

## Provost Search Process

Dec. 19, 2014

Members of the University Community,

In light of Provost Chris Riordan's election as the next President of Adelphi University, we need to move quickly on decisions about the Office of the Provost. Over the last 10 days, I have talked with more than 60 members of our community, including each of the deans, my direct reports, the Senate Council, the co-chairs of the various Strategic Plan committees, and several members of the previous Provost Search Committee. In the course of those conversations, I have asked for input on three items:

1. Most important initiatives facing the University;
2. Attributes important for the next Provost; and
3. Appropriate process going forward.

Several common themes have emerged:

1. Strengthening our work in undergraduate student retention and graduation;
2. Strengthening our graduate and professional education efforts;
3. Advancing our research enterprise;
4. Fostering with greater urgency an inclusive campus environment that celebrates the multitude of backgrounds and perspectives;
5. Further refining and completing of our next Strategic Plan;
6. Implementing a new financial model; and
7. Selecting deans for the colleges of Dentistry, Design, Medicine, and Public Health.

Threaded throughout these conversations has been a sense of urgency to complete each of these tasks and the broader need for stability and certainty in the Office of the Provost. Given the list of initiatives we need to accomplish to continue our progress as a University, a strong majority of my conversations have made clear to me the need to undertake a deliberate, but rapid process for selecting a permanent Provost. This is the better choice for our campus at this moment – in comparison to selecting an Interim Provost to be followed by a lengthy national search. There is a palpable sense that we need “thoughtful urgency” to select our next Chief Academic Officer.

With respect for our Governing Regulations and in line with my conversations of the last several days, I will appoint a search committee to review internal candidates for the role of Provost. Dean Nancy Cox and Vice President for Student Affairs Robert Mock have agreed to serve as co-chairs for the search. I will be selecting the rest of the search committee during the next two weeks.

As I have talked with a broad cross-section of the campus, I have solicited names of potential candidates for Provost; and the names of several members of our community have emerged. That gives me the confidence that the most appropriate candidate for Provost is within our University. I will therefore share with the Co-Chairs immediately the names of several candidates mentioned consistently; and I will ask the Search Committee to accept and review applications and nominations

from anyone on our campus. You may submit your name or the name of other candidates for Provost to "[Provostsearch@uky.edu](mailto:Provostsearch@uky.edu)" beginning Monday, December 22. The Search Committee will begin their work in earnest the week of January 5.

The Committee will advise me on 1-3 candidates who should be considered by the campus. Using the same process we used in the previous search, the finalist or finalists will meet with various campus constituencies. I will then make the selection of our next Provost, should a candidate be successful through these stages.

I appreciate your patience as this process unfolds. It is an exciting time for our University; and there is much work to do.

Thank you for the work you do every day to make this a special place.

Best wishes for a safe and restful holiday.

Eli Capilouto  
President