

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE
Presidential Search Committee

Ethics Statement

A document agreed to and signed by every member of the Presidential Search Committee on May 23, 2007.

1. As a member of the Presidential Search Committee, I accept my responsibilities, shared by my fellow committee members, to protect the integrity of the institution, and all prospects, semifinal candidates and final candidates.
2. I acknowledge that only the Chair of the Presidential Search Committee is authorized to speak to the news media on behalf of the Committee.
3. I certify that I am not, nor will I become, a candidate for the position.
4. I agree to disclose promptly to the Presidential Search Committee any appearance of a real or potential conflict of interest in a relationship between me and a prospect or candidate.
5. I acknowledge that information management is a crucial component of the Presidential Search Committee's work. This work includes information developed and received about prospects, candidates, and their employing institutions. I understand this careful information management is necessary to attract high-quality finalists, to avoid putting their current positions in jeopardy, and to protect my institution's integrity. Specifically, to the extent permitted by Maine law, I will adhere to the following principles:
 - I will respect the absolute confidentiality of all prospects and candidates. I will not reveal the identity of or any other information about prospects and candidates before or after the Committee completes its work, and then only about the announced finalist candidates.
 - I will be fair, accurate, honest, and responsible in my management of information germane to the search.
 - I will guard against inaccuracies, carelessness, bias, and distortion made by either emphasis or omission of information.
 - I will strive to treat issues impartially and handle controversial subjects dispassionately. I understand that prospects and candidates who have held executive positions and made difficult decisions have not been in positions to win popularity contests.
 - I will give accurate and complete reports on candidates to the Presidential Search Committee.
6. I will place the best interests of the institution ahead of all special and personal interests and I will use common sense and good judgment in applying ethical principles to search work.
7. I will not reveal any of the committee members' work on this process, discussions or decision-making during the process or at any time thereafter.
8. I consider the letter and spirit of this statement to be a matter of personal responsibility.

Signed: _____

Date: _____