



UNIVERSITY OF  
TEXAS  
ARLINGTON

## Faculty Senate

The Forum for Professors at UTA

"An Elected Legislative and Deliberative Faculty Body Whose Primary Purpose is to Represent UT Arlington Faculty"

February 15, 2021

Dear Chancellor Milliken,

Thank you for taking time to discuss the presidential search situation at UT Arlington with me and for reiterating your and the Regents' firm commitment to conducting a national search. As I explained, while acknowledging that our current interim leadership is doing a good job of keeping the university open and operational under challenging circumstances, the Faculty Senate continues to believe that resuming the search as soon as possible is in the best long-term interest of UT Arlington. We are particularly concerned that the absence of permanent leadership in many key positions has stymied the institution's ability to advance and reach its full potential.

The recent successful hire of a new CHRO and the almost completed search for the new Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion—both searches for which included campus visits—are exciting milestones for our campus. That we were able to attract strong candidates for these roles even in these challenging times is a mark of the strength of our institution. We look forward to participating in a national search for a President who will provide leadership, vision, and stability into the future.

Attendant upon recruiting a new President, the faculty look forward to finding permanent leaders for a substantial number of positions that are currently appointed on an interim basis, several of which are held by individuals with at least one other major administrative appointment – Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (covered by an Associate Provost); Vice President for Research (covered by the Dean of the Graduate School); Vice President for Advancement (covered by the President's Chief of Staff); College of Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs Dean (covered by an Associate Vice Provost); and the Honors College Dean (currently vacant). At every level of the university, units look forward to the enhanced stability, energy, and ability to plan that is brought by permanent leadership, and that will assist us in capitalizing on the tremendous momentum and drive that is characteristic of our campus and that has enabled us to achieve Research 1 and Tier One status, among many other achievements.

As the UTA faculty, we are proud of our hard work over the past year to ensure the health and vitality of the teaching and research mission of the campus during the pandemic. We believe that our innovation, flexibility, and compassionate response to our students speaks to the depth of our commitment to this institution and our belief in its bright future as an outstanding national research university. We are distinguished and honored to teach the most diverse undergraduate student body of any school in the UT System, and we look forward to working with the next President to increase our endowment, raise our national ranking and profile, and communicate the contributions of UTA to the local and state legislative community. By these means we may continue to enhance and make more profound the ways that our university brings change to these students' lives.

Sincerely,

Bill Carroll, Chair, Faculty Senate

Jacqueline Fay, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Faculty Senate