

Office of the Faculty Senate, OAA
Portland State University
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To: Stephen Percy, Interim President
From: Richard Beyler, Secretary to the Faculty
Date: 27 January 2020
Re: Question for Administrator, February Faculty Senate meeting

In accordance with the procedures stated in the [Bylaws](#) for the question period at Faculty Senate meetings, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee respectfully poses the following question to Interim President Stephen Percy. This question and the response will fall under agenda item F at the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting on Monday, February 3rd.

In searches for administrator positions, what are the respective roles of the search firm and the search committee?

PSU's use of a search firm that alone calls references and provides digested versions of reference interviews and faculty feedback to the search committee is not the only model. While we understand that there are questions of privacy in searches, we do note that faculty and staff colleagues serving on a presidential search at another colleges in Portland have been involved not only with reading all summaries of reference checks, but were actually tasked with calling references and making summaries of the discussions.

How can we make sure that future searches are conducted in ways that reflect the values of our institution, including the value of shared governance and confidence in the judgment of faculty and staff appointed to a search committee?