



Mississippi State UNIVERSITY

Robert Holland Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Presidential Search Advisory Committee and Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council

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Presidential Characteristics

Frame of Reference

- A. A tenured faculty member with demonstrated successful leadership at the level of a dean or vice-president at a university;
- B. Familiarity with the missions and inter-workings of a land-grant university;
- C. Experience with satellite campuses;
- D. Ability to articulate a vision and goals for Mississippi State University.

Interpersonal Skills

- A. People skills of listening and creating consensus, as well as communicating effectively with many types of constituents, such as students; staff; faculty; alumni; community leaders; athletic, financial, and corporate supporters; legislators; and other interested groups;
- B. A sense of humor which allows him/her to take the job seriously but not him/herself too seriously;
- C. Patience and tenacity, especially dealing with politicians at both state and national levels.

Decision Making

- A. Ability to make decisions that positively affect the well-being of the university as a whole;
- B. The capacity to involve the relevant constituencies in any decision of importance;
- C. Practiced at considering a wide range of alternative courses of action against all the criteria important to appropriate constituencies;
- D. Ability to choose a course of action in a timely manner and explain such decisions clearly.

We offer these ideas with the request that the IHL Selection committee selects the finalists, makes the list public at the appropriate time, and invites the candidates for interviews which include the MSU community.

This document was developed and approved, with a unanimous voice vote, by the Faculty Senate Presidential Search Advisory Committee and the Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council on April 23, 2008.

Comments and questions may be sent to:

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