ABOR Announces Chair of UA Presidential Search Committee; Issues RFP for Presidential Search Consultant

(Phoenix, Ariz.) – Arizona Board of Regents Chair Greg Patterson named Regent Bill Ridenour to be the chair of the search committee for the next president of the University of Arizona. Regent Ron Shoopman will be vice chair of the committee. The process for determining external membership on the search committee is underway. Regent Ridenour, who was appointed to the board in 2014, received his undergraduate and juris doctorate degree from the University of Arizona. He currently serves as vice chair of the board. Regent Shoopman also was appointed to the board in 2014. A resident of Tucson, Shoopman has served as president of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council since 2004.

The board also issued a request for proposals (RFP) for an executive search consultant to identify and recruit qualified candidates for the UA president. Current President Ann Weaver Hart announced in June that she would not seek an extension on her contract.

In line with the board’s commitment to the continued success of the University of Arizona, the board will conduct a comprehensive nationwide search for President Hart’s replacement. The board will develop and publish a detailed position description and identify essential leadership characteristics. This leader will be one willing to tackle the challenges, bring innovative leadership and vision, and chart new achievements for the university that align with and support community, regional and statewide goals.

Issuing an RFP for a search consultant is one of the first steps in the process to find the most qualified person to lead the university, a process that will be shared with the public and documented through regular updates posted to the board’s website. Featured items on the page as the search progresses will include documents such as frequently asked questions, updates on the search process and a place for students, faculty, staff and the public to offer input about the search.

Following the selection of the search firm and establishment of the search committee, the search will be conducted. The RFP indicates that the start date for a new president could be as early as summer 2017 but not later than June 2018, the time when President Hart’s current contract expires.

Submissions for RFP proposals are due by 3 p.m. on Aug. 22, 2016.