Chancellor

About the Chancellor

Under the University of Guelph Act (1964) the Senate is responsible for the election of the Chancellor. The Chancellor, subject to the will of the Senate, holds office for three years (renewable) and remains until his/her successor is elected.

The Chancellor is the titular head of the University, and confers all degrees. The Chancellor is an ex-officio voting member of the Senate and the Board of Governors.

The current and eighth Chancellor of the University of Guelph is Chancellor David Mirvish.

About the Chancellor Selection Process

In September 2016, David Mirvish announced that he would step down as the eighth Chancellor of the University of Guelph due to increasing workload and personal responsibilities.

Senate has established regulations for the establishment of a Chancellor Selection Committee. Following a call for nominations to the community, the proposed membership of the Committee was presented by the Senate Committee on Bylaws & Membership and approved by Senate on October 24, 2016.

The Chancellor Selection Committee membership:

- Chair:
  - President Franco Vaccarino
- Three tenured faculty:
  - Merritt Turetsky (College of Biological Science)
  - John Smithers (College of Social and Applied Human Sciences)
  - Laura L. Van Eerd (Ontario Agricultural College)
- Three students – two undergraduate and one graduate:
  - Evan Schijns (BAS, undergraduate)
  - Lindsey Fletcher (BA, BSc, undergraduate)
  - Carolyn Augusta (PhD, College of Physical and Engineering Science)
- One regular full-time staff:
  - Cara Wehkamp (Student Affairs)
- One member of the Board of Governors:
  - Kevin Golding (Chair, Board of Governors)
- One Alumnus:
  - Brandon Gorman (University of Guelph Alumni Association)

It is extremely important that the Committee’s work be carried out with the highest level of confidentiality. Therefore, the Committee meets in closed session and all of its discussions and deliberations are considered confidential. All members of the Committee sign a Confidentiality Agreement. Normally, only members of the Committee may attend meetings of the Committee. Although the proceedings of the search committee are confidential, updates on general progress of the search will be posted on this web page.

The final report of the Chancellor Selection Committee is presented by the Senate Priorities and Planning Committee to Senate in Closed Session, including the name of the recommended candidate.
with a one page biographical summary, presented in the form of a ballot for election.

The election of the Chancellor shall be timed so that it occurs in either the Fall or Winter semester. To be accepted for election as Chancellor, the candidate must receive support from no fewer than three-fourths of the members of Senate voting.

Request for your Input

According to the regulations, the Selection Committee will develop its own procedures for the conduct of the search, but will:

- consult widely within the university community as to the desirable characteristics of a chancellor
- encourage and solicit suggestions from the university community for possible candidates
- receive and review information on suggested candidates

Members of the University Community are invited to submit their recommendations for the desirable characteristics of the University Chancellor, or to suggest names for consideration, to chancellor@uoguelph.ca. When doing so, please consult the Guiding Documents link on the right-hand menu for reference.

Links
[1] https://uoguelph.civicweb.net/document/5523/The%20University%20of%20Guelph%20Act.pdf?handle=775B1EB0D600476DA0C59516E3B5FD62&Original=True