August 23, 2004

CONTACT:

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NEW YORK GOVERNOR GEORGE E. PATAKI TO SPEAK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Gainesville, Fla. - The first Republican-Conservative chief executive in New York State history, George Pataki, will speak on September 7th at 7:30 p.m. in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. Pataki is brought to UF by ACCENT Speakers' Bureau. Admission is free and open to the public.

George Pataki is a 1967 graduate of Yale University and a 1970 graduate of Columbia Law School. He entered the political sphere in 1981 when he was elected as the youngest mayor ever of the City of Peekskill. In 1992 Pataki was elected to the New York State Senate where he served as the Chairman of the Ethics Committee. Now in his third term in office, he's known as one of the nation's most influential governors. As the governor of New York, Pataki is celebrated for his dedication to personal freedom and individual responsibility. Pataki restored the death penalty in New York after 18 years of governors rejecting it. He has also fought for numerous tax cuts. Now, in a post 9/11 New York, Pataki views the state as having a "new beginning." He comes to UF as a part of 9/11 remembrance activities. His discussion will be called "United We Stand: A Vision for the Future."

ACCENT Speaker's Bureau has been bringing prominent speakers to the University of Florida since the early 1960s. Previous speakers this semester include the original "Hulk" on the 1970's television show and the only man in history to capture the title of Mr. Universe two consecutive years, Lou Ferrigno. Please visit our new website (effective after August 23) at www.sg.ufl.edu/accent for more information. Also note ACCENT's new **press only** phone extension at (352) 392-1665 ext. 411.

For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact (352) 392- 1665 x 302 or 392- 2567 (TDD). E-mail accommodate@sg.ufl.edu or contact the Florida Relay System at 1-800-955-8771 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Real Time Transcription will be provided.

For more information, please contact ACCENT at (352) 392-1665 ext. 306.