

Chair's Report
October 2022
Submitted by John Smith

Presidential Search: If you look at my meeting schedule below, it will be easy to see how much time has been dedicated to the presidential search process. I can tell you this. We are on time for the published timeline. The candidate pool is deep and strong. As I reported before the process started, I anticipated the pool this time to be much different than the pool when we hired Neeli. We are past SACS. Our budget is solid. We are at the end of the NCAA process. Our R1 status is solid. We are in a much different place than we were the last time we conducted a presidential search and that is reflected in the candidate pool.

There has been, as anticipated, a lot of discussion about the confidential nature of the search. I don't like to dance around so here's the bottom line. We interviewed 13 potential search firms. Every one of them told us the candidate pool would be much stronger if the search were confidential. A sitting president who is experiencing success of their current campus is not going to be willing to sacrifice their capital on their own campus by having their name associated with another institution. If we had conducted what people would describe as an "open" search, our pool would have been full of candidates from smaller institutions, candidates looking/needing to leave their current institution or other organizations, where having their name associated with another search might have even provided additional credibility on their own campus.

Philosophically, we all would support an "open" search, but the reality is, you must make a choice. Do you want the best possible candidate pool OR do you want an open search. Those things are exclusive of each other. We decided to generate the best possible pool of candidates. I hope this helps you understand the process that has driven the search to this point and makes sense. Of course, you are always welcome to reach out to me if you want to have further discussions.

NCAA: In what seems like a long time ago, we decided to utilize the IARP option of our ongoing NCAA investigation. The Independent Accountability Resolution Process was created in response to recommendations made by the Commission on College Basketball, chaired by for U.S. Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice. It

represents a final and binding ruling for all sides involved in an investigation. When you elect to activate the IARP process, I supported that decision when it was made. We do not know when we will hear from the IARP but I just wanted to make sure you were aware of what was taking place at this point.

Shared Governance Committee: We finally got this group off the ground. With the changes in university leadership and covid, things we delayed a significant amount of time. We had our organizational meeting on Sept. 14. I believe I am the lone hold-over from the original group and reported that this group started under the premise of answering one question. What should we expect to be involved with and what should we not expect to be involved with. I shared that a lot of frustration arises when we are involved in one topic but then later a similar scenario occurs, and we aren't involved. I am looking forward to this group and the work it will do. Our second meeting is supposed to be scheduled for later this month. Angela Lewis-Klein, Kevin Ledford, Carcyle Barrett and myself are serving on it.

Meetings Attended:

Tuesday, September 13, Presidential Search Committee, 2:30

Wednesday, September 14, Shared Governance Committee, 2:00, Jefferson Room

Wednesday, September 14, Chamber of Commerce, 6:30, Downtown Marriott

Thursday, September 15, FCA, Noon

Thursday, September 15, Staff Senate Officers Meeting, 2:30 Teams

Sunday, September 18, Governing Board Equity Meeting, Amelia Place, 2:30

Monday, September 19, Council of Post-Secondary Education Conference, Hyatt Regency, All Day

Tuesday, September 20, Council of Post-secondary Education Conference, Hyatt Regency, All Day

Tuesday, September 20, Campus Rec Staff, 1:00

Wednesday, September 21, Campus Rec Review Committee, 10:00, SRC

Thursday, September 22, Tuition and Fees Committee, 9:00, Teams

Thursday, September 22, FCA, Noon

Thursday, September 22, Space Use Committee, 1:00 MITC 201

Tuesday, September 27, President's EAB Futuristic Learning Retreat, 9:30-All Day, The Camp

Tuesday, September 27, Campus Rec Staff, 1:00

Tuesday, September 27, Executive Committee, 3:00

Tuesday, September 27, Women's Basketball Reception, 6:00, Yum! Center

Wednesday, September 28, Presidential Search Candidates, All Day

Thursday, September 29, Presidential Search Candidates, All Day

Monday, October 3, Workday Implementation, 9:00

Monday, October 3, COO Search Committee, 10:00

Tuesday, October 4, Adidas Activation Meeting, 11:00

Wednesday, October 5, Campus Rec Program Review, 10:00

Thursday, October 6, FCA, Noon

Thursday, October 6, Orientation Summit, 2:30

Thursday, October 6, BOT Special Meeting, 3:30