



Office of the President

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June 4, 2019

Prof. Zelda B. Harris
Chair - University Senate 2018-19
Law School
Corboy Law Center
25 East Pearson Ave
Chicago, IL 60611

Prof. Susan Uprichard
Chair - University Senate 2019-20
Stritch School of Medicine
Center for Translational Research & Education
2160 S First Ave
Maywood, IL 60153

Dear University Senate Chairs Harris and Uprichard,

In response to the Senate resolution on a single Provost:

While the decision to move to a single Provost model as an organizational structure is ultimately the decision of the President, it was always understood that the ultimate operational structure would be informed by faculty and staff input to the interim Provost and the new Provost. The Provost office structure needs to be implemented in such a way that consideration is given to all of the unique needs and requirements of each of our schools as well as the synergies and consistent processes that can be applicable to all schools. The provost search committee who is conducting the search for this new provost is composed of a cross section of representatives from the university.

The decision to move to a single Provost was informed by best practices of universities that do not own or operate their hospitals but maintain vibrant medical, nursing, and health science schools. Loyola University sold its hospital to Trinity Healthcare in 2011 and has not been responsible for its operations since that time. The final decision to adapt a single Provost structure was also further informed and advised through an external review conducted by Baker Tilley, our independent internal auditors. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees was fully informed and strongly in support of moving to this structure that is consistent with other similar university governance structures. For example, Northwestern University, the University of

Chicago, Georgetown University and Creighton are all universities that utilize a single Provost and maintain an affiliation with a hospital system but neither own nor operate the hospital. This structure will also support stronger positions of authority and accountability for all of the deans who will report to a single chief academic officer.

In terms of shared governance, I would point to ongoing communication between me, Dr. Callaghan, Associate Professor Tim Classen and Associate Dean Zelda Harris. We had three successful national dean searches with robust faculty participation, and we are currently engaged in a search for the Dean of the Graduate School. The members of the Provost search committee, representing tenured and non-tenured faculty, center directors, staff and students have been responsible for working directly with the search firm and determining the process for selecting and interviewing candidates. Everyone can be grateful to the staff of the various search committees for accepting the sometimes-onerous responsibility of confidentiality to ensure the integrity of the searches.

The cabinet and I respect the need to work with our shared governance bodies and will seek to solicit input whenever possible and to share information in a timely manner through a variety of means. We continue to work to strengthen mutual accountability and communication at all levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Ann Rooney', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LLM, EdD
President

CC: Margaret Faut Callahan, CRNA, PhD, FNAP, FAAN
Interim Provost and Chief Academic Officer