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FCC Mail Room

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 06-74/Support for AT&T/BellSouth Merger

Dear Commissioners:

As President of Florida Memorial University, I am committed to expanding the educational opportunities, future career prospects and economic prosperity of our students. It is for this reason I am writing to ask for your approval of the AT&T/BellSouth merger.

It is my understanding that the merger will deliver new and innovative broadband technologies that will improve the education of our young people, especially African-Americans and those in lower-income and rural areas of Florida.

From distance learning to cutting-edge, in-classroom tools, our students and educators are already learning how technology can open new doors. Yet, we have barely begun to scratch the surface of the innovations in education that communication technology can make available to us. AT&T and BellSouth have proposed a very meaningful set of post-merger conditions that include a promise to bring affordable and universal broadband coverage to Florida's parents and students. Specifically, AT&T and BellSouth have offered:

- A pledge to make broadband Internet access to all residential living units in the AT&T/BellSouth service territory, including rural America and lower income housing units; and
- A \$10 monthly residential broadband Internet service offering

We believe that Florida Memorial University and our students, many of whom come from lower income families and rural areas, will reap greater benefit than most from these broadband commitments, which include:

- Speeding the deployment of new broadband-based technologies and other promising innovations to our nation's schools, libraries and to students' homes.

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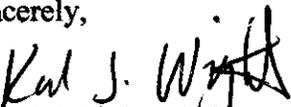
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- Providing new economic growth and job for our young people.
- Enhancing distance learning capabilities, such as offering students greater access to advanced placement and other courses and fields of study, providing new educational tools for students and others with disabilities, and providing new cost-effective learning tools that will enhance America's global competitiveness.

Given the positive impact these commitments will bring to our educational system and young people, we urge you to approve the AT&T/BellSouth merger at the earliest possible date.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Karl S. Wright, Ph.D.
President