



October 16, 2017

INDIANA STATE NAMES FINALISTS FOR PRESIDENT

TERRE HAUTE – Two finalists, both with ties to Indiana State University, have been named in the search for the institution’s twelfth president. The finalists are Deborah Curtis, provost and chief learning officer at the University of Central Missouri, and Michael Licari, who has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Indiana State since July 2015.

Curtis earned her Ph.D. from Indiana State and also taught at the former University School. In addition to serving as provost of ISU, Licari has a son who is a freshman at the university.

“We are very pleased to have two incredibly strong candidates for this critically important position, both of whom understand and fully support Indiana State’s mission and both of whom we feel have the skills and experience to be successful as its next president. We were prepared for the possibility of three or four finalists, but in the end these two candidates distinguished themselves among all others,” said Jeff Taylor, chair of the presidential search committee and secretary of the ISU Board of Trustees.

The search drew a strong pool of more than 70 candidates, Taylor added. The search committee selected the finalists after off-site interviews with nine semi-finalists.

Licari’s interview will take place on October 25 and 26 while Curtis will visit campus on November 1 and 2. In addition to a series of private interview sessions with the trustees and other campus groups, each candidate will have a dessert reception with community and volunteer leaders and open sessions for staff, students and faculty. The schedules for these sessions are:

October 25, 2017 (Dr. Michael Licari)

- 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. Dessert reception with community and volunteer leaders
Magna Carta Room, Federal Hall (Scott College of Business)
- 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Candidate presentation and open session for faculty
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall

October 26, 2017 (Dr. Michael Licari)

- 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Open session for staff
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall
- 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Open session for students
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall

November 1, 2017 (Dr. Deborah Curtis)

- 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. Dessert reception with community and volunteer leaders
Heritage Lounge, Tirey Hall
- 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Open session for staff
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall

4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Open session for students
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall

November 2, 2017 (Dr. Deborah Curtis)

3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Candidate presentation and open session for faculty
Heritage Ballroom, Tirey Hall

Prior to joining Indiana State as provost and vice president for academic affairs in 2015, Licari served as interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Northern Iowa from 2014 to 2015, a portion of which he also served as acting president. He was UNI's associate provost for academic affairs and dean of the Graduate College from 2010 to 2014. He served on UNI's faculty from 2001 to 2015 and is a former chair of its Faculty Senate. Licari began his career in 1997 as an assistant professor of political science at the State University of New York, Binghamton.

Licari earned a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Minnesota and master's and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Curtis has served as the provost and chief learning officer at the University of Central Missouri since 2012. Prior to that, she served as the dean of the College of Education at Illinois State University from 2006 to 2012 and was interim dean from 2005 to 2006. She also served as director of the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center at Illinois State from 2001 to 2005. Curtis served on the faculty of Illinois State from 1986 to 2012. She began her career teaching music at a variety of K-12 schools for many years and also served as a coach.

Curtis earned a bachelor's degree in music education from MacMurray College, a master's in music education from the University of Illinois, and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Indiana State.

Bios and vitas for both candidates are posted on the presidential search website at:
<https://www.indstate.edu/about/administration/president/presidential-search>.

The new president will replace Daniel J. Bradley who announced in April his plans to retire from the presidency in January 2018. Prior to coming to Indiana State in 2008, Bradley served as president of Fairmont State University in Fairmont, West Virginia.

The Board of Trustees anticipates naming a new president prior to Thanksgiving.

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