



## **Presidential Search Update**

The NEIU Board of Trustees' Presidential Search Committee previously announced that it had narrowed the field of candidates for the university's presidency and that it had asked its search consultant and the university's administration to schedule on-campus visits for candidates remaining in the process. Subsequent to that announcement, two candidates in the narrowed field decided to withdraw from the search process for personal reasons. The NEIU Board of Trustees' Presidential Search Committee announced in late September 2006 that it expected to meet in the near future to review comments received by the NEIU Board of Trustees' Search Committee from various constituencies and the Campus Advisory Committee. After receiving input from the Campus Advisory Committee, the Board's Presidential Search Committee scheduled another public meeting for October 9, 2006.

The Campus Advisory Committee has been chaired by Dean Janet Fredericks. The members of that committee included: Kenneth Addison, Rasoul Afifi, Elaine Chakonas, Carrie Channell, Christina Gomez, Jon Hageman, Richard Higginbotham, James Lyon, Jr., Nancy Matthews, Evelyn Nazario-Rose, Michael Partipilo, Kristine Pierre, Roger Reinsch, Brian Schultz, William Speller, Jennifer Terrell, and Shencheng Xu. The Board Presidential Search Committee again expresses its deep appreciation for the hard work and effort contributed by all the members of the Campus Advisory Committee. Its members contributed substantially to the search process. Their insights shared in both public meetings and during the candidate evaluation phase of the search process were extremely important to the Board's Presidential Search Committee. In particular, the Board Presidential Search Committee again thanks Dr. Fredericks for her efforts in coordinating the work of the Campus Advisory Committee.

The October 9, 2006 meeting was well attended by members of the campus community. Several valued members of the university community took this opportunity to address the Board's committee. Those who participated in the public comment portion of the meeting included: Dr. Tim Sherman, a member of the English Department, Dr. Victor Ortiz, Coordinator for the Latino Latin American Studies Program, Dr. Erick Howenstine of the department of Geography & Environmental Studies, Alice Medenwald, the University's Registrar, Dr. Hamid Akbari of the Department of Management and Marketing, Dr. Jim Blair of the department of Communication, Media & Theatre, Dr. Therese Schuepfer of the department of Psychology and, in addition, the President of the University Professionals of Illinois local chapter, Dr. Janet Fredericks, and Marcia Boyd of Enrollment Services. The Board's Presidential Search Committee expresses its appreciation to these members of the university community for sharing their thoughts

and insights. After the public comment portion of the October 9, 2006 committee meeting, the members of the Board committee adjourned into Executive Session for a period of about two additional hours.

The Board's Presidential Search Committee also provides for easy reference the following time-line for those interested in the scope of the search process.

### ***Search Process Time-line:***

11-17-05	Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Following this meeting, following the By-laws, Governing Policies and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, the Board's Chair designated a Board Presidential Search Committee to assist the Board in the search process.
01-09-06	Spring Semester 2006 classes begin per NEIU Academic Calendar.
02-06-06	First open meeting of the NEIU Board Search Committee at NEIU.
02-09-06	Meeting of the Board of Trustees which included a public report of the Board's Presidential Search Committee during the Board meeting to the entire community concerning the search committee's meeting of February 6, 2006.
02-14-06	A time-line was established with the goal of the Board of Trustees being to select a new president at the November 2006 Board of Trustees' meeting.
02-23-06	Request for Proposal for Executive Search Consultation Services announced on IPHEC Procurement Bulletin website.
02-28-06	Press release to the entire campus community announcing President Steinberg's retirement.
02-28-06	Letter from the Chair of the Board of Trustees to Members of the university community to describe the search process that the Board of Trustees would use to search for a new president. The process would include a Campus Advisory Committee from a broad base of campus constituencies.
03-15-06	Due date for Request for Proposal for Executive Search Consultation Services.
03-23-06	Award of Executive Search Consultation agreement to Perez-Arton.
04-05-06	Ms. Perez arrives on campus for meeting with campus constituencies.
04-06-06	Meeting of the Board of Trustees and second open meeting of the Board's Presidential Search Committee at NEIU with its outside consultants present.
04-10-06	Open Letter from the Chair of the Board's Presidential Search Committee to the entire university community inviting them to a "University-wide Open Meeting" on Monday, April 17, 2006.
04-17-06	University-wide Open Meeting between search consultant Ms. Perez and the university community.
04-20-06	University community notified April 20, 2006 that the NEIU Board of Trustees' Presidential Search Committee had placed announce-

	ments inviting nominations and applications for the position of President of Northeastern Illinois University in the following publications and websites: <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i> issue dated April 21, 2006, <i>The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education</i> issue dated April 28, 2006, <i>Diversity -- Issues in Higher Education</i> issue dated May 4, 2006, and <i>Women in Higher Education</i> issue dated May 1, 2006. The announcement also appeared on <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i> website and the NEIU website.
05-01-06	Letter on letterhead of State Representative Maria A. "Toni" Berrios, 39 <sup>th</sup> District on behalf of the legislative Latino Caucus stating, in part: "During the selection process, we urge you to consider a Latino/a candidate as President of the University. . . . [W]e urge you to hire a Latino/a President. . . . We urge that Latino candidates for the Presidency of Northeastern receive full consideration and that Latino candidates throughout the nation have an opportunity to apply for the position." [Note: This letter is signed by thirteen members of the Illinois General Assembly.]
05-09-06	Spring semester ends per NEIU Academic Calendar.
05-10-06	Letter from Representative Berrios received by NEIU.
05-18-06	Letter from Nancy Masterson, Chair, Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees to The Honorable Maria A. "Toni" Barrios stating, in pertinent part: "The Board also recognizes the tremendous responsibility it has as it works to identify and appoint a new leader who will appreciate and build on these strengths. In order to attract the most qualified candidates, the Board Search Committee is working closely with Ms. Maria Perez, President of Perez Consultants, Inc. to develop a comprehensive broad-based recruitment and selection plan. Ms. Perez has a distinguished background and has been instrumental in identifying leaders for many other Hispanic Serving Institutions. Her plan, which we have accepted, includes position announcements in various relevant publications, including <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i> , <i>Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education</i> , <i>Diversity-Black Issues in Higher Education</i> , and <i>Women in Higher Education</i> ; announcements on Northeastern's website, the website of <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i> and the website of the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education; and personal letters from President Steinberg to university presidents with whom she has worked as Chair and member of the Governing Board of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities."
06-08-06	Meeting of the Board of Trustees and President Steinberg hosts a reception for members of the Board's Presidential Search Committee and the Campus Advisory Committee. The status of the search process is discussed during the Board's open meeting.
07-11-06	Third open meeting of the Board's Presidential Search Committee at NEIU.
07-12-06	The Campus Advisory Committee was advised that it could immedi-

	ately begin its evaluation of the candidates with the goal of receiving evaluations by July 21, 2006.
07-20-06	Summary of July 11, 2006 meeting posted on the internet.
08-02-06	Campus Advisory Committee is asked to provide additional evaluation of one candidate and agrees to provide that additional evaluation.
08-04-06	Campus Advisory Committee submits second report concerning candidate as requested by the Board Search Committee.
08-09-06	Open Meeting between the Board's Presidential Search Committee and Campus Advisory Committee in the Golden Eagle Room to discuss characteristics of candidates and issues of significance to the campus community. At this meeting the "time-to-graduation" issue is discussed with the Campus Advisory Committee as well as many other important issues relating to the selection of a new president.
08-09-06	Open Meeting (adjourned to Executive Session) to discuss written input from the Campus Advisory Committee. The Board's Presidential Search Committee also selected one additional candidate to be evaluated by Campus Advisory Committee.
08-16-06	Campus Advisory Committee provides evaluation of the additional candidate.
08-26-06	Fall Semester 2006 classes begin per NEIU Academic Calendar.
08-28-06	Three candidates are interviewed at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Rosemont by the Board's Presidential Search Committee.
08-29-06	Three additional candidates are interviewed at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Rosemont by the Board Presidential Search Committee.
09-06-06	The Board's Presidential Search Committee is advised that two candidates have withdrawn from the process for personal reasons.
09-12-06	Latino Legislative Caucus legislative hearings held at NEIU.
09-18-06	Public Announcements of the planned visits of two candidates who have been invited to campus.
09-20-06	Dr. Sharon Hahs begins two-day visit on campus.
09-21-06	Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Hahs participates in open meeting for entire campus.
09-25-06	Dr. Nabil Ibrahim begins his two-day visit on campus.
09-26-06	Dr. Ibrahim participates in open meeting with entire campus.
10-06-06	The Campus Advisory Committee provides its feedback concerning Drs. Hahs & Ibrahim.
10-09-06	Open Meeting of the Board's Presidential Search Committee.