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Paul Tash Named New Pulitzer Board Member

New York, NY, Dec. 5, 2005 – Columbia University announced today that **Paul C. Tash**, editor of the *St. Petersburg Times* and chairman and CEO of the Times Publishing Company, has been elected to the Pulitzer Prize Board.

Tash joined the *St. Petersburg Times* in the fall of 1978 as a local news reporter. He also has been a Tallahassee reporter, city editor, metropolitan editor, Washington bureau chief and executive editor for the *Times*.

The *St. Petersburg Times* is an independent newspaper and Florida's largest daily, with an average circulation of 330,000 and 410,000 on Sunday. The *Times* has won six Pulitzer Prizes, and it is consistently ranked among the country's best newspapers. Times Publishing also owns *Congressional Quarterly*, a news and information service and book publisher based in Washington, D.C., *Governing* magazine and *Florida Trend*, a statewide business magazine. From 1990-91, Tash was the editor and publisher of *Florida Trend*.

In 1998, as the *Times* executive editor, Tash oversaw three Pulitzer-nominated investigative projects. One of them, a series of articles by Thomas French about a three-year investigation into the murder of a vacationing Ohio farm wife and her two teenage daughters, won the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing. The other two projects were finalists in Investigative Reporting and Explanatory Reporting.

As chairman of the Florida First Amendment Foundation and a director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, Tash is active in First Amendment issues. He serves on the boards of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and the Newspaper Association of America. He has been a judge in various journalism contests, including the Pulitzer Prizes.

A native of South Bend, Indiana, Tash graduated summa cum laude from Indiana University in 1976. He received a Marshall Scholarship and graduated with a bachelor of laws degree from Edinburgh University in Scotland in 1978. Tash, 51, is married to the former Karyn Krayner of St. Petersburg, and they have two daughters, ages 20 and 16.

The 2006 Pulitzer Prizes will be announced on Monday, April 17, 2006, and presented in May at a ceremony at Columbia University. Columbia awards the prizes after their determination by the Pulitzer board. Members of the board serve a maximum of nine years.

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Paul Tash photo available on request from apenrose@sptimes.com.