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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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DAVID SAPPINGTON NAMED FCC CHIEF ECONOMIST

Washington, DC – David Sappington has been named Chief Economist of the FCC. Sappington currently holds the Lanzillotti-McKethan Eminent Scholar Chair in the Department of Economics at the University of Florida. He assumed his new position on July 1, 2001.

Sappington replaced Gerald Faulhaber, who is returning to his position as Professor of Public Policy and Management at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Faulhaber served as the Commission's Chief Economist since July 1, 2000.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell said, "It is critically important that the Commission has the best economic analysis available as it deals with the ever-changing telecommunications marketplace. The Commission is fortunate that David Sappington will provide us with his exceptional expertise and knowledge as we deal with the issues that arise."

Sappington received his B.A. in Economics from Haverford College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University. Before joining the Economics Department at the University of Florida in 1990, he served on the technical staff of Bell Communications Research and on the faculties of the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Michigan. His research was focused on the design of regulatory policy in the telecommunications and health care industries.

He currently serves on the editorial boards of several journals, including the Rand Journal of Economics, the Journal of Regulatory Economics and the Journal of Economics and Management Strategy.