

Advisory considers final job description

The presidential search and selection advisory committee met yesterday (Wednesday) to consider a final draft of a job description for a president. This was the culmination from four open meetings held for constituents' input and from eight hours of full committee concentration on the subject last week.

The proposed final draft of the description which had not undergone full committee scrutiny at *News-Bulletin* press time calls for a University president with an external focus.

Job description subcommittee chairwoman, Jeanne Gullahorn, said of the preliminary draft last week, that past presidents have had to serve different needs and times. What she had gleaned from the various constituencies of the University was a desire for a president to meet external needs, she said.

"Presidents in the past have looked both directions on the internal-external issue," she said, "but at this time the provost should be the chief academic officer and the president must be someone with an academic focus and understanding, but be an external person."

The description's informal format met with quick and unanimous approval from the committee which then turned to wording and editorial changes.

The working document, which was up for final approval yesterday, says a president is guided by the land-grant philosophy and oversees the administration of the academic, organizational and operational programs of the University as well as its quality of life.

The president is a liaison to various constituencies, directs and coordinates an executive team and maintains an open

information system to all constituencies.

The president works closely with the chief academic officer, assuming responsibility for informing external bodies of academic objectives.

Finally the description says that the president is responsible for the "financial stewardship" of the University and must seek and maintain relationships with government, public and private groups and agencies.

The president's role is called "representational."

In other business last week committee members had voted to tape the open meetings of the committee and then to destroy the tapes at the finish of the committee's mission. But a letter received by Gwendolyn Norrell, vice chairwoman of the committee, from William Combs, director of the University Archives, called the committee's attention to a trustee regulation "that University property, records etc. of all offices and officers of the University are not to be destroyed" without approval of the involved body and the archives' director.

The committee promptly reconsidered the motion and voted to give the tapes to the archives. There was one abstention.

A letter to Norrell from President Edgar L. Harden denied a request for payment to faculty serving on the committee during the summer. The question arose in an earlier committee meeting when those faculty on 10-month appointment and students sought compensation for summer committee work.

"The precedent that this would set could, in my opinion," Harden said, "be detrimental to the best interests of the University."



The abundance of brightly-hued tulips on campus is rivaled only by the number of jackets still being worn to fend off the last of winter's chills. Despite the cold and frequent chance of rain, the folks around campus still find it inviting to take a break in a pretty spot.