

## **Dwight Denison**

I am honored to be nominated for the presidential search committee. The presidential search committee is important work that will have a lasting impact on our university. I do not normally aspire to serve on university committees. However I am willing to do important work when necessary. I would bring several perspectives to the committee. I earned my PhD from the University of Kentucky; I was tenured at New York University and then returned to UK five years ago as a faculty member. I have served on the graduate council and university senate, and I am the DGS of the MPA and MPP programs.

## **Lee Meyer**

I've been a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics since 1979 and my area of focus has been applied marketing and sustainable agriculture.

I believe that faculty representatives to the President's search committee should have a broad understanding of the mission of the university; should have an understanding of the issues facing the university community; should be articulate and collaborative. I am passionate about UK's mission as a land grant university. To me, that means serving the people of Kentucky and beyond through research, teaching and engagement. Excellence in the land grant mission is a key to getting strong support. We must make this a great place to work, for everyone from the custodian to the faculty. We need to set high standards, strive for excellence and be rewarded for doing so.

In 1996, I was elected to the University Senate, served two terms and was elected to the Senate Council in 1998. I served as vice chair of the Senate Council, which included the transition from President Wethington to President Todd. I also served on the Employee Benefits Committee from 1998 to 2003, including the Health Insurance Task Force and Retirees' Health Insurance committee. I've served on college and area promotion and tenure committees (including two terms as chair of the extension area committee) and was an outside reviewer for the department of sociology. These experiences have involved me in university governance; given me opportunities to learn about the academic lives of colleagues throughout the university; and, helped me understand how the university impacts the lives of everyone who gets a UK paycheck. Through my extension role, I work with farmers and other clientele throughout the state, seeing how UK is perceived outside of Lexington and what is expected of our University.

## **Shelly Steiner**

What I would be looking for in hiring a new president is quite simple. An individual with a proven track record both as an academician and an academic administrator, who will effectively plan for and implement the enhancement and potential growth of all sectors of the university and give special attention to our most critical problems. Recently, there has been a stark imbalance in the administrative attention to and support of the various units of the university. One crucial example is the status of undergraduate education.

Since the beginning of the current administration, the number of undergraduate students has markedly increased, with little increase in faculty or infrastructure. This has resulted in a significant decrease in the faculty to student ratio. The infrastructure imbalance is highlighted by the fact that there has not been a new building in the College of Arts and Sciences for approximately 40 years, while the College of Business and College of Law, which are housed in relatively new buildings, are the top two priorities for new campus building construction. The bottom line is exemplified by the significantly decreased ranking of the university's undergraduate component in the most recent annual poll of US News and World Report. We are the Commonwealth's flagship university and one of our major missions is to give the undergraduates of the state a first-rate education including suitable facilities and a reasonable student to faculty ratio. Fortunately, we already possess dedicated and outstanding faculty across all segments of the university which, when added to first-rate undergraduate facilities and suitable numbers of faculty, would significantly raise the status of the entire university. I would like to see a new president who is willing to tackle the problem of the imbalanced support at the university and who has the gravitas to implement the necessary changes to deal with the imbalance.

### **Hollie I. Swanson**

Hollie Swanson, Professor, Department of Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology, Senate Council Chair. Current University Activities. Member, University of Kentucky Research Foundation Board of Directors, UCAAP, SACS Reaffirmation Leadership Team. Former University Activities. Vice-Chair, Senate Council; member, University Senate; Chair, SACPT; member, Graduate Dean Search Committee. Election Statement. It is an ongoing privilege to serve the University of Kentucky faculty, a unique blend of faculty involved in undergraduate, graduate and professional education as well as a wide variety of research and service activities. My service on these various committees has taught me the importance of listening to others, collaborating and striving to reach our common goals. Our university community currently faces numerous challenges in a rapidly changing society. Our new presidential leader must fully realize the depth and breadth these challenges and be capable of ensuring that we are emboldened to reach a brighter future. My major goals, if chosen to serve on this important committee, will be to ensure that the voice of our faculty is well represented during all of the decision-making processes, to facilitate better communication between the University of Kentucky faculty and the Board of Trustees and to ensure that we recruit the best possible presidential leader of our university.

### **Greg Wasilkowski**

If elected, I will seek input from the Faculty, and my decision/choices will be based on that input. Very early in the process, I will ask you to provide me with your expectations from the new President, and what skills are most important for us.

As far as I am concerned, I would like the new President to:

1. Have experience in and good record of administering large academic units, like colleges or universities.
2. Preserve the role the Faculty of UK in making educational decisions.

3. Have made significant past research contributions, and an understanding of the importance of research.
4. Encourage and develop new ideas to improve the University's national rankings, as well as the morale and welfare of Faculty and Staff.
5. Increase the role of Faculty in decision making processes especially, in choosing new direction and milestones.

My Qualifications: I joined UK in July 1987 as an Associate Professor and was promoted to Full Professor in 1990. Before that I was an Assistant and then Associate Professor at Columbia University (1982-1987), and an Assistant Professor at University of Warsaw (since 1980). I am co-author of 2 research monographs and over 100 research papers. I have given a number of plenary talks at various international conferences, and over 70 invited presentations.

Here at UK, I served as Director of Graduate Studies for 14 years. I have served on a number of College and University Committees, including the Senate Advisory Committee for Promotion and Tenure. I have survived 3 presidents at UK, and have never shied away from expressing my opinions, or from criticizing the administration.

### **Connie Wood**

UK is facing challenges to its academic mission both from our external constituencies and from elements within the University. Our ability to respond to these challenges effectively in the future is closely tied to the selection of the next person selected to be president. First and foremost, I advocate the selection of person with strong academic background and a proven record of successful administrative skills. As a native Kentuckian, however, I recognize the need to select a person who can effectively interact with all elements of State government and the citizens of this Commonwealth. Finding a person who exemplifies both skill sets will not be an easy task. I hope to bring the knowledge gained through thirty- three years as a faculty member, as a Chairman, as Associate Dean and Interim Dean of the Graduate School, and long-term member of the Senate to the selection process. Our faculty must be an integral part of this process and their concerns must be heard by the BOT.