

**From:** Official ESU Email <esuemail@esu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** ESU Employees <ESUEmployees@esu.edu>  
**Subject:** Presidential Search Update

Fellow Warriors,

As many of you know, the search for the next ESU president is progressing. It has been an arduous, yet promising process with the devoted efforts of the search committee and search firm and we have made remarkable progress despite the unprecedented, unpredictable occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I'm writing to you because earlier today, the Council of Trustees, with the support of the Presidential Search Committee and Chancellor Greenstein, decided that there is a need to adjust the pace and timeline of the current search. In the best interest of our institution, and particularly our students, we feel that a critical piece of the search involves the candidates' ability to come to campus and to meet face-to-face with various stakeholder groups. The current pandemic does not afford us this opportunity to do this safely and in good conscience. Collectively, we feel that in a virtual environment with limited students, faculty, and staff on campus, we cannot demonstrate the strengths of ESU to the best of our ability. Further, it is important for our entire campus community to have an opportunity to get to know these candidates when they are able to visit our campus and meet with us. It is also critical that the candidates have the chance to see our campus, get to know ESU, and determine if the fit is a good one for them.

The committee looks forward to the time when we can safely bring the candidates and the stakeholders together on campus for traditional interviews and we are able to put our best efforts forward to show each of them the grit and great potential of our University. Our institution is fortunate to have the dedicated campus leadership to afford us the opportunity to currently navigate ESU through these truly unprecedented times. Until then, we ask for your patience and your support as the process continues.

In the interests of transparency, Pat Ross, Chair of the Council of Trustees, will host an open forum on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 5:30PM for students, faculty, staff, and alumni where we will hear any concerns you may have about current timeline of this search after we again share our reasoning for adjusting its pace. The zoom url is <https://esu-online.zoom.us/j/99317568267>. For phone access please dial 1-646-558-8656 and use meeting ID: 993 1756 8267.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee members for their continued dedication and commitment to this very important endeavor on behalf of our campus community. For more information or for updates about the search process as it continues, please visit: [https://www.esu.edu/president/presidential\\_search/index.cfm](https://www.esu.edu/president/presidential_search/index.cfm).

Best wishes to you and yours for a healthy and safe holiday season.

Tina L. Nixon '89  
Chair  
ESU Presidential Search Committee  
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