

Committee of 21 Will Seek New Chancellor

Written by Steve Frank
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Full membership of the chancellor search committee at Appalachian State University has been announced by Appalachian's Board of Trustees Chairman Michael Steinback. The committee, chaired by Steinback, will consist of 21 members. The committee is being formed to identify candidates to replace Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock, who announced in April he will step down once a successor is named.

The search committee represents Appalachian's broad constituency base, including trustees, students, faculty, staff, athletics, administrators, alumni, community members and the Appalachian State University Foundation Inc.

Steinback commented that "the membership committee is a talented, diverse group with strong campus representation and will do a fine job identifying a 21st century leader for this most important chancellor position." As announced Aug. 2, trustees in addition to Steinback on the committee are Bradley Adcock, committee vice chairman, Avery Hall Sr., Brenda White Wright, Alice Roess (pronounced Race) and Frank Daniels Jr. Student Government Association President Dylan Russell will represent Appalachian's student body.

The initial membership sought nominations for the remaining positions from deans of Appalachian's degree-granting colleges or schools, vice chancellors, chief of staff, provost and others. The members received bios and photographs of the nominees, which they discussed in a meeting Aug. 8 before extending invitations to select individuals from each category.

Steinback said the trustees devoted themselves to "being thoughtful of balance" in selecting nominations and considered college representation or position, experience, respect of peers and diversity of perspectives, race, ethnicity and gender in selecting the additional committee members.

"We want to ensure we have appropriately developed a diverse representation of individuals, viewpoints and interests from the ASU campus, community and region," he said at the beginning of the selection process. Of the final committee, he said "The breadth of experience and knowledge of Appalachian possessed by these individuals will help us identify a new chancellor with leadership skills necessary to ensure that this great university flourishes and continues to meet the needs of its students, the region and state."

The remainder of the committee's make-up is as follows:

Six individuals will represent faculty. They are Dr. Stanley Aeschleman, Dr. Harry Davis, Dr. Andy Koch, Dr. Kellie Reed-Ashcraft, Dr. Chris Thaxton and Dr. Alan Utter.

Staff will be represented on the committee by Staff Senate President Kevin Snook.

Two administrators will serve on the committee. They are Dr. Randy Edwards and Dr. Jesse Lutabingwa.

Alumni will be represented by Sam Powers.

The broader community will be represented by Jeannine Underdown Collins and James Deal Jr.

The Appalachian State University Foundation Inc. will be represented by Kay C. Norwood.

Athletics will be represented by Rick Beasley.

The full committee will meet Tuesday, Aug. 27, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., during which it will receive its charge from UNC President Tom Ross.