits of the business plan and the many questionable contracts and expenditures, revealed in news accounts, such as:

REPLY TO:

- Post Office Box 2395, Lakeland, Florida 33806-2395 (863) 413-2900 Toll Free: 1-866-248-6487
- 224 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5040

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

MIKE HARIDOPOLOS  
President of the Senate

MICHAEL S. "MIKE" BENNETT  
President Pro Tempore

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- \$10,000 for Star Wars Figures,
- \$200,000 for camera and video wall,
- \$500,000 video documentary,
- \$800,000 travel,
- \$500,000 public relations contract to market the school, and
- multi-million dollar contract for architectural services.

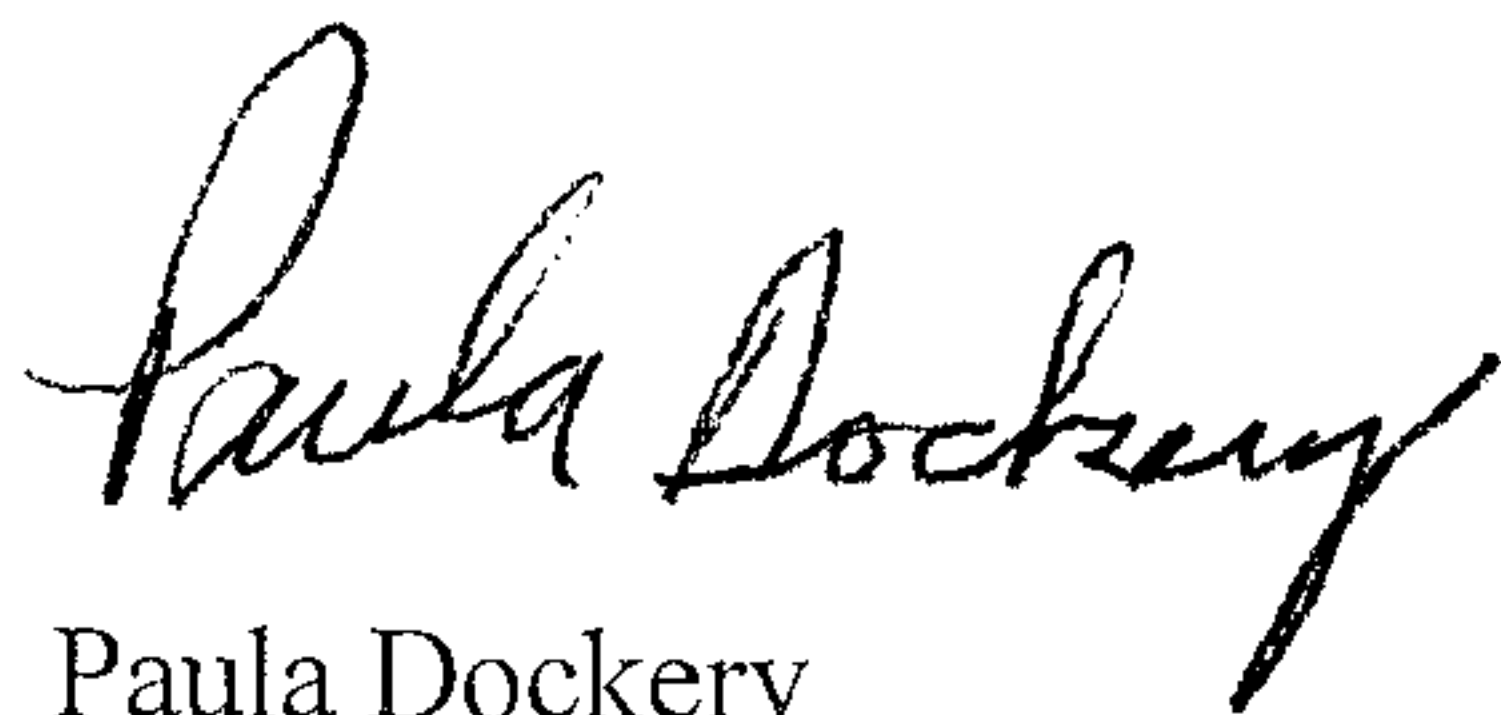
Additionally, as a result of the media inquiries to USF Polytechnic, many credible sources suggested some questions that necessitate responses:

- Did USF Polytechnic pay the spouse of any elected officials for consulting, recruiting or any other purpose?
- In relation to Blue Sky or any other incubator location:
  - how many locations are being leased/rented?
  - where are these properties located?
  - who owns the property?
  - who is the property manager? and
  - what are the lengths of the leases?

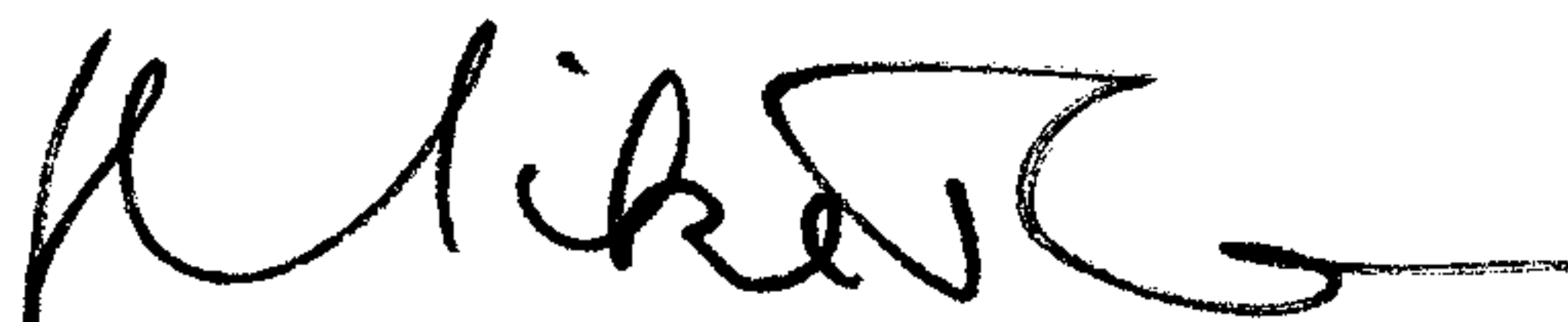
We are asking President Genshaft as well as Chancellor Brogan on behalf of Florida's Board of Governors to assist you in your efforts to provide this information as we all work together to a more prudent, transparent and cooperative process for success for a true polytechnic campus in Polk County.

If you are unwilling, as indicated in your November 8<sup>th</sup> letter, to initiate an independent audit, we will make a formal public records request for all expenditures made at USF Polytechnic since 2006. We look forward to your prompt response.

Regards,



Paula Dockery  
State Senator, 15<sup>th</sup> District



Mike Fasano  
State Senator, 11<sup>th</sup> District

cc: Chancellor Frank Brogan, State University System  
President Judy Genshaft, University of South Florida