

**Constituent Universities**

Appalachian State University  
East Carolina University  
Elizabeth City State University  
Fayetteville State University  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University  
North Carolina Central University  
North Carolina State University at Raleigh  
University of North Carolina at Asheville  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
University of North Carolina at Pembroke  
University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
University of North Carolina School of the Arts  
Western Carolina University  
Winston-Salem State University

**FACT SHEET**  
**UNC [Presidential Search](#) Process**

- **UNC Presidential Search Policy:** The basic framework for the UNC Presidential Search process has been in place since 1996. A review of this long-standing policy was initiated last winter in the Board of Governors' Governance Committee.
- A working group offered initial recommendations for potential revisions to the search policy in early January 2015, and an amended draft policy was sent to all Board members for review.
- The proposed policy was publicly posted and discussed at an open meeting of the Governance Committee in late January, and comments and suggestions were requested from faculty and any other interested constituencies. Additional changes were made based on this feedback, and an overwhelming majority of the Board voted to adopt the revised Presidential Search Policy on February 27, 2015.
- The UNC Board of Governors—like most boards—works through a committee structure to ensure the volume of work required in governance of the UNC system can be completed in a timely manner, using the best expertise and experience for the work at hand. In keeping with that approach, four committees were created to facilitate the Presidential Search:
  1. **Nominating Committee** – to nominate members for the three core search committees described below.
  2. **[Leadership Statement Committee](#)** – to seek input from all University constituencies to identify the skills, professional experiences, and personal characteristics essential to the next President's success.
  3. **[Screening Committee](#)** – to begin initial screening of a large volume of potential candidates identified by the executive search firm.
  4. **[Search Committee](#)** – to review, analyze and identify names of finalist candidates, and make recommendations to the full Board for a vote.

This is the same basic committee structure employed in prior UNC Presidential searches.

- Like all previous UNC Presidential searches, the process has been confidential to ensure the Board was afforded the opportunity to screen and interview the most highly qualified individuals for the position. Within the constraints of confidentiality obligations, the Search Committee has kept the full Board informed on the progress of the search.

**Constituent High School**

North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

(MORE)

- Senate Bill 670—which requires that at least three final candidates be submitted to the full Board of Governors from which the full Board will make its selection for UNC President—was enacted by the NC General Assembly on September 30, 2015, pending the Governor’s signature. Although it is not yet law, the Board of Governors has met and exceeded the spirit of SB670.
- An October 16 meeting of the Board was called because it appeared likely that information about a particular candidate would be revealed in violation of state law and Board policy before the Board could receive a full briefing from the Search Committee, submit names for discussion, and extend an opportunity to meet with one of the finalists. As required by statute, the meeting was publicly noticed as an emergency meeting because it was held with fewer than 48 hours’ notice.
- The Search Committee submitted the names of four finalists to the full Board during its October 16 meeting.
- On October 23, the full Board of Governors met and received a formal recommendation that Margaret Spellings be elected as President of the 17-campus University of North Carolina.
- In conveying its unanimous recommendation, the Search Committee cited Spellings as the only candidate with the stature, intellect, skill set, and experience needed to lead the UNC system forward in the coming years.

### **UNC PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH BY THE NUMBERS**

- Leadership Statement Committee: 40 members
- Screening Committee: 18 members
- Search Committee: 11 members
- The Screening Committee initially reviewed more than 200 names that included suggestions from the broader UNC community, direct applicants and potential candidates provided by the Isaacson, Miller search firm.
- The Screening Committee met three times to review nominations and applications and, in total, considered 35 biographies and CVs.
- A total of 14 candidates were personally interviewed by the Search Committee, including:
  - One U.S. Cabinet official
  - Four North Carolina business leaders
  - Four academic leaders
  - Two civic leaders
  - Two military leaders