


MEMORANDUM

To: TAMUK Campus Community

From: James M. Palmer 
Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: September 6, 2024

Re: Search Committee for Dean of Education and Human Performance

I am pleased to announce the members of the search committee for the university's next [Dean of Education and Human Performance](#), which is filled in the interim by Dr. Linda Villarreal. The position was posted in August. The following have agreed to serve as committee members:

- Shad Nelson, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Chair
- Daniella Varela, Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership and Counseling
- David Cutton, Associate Professor, Health and Kinesiology
- Olivia Modesto, Associate Professor, Teacher and Bilingual Education
- Kevin Turnblom, Lieutenant Colonel, ROTC, Military Science
- Maria Canales, Certification and Testing Coordinator, Educator Preparation Services
- Marisol Loreda, Director, Marc Cisneros Center for Young Children
- Brenda Lozano, Special Education Director/Educational Diagnostician, Banquete ISD, Alumni
- Norma Guzman, Faculty Senate Representative
- Elsie Chapa-Arias, Staff Council Representative
- Harley Davis, Student Government Association Representative

Members of the committee would:

- Conduct the search in accordance with Recruitment and Hiring Procedures and with assistance from Human Resources;
- Maintain confidentiality, discussing search committee business and applicants in private and only with other committee members;
- Review and evaluate applications in order to narrow the candidate pool by assessing the experience, expertise, and fit of each candidate after establishing a set of review criteria and questions;
- Participate in meetings and interviews of candidates selected for the various phases of the process;
- Work collectively to schedule and manage the on-campus interview process, including the work to encourage various campus stakeholders to participate and offer feedback; and,
- Recommend candidates at each stage for consideration outlining strengths and weakness of each candidate in no particular rank order before proceeding to the next phase.

The committee will begin to review candidates after the October 15 priority application deadline. I encourage members of the campus community to be engaged in the search process as candidates are brought to campus.

cc: Robert H. Vela Jr.