

**BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA**

270 WASHINGTON STREET, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-1450

OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

October 24, 2007

Mr. Will Creeley  
Senior Program Officer  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education  
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Mr. Creeley:

Thank you for your letter, dated October 23, 2007, to Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., regarding T. Hayden Barnes, a student at Valdosta State University. Please allow me to respond on Chancellor Davis' behalf.

Immediately upon this opposition to Mr. Barnes' appeal to the Board of Regents and to so notify you by October 29, 2007. Notwithstanding the student newspaper articles which you cite in your letter, I can assure you that Chancellor Davis has never reviewed the student's appeal to the Board of Regents to the extent that any publication has reported otherwise, it has done so in error.

With specific reference to Mr. Barnes, I assure you that this organization is devoted to individual rights as you state yours is will understand that the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prevents us from disclosing the contents of the educational record of any University System student to unauthorized third parties. As such, neither the Chancellor nor members of his staff are at liberty to discuss with your organization the specifics of any student's appeal to the Board of Regents.

We appreciate your interest in the welfare of the students of the University System of Georgia.

Sincerely,



J. Burns Newsome  
Associate Vice Chancellor

Co: Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr.  
Chief Academic Officer Lisa Rosshacher

Senior Vice Chancellor Thomas Daniel  
Associate Vice Chancellor John Milligan  
President Ronald M. Zaccari  
University Attorney Laverne L. Gaskins  
Assistant Attorney General DeBrae Kennedy  
Ms. Angie Allison, Office of the Governor