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Search report may be delayed

"Scheduling problems" have Trustee Chair Barbara Sawyer a "little concerned" that the presidential search committee might not meet its trustee charge to come back to the board with no fewer than three candidate names by Nov. 15.

"We're getting awfully close," she said Monday. But meshing candidates' and committee members' schedules is a challenge, she said.

"I fear if we don't meet the date of the fifteenth, people will say we've failed (in attracting someone) or can't agree," she said.

"But that's not the case. It's just the timetables."

Sawyer said she was pleased that the search has been so leak-tight.

"Confidentiality has been critical to the process," she said. "All of the persons involved in the search have been highly complimentary of the professionalism in which the search has been conducted. We've helped educate a number of people on the quality of this institution and we've obliged everyone's desire to be considered confidentially."

Of the possibility of reaching consensus this month on one candidate, Sawyer said, "Anything's possible. We'll do what's in the best interest of the University, if that means bringing forward one name instead of three. The bottom line is getting the task done."

