

## **Report to Faculty Senate: Search for Executive Vice President for Research & Innovation (EVPRI)**

*Faculty Senate Representative for the Search Committee*

*Date: 12/2/2024*

### **Introduction**

As the Faculty Senate representative on the Search Committee for the Executive Vice President for Research & Innovation (EVPRI), I am pleased to provide an update on the progress of the search process. The search is being facilitated by the search firm Greenwood Asher & Associates. Currently, we are in the first stage of interviews, with the committee evaluating a diverse and highly qualified pool of candidates.

### **Search Committee Composition**

The University's Search Committee is composed of 14 members, ensuring broad representation across the university community. This includes several deans from various colleges, members from both the Health Science and Belknap campuses, two student representatives, and members from both the Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate. The committee reflects the diverse needs and perspectives of our university, with a particularly strong representation from the Health Science campus due to the central role of research in that area.

### **Candidate Pool and Interview Process**

The search attracted 45 applicants, all of whom were reviewed carefully by the committee. After a thorough evaluation of the applicants' qualifications, we have selected 11 candidates for first-round interviews. The candidates were chosen based on their experience, leadership abilities, and alignment with the university's vision for research.

The interviews are currently underway, and we are in the process of conducting in-depth discussions with each candidate. These interviews will help us assess how well each individual fits the university's needs, both in terms of strategic vision for research and ability to collaborate across disciplines and campuses.

### **Next Steps**

After the first-round interviews, the committee will evaluate each candidate's performance and determine the individuals who will move forward to the second stage of the process. We expect to provide further updates as the search progresses and more information becomes available regarding the finalists.

### **Conclusion**

The search for the next EVPRI is proceeding smoothly, and the committee remains committed to selecting a candidate who will effectively lead and support the university's research enterprise. As the Faculty Senate representative, I am working closely with my colleagues on the committee to ensure that faculty perspectives are strongly represented throughout the process.

Thank you for your continued support as we work towards identifying the best candidate for this critical role in advancing the university's research mission.

Submitted by,  
Senator Jose Fernandez