



MINNESOTA STATE
Board of Trustees

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

NAME: Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness
Committee

DATE: March 20, 2024

TITLE: Appointment of President for Winona State University

Action

Review and Discussion

This item is required by policy

PRESENTERS

Scott Olson, Chancellor

PURPOSE

A president for Winona State University will be selected.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kenneth Janz began serving as interim president of Winona State University on August 1, 2023 following appointment of Scott Olson as Chancellor. In the fall of 2023, Chancellor Olson initiated a national search for the next Winona State University president. The executive search firm Greenwood Asher was retained to assist with the recruitment of the position.

A search advisory committee was appointed. The members are:

- Jason Nelton, Locksmith/Winona (AFSCME)
- Patrick Clipsham, Professor/Winona (IFO)
- Diane Forsyth, Professor/Rochester (IFO)
- Phil Sonnenberg, Advancement Accounting Officer/Winona (MAPE)
- Patricia Malotka, Print Shop Supervisor/Winona (MMA)
- Erica Thomas, Area Coordinator Kirkland-Haake/Winona (MSUAASF)
- Jon Olson, VP for Advancement (Administrator)
- Karen Johnson, Dean of Students (Administrator)
- Alizabelle Carman, Student Senate President (Student)
- Diane Amundson, Chair Elect WSU Foundation Board (Community Member)
- Jonathan Locust, Former AVP Equity and Inclusive Excellence and CDO (Community Member)
- Christie Ransom, Winona Chamber of Commerce (Community Member)
- Jorrie Johnson, Chair WSU-R Advisory Board (Community Member)

The following individuals provided support to the committee:

Kumara Jayasuriya, Search Chair, President – Southwest Minnesota State University
Lori Reed, Chief Human Resources Officer, Winona State University

The position was advertised nationally in a variety of higher education and diversity publications. At the same time, the search consultant initiated an aggressive recruitment campaign. There was a total of seventy (70) applicants. From this pool, the search advisory committee selected eleven (11) individuals for initial interviews and forwarded its assessment of the candidates to the chancellor. On the committee's recommendation, Chancellor Olson selected three (3) finalists to participate in the system office interviews. Their interviews were conducted by Chancellor Olson, members of the chancellor's cabinet, Trustees Cowles, Erlandson and Moe.

Reference and background checks were completed.

After careful consideration and review, the chancellor selected one candidate to recommend to the Board of Trustees for full approval.

At this time, Chancellor Olson recommends Kenneth Janz to be the President of Winona State University.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Olson, appoints Kenneth Janz as President of Winona State University, with the anticipated effective date of March 20, 2024, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorizes the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and chair of the Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Personnel Plan for Administrators.

Date Presented to the Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness Committee: 03/20/24
Date Presented to the Board of Trustees: 03/20/24
Date of Implementation: 03/20/24