



Dear Colleagues:

As you already know, we are embarking on a national search for the University at Albany's Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. In the following section, we provide some updates regarding the status of the search process.

After significant feedback and nominations from the University community, I am very pleased to report that the Search Committee has been constituted and that I have appointed two Co-Chairs to take the leadership in this critical process. Dr. Lynn Warner, Dean of the School of Social Welfare, and Dr. David Holtgrave, Dean of the School of Public Health, will Co-Chair the Committee, which is comprised of faculty and professional staff, academic and administrative leaders from a number of schools and colleges and administrative areas, as well as student representatives, as follows:

- Anna Agnes Graduate Student Representative
- Jeanette Altarriba Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education and Collins Fellow
- Marlene Belfort Professor of Biological Sciences and member of the National Academy of Sciences
- Andrew Berglund Professor of Biological Sciences and Director of the RNA Institute
- Kim Boyer Dean, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Langie Cadesca Undergraduate Student Representative
- James Dias Vice President for Research
- Cynthia Fox Associate Professor and Chair of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
- Robert Griffin Dean, College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cyber Security
- William Hedberg Senior Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Everette Joseph Director, Atmospheric Sciences Research Center
- Janine Jurkowski Professor of Health Policy and Associate Dean, School of Public Health
- Zina Lawrence University Senate Chair Elect and Assistant Dean for the School of Business
- Li Niu Professor and Chair of Chemistry
- Estela Rivero Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Health & Counseling
- Fardin Sanai Vice President for Advancement
- Gilbert Valverde Associate Professor and Interim Chair of Educational Policy and Leadership
- Gina Volynsky Director, Center for International Development
- Meredith Weiss Professor and Chair of Political Science

We have a very strong and diverse committee that represents many stakeholder groups that form part of this great University. The Committee will begin its work later this month with the support of an experienced executive search firm. I will charge the Committee with cultivating a highly competitive and diverse applicant pool, and to complete a confidential screening of candidates as expeditiously as possible.

Staff support for the Search Committee will be provided by JD Hyde, Office of the President, and Dr. Tamra Minor, Assistant Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer. Please know that we will also actively engage the University community throughout this search process.

Questions regarding the search process should be directed to the Committee Co-Chairs or to my Chief of Staff, Dr. Bruce Szelest. Finally, we will share milestones with the campus community through the search website which can be found at <https://www.albany.edu/president>.

Let's convey our most sincere appreciation to the Search Committee Co-Chairs and its members for the critically important work they are about to undertake.

Sincerely,

Havidán Rodríguez
President