

From: [NSHE](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the ad hoc Chancellor Search Committee, April 9, 2025
Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 7:59:58 PM

External Email:

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the ad hoc Chancellor Search Committee, April 9, 2025

Email: apason@unr.edu

Name: Amy Pason

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: ad hoc Chancellor Search Committee, April 9, 2025

Agenda Item: Comments about search process

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

I'm writing in concern of how the search process has proceeded for the Chancellor position. Although there were public forums on Monday and Tuesday, these were not announced to faculty. I'm on the agenda and other NSHE alert emails so I knew about the Board meetings, but NOT the public forums. Given this, I was only able to Zoom into a couple of the public forums on the last day. And I was teaching, so was not able to submit feedback before the form was closed. This signals to me that the Board is not interested in faculty perspectives on this search. I am also concerned that the finalists are all the same gender (as with the CSN search) and most do not have the credentials that we might expect (working at PUBLIC institutions or having an ACADEMIC background or strong experience with HSI/MSI institutions). It seemed like the Board prioritized candidates with fundraising or legal expertise. The candidate with the least amount of academic experience even noted that he didn't see this position as a "fit" but now realizes it is just an "executive" position and not an academic one. I disagree. The Chancellor is leading an academic system and knowledge of the work faculty do in teaching and research is essential. From the forums I viewed, only Dr. Bliss has experience in a public higher education system, and was the only candidate that could explain addressing challenges in higher education in ways fitting for our System. Although I have reservations of his experience in the Idaho system, I was encouraged by his answer related to collective bargaining and recognizing the importance of working with faculty and graduate students on this issue. In this search, the Board has shown to have different priorities for the Chancellor than what most faculty would see as important. I hope that the Board

considers the input of faculty as they make their decision about the future our ACADEMIC system.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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