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August 16, 2016

Sen. Rob Hogg, Chair
Government Oversight Committee

Sen. Jeff Danielson, Chair
State Government Committee

Sen. Brian Schoenjahn, Chair
Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee

Honorable Senators:

Thank you for the questions raised in your letter of August 12, 2016, regarding the search for a new president at the University of Northern Iowa. First and foremost, we will be conducting an open and transparent process, very similar to the last UNI presidential search process, which will bring candidates to campus in November for meetings with constituent groups prior to Board of Regents interviews of the finalists in December.

The process began with the Regents seeking input from the campus community with a series of four August listening sessions. Two have been completed, with input from approximately 130 individuals. Additionally, two more are scheduled for the week after the start of classes; and for those unable to attend, there will be a survey link on the UNI Presidential Search web page providing them the opportunity to give input.

The first meeting of the search committee is scheduled for August 29th. The twenty members of the search committee will represent faculty, staff, students, and community members. The deadline for campus leaders to submit nominations is August 22nd. When the positions are filled, the committee names will be published.

We have worked closely with the AGB consultants regarding the search timeline to ensure that the committee and the consultants will be able to access as much feedback as possible during the search process. For your information, the draft timeline is attached. Note that we have added an additional meeting to the process: the search committee will meet with the Board of Regents to discuss the attributes of the candidates the committee has selected as finalists. Per Iowa's Open Meetings law, the candidates may request that this discussion happen in a closed session.

The AAUP guidelines for university presidential searches provided the backbone for the UNI process. Dr. Dan Power will co-chair the search with me and shares my dedication to a fair and transparent process in the selection of the next president of UNI. Please contact me with additional questions or suggestions.

Respectfully,

Katie Mulholland, Ed.D.
Board of Regents
President Pro Tem
Co-Chair, UNI Presidential Search Committee