Dear President Pestello,

**Saint Louis University, Provost Search Committee (PSC): Progress Report # 3**

Since my last report (October 9) the full PSC has met twice (Oct 23, and Nov. 6) while, as Chair, I have continued to have numerous discussions with our consultants, WittKieffer (WK), on the progress of the search.

We are currently still in the recruitment phase of the search. At the PSC Meeting of November 6, WK reported that they had been in touch with over 2200 individuals concerning the position. They have received over 70 nominations, and, to date, have received 48 applications while they are still in conversation with a further 22 possible applicants. They are confident that we will receive in the region of 60 applications for the position. We have not yet received a detailed breakdown of the applicant pool, but we have been advised that approximately 30% of the applications that we have received stem from groups that are currently underrepresented on the campus. The PSC continues to keep this vital factor at the forefront of its deliberations.

Although the recruitment phase was formally scheduled to close on November 2, WK will still be actively recruiting up until the end of this month. The PSC will begin reviewing applications on November 16 and will be meeting to select 8 semi-finalists on December 1. Interviews of the semi-finalists will take place mid-December.

Finalist visits are currently scheduled to take place in St Louis the weeks of January 19 and January 25, 2020. However, given the altered dates for the start of the Spring Semester, we shall probably have to revisit these dates. The PSC will shortly be assembling a recommended set of draft schedules for these visits.

All members of the PSC have been reminded of their absolute duty of confidentiality at this critical juncture of the search.

Currently, we remain on course to meet the general timeline for the search.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Sawday, Chair PSC