Presidential Search

November 2015
Chronicle of the Search

• March 2\textsuperscript{nd}: Dr. Harker announces resignation
• March 13\textsuperscript{th}: Dr. Targett named Acting President
  March 13\textsuperscript{th}: 15 person Search Committee formed
  – Students, Faculty, Staff, Trustees, Alum/Parent
• May 8\textsuperscript{th}: Russell Reynolds retained as search firm
What should we be looking for in the next UD President?

- Open forums on campus May 18\textsuperscript{th}-20\textsuperscript{th}
  - 6 forums with faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students
- Other meetings with faculty, elected officials, alumni and UD friends and supporters
- 19 forums total including targeted focus groups including:
  - Community and statewide leaders
  - Junior faculty
  - Senior faculty
  - Kent and Sussex County community members
  - Undergraduate and Graduate students
  - Business leaders
UD Presidential Search Website

• May 15\textsuperscript{th}: New Presidential Search website goes live
  – Website provides space for comments from the community and link to Russell Reynolds to nominate candidates

• June 24\textsuperscript{th}: Position profile added to website
Candidates

- Well over 100 people apply or are nominated
- Committee narrowed pool to 14 candidates, of which 11 elected to be interviewed
- Committee narrowed pool to 4 candidates
- 3 candidates participate in second round of interviews with Search Committee and receive home visits by Trustees
What we want in the next UD President

• A strategic thinker with a vision for UD’s Future
• Experience at a major research university
• Accomplished scholar
• Excellent track record of team building and implementation
• Enthusiastic fundraiser
• A visible, approachable, articulate and ethical leader
What we want in the next UD President

• Continue to help UD advance as a leading research university
• High level of integrity
• Willingness to engage with students
• Understanding of student athletes
• Committed to creating a diverse campus community
• Proven track record of supporting the arts
Vetting the Finalists

• Current or former Presidents of major universities
• Deans of various colleges
• Faculty from a variety of disciplines and leadership positions
• Administrators for diversity, student affairs, budgeting and financial planning
• Athletic leaders
• On-list and off-list reference checks
Presidential Search Committee Unanimously Recommends that Dennis Assanis be Named the Next UD President

- Ph.D., and three M.S. degrees from MIT, B.S Marine Engineering from Newcastle University, England
- Current Provost and Senior VP of Academic Affairs at Stony Brook
- Vice President for Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Professor of Mechanical Engineering, SUNY Distinguished Professor
- Director of the Michigan Memorial Phoenix Energy Institute at the University of Michigan
- Founding Director for the United States, Clean Vehicle Consortium, U.S-China Clean Energy Research Center
Presidential Search Committee unanimously recommends that Dennis Assanis be named the next UD President

- Honorary President, Zhejiang Automotive Engineering Institute
- Jon R. and Beverly Hold Professor of Engineering, University of Michigan
- Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan
- Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Member, National Academy of Engineering
- Recipient of numerous Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Research Awards
- Married to Eleni Assanis
What others have told us about Dennis Assanis

- “proactively supports the humanities, arts and social sciences”
- “will be a transformational president”
- “very transparent and inclusive”
- “great relationship with faculty and the faculty senate”
- “high standards, is focused, energetic, a strategic thinker...engages with all constituents on campus”
- “impeccable integrity”
- “improved the quality of athletic retention and academics”
- “student focused”
- “great interpersonal skills”
- “a people person”
What others have told us about Dennis Assanis

- “highly entrepreneurial”
- “natural leader and outstanding scholar”
- “collaborative approach to faculty governance”
- “good at managing conflict”
- “great public figure”
- “analytical, good listener, collaborative, relationship builder”
- “commitment, visionary, inspiring, engaging”
- “very committed to diversity-on the student, staff and faculty level”
- “he knows how to move metrics on diversity”
- “passionate, energetic, articulate”
- “surrounds himself with a strong team”