



University System of Georgia

Creating A More Educated Georgia

An Open Letter from the Committee Chair

University System of Georgia
CHANCELLOR SEARCH 2011



Dear Faculty, Staff, Students, Alumni and Citizens of Georgia:

It is my great honor to serve as the Chair of our search committee, to locate the next Chancellor of the University System of Georgia. This is one of the most important leadership posts in Georgia: the next chancellor will work with the Board of Regents, our 35 college and university presidents, the governor and General Assembly, as well as other state and national educational agencies and leaders to help shape and guide the future of higher education in our great state.

This website has been established to keep all citizens of our state informed on the progress of our search. As the search process advances, we will be adding information to this site. Please note that you may send us your ideas and suggestions, as well as names of potential candidates, using the buttons on the left side of your screen. I welcome your feedback, and encourage you to visit this page periodically, to track our search progress.

Much of our work is confidential, in order to protect candidates who already hold high posts around the nation. So I ask for your patience, as the Search Committee interviews candidates and explores our options moving forward.

The University System of Georgia was established and is here to serve the families of our state, and transform lives through higher education. You have my word that we will locate the very best leader to enhance the outstanding higher education opportunities available at our colleges and universities, and to make them even stronger. Many thanks for your interest, your ideas, and your support.

Sincerely,

Regent Kessel Stelling, Chair
Chancellor Search Committee



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Search Firm: R. William Funk & Associates

R. William Funk & Associates is the premier firm dedicated to higher education search consulting. Led by its founder and President, R. William (Bill) Funk, the firm is recognized for its unparalleled record in recruiting many of the nation's most esteemed college and university leaders.

Mr. Funk is the best known and most widely respected search consultant serving higher education. He has been called the "guru of higher education recruiting" by The Chronicle of Higher Education and is listed as one of the 200 best executive recruiters in the world in The Global 200 Executive Recruiters: An Essential Guide to the Best Recruiters in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Latin America (Jossey-Bass, Inc).

On Wisconsin, a University of Wisconsin publication, proclaimed in an article that "... Funk is higher education's ultimate insider, its answer to the Kevin Bacon game: his list of friends and acquaintances includes the top officials at nearly every major American university. Pick any school on the map and you're likely to find no more than a few degrees of Bill Funk. He has become the most highly regarded search consultant in higher education."

Mr. Funk has conducted more than 300 searches for college and university Presidents and Chancellors. Among the nearly 70 currently sitting Presidents he has helped recruit, are many of the nation's most respected and admired university chief executives, including: David Skorton, President of Cornell University; Holden Thorp, Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Max Nikias, President of the University of Southern California; Teresa Sullivan, President of the University of Virginia; Nancy Cantor, President of Syracuse University; Bernadette Gray-Little, Chancellor of the University of Kansas; Mark G. Yudof, President of the University of California System; France Cordova, President of Purdue University; and G.P. "Bud" Peterson, President of Georgia Tech, among many others.

After leading the Education Practice at the nation's largest corporate recruiting firm for 14 years, Mr. Funk's perspective on higher education led him to conclude that his clients could be better served by a firm solely focusing on higher education and by consultants dedicated to their academic clientele. R. William Funk & Associates is the manifestation of this vision.

[Visit the R. William Funk & Associates website »](#)



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Search Committee

The Chancellor Search Committee will develop a position description; place announcements in appropriate national media and conduct interviews.

Members of the committee are:

- Regent **Kessel Stelling Jr.**, search committee chair;
- Regent **Kenneth R. Bernard Jr.**;
- Regent **Robert F. Hatcher**;
- Regent and Board Chair **Willis Potts**;
- Regent **Wanda Yancey Rodwell**;
- Regent **Benjamin J. Tarbutton III**;
- Regent **Richard L. Tucker**;
- Regent Emeritus **Elridge W. McMillan**;
- **Dr. Michael F. Adams**, president, the University of Georgia;
- **Glenda Battle**, chair, Board of Directors of the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition;
- **Dr. Linda Bleicken**, president, Armstrong Atlantic State University;
- **Mike Cassidy**, president and CEO, Georgia Research Alliance;
- **Dr. Kelly Henson**, executive secretary, Georgia Professional Standards Commission;
- **Dr. Susan Herbst**, USG executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer (ex officio member);
- **Dr. Hugh Hudson**, professor of history at Georgia State University and executive secretary of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP);
- **John Lester**, assistant vice president for University Relations at Columbus State University;
- **Dr. Gary McGaha**, president, Atlanta Metropolitan College;
- **Dr. Lin Mei**, director of the Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics at the Medical College of Georgia;
- **Alton Standifer**, member, Georgia Southern University Student Advisory Council;
- **Dr. Craig Turner**, professor of mathematics at Georgia College & State University and member of the USG Faculty Council and;
- **Philip Wilheit, Sr.**, president of Wilheit Packaging, LLC.

Executive search firm **R. William Funk & Associates** of Dallas, Texas will aid the committee's work.

The Chancellor Search Committee will forward the credentials of up to five unranked candidates to the full Board of Regents, which decide whom to interview, and ultimately select the next chancellor.