

Resolution Concerning a Representative and Inclusive Presidential Search

Whereas the Baylor Board of Regents, in an effort to unify the Baylor University community, reached out for significant input from the faculty and other constituencies in the recent naming of an interim president and interim provost;

Whereas the Baylor faculty desires to broaden and deepen these efforts at communication between the Board of Regents and the faculty;

Whereas Baylor's standing in the larger academic community and its ability to raise institutional funds has been significantly hampered by transient leadership, perceptions of disunity, and perceptions of non-standard procedures and searches;

Whereas many of America's greatest academic institutions provide appropriate models for presidential searches; and the models at these universities always incorporate full and robust participation of faculty and regents;

Whereas presidential search processes at America's best universities are characterized by the following traits: full faculty participation with voting rights, inclusive search committees that are centered around regents and faculty, and voting participation from students, staff, and alumni; and

Whereas the Baylor faculty desires not only to abide by the best academic practices, but also to facilitate the regents' call for building unity among all Baylor constituents; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that Baylor's faculty requests that the Baylor Board of Regents form a presidential search committee constituted according to the following four principles:

- That faculty representatives serve on the presidential search committee with full voting rights;
- That the balance between regents and faculty on the search committee reflect best practices at other leading universities;
- That the search committee also include, with full voting rights, appropriate representation from Baylor's other constituent bodies (e.g., the Baylor student body, the Baylor staff, the Baylor Alumni Association, the Baylor AAUP, and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, etc.); and
- That the search committee members be selected by the appropriately elected bodies they represent, according to procedures to be set up by these bodies.

Submitted by
The Baylor University Faculty Senate
Georgia Green, Chair
September 9, 2008