

Proposition: 08-17/18

Title: Memorial requesting active participation of NMSU Faculty on Search Committee for NMSU Chancellor

Date Submitted: 31 August 2017

Sponsor(s): Brown (A&S), Corran (DACC), and Munson-McGee (ACES).

Proposed Committee:

Assigned Committee: Long Range Planning

Prior Approvals: N/A - This is a memorial.

Proposal:

As the search process for a new Chancellor moves forward, the Faculty Senate respectfully, but resolutely, requests that this process have active and genuine participation of NMSU faculty in the search process, especially serving as members of the Search Committee. Specifically, we request the following:

- The search committee must have adequate representation of faculty on the search committee and all activities of the search process (including the development of the position description, the review of applications, reference checks, and phone and face to face interviews) to ensure that concerns of importance to faculty are included in all phases of the process. As a body, faculty literally have thousands of hours of experience in research, teaching and administration, and the search process and its outcome will benefit greatly from adequate and genuine faculty input. Specifically, we request that faculty have no less of a representation on this search committee than faculty had on the previous search committee (three of 15 members of that search committee were faculty, for a 20% representation).
- We also feel strongly that the faculty members that serve on the search committee should be elected from the faculty at NMSU, with details of the election to be worked out by the leadership of the Faculty Senate, specifically the Senate Leadership Committee.
- Furthermore, we request that no Regents serve on the Search Committee in any capacity, but especially as Chair. Although we accept and respect the leadership role of the Regents, we feel very strongly that given the role the Regents have as the final decision makers, they should not be involved in the work of the Search Committee to avoid a “double voting issue.” Also, given the authority the Regents have, some members of the Search Committee may have reservations about frank discussions if any Regents are on the committee.

- The principle of shared governance should be featured prominently in the position description, and this issue should be adequately explored in the review of applications, reference checks, and phone and face to face interviews.
- As a means of insuring the widest possible input from residents of the State of New Mexico, we request that the Regents put in place a very broad public listening tour as they did in the last search, and that this breadth be both geographic scope and also across the many stakeholders of the university.