PSFCC members attended the BoT Listening Tour Subcommittee meeting on December 11. Discussion centered on how to open the search process. The PSFCC continued to communicate the importance of campus visits and expressed its position that they be mandatory for all finalists.

Subsequently, the Board of Trustees agreed to two amendments to the presidential search process at their December 14 meeting. Recognizing, as they say, that the perfect is often the enemy of the good, we’re pleased to report the following positive changes:

1) Campus visits for finalists will be strongly encouraged, though the Board was not willing to go so far as to require them.
2) Additional university constituents (representing faculty, staff, students, administrators) will be included in the deliberations on finalists. These representatives will not have voting rights, however. It’s possible that they may be brought into the review process earlier, when the short-list of candidates is being determined.

The PSFCC would like to thank Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, SGA, the Council of Academic Officers, as well as all the individual units and faculties therein that appealed to the Board of Trustees to open the presidential search. Your voices were critical in achieving the above changes to the search process.

Please note that the BoT’s presidential search listening tour is scheduled for next week:

**Wednesday, Jan. 17** – Noon-2 p.m. at the HSC Auditorium, Kornhauser Library, and 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the University Club Ballroom.

**Thursday, Jan. 18** – 3 p.m.-5 p.m. and 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the University Club Ballroom.

The forums will be live streamed, and the BoT will set up a Twitter account to enable those who cannot attend to participate in the discussion. The live stream address, the Twitter information and the address for the presidential search website will be shared on UofL Today prior to the sessions. To ensure as much participation as possible, the BoT will allot five to seven minutes per topic.

The Chair of the Subcommittee, Bonita Black, developed a list of questions to frame the listening tour sessions, but faculty are invited and encouraged to offer their own observations.

1. What are the major challenges and opportunities the next President will inherit? … Both immediately and longer term?
2. What attributes should the next president of UofL possess to be successful and best serve the diverse community that works and learns here?
3. What would you say to a hesitant /reluctant candidate to get him or her to enter the applicant pool? When you think of UofL, what themes most powerfully express our identity aside from current issues and concerns?
4. Is there a question we should have asked that we did not ask?

Questions for the PSFCC may be directed to Susan Jarosi or Robert Keynton.

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