



News Release

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Campus and Community Representatives to Assist in Northern State Presidential Search

PIERRE, SD – Campus and community representatives have been appointed to assist the South Dakota Board of Regents in its search for the next president at Northern State University. James M. Smith, Northern’s president since 2009, will become president of Eastern Michigan University July 1.

“Input from campus and community leaders is very valuable to us as we search for the next president to lead Northern State University into the future,” said Regent Harvey Jewett, who will chair the search process. Other regents on the search committee are Kevin Schieffer and John Bastian, with Regents President Randy Schaefer serving in an ex-officio capacity.

Named as campus and community representatives and the constituencies they represent are:

- **Community**--Arthur Russo, president of Rhodes Properties; Rodney Fouberg, former CEO and chairman of Dacotah Banks Inc.
- **NSU Foundation**—James Thares, CEO of Primrose Retirement Communities LLC
- **Alumni**—Mike Evans, CEO of Centennial Homes
- **Administration**—Debbi Bumpous, chief information technology officer
- **Civil Service Employees**—Judy Lapka, program assistant in the Office of Academic Affairs
- **Non-Faculty Exempt Employees**—Susan Bostian, human resources director
- **Faculty**—Erin Fouberg, professor of geography and director of NSU Honors Program; Sara Schmidt, CPA and assistant professor of accounting
- **Students**—Taylor Ellingson, sophomore international business major; Ian Coughlin, junior history major
- **Institutional Collaboration**—James Abbott, president of University of South Dakota
- **At-Large**—Cindi Walsh, president of US Bank, Aberdeen; Rodrick Tobin, attorney at Siegel, Barnett & Schutz

The Board of Regents is working with Lucy Leske and Ann Yates of the executive search firm, Witt/Kieffer, to identify and review candidates. The search process gets underway this month. Contingent on a successful search, Jewett said the timeline calls for the new president of Northern State University to be appointed in early June and begin duties on or around July 1.