Procedures for nomination of board chair and vice-chair

PRINCIPLES:

The following principles were identified by the special committee:

- All members of the board, and particularly those members whose terms will continue, should have an opportunity to provide input into the selection of chair and vice chair;
- In selecting a member of the board to serve as chair or vice chair, the following qualities should be considered:
  - Credibility and respect among the members of the board;
  - The confidence of the president, and evidence of an effective working relationship with him/her;
  - An ability to chair a meeting in a way that is sensitive to group and individual dynamics, ensuring each member has an opportunity to be heard and encouraging a culture of questioning;
  - A willingness to hold all members accountable for their performance as board members;
  - A solid understanding of, and keen interest in, effective governance;
  - Ability to communicate effectively with external audiences.

PROCEDURE:

1. No later than the first board meeting in the calendar year in which the term of the chair and/or the vice chair expires, members of the special committee should meet to identify the eligible candidates for the position(s), and to decide on timelines and methods of approaching board members for their input.
2. All members of the board who are not on the special committee (that is, those members who are eligible for election as chair and vice chair) will be canvassed for their opinion about the best candidate(s) for chair and/or vice chair. Where feasible, this will take place as a face-to-face discussion with one or more members of the special committee.
3. The special committee will meet to share the views that have been gathered and to prepare a recommendation to the board. While it is preferable that this recommendation be reached by consensus, if this is not possible it will be done by majority vote, with the chancellor casting the deciding vote.
4. The recommendation will go directly to the board (not through the governance and executive committee) for its in camera session, preferably at the April or May meeting but no later than the June meeting, and will be voted on by all members except those declaring a conflict of interest.

Approved by the Board December 16, 2009