



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Presidential Search Committee, University at Albany

From: Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

Date: February 15, 2012

Subject: Charge to the Committee

It is my pleasure to work with you to identify the next President of the State University of New York at Albany. Boasting an outstanding faculty, an innovative curriculum, student centered services and exceptional facilities throughout nine schools and colleges, the University at Albany provides students with an excellent foundation to build their academic and career experiences. Located in the seat of New York State government with a tradition of strong leadership, UAlbany is poised for new heights of success and I look forward to embarking on the search for the next president.

As Chancellor, the selection of campus presidents is of utmost importance to me. I greatly rely on their leadership and counsel, and their support helps strengthen the effectiveness of my role as system head. Over the past year, The State University of New York has experienced milestone accomplishments. As I outlined in the State of the University address, we have vowed to expand on SUNY's "Systemness" to ensure we move this university forward as a national leader and major driver of economic revitalization in New York State. With 64 campuses and many innovative ideas, I will increasingly look to our campus presidents to work collaboratively with other SUNY campuses, university administrators, faculty and staff, the surrounding communities to lower cost, enhance productivity, and elevate the importance of degree completion at each of our institutions.

SUNY's incredible network of research universities, comprehensive, technology, and community colleges has nearly half a million students, 88,000 faculty and staff, and 7,669 degree programs in virtually every county of the state. Our strategic plan, *The Power of SUNY*, will help to leverage our assets and utilize the vast system of campuses and resources with even further educational and economic impact for New York.

With 111 undergraduate majors and minors and 120-plus graduate programs, UAlbany students are faced with a myriad of programs, many of which are nationally ranked. Included among them are criminal justice, information science, public administration, social welfare and sociology. Significantly, UAlbany's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering ranks number one in the world. Indeed, UAlbany has a tremendous role to play in its region, within the SUNY System and in the state.

The Search Committee is hereby directed to recruit a highly diverse group of candidates with the utmost personal and professional qualifications to fill this position. The successful candidate will be appointed by the Board of Trustees after receipt of recommendations of the University at Albany College Council and of the Chancellor, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees. As dictated by "The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees," before making its recommendations the College Council shall consult with the presidential search committee. The President shall report directly to the Chancellor.

As Chief Administrative Officer of UAlbany, the President will be responsible for the development and effectiveness of the campus. The President's broad areas of responsibility include academic affairs, which encompasses development and ensuring sufficient support of the curriculum; oversight and maintenance of facilities; fund-raising and communicating the image of the institution through institutional advancement; community engagement; the finances of the institution; and issues of student life. This list is by no means exhaustive and includes additional responsibilities detailed in a job description to be developed by the council and search committee.

I want to extend a special thank you to Daniel Tomson for his dedicated leadership as the vice-chair of the University at Albany Council and to Patricia Caldwell, a member of the Council, for agreeing to co-chair the search committee. In their capable hands, I have every confidence in this presidential search process and stand ready to assist in any way I can.

This is an exciting and challenging time for UAlbany, The State University of New York, and New York State as a whole. I look forward to working with all of you to recruit a top notch candidate and ensure a smooth transition for the next leader of this wonderful institution.