Elizabeth King appointed to the University of Kansas Hospital Authority Board of Directors

Elizabeth King, president and CEO of the Wichita State University Foundation, has been appointed to a four-year term on the board of directors of the University of Kansas Hospital Authority, the public oversight body that governs the operations of the hospital at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Gov. Sam Brownback formally nominated King last April and the Kansas Senate confirmed the appointment on Sept. 5. King's appointment took effect immediately. She replaced Alex Ammar, a Wichita physician. The hospital authority's board meets six times a year.

The University of Kansas Hospital Authority is charged with operating a teaching hospital for the benefit of the University of Kansas Medical Center, providing high-quality patient care and providing a site for medical and biomedical research. The hospital has 674 beds and serves more than 28,000 inpatients annually.

Of the 13 board members appointed by the governor, most are designated by geographic districts. King, who will represent the Wichita area, was selected based on her professional and volunteer roles that demonstrate a commitment to Wichita and to building relationships with community leaders.

“My position at the WSU Foundation is also helpful because I understand working with boards and the fiscal and legal responsibilities associated with a large and complex organization,” King noted. “I’m proud to represent the Wichita area on this forward-thinking board and hope my experiences will be an asset to it.”

King has served as president and CEO of the WSU Foundation since July 1, 2006. Prior to this appointment, she held dual roles, serving both as WSU’s vice president for university advancement and as executive director of the WSU Foundation. Since her arrival, the WSU Foundation’s assets have grown from $53.8 million to $237 million.

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King has a long record of community and civic service. She is a past chair of the Salvation Army Advisory Board and is past-president of the Downtown Wichita Rotary Club. In addition, she serves on the Investment Advisory Committee for Rotary International (Evanston, Ill.). She also serves on the board of the Kansas Society for Children with Challenges. She is a member of the Association of Governing Boards, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

King has been honored for her local, regional and national commitments. In 2001, she was selected by the Wichita Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals for its Outstanding Fundraising Executive Award and in 2003 she was named to the inaugural class of the Wichita Business Journal’s top 20 “Women in Business.”

King was recognized as one of the “Business Leaders of the Year” for 2007 by the Wichita Business Journal. In 2009, she received national recognition as one of two recipients of the CASE Commonfund Institutionally Related Foundation Awards for executive leadership. King was named as one of “50 Kansans You Should Know” in the January 2012 issue of Ingram’s, Kansas City’s business magazine.

King received her Bachelor of Arts from Wheaton College, and her Master of Education and Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of North Texas. She is married to Don and they have two sons, Lance and Brandon.

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Media note: A photo of Elizabeth King can be found at www.wichita.edu/foundationphotos.

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