

MEMORANDUM

TO: UAHuntsville Community

FROM: Robert A. Altenkirch, President

DATE: August 14, 2012

SUBJECT: Appointment of Interim VPR and Search for VPR

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Dean Smith as Interim Vice President for Research. Dean comes to us from the Registry for College and University Presidents, an organization that provides experienced interim leadership to higher education. His appointment will begin full-time on September 4, but he will be visiting campus one or more times prior to that date as he relocates to Huntsville.

Dean has served as Vice President for Research at Texas Tech University (2005-2008), Senior Vice President and Executive Vice Chancellor at the University of Hawaii (1997-2001), Senior Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate Division at the University of Hawaii (1995-1997), and Associate Dean, The Graduate School at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1984-1991). He has also held faculty positions in Physiology (Wisconsin and Hawaii), Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology (Hawaii), and Biological Sciences (Texas Tech).

While at the University of Hawaii, Dean was involved in negotiating numerous contracts with the Department of Defense ranging from management of the Air Force's Advanced Electro-Optical System (AEOS) telescope on Haleakala to undersea tracking and dredging operations at the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands, Kauai. He was Executive Vice Chancellor at Hawaii when the university successfully applied to manage DoD's Maui High Performance Computing Center, and he interacted with NASA regarding the administration of the Keck II Observatory on Mauna Kea. At Texas Tech, Dean's office negotiated contracts with the Department of Defense for projects related to the Navy's research on combating improvised explosive devices and other DoD projects including the Zumwalt National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats.

Dean received the B.A. in Biology from Harvard University and the A.M. and Ph.D., both in Biological Sciences, from Stanford University.

As Dean Smith assumes the role of Interim Vice President for Research, the search for a permanent Vice President begins. The Search Committee, chaired by Caron St. John, Dean of the College of Business Administration, includes, in addition to Caron:

Marc Bendickson, Chief Executive Officer, Dynetics

Jason Cassibry, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and Propulsion Research Center

Anne Marie Choup, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Letha Etz Korn, Professor, Department of Computer Science

Karen Frith, Professor, College of Nursing

Laurel Long, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources

Chih Loo, Associate Vice President, Budgets and Financial Planning

Shankar Mahalingam, Dean, College of Engineering

Jim Myles, (Major General (USA Ret.)), Group Vice President, Aviation, DynCorp International

Dick Rhoades, Director, Research Institute and Research Professor, College of Business Administration

Carmen Scholz, Professor, Department of Chemistry

Gary Zank, Professor and Pei-Ling Chair; Chair, Department of Physics; Director, Center for Space Plasma & Aeronomic Research

Thanks,

Bob