JOHN H. "JACK" PATTEN

Another outstanding University of Oklahoma alumnus has been selected to assume leadership in the state's system of higher education.

John H. "Jack" Patten, longtime Norman resident, was appointed March 23 to the State Regents for Higher Education by Gov. David Hall. His appointment was approved by the Senate Executive Session March 27.

Patten, who is president of the Security National Bank of Norman, received a BA in government from the University of Oklahoma in 1949, an LLB in 1951 and later became a graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Banking. While at OU he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, scholastic honor society, and the Order of the Coif, law honor society.

He and his wife, Jane, have three children – Becky, Bill and Susan. Becky is a sophomore at OU, Bill a senior at Norman High School and Susan a second-grader. Bill also plans to attend OU.

An active civic leader of Norman, Patten has also devoted much of his time to supporting the University of Oklahoma. He has been on the Board of Visitors since its inception, served on the Alumni

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Association Board of Directors from 1959 to 1962 and was on the Athletic Council from 1960 to 1962.

Serving as chairman of the Norman area seat option drive, he has seen 242 people purchase seat options to help finance the new Lloyd Noble Arena. Patten said he is quite happy with this number which is not far from the desired 300 purchases. In addition to his chairmanship, he is serving as president of the University of Oklahoma Research Institute.

In commenting upon his selection, Patten said, "I think that higher education in Oklahoma has a lot of problems. Finances, the proper allocation of what funds we do have between institutions, and long-range planning are major problem areas where I hope I can make some major contribution toward solutions."

President Sharp praised Patten's appointment. "We are extremely pleased that Jack Patten has been selected for this important role in Oklahoma Higher Education. Mr. Patten possesses an unusually strong combination of talents through his business experience and educational leadership. His appointment will strengthen Oklahoma colleges and universities."

In addition to his University involvement, Patten has served the city of Norman in numerous ways. He has been president of the Norman Chamber of Commerce, 1956 to 1957; the United Fund of Norman, 1960 to 1961; the Norman Civic Improvement Council, 1962, and the Norman Industries Inc., 1960 to 1972. Patten has served as an elder of the Presbyterian Church and is on the executive committees of the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation and the Last Frontier Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Gov. Hall described Patten as a "successful business leader and a man who has long championed the causes of higher education."