

Committee of Past Senate Chairs
Resolution on the Role of the Provost and the Provost Search

Whereas, strong academics are the primary factor that make a university education a good investment for students and taxpayers; and

Whereas, teaching and research are so fundamental to the quality of a university that it is essential that the chief academic officer of the university share teaching and research experience; and

Whereas, evaluations of curriculum and judgments about tenure and promotion should be made from a position of knowledge and understanding of those processes by someone with years of experience with them; and

Whereas, the job description for Provost/EVP position was developed without faculty input, and includes no expectations of teaching, scholarly publications or even experience as an academic administrator at the Dean level or above; and

Whereas, the posted Human Resources description of the current Provost position contains the following language in as Minimum Acceptable Qualifications: “Academic credentials consistent with the rank of professor, as demonstrated by a distinguished record of teaching, scholarly publications, and/or creative accomplishments that exhibit commitment to academic excellence is required. A history of progressively responsible, successful experience as an academic administrator at the Dean level or above involving both graduate and undergraduate programs, including responsibility for budget, personnel recruitment, and evaluation is required.,” therefore

Be it resolved, that the Faculty Senate of Missouri State University opposes removing the requirements of teaching and scholarly research from the Provost role at the university, regardless of other responsibilities that person may take on; and

Be it further resolved, that the job posting should align with requirements of the Provost role as described in the current HR description and be developed with faculty input; and

Be it further resolved, that a suitable interim (e.g., Deputy Provost Chris Craig) should be appointed as Interim Provost following Frank Einhellig’s retirement, thereby allowing time for a new search in the Fall that includes substantial faculty input.