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# Memorandum

To: James McKellar, Chair, Faculty Council

From: Rhonda L. Lenton, President and Vice-Chancellor

Date: April 1, 2019

Subject: Schulich School of Business Decanal Search

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I am writing to provide an update to Schulich Faculty Council on the search for the School's next Dean, following up on my comments and those of Provost Lisa Philipps at the Council meeting on March 15.

As members of Council will be aware, the Search Committee has been working throughout the year, with the assistance of search consultants from Perrett Laver, to recruit and consider excellent candidates for the position. To this end, with input from Faculty Council, the Committee developed a position description to present the opportunity clearly and persuasively to potential candidates; and the consultants have been canvassing proactively and widely – both nationally and internationally – on the Committee's behalf. As a result, a number of very strong candidates have been identified, and the Committee has thus far had an opportunity to interview several of those candidates.

At the same time, it has been several months since initial outreach was undertaken to potential candidates, and we are aware that a number of other high profile searches for business school Deans have been under way in Canada and internationally within the same timeframe. Furthermore, it has been the Search Committee's objective throughout the search to recommend to me the appointment of the very best candidate to lead the School forward and to advance its vision and its international reputation; and both the Committee and I wish to be absolutely confident that we have considered the full range of candidates in order to achieve this objective. For these reasons, we have decided to extend the search and to continue to reach out to and consider new candidates in addition to those we already have before us.

Prior to launching the search, the Provost and I received input from members of Schulich Faculty Council on how best to proceed in the event that it was not possible to appoint a new Dean effective July 1, 2019. Based on that input I have asked Dean Horvath to extend his term by one final year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. I am pleased to confirm that the Dean is willing to do so pending confirmation by the Board of Governors.



Provost Philipps and I look forward to working with Dean Horvath over the coming year to prepare for the transition to the next Dean – and of course to having opportunities to celebrate his enormous accomplishments and contributions to Schulich and to York over the past 30 years. We also appreciate the willingness of the members of the Search Committee to continue to work towards a successful conclusion to the search, with the intention of announcing the next Dean early in the new year, 2020.

We appreciate the ongoing interest of Faculty Council in this important search. The Search Committee would very much welcome suggestions from members of the Schulich community about potential candidates (from within and beyond academia) who might be approached by the consultants. Suggestions can be sent in confidence to Gordon Lobay [Gordon.Lobay@perrettlaver.com](mailto:Gordon.Lobay@perrettlaver.com) or Caroline McLean [Caroline.McLean@perrettlaver.com](mailto:Caroline.McLean@perrettlaver.com).

cc: Provost L. Philipps  
E. Rush, Secretary of Council  
Members of the Search Committee