10. <u>CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER</u>. The Board of Trustees <u>shall may</u> appoint a Chief Operating Officer who shall report to the President and perform such duties and be responsible for such matters as assigned to him/her by the Board of Trustees, the Chairman, or the President. In the absence of the President, the Chief Operating Officer shall fulfill those responsibilities of the President. The Chief Operating Officer shall not be a member of the Board of Trustees.