Dear Members of the Lane Board of Education,

The Faculty Council would like to raise several concerns regarding the Board's plan to finalize and move forward with its proposed Presidential Search Advisory Committee. The Council has a number of reservations with the committee make up, the limited opportunities for faculty involvement in this process, and the constraining nature of the process being used.

While earlier Board discussions seemed to imply that faculty would play an appropriately significant role in make-up of a Presidential Search Advisory Committee, it now appears that the role of faculty has been limited to three members out of an unusually large 33 person committee.

The Faculty Council believes that faculty are significant yet overlooked stakeholders in the College with the most direct ties to students in the classroom and the academic function of the institution. As such, faculty are in a unique position to weigh in on the qualifications, and characteristics of the College's future president.

It is particularly concerning that even on an Advisory Committee, the board has reduced the opportunities for faculty to contribute in a significant way in shaping the search process and having our concerns heard. We strongly encourage the Board of Education to increase rather than limit faculty engagement in the process, and to look for additional opportunities to involve Faculty in determining the appropriate combination of academic leadership, teaching experience, educational background, and administrative skills needed to lead the College.

The Faculty Council encourages the Board of Education to familiarize itself with the principles established by the American Association of University Professors' (AAUP) Presidential Search Committee Checklist. The council supports its use as a standard for conducting presidential searches, and find valid its clear commitment to collaborative processes in which faculty have a shared responsibility for the future of the college.

Please see the embedded link to AAUP Presidential Search Checklist: <u>AAUP Presidential Search</u> <u>Checklist</u>

http://www.aaup.org/issues/governance-colleges-universities/presidential-search

Thank you, Faculty Council