



School of Dentistry Dean Search

From: **Executive Vice President and Provost Rachel Croson**

Thu, Jan 28, 2021



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Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost

Dear Dentistry Faculty and Staff,

After robust and informative discussions with the Dentistry Council of Chairs, Dentistry Faculty Consultative Committee, University FCC leadership, the President and other senior university administrators, I am pleased to announce that a University-wide internal search for the next dean of the School of Dentistry will move forward this spring. Recognizing the academic talent within the school, school strengths and opportunities, and our budget-constrained environment, your internal dean search will be one of three that will take place this spring in units with planned transitions and strong interim deans in place.

I believe an internal search can be conducted usefully, fairly, and quickly, and that we can identify an academic leader for the School of Dentistry from among the ranks of outstanding senior faculty. I have great confidence that an internal search will yield a dean who is excellently suited to lead the school forward. An internal search will also provide important benefits of stability and continuity to the school and the University during these unprecedented times.

I welcome your confidential nominations of individuals from the school to serve on a small search committee. Please include brief comments in support of your nominations. The search committee will primarily be made up of faculty who have the academic expertise required for an academic administrative hiring process but will also include individuals from other roles as well. Please send your suggestions via email to provost@umn.edu by Friday, February 5.

As with any search the public interview and evaluation process will engage all faculty, staff, and student leaders of the school, along with alumni and other internal and external stakeholders.

I will construct a diverse and representative search committee from among the nominations and will announce the search committee membership and timeline in February. We will soon establish a dean search webpage on the school website to provide information and ongoing updates. My goal is to have a new dean selected before the end of the semester.

I am grateful for your input, and your continued support and engagement as we move forward with a robust search process adapted to our changing circumstances. I welcome additional input you may have; please feel free to reach out at provost@umn.edu.

Sincerely yours,

Rachel T.A. Croson
Executive Vice President and Provost