
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Faculty Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2007

1. The meeting was called to order by Dean A. Scranton at 4:30 pm in 3505 Seamans Center. In attendance were: Dean A. Scranton, R. Stephens, W. Krajewski, J. Reinhardt, S. Collins, C. Swan, G. Christensen, J. Kuhl, M. Raghavan, J. Wiencek, V.C. Patel, J. Jessop, G. Parkin, and K. Kader
2. The motion to approve the December 12, 2006 meeting minutes were approved by voice vote without amendment.
3. A discussion between the faculty and David Johnsen, Chair of the Presidential Search Committee and Dean of the College of Dentistry, ensued regarding the search.
4. Dean Johnsen began by giving a brief background as to the events thus far in the search including the no-confidence vote.
 - a. No deans were involved in the search initially but during a routine meeting with Interim President Fethke, it was decided to put together a memo that expressed the principles that the deans felt were important in the search. These included that the search should be 'campus-centric'; that the search committee should have wide latitude to make its recommendation to the regents; that the committee should include representation of the two largest colleges (Liberal Arts and Sciences, Medicine) as well as a large donor; and that the committee should undertake to meet with the faculty to understand faculty thoughts in what is important in a candidate.
 - b. Dean Johnsen also described his meetings with various constituent groups including informal discussions with students. The College of Medicine stated that health care management experience was not essential but wanted a candidate who was able to manage a large organization, was able to learn the job, and could interface effectively with Iowa's political leadership.
5. Faculty discussion.
 - a. R. Stephens asked why the committee was taking time to define its list of characteristics in a candidate when these were largely generic. Dean Johnsen answered that the question of whether a candidate could be effective at doing the job was partly political and that gaining input from the various on campus constituent groups was important. He stated that he wanted to see the process come to a conclusion.
 - b. J. Wiencek asked if the present search was considered a continuation of the previous, failed search and if the previous candidates are still being considered. He raised the concern that these candidates could not be considered fairly when the regents have already rejected them.
 - c. S. Collins stated that he believed that the main issue was that the regents and the Interim President do not value faculty involvement in the process. He also stated that UI's history of self-governance should be maintained.
 - d. K. Kader stated that the most important issue was the reputation of the University and that the search should not be allowed to harm that reputation.

He suggested that, if necessary, the search be more closed to allow the committee wider latitude in its recommendations.

6. Dean Johnsen concluded the meeting by stating that the committee always welcomes suggestions and comments regarding the search process.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Khalid Kader
College of Engineering Faculty Secretary